

# MEETING MINUTES

## Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the Western Management Area in the Santa Ynez River Groundwater Basin

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, 24 July 2019, 10:00 A.M. at the City of Lompoc Water Treatment Plant, 601 E. North Ave., Lompoc, California.

### Committee Members Present:

Chris Brooks                      Art Hibbits (Acting as Alternate)                      Jim Mosby

### Committee Members Absent:

Joan Hartmann                      Steve Jordan                      Bruce Nix

### Alternate WMA GSA Committee Members Present:

Katherine Stewart

### Staff Present:

Joe Barget                      Bill Buelow                      Loch Dreizler                      Eric Erland  
Kevin Walsh                      Matt Young

### Others Present:

Zoe Carlson (Dudek)                      Maygan Cline (Geosyntec)  
Shaun Ryan (City of Lompoc)                      Plus 8 members of the public

### Others Via Phone:

Anita Regmi (DWR)                      Curtis Lawler and Miles McCammon (Stetson Engineers)  
John Fio (EKI)

### **I. Call to Order**

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

### **II. Pledge of Allegiance**

Mr. Brooks led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Mr. Buelow invited all in attendance to introduce themselves.

Mr. Buelow reviewed history of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) requirements and what has been completed so far in the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin, including the creation of the three GSAs in the Basin (EMA, CMA, WMA), securing the DWR Prop. 1 Grant (Grant) funding and hiring of Consultants to prepare Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs) by the State deadline of January 31, 2022.

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

No additions or deletions were made.

**V. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**VI. Review and Approve Minutes**

Mr. Brooks submitted the minutes of the meeting of January 23, 2019 for Committee approval. Mr. Mosby made a MOTION to approve the minutes. Mr. Brooks seconded the motion and it passed 2-0-1 with Mr. Hibbits abstaining.

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

The Committee reviewed the financial reports of FY 2018-19 Periods 1 through 11 (through May 31, 2019). Mr. Buelow reported all deposits made so far into the WMA Checking account were from City of Lompoc, Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District (SYRWCD), Mission Hills CSD and Vandenberg Village CSD; this checking account is held in SYRWCD's name with the title "WMA Account" specifically to be used for SGMA activities in the WMA; and the financial reports for Period 12 (June 2019) were not available from the bookkeeper prior to this meeting.

The Committee approved unanimously the January, February, March, April, May and June Warrant Lists as presented (ACH Debit and nos. 1001 – 1002). Mr. Brooks made a MOTION to approve the warrant lists and financial reports as submitted. Mr. Hibbits seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**VIII. Receive update and discuss Draft Inter-Basin Agreement between three GSAs**

Mr. Buelow reported that Agency Staff continue to work along with Agency Attorneys on finalizing a Draft Inter-Basin Administrative Agreement (Agreement) between the three GSAs in the Santa Ynez River Valley Basin (Basin). The Agreement will formalize certain administrative matters between the three GSAs such as cost sharing, distribution of grant funds, and coordinating to deliver the three GSPs. A Draft Agreement was circulated in May 2019 to the various Agencies in each GSA for review by their respective staff and legal counsel. Attorneys have been working on resolving comments. When the Draft Agreement is approved by all Agency Attorneys, it is expected to be distributed to the three GSA Committees for review in October 2019. After endorsement by the three GSA Committees, the Draft will go to the respective Board/Council of each of the GSA Agencies for approval. No action was needed or taken by the committee.

**IX. Receive update on GSP consultant coordination between three GSAs and consider requesting that SYRWCD use its existing contract to issue Stetson Task Orders to coordinate between three GSAs**



Mr. Buelow reported in order for additional coordination between all three GSAs in Basin, Agency Staff have agreed to use SYRWCD's existing SGMA contract with Stetson Engineers adding an amendment to perform coordination work between the three GSAs. This includes a Groundwater Communication Portal (GCP) currently being developed by the consultants for EMA, CMA and WMA to be used by all three GSAs in the Basin. The GCP will streamline and facilitate communication, allow the public to sign up to receive emails and input comments on documents. The GCP will also host calendars with meeting dates, agendas and other documents for all three GSAs. The tool will integrate communications for all three GSAs in the Basin and provide a consistent approach for the public to access information on SGMA in the Basin. The cost of the tool will cost an additional \$15,000 for WMA and CMA will likely reduce overall costs for maintaining, documenting and coordinating communication, which is a DWR requirement. Public questions and discussion followed.

Committee members commented that it sounds reasonable and agreed to add the task orders for additional coordination between all 3 GSAs using the SYRWCD existing contract with Stetson with additional cost to the WMA GSA as discussed.

## **X. Citizen Advisory Group (CAG)**

### **a. Receive Staff report on WMA CAG process and recommendation for WMA CAG selection**

Mr. Mosby reported he and staff, as an Ad-Hoc Committee, met and reviewed the seven CAG applications received. The WMA GSA Committee previously recommended the CAG have seven members plus two alternates however only seven applications were received. Mr. Buelow corrected the memo to strike the last sentence. There were not extra applicants chosen.

### **b. Consider WMA CAG member appointments**

The GSA Committee considered and discussed the recommendation of the the Ad-Hoc Committee. The GSA Committee expressed concern with lack of representation by Federal Government, agricultural and lower Lompoc Valley as well as the number of members chosen to be on the CAG. Public comments were received.

Mr. Brooks made a MOTION to re-open the WMA CAG application process to seek additional and diverse representation especially from agriculture; extend the application deadline two to three weeks to on or about August 9, 2019; requested the Ad-Hoc Committee member Councilman Mosby along with WMA Agency Staff reconvene to review and choose seven to nine applicants out of the entire pool of applications received; bring the list of recommended applicants back to the WMA GSA Committee for reconsideration. Mr. Hibbits seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Brooks made a MOTION to change the size of the CAG in the WMA CAG guidelines from seven members plus two alternates to 7 to 9 members and no alternates. Mr. Mosby seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

## **XI. Consultant for GSP activities in the Western Management Area**

### **a. Receive Draft Outreach and Engagement Plan and consider directing staff to release for CAG and public review**

Ms. Carlson of Dudek and Ms. Cline of Geosytec presented the Draft Public Outreach and Engagement Plan (OEP) for the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin WMA GSA (July 2019). The OEP outlines how the GSA will communicate, identify and engage stakeholders; define various roles during the GSP efforts; outline GSP communication and outreach goals; and describe how the GSA will receive, compile and document public comments on various plans and documents. The OEP is a requirement of DWR for SGMA.

**b. Receive update on Draft Data Management Plan and consider directing staff to release for CAG and public review**

Ms. Cline reported that the Data Management Plan outlines and describes the Data Management System (DMS), currently under development for the WMA. The DMS is a software tool that will organize the WMA data and will be used to develop models such as a visualization tool, groundwater budget and hydrogeologic conceptual model and numeric model, which are part of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) development. The DMS will house the compiled data, which will then be used to prepare the GSP. Consultants are currently gathering publicly available data in coordination with the other two GSAs in the Basin. Questions and public discussion followed.

Mr. Buelow reported Agency Staff are reviewing a Draft DMP and expect to bring the plan to the next Committee meeting, possibly a special meeting in September, to review, accept and release the Draft DMP for public review. Mr. Buelow also suggested that at the same meeting, the GSA could choose the WMA CAG members and assign the CAG to review both Draft Public Outreach and Engagement plan and Draft Data Management Plan. The GSA discussed and were in favor of a special meeting in September.

**XII. Consider adoption of WMA logo for WMA documents and internet webpage**

Mr. Buelow presented for consideration a WMA GSA logo to be used on documents and website. Mr. Mosby requested staff research and confirm that the logo is not close to one already being used by another company. ADA compliance confirmation was also requested. The Committee approved use of logo.

**XIII. Consideration and discussion of moving WMA GSA meetings to second week of second month of quarter starting in February 2020**

Mr. Buelow requested moving the regular meetings for the WMA Committee from the fourth Wednesday in the first month of each quarter to the second Wednesday in the second month of each quarter with the meeting still being held at 10:00 AM at the City of Lompoc Water Treatment Plant Conference Room. The change in month will facilitate the completion of the previous quarter's financial statements to present to the GSA and would remove the conflict with completing the quarterly progress report to DWR for the Prop. 1 Grant. The Committee members discussed and agreed with the proposed change of regular meetings to the\*second month of each quarter and requested staff to develop a calendar of meetings.

\* 3rd or 4th week instead of the 2nd week of the

**XIV. Next regular meeting Date and Time**

The next regular meeting date will be Wednesday, October 23, 2019, 10:00 am at Lompoc Water Treatment Plant, 601 E. North Ave., Lompoc, California.

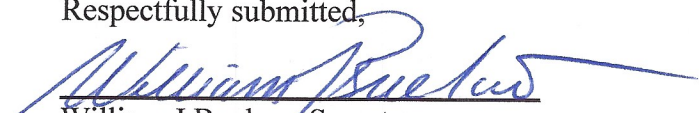
**XV. WMA GSA Committee requests and comments**

No requests were made.

**XI. Adjournment**

There being no further business, Mr. Brooks adjourned the meeting at 11:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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William J Buelow, Secretary

ATTEST:

  
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Chris Brooks, Chairman