

# **AMENDED MEETING MINUTES**

## **Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the Western Management Area in the Santa Ynez River Groundwater Basin February 26, 2020**

A regular meeting of the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for the Western Management Area (WMA) in the Santa Ynez River Groundwater Basin was held on Wednesday, 26 February 2020, 10:00 A.M. at the City of Lompoc Water Treatment Plant, 601 E. North Ave., Lompoc, California.

### GSA Committee Directors Present:

Chris Brooks	Meighan Diethofer (Acting as Alternate)	Steve Jordan
Jim Mosby	Bruce Nix	

### Alternate GSA Committee Directors Present:

Art Hibbits	Katherine Stewart
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### Staff Present:

Joe Barget	Bill Buelow	Loch Dreizler	Amber Thompson
Kevin Walsh	Kristin Worthley	Matt Young	

### Others Present:

Maygan Cline (Geosyntec), and four members of the public

### Others Via Phone/Computer:

Jose Baer, Zoe Carlson (Dudek), Lindsey Cokely, John Fio (EKI), Curtis Lawler (Stetson Engineers), Miles McCammon (Stetson Engineers), Anita Regmi (DWR)

## **I. Call to Order**

GSA Committee Director Brooks called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and welcomed all in attendance.

## **II. Pledge of Allegiance**

GSA Committee Director Brooks led the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **III. Introductions and Review of SGMA in Santa Ynez River Valley Basin**

Mr. Buelow reviewed history of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) requirements and what has been completed so far in the Santa Ynez River Basin including the creation of the three Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) in the Basin (EMA, CMA, WMA), securing Department of Water Resources (DWR) Prop. 1 Grant (Grant) funding, hiring Consultants and establishing a Citizen Advisory Group (CAG).

**IV. Additions or Deletions, if any, to the Agenda**

No additions or deletions were made.

**V. Public Comment**

Ms. Anita Regmi (on phone) from the State of California Department of Water Resources (DWR) explained her role as the Point of Contact for the Santa Ynez River Groundwater Basin. Ms. Regmi said that she has attended past WMA GSA meetings via phone. Ms. Regmi further described DWR's role to provide resources for implementation of SGMA. She explained that DWR will review the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) within two years of submittal. The other role for DWR is to provide financial assistance in form of grants, technical assistance, and support services to the GSAs. DWR has funds available for well installation and for monitoring equipment. Ms. Regmi encouraged anyone with questions to contact her directly. She reported that GSPs for critically over-drafted basins were due January 31, 2020 and have been posted on DWR's SGMA website. These plans are available for public comment for 75 days. Ms. Regmi added that the submitted GSPs are effective from the date of submitted and are expected to be implemented immediately despite the pending review by DWR.

**VI. Review and Approve Meeting Minutes of October 23, 2019**

Mr. Buelow submitted the minutes of the meeting of October 23, 2019 for GSA Committee approval. GSA Committee Director Jordan made a MOTION to approve the minutes of October 23, 2019 as presented. GSA Committee Director Brooks seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**VII. Receive WMA GSA Financial update and approve WMA Warrant List**

Mr. Buelow presented, and the GSA Committee reviewed the financial reports of FY 2019-20 Periods 1 through 6 (through December 31, 2019). Warrant Lists for October, November and December 2019 were presented and reviewed.

The GSA Committee approved unanimously the October, November and December 2019 Warrant Lists as presented (items 1006-1007). GSA Committee Director Mosby made a MOTION to approve the warrant lists and financial reports as submitted. GSA Committee Director Jordan seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**VIII. Receive update on the Intra-Basin Administrative Agreement**

Mr. Buelow gave an update on the Intra-Basin Administrative Agreement for Implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act in the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin (Agreement) stating that it had been endorsed by all three GSAs and adopted by all but one of the eight GSA Member Agencies in the Basin with the eighth agency meeting this week to consider adopting the Agreement.

**IX. Receive Draft Final Outreach and Engagement Plan and Draft Final Data Management Plan**

Mr. Buelow presented the Draft Final Outreach and Engagement Plan and Draft Final Data Management Plan. He reported that both plans were made available for public review and comment as required by SGMA. The CAG reviewed both plans and submitted a memorandum with their comments. Consultants received the public comments and revised the plans. Mr. Buelow reported that changes can still be made at the direction of the WMA GSA Committee prior to the January 2022 GSP submission. At that time, if no changes are made, the Draft Final Plans will become Final.

**X. Receive update from GeoSyntec on GSP activities in the WMA**

Ms. Cline, Geosyntec Consultants, along with Curtis Lawler and Miles McCammon, Stetson Engineers, (via phone) and Zoe Carlson, Dudek, (via phone) presented an update on WMA GSA. The presentation included an update of consultant team activities since that last GSA Committee meeting in October 2019. The presentation included a SGMA overview, GSP milestones, timeline, review of Draft Final Outreach and Engagement Plan and Draft Final Data Management Plan. The consultants reviewed newly initiated work, ongoing activities and next steps to create a SGMA compliant GSP for the WMA GSA.

Public comment and GSA committee discussion followed.

- GSA Committee Director Jordan asked if consultants normalize data collected from so many different sources. Ms. Cline confirmed consultants are normalizing data.
- Ms. Jeanette Lombardo, owner of the Ventura County-based American Agri-Women, asked if there is any inter/exchange of groundwater with San Antonio Creek Valley GSA. Mr. Matt Young, Santa Barbara County Water Agency, explained due to bedrock formations separating the basins, there is likely no groundwater connectivity between the San Antonio Creek Valley for the WMA GSA. However, Mr. Young indicated there may be groundwater connectivity between the EMA and the San Antonio Basin.
- Ms. Lombardo expressed concern with possible data gaps, for example, possible saltwater intrusion. Ms. Cline replied that the 3D Hydro Geological Conceptual Model is the first step to gather geologic data to identify potential data gaps. Mr. Buelow reported that salinity samples are collected and analyzed as part of routine monitoring of the basin.
- Ms. Lombardo asked if WMA GSA has an Ag Waiver from the Regional Board. Other counties have it and provides database of information available in the monitoring network. Mr. Kevin Walsh explained that Ag Waivers in this area do not exist yet. The Ag Order was just recently released and is in public comment

and review period now. Mr. Buelow suggested an action item to follow up for future meetings.

- Alternate GSA Committee Director Hibbits asked if the Hydro Geologic Conceptual Model maps include reference points such as cities and boundaries. Ms. Cline said that those are part of the model on a separate layer than can be turned on and off. It was turned off for this presentation. Ms. Cline said that the final product will include reference points as well as boundary markers.
- Ms. Cline said that previous groundwater flow model prepared for the City of Lompoc by Mr. Tim Durbin were given to the consultant team to be included in the new model. The team reviewed and analyzed the Durbin model outputs and found them to be consistent with the consultant team's modeling outputs. The consultant team is working closely with Mr. Durbin and he has been very helpful in developing the new WMA numeric groundwater model.
- Ms. Cline pointed out that water delivered through the State Water pipeline is reflected in the Water Budget graphic because Vandenberg Air Force Base (VAFB) receives State Water. The consultants are accounting for imported water. Director Mosby pointed out that City of Lompoc does receive VAFB's wastewater to their Wastewater Treatment Facility.
- GSA Committee Director Mosby noted that the availability of potential groundwater in the WMA GSA is affected by the groundwater use in both the CMA and EMA **as well as export of water out of Cachuma Lake to the South Coast**. Ms. Cline explained that groundwater-use in the basin will be evaluated as a whole. Mr. Curtis Lawler (Stetson) explained water entering the WMA from other management areas will be reflected in the surface water inflow and groundwater sub-flow calculations in the Water Budget.
- Alternate GSA Committee Director Hibbits asked if the reinjection of produced water into oil-wells is being considered in the Water Budget. Discussion followed. Ms. Cline clarified that the strata for oil-field production is far below the potable aquifers.
- GSA Committee Director Jordan asked if the consultants reviewed data from Mr. Peter Martin's (USGS) model. Ms. Cline confirmed they do have that data.

Mr. Buelow thanked the consultants. No action was needed or taken by the GSA Committee.

**XI. Next WMA GSA Meeting: Wednesday, May 20, 2020, 10:00 AM, at the City of Lompoc Water Treatment Plant, 601 E. North Ave, Lompoc, CA**

Mr. Buelow announced the next WMA GSA Committee Meeting will be Wednesday, May 20, 2020, 10:00 AM, at the City of Lompoc Water Treatment Plant, 601 E. North Ave, Lompoc, CA.

**XII. WMA GSA Committee requests and comments**

Mr. Buelow announced that the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, on behalf of the Central and Western Management Area GSAs applied for and received a Prop. 68 Grant from the DWR. He clarified that the requested funding was approved however the exact amount is yet to be determined. The final award notification should be received in March 2020. The funds will be used for an Aerial Electro-Magnetic Survey of the WMA, which will help confirm and improve the Hydrogeologic Conceptual Model. A similar survey is being done in the EMA and CMA portions of the basin.

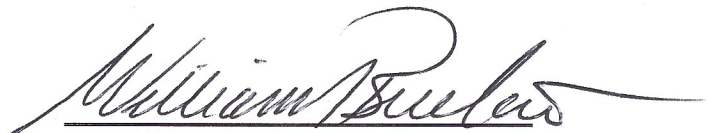
Ms. Lombardo asked if the expansion to VAFB with the recently awarded SpaceX project will affect water use, state water imports to VAFB and if that is being tracked by any local agencies. Ms. Katherine Stewart, Vandenberg Village Community Services District (VVCSD), advised that VAFB's State Water usage does not overlap with VVCSD's water availability and usage. Ms. Stewart noted that Mr. Ken Domako is the primary contact for VAFB water usage. Mr. Buelow noted that Mr. Domako serves on the WMA GSA CAG. Staff and consultants will work with him in making assumptions about VAFB's current and future water usage in the Water Budget.

**XIII. Adjournment**

There being no further business, GSA Committee Director Brooks adjourned the meeting at 11:19 a.m.



Chris Brooks, Chairman



William J Buelow, Secretary

**GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY FOR THE WESTERN MANAGEMENT AREA (WMA)  
IN THE SANTA YNEZ RIVER VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN**

**OCTOBER 2019 WARRANT LIST FOR COMMITTEE APPROVAL**

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
		NONE		\$ -

**NOVEMBER 2019 WARRANT LIST FOR COMMITTEE APPROVAL**

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
1006	11/06/19	Bartlett, Pringle & Wolf	Consulting - Grant Financial	\$ 188.84
1007	11/06/19	Stetson Engineers	August & September 2019 Engineering Service (Task Order #2)	\$ 34,077.60
			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 34,077.60</b>

**DECEMBER 2019 WARRANT LIST FOR COMMITTEE APPROVAL**

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
		NONE		\$ -

**TOTAL THIS QUARTER: \$ 34,077.60**