

MEETING MINUTES

Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Western Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board of Directors September 25, 2024

A regular meeting of the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Western Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency (WMA GSA) Board of Directors was held on Wednesday, September 25, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. at the Vandenberg Village Community Services District, Meeting Room, 3745 Constellation Road, Lompoc, California.

Directors Present: Myron Heavin, Steve Jordan, Ron Stassi (Acting Alternate), and Kristin Worthley (Acting Alternate)

Non-Voting Directors Present (Teleconference): Meighan Dietenhofer (Acting Alternate)

Alternate Directors Present: Mike Garner

Others Present (In Person): Cynthia Allen, Philip Carpenter, Doug Circle, Legal Counsel Isaac St. Lawrence, and Amber Thompson

Others Present (Teleconference): Ken Domako, John Fio (EKI), Paeter Garcia, Curtis Lawler (Stetson Engineers), Kadie McShirley, M. Molina, Tim Nicely (GSI), Carol Redhead, Matt Scudato, Susan Xie (EKI), and Matt Young

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

With Chair and Vice-Chair being absent, Legal Counsel Mr. St. Lawrence advised the Board that a Chair Pro-Tem needed to be chosen. Director Jordan volunteered, unanimous consensus followed, and Director Jordan assumed the role of Chair Pro-Tem for the meeting.

Director Jordan called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. Ms. Thompson called roll. Two Directors and two Acting Alternate Directors were present in person providing a quorum. One Alternate Director was also present in person. One non-voting Acting Alternate Director participated by teleconference.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Director Jordan led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Public Comment

Mr. Philip Carpenter provided a public comment regarding his candidacy and qualifications for Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Division 3 Director.

4. Review and consider approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 28, 2024

The minutes of the WMA GSA Board meeting of August 28, 2024, were presented for Board consideration. There was no discussion or public comment.

Acting Alternate Director Stassi made a MOTION to approve the minutes of the WMA GSA Board meeting of August 28, 2024, as presented. Director Heavin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

5. Receive Update on Status of Executive Order Requiring Written Verifications for New Well Applications

Mr. St. Lawrence reported on the Governor ending the emergency drought declaration and that the County of Santa Barbara no longer requires GSAs to provide written verifications in the well permit process. Discussion followed. There was no public comment and no action.

6. Receive Update from EKI on Proposition 68 Grant Funded Projects

Mr. Fio introduced Ms. Xie as the project manager for the Proposition 68 Grant components efforts for the WMA and certain grant administration efforts for the basin. Ms. Xie provided an update regarding the Proposition 68 Grant Funded Projects. Discussion followed. There was no discussion or public comment.

7. Receive Update from the three Ad-Hoc Committees and Consider Possible Action:

a. Recruitment of WMA Plan Manager/Executive Director; approving draft Request for Qualifications (RFQ)

Mr. St. Lawrence presented the RFQ for Consulting Services for Executive Director for the WMA GSA, which was approved on September 20, 2024 by the Ad Hoc Committee. Discussion followed. Acting Alternate Director Stassi recommended adding “or individual” to the first sentence under Project Scope. The Board unanimously agreed. Mr. St. Lawrence stated that the recommended change will be made, the submittal due date of November 11, 2024 will be added, and the RFQ will be released and posted to the WMA GSA website as soon as possible. There was no public comment.

b. Development of a policy for WMA groundwater production measurement and reporting

Mr. St. Lawrence provided an update regarding the Ad-Hoc Committee’s efforts to develop a policy for WMA groundwater production measurement and reporting. Discussion followed and public comment was received. There was no action.

8. Receive and consider possible action on the following WMA JPA items:

a. Agency Updates on Status of Agency Approvals of First Amendment to the WMA JPA

Ms. Thompson reported that the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District Board of Directors approved the First Amendment to the WMA GSA JPA on September 18, 2024, Vandenberg Village CSD Board will consider the amendment on October 1, City of Lompoc City Council on October 15, and Mission Hills CSD Board on October 16. There was no discussion, public comment, or action.

- b. Consider directing staff to develop a contract with Streamline for the WMA GSA website, and authorize and request a change in ownership from SYRWCD to the WMA GSA JPA

Ms. Thompson reported that the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District currently holds the contract for the GSAs website. However, each GSA should not have their own contracts and maintain their own individual websites. She presented the subscription agreement and information received from Streamline. Discussion followed.

Director Heavin made a MOTION to authorize a change in ownership of the WMA GSA webpages from SYRWCD to WMA GSA JPA and approved the subscription agreement with Streamline for the WMA GSA website, as presented. Acting Alternate Director Stassi seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

- c. Consider proposals by Stetson to prepare the WMA annual report and single report submittal and authorize action

Mr. St. Lawrence presented the Stetson Engineers Scope of Work and Estimated Cost WMA GSA Water Year 2024 Annual Subreport for SGMA Requirements, with a cost not to exceed \$30,000. He also presented the Stetson Engineers Scope of Work and Estimated Cost for Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Water Year 2024 Annual Report for WMA GSA, CMA GSA, and EMA GSA Fiscal Year 2024/2025 with a total cost not to exceed \$12,000. Discussion followed and public comments were received. Mr. Lawler, Stetson Engineers, explained the two separate scopes of work.

Acting Alternate Director Stassi made a MOTION to approve Stetson Engineers Scope of Work and Estimated Cost WMA GSA Water Year 2024 Annual Subreport for SGMA Requirements, with a cost not to exceed \$30,000, as presented. Director Heavin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

The Board tabled the discussion of Estimated Cost for Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Water Year 2024 Annual Report for WMA GSA, CMA GSA, and EMA GSA Fiscal Year 2024/2025 and recommended the CMA GSA and EMA GSA review and consider the scope of work.

9. Consider changing the Date and Time of Regular Meetings of the WMA GSA

Mr. St. Lawrence reported that Director Ball made a request to consider changing the meeting time for the WMA GSA Board of Directors to the afternoon and advised that per the JPA, the Board can vote to change the meeting dates and times. Acting Alternate Director Worthley suggested the Board meetings remain on the same dates but change the start time to 1:30 or 2:00 pm. Discussion followed. There was no public comment.

Director Jordan made a MOTION to keep the regular meeting dates but change the meeting time to 2:00 pm. Director Heavin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

10. Next Regular WMA GSA Board Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 23, 2024, ~~10 a.m.~~ 2:00 p.m. at VVCSD

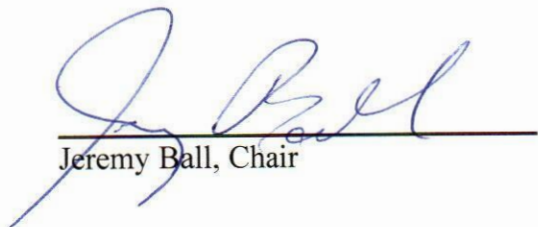
Director Jordan announced the next WMA GSA Board Regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 23, 2024, at 2:00 p.m. at the Vandenberg Village Community Services District, Meeting Room, 3745 Constellation Rd., Lompoc, California.

11. WMA GSA Board member reports and requests for future agenda items

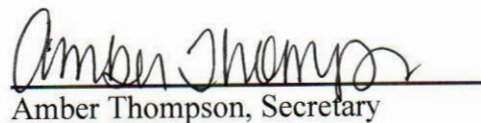
Acting Alternate Director Stassi reported that Director Brooks will not be attending the next couple scheduled meetings of the WMA GSA Board so Director Stassi will be participating as an Acting Alternate Director.

12. Adjournment

Director Jordan adjourned the meeting at 10:57 a.m.



Jeremy Ball, Chair



Amber Thompson, Secretary