

MEETING MINUTES

Amended 10/24/2019

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

A regular meeting of the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for the Eastern Management Area (EMA) in the Santa Ynez River Groundwater Basin was held on October 25, 2018, at 1:00 PM at the Santa Ynez CSD Community Room, 1070 Faraday Street, Santa Ynez, California.

Committee Members Present:

Brett Marymee	Karen Waite	Kevin Walsh
Elizabeth Farnum (Acting as Alternate)		

Alternate Members Present:

Cynthia Allen	Paeter Garcia
Ryan Toussaint	

Staff Present:

Bill Buelow	Chris Dahlstrom	Amber Thompson
Matt van der Linden	Bruce Wales	Matt Young

Others Present:

Jeff Barry	Richard Camera	Sam Cohen
Nancy Emerson	Tim Gorham	Mark Griuetti
Mary Heyden	Gay Infanti	Mark Infanti
Matt Naftaly	Eric Tambini	Tim Thompson
Al Wagner		

I. Call to Order

Mr. Buelow called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and welcomed all in attendance.

II. Introductions

Mr. Buelow invited all in attendance to introduce themselves and say who they represent, if applicable.

III. Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Buelow led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. Designation of EMA GSA Committee

Mr. Buelow provided background regarding formation of the EMA GSA and what agencies are involved and participating in the EMA GSA Committee. He circulated a map of the three Management Areas in the Basin.

V. Overview of SGMA

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 GSAs in the Basin (EMA, CMA, WMA) and the DWR Prop. 1 Grant funding.

Public comments and discussion ensued regarding public involvement and representation in the EMA SGMA process.

VI. Additions, if any, to the Agenda

No additions were made.

VII. Public Comment

Mr. Buelow requested public comments from the audience. No comments were made.

VIII. Designation of EMA GSA Committee Officers

Ms. Waite made a MOTION to nominate Mr. Walsh for the Chair position of the EMA GSA Committee. Ms. Farnum seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Walsh made a MOTION to nominate Mr. Marymee for the Vice-Chair position of the EMA GSA Committee. Ms. Waite seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Having been elected as Chair, Mr. Walsh proceeded with the meeting.

Mr. Walsh suggested Agenda Items IX and X be moved and to proceed next with Item XI. The Committee agreed.

XI. EMA GSA Committee Recommendation for County Water Agency to Select Consultant for GSP Activities in the Eastern Management Area of the Santa Ynez River Valley Basin

a. Staff Report and Recommendation

Mr. Buelow presented a Staff Memorandum and Recommendation dated October 25, 2018 to the Committee regarding the County Water Agency's upcoming selection of a consultant for certain technical work in support of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for the EMA.

b. Committee Discussion and Recommendation

The Committee considered and discussed the Staff Memorandum and Recommendation. Mr. Walsh asked the public, including the consultants in attendance, for comments.

Matt Naftaly from Dudek addressed the Committee and advised that Dudek already has teamed with Stetson Engineers and revisions can be made and submitted in writing. He requested an opportunity to provide another proposal for consideration.

Jeff Barry from GSI addressed the Committee and advised that GSI is comfortable with Stetson Engineers being added to the GSI team.

Public comment was provided that the expense of potential new monitoring well appeared to be high. Mr. Buelow discussed the purpose of potential new monitoring well and the possibility that such a well may not be needed based on future studies.

Mr. Walsh asked whether the County Water Agency should bring in both consulting firms for a final negotiation to honor request from Dudek. Mr. Young noted that was a possibility. Ms. Waite suggested that the Committee proceed in accordance with the Staff Memorandum and Recommendation.

~~Mr. Walsh~~ Ms. Waite made a MOTION that the EMA GSA Committee recommends that the County Water Agency negotiate a contract for professional services with GSI based on the further recommendation that GSI brings Stetson Engineers onto their team to work on the technical aspects of the GSP. Mr. Marymee seconded. The motion passed on the following roll call vote:

AYES, Committee Members: Farnum (Alternate), Marymee,
Waite, Walsh
NOES, Committee Members: None

IX. Conflict of Interest and Form 700 Requirements

Mr. Buelow explained to the Committee that the EMA GSA must establish a Conflict of Interest Code. The Code will need to be adopted by Resolution within six months of assuming office, which happens at today's meeting.

Additionally, each EMA GSA Committee Member, Alternative Committee Member, and certain other designated positions must complete a new Form 700 for "Assuming Office" within 30 days of this meeting. Ms. Thompson circulated Form 700s to applicable persons in attendance. Mr. Buelow advised that Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District (SYRWCD) is working as the coordinating agency for all three GSAs in the Basin and, as such, all initial Form 700s should be submitted in paper form to SYRWCD until the Conflict of Interest Code is approved and the EMA GSA is set up

in the County online submittal system. Mr. Buelow let all know that if they have questions, they could contact him at the SYRWCD office.

Ms. Farnum made a MOTION for staff of the EMA GSA agencies to prepare a proposed Conflict of Interest Code for the EMA GSA by the next meeting. Ms. Waite seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

X. Request Committee Direction to Prepare Amendment to the Memorandum of Agreement Regarding Administrative Matters

Mr. Buelow advised that in 2017 a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was signed to form the EMA GSA, where the MOA provided for future amendment(s) to address specific governance, administrative, financial, and other issues. Committee discussion followed regarding how votes in the EMA GSA are to be made in relation to decisions by the respective home agencies of the GSA.

Public comments and discussion ensued regarding representation for independent ranches and properties outside the boundaries of SYRWCD, ID No.1, and City of Solvang, and whether they are represented by the County as a participating agency of the EMA GSA. Related comments and discussion identified stakeholder outreach as an important part of SGMA.

Ms. Waite made a MOTION for staff of the EMA GSA agencies to begin preparing a draft amendment to the MOA to further address specific governance, administrative, financial, and other issues. Mr. Marymee seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

XII. Committee Discussion on Setting the Next and Regular Meeting Dates and Time for the EMA GSA Committee

Mr. Buelow suggested setting regular quarterly meetings for the EMA GSA Committee. Mr. Walsh agreed and suggested that meetings be held on the on the 4th week in the 1st month of each Quarter in Santa Ynez (location to be determined). Mr. Marymee suggested Thursday evenings with a 6:30 p.m. start time.

Mr. Marymee made a MOTION for regular quarterly meetings of the EMA GSA Committee to be held on the 4th Thursday in the 1st month of each Quarter beginning at 6:30 p.m. at a location to be determined in ~~Santa Ynez~~. Ms. Waite seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

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Future meeting dates set are January 24, 2019, April 25, 2019, July 25, 2019 and October 24, 2019.

XIII. EMA GSA Committee Requests and Comments

Ms. Farnum, appearing as an Alternate Committee Member, requested discussion of an Advisory Committee at the next EMA GSA Committee meeting.

XIV. Adjournment

There being no further business, Chairman Walsh adjourned the meeting at 2:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



William J. Buelow, Secretary

ATTEST:



Brett Marymee, Chairman



Kevin D. Walsh, Chairman (Former)