

# REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

## Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the Eastern Management Area in the Santa Ynez River Groundwater Basin November 18, 2021

A regular meeting of the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for the Eastern Management Area (EMA) in the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin was held on Thursday, November 18, 2021, at 6:30 p.m. at Santa Ynez Community Services District, Conference Room at 1070 Faraday Street, Santa Ynez, California. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, participation in this meeting was also available via teleconference as recommended by Santa Barbara County Public Health, authorized by State Assembly Bill 361, and Resolution EMA-2021-001 (passed on 10/21/2021).

EMA GSA Committee Members Present (in person): Joan Hartmann, Mark Infanti, Brett Marymee, and Meighan Dietenhofer (Alternate),

EMA GSA Committee Members Present (remote participation): Brad Joos and Cynthia Allen (Alternate)

Member Agency Staff Present (in person): Bill Buelow, Amber Thompson, and Matt Young

Member Agency Staff Present (remote participation): Paeter Garcia and Kevin Walsh

Others Present (in person): Jeff Barry (GSI Water Solutions), Gay Infanti, Tim Nicely (GSI Water Solutions), and Bruce Wales.

Others Present (remote participation): Steve Anderson, Doug Circle, Mary Heyden, CJ Jackson, Brett Stroud (Young Wooldridge), Matt van der Linden, and two additional members of the public whose names were not registered.

### **I. Call to Order and Roll Call**

GSA Committee Chair, Brett Marymee called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and asked Mr. Buelow to call roll. Four GSA Committee Members were present providing a quorum plus two GSA Alternate Committee Members.

### **II. Consider findings under Government Code section 54953(e)(3) to authorize continuing teleconference meetings under Resolution EMA-2021-001**

Mr. Buelow explained that the reasonings for Resolution EMA-2021-001, passed on October 21, 2021, and State Assembly Bill 361 which authorized teleconference public meetings were still in effect.

GSA Committee Member Joan Hartmann made a MOTION to authorize continuing teleconference meetings under Resolution EMA-2021-001. GSA Committee Member Mark Infanti seconded the motion and it passed unanimously by roll call vote.

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

No additions or deletions were made.

**IV. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**V. Review and Consider Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the GSA Committee meetings on October 28, 2021 were presented for GSA Committee approval.

GSA Committee Member Joan Hartmann made a MOTION to approve the minutes of October 28, 2021 as presented. GSA Committee Member Mark Infanti seconded the motion and it passed unanimously by roll call vote.

**VI. Receive EMA GSA financial update and approve EMA Warrant Lists**

The GSA Committee reviewed the financial reports of FY 2021-22 Periods 1 through 3 (through September 30, 2021) and the Warrant Lists for July, August, and September 2021 for GSA Committee review. There were no comments.

GSA Committee Member Mark Infanti made a MOTION to approve the financial reports and the Warrant List for July, August, and September 2021 Warrant Lists (Nos. 1034-1038) totaling \$56,832.54, as presented. GSA Committee Member Joan Hartmann seconded the motion and it passed unanimously by roll call vote.

**VII. Review and consider approval of Resolution EMA-2021-002 authorizing the EMA GSA Chairperson to sign the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Coordination Agreement**

The GSA Committee reviewed the Santa Ynez Valley Groundwater Basin Coordination Agreement and Resolution EMA-2021-002 authorizing the EMA GSA Chairperson to sign the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Coordination Agreement. Mr. Buelow explained the requirement of a Coordination Agreement by DWR for Basins submitting multiple GSPs. There was no discussion.

GSA Committee Member Mark Infanti made a MOTION to approve RESOLUTION EMA-2021-002, AUTHORIZING THE EMA CHAIRPERSON TO SIGN THE SANTA YNEZ RIVER VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN COORDINATION AGREEMENT. GSA Committee Member Joan Hartmann seconded the motion and it passed unanimously by roll call vote.

## **VIII. Update and discussion on Draft EMA GSP and Future Governance Options**

Mr. Buelow and Mr. Jeff Barry, GSI Water Solutions, provided an update on the completion of the final EMA GSP. Discussion followed.

There was no update on future governance options. GSA Committee Chair Brett Marymee requested a timeline of future governance options action items like what was provided by consultants for the preparation of the GSP. Discussion followed. Mr. Doug Circle, on behalf of the Santa Ynez Water Group, requested future governance consideration of adding agricultural stakeholder representation to the board.

## **IX. Review and discuss Scope of Work and Costs for GSI to prepare EMA Annual Report and Change Order for GSP Preparation Task**

The GSA Committee reviewed the Scope of Work and costs for GSI to prepare the EMA Annual Report. Mr. Buelow explained that the first Annual Report required by CA Department of Water Resources (DWR) will need to include data from 2018 through September 2021. Member agency staff recommended GSI prepare the EMA Annual Report. Discussion followed.

Discussion continued regarding a need for a Cost Share Agreement between the EMA GSA member agencies for at least part, if not all, of the cost of first Annual Report and possible future funding of EMA GSA projects, including the need for a rate study and costs involved with a Prop 218 or Prop 26 process.

GSA Committee Member Brett Marymee made a MOTION to request the SYRWCD add a new task order to its existing contract with GSI for completion of the first EMA Annual Report and authorize GSI to the prepare the first EMA Annual Report according to the Scope of Work with costs Not to Exceed \$61,000. GSA Committee Member Joan Hartmann seconded the motion and it passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Mr. Paeter Garcia noted that a formal agreement for Cost Share arrangement between the EMA member agencies needs to be finalized at the staff level. GSA Committee Chair Brett Marymee requested staff work together to prepare a cost share agreement and bring a cost share agreement for the EMA to the next meeting of the EMA GSA Committee.

The GSA Committee reviewed the Change Order for GSP Preparation Task from GSI. Mr. Buelow explained the existing funds received from the DWR Prop 1 Grant and deposited into the EMA checking account should cover the additional costs for the change order. Discussion followed.

GSA Committee Member Mark Infanti made a MOTION to authorize SYRWCD to modify the contract with GSI, as presented in the GSI Change Order for GSP Preparation Task, with an additional \$52,000 in costs for a revised Not to Exceed of \$179,000. GSA Committee Member Joan Hartmann seconded the motion and it passed unanimously by roll call vote.

**X. Next "Special" EMA GSA Meeting to consider GSP adoption Thursday, January 6, 2022 at 6:30 P.M.**

Mr. Buelow suggested the EMA GSA Committee schedule a Special Meeting, including a Public Hearing to consider adoption of the EMA Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP), for Thursday, January 6, 2022 at 6:30 pm. Discussion followed. The GSA Committee unanimously agreed to scheduling this EMA GSA Special Meeting, including a Public Hearing, to consider adoption of the EMA GSP and approved of scheduling a hybrid style meeting or by remote participation only, if needed, due to the continuing health concerns presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, with in-person location being the Santa Ynez CSD Conference Room

**XI. Consideration of additional "Special EMA GSA Meeting" December 9 or 16, 2021 at 6:30 P.M.**

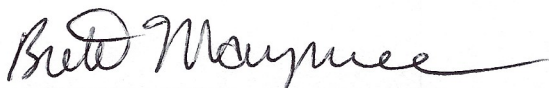
The EMA GSA Committee considered the need for an additional EMA GSA Special Meeting in December 2021. Discussion followed. The GSA Committee unanimously agreed to schedule a Special Meeting for the EMA GSA Committee on December 9, 2021 at 6:30 pm to allow for a review and discussion of public comments received on the EMA GSP and responses from consultants. The Committee approved of scheduling a hybrid style meeting or by remote participation only, if needed, due to the continuing health concerns presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, with in-person location being the Santa Ynez CSD Conference Room. The EMA GSA Committee Members requested log of EMA GSP public comments and responses to comments. Mr. Barry offered to provide to the EMA GSA Committee Members a final EMA GSP comment log prior to the December 9, 2021 Special Meeting of the EMA GSA Committee. He offered to provide a clean version of the final EMA GSP to be considered for adoption on January 6, 2022, as well as a red-line version of the EMA GSP showing changes that were made from the Public Draft version, on or about December 16, 2021.

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

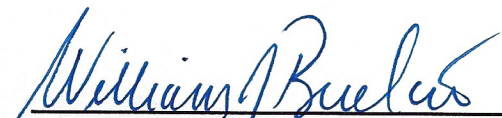
EMA GSA Committee Chair Brett Marymee asked for a SGMA Newsletter be produced for December 2021 announcing GSP adoption planned for January 2022.

**XIII. Adjournment**

There being no further business, GSA Committee Member Brett Marymee adjourned the meeting at 8:35 pm.



Brett Marymee, Chairman



William J. Buelow, Secretary

**GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILTY AGENCY FOR THE  
EASTERN MANAGEMENT AREA (EMA)  
IN THE SANTA YNEZ RIVER VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN**

**JULY 2021 WARRANT LIST FOR COMMITTEE APPROVAL**

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
1034	07/29/21	GSI Water Solutions	June 2021 GSP Preparation Services	\$ 13,135.00
1035	07/29/21	Inklings	Draft GSP Sections printed per pulic act request received	\$ 181.79
<b>MONTH TOTAL</b>				<b>\$ 13,316.79</b>

**AUGUST 2021 WARRANT LIST FOR COMMITTEE APPROVAL**

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
1036	08/12/21	Stetson Engineers	June 2021 Engineering Service (Basin Coordination)	\$ 370.00
<b>MONTH TOTAL</b>				<b>\$ 370.00</b>

**SEPTEMBER 2021 WARRANT LIST FOR COMMITTEE APPROVAL**

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
1037	09/15/21	GSI Water Solutions	July & August 2021 GSP Preparation Services	\$ 41,758.25
1038	09/15/21	Stetson Engineers	July 2021 Engineering Service (Basin Coordination)	\$ 1,387.50
<b>MONTH TOTAL</b>				<b>\$ 43,145.75</b>

**TOTAL THIS QUARTER: \$ 56,832.54**

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

**RESOLUTION EMA-2021-002**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EMA CHAIRPERSON TO SIGN THE SANTA YNEZ RIVER VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN COORDINATION AGREEMENT**

**WHEREAS**, the Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the Eastern Management Area in the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin (“GSA”), formed by Memorandum of Agreement dated April 27, 2017 (“MOA”), is the exclusive GSA for the Eastern Management Area of the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin (Bulletin 118 Basin No. 3-015) (“Basin”);

**WHEREAS**, the GSA has prepared a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (“GSP”) for the Eastern Management Area;

**WHEREAS**, Water Code section 10727.6 requires each GSA to “coordinate with other agencies preparing a groundwater sustainability plan within the basin to ensure that the plans utilize the same data and methodologies”;

**WHEREAS**, Water Code section 10727(b)(3) requires that multiple GSPs implemented by multiple GSAs must be coordinated pursuant to a coordination agreement that covers the entire Basin;

**WHEREAS**, in February 2020, the individual member agencies of the three GSAs in the Basin executed that Intra-Basin Administrative Agreement for Implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act in the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin, dated February 26, 2020 (“Intra-Basin Agreement”);

**WHEREAS**, in the Intra-Basin Agreement, the member agencies of the Parties agreed to develop and execute a Coordination Agreement in accordance with Water Code sections 10727(b)(3), 10727.6, and 10733.4(b)(3), and California Code of Regulations, title 23, Section 357.4;

**WHEREAS**, a Coordination Agreement has been prepared in consultation with staff of the member agencies of all three GSAs in the Basin and presented to this GSA for approval; and

**WHEREAS**, the GSA finds that the Coordination Agreement complies with the requirements of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (“SGMA”).

**NOW THEREFORE**, the GSA hereby resolves as follows:

- 1) Each of the recitals above is true and correct and is incorporated herein by reference.
- 2) The GSA finds that that the Coordination Agreement complies with the requirements of SGMA.

- 3) The GSA hereby authorizes and instructs its Chairperson to execute the Coordination Agreement in substantially the form presented to the GSA, subject to such minor changes as are approved by the Chairperson.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the governing Committee of the EMA GSA on November 18, 2021 by the following roll call vote:

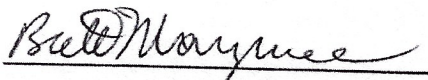
AYES: Brad Joos, Joan Hartmann, Mark Infanti, Brett Marymee

NOES: None

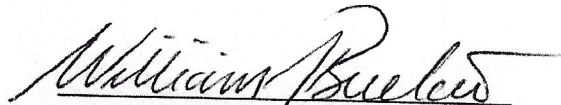
ABSENT: None

ABSTAINED: None

ATTEST:



Brett Marymee, Chairman



William J. Buelow, Secretary