

EASTERN SAN JOAQUIN GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY
Board of Directors Meeting
April 9th, 2025

I. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & SAFETY ANNOUNCEMENT/ROLL CALL

The Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority (GWA) Board Meeting convened at the Council of Governments building at 555 E. Weber Ave. Stockton, CA 95202. At approximately 10:30 a.m., the meeting was called to order by Chairman, Robert Holmes.

In attendance were Directors and Alternates: Craig Stevens, Richard Wagner, Charlie Swimley, Michael Blower, Regina Lackey, Myron Blanton, Christy McKinnon, Mike Henry, Jason Colombini, John Herrick, Chairman Robert Holmes, Fritz Buchman, Keith Bussman, Mel Panizza, and Scot Moody.

II. SCHEDULED ITEMS

A. Discussion/Action Items

1. Approval of February 12th, 2025, Meeting Minutes

Motion: Mel Panizza

Second: Michael Blower

In Favor: Craig Stevens, Richard Wagner, Charlie Swimley, Michael Blower, Myron Blanton, Christy McKinnon, Mike Henry, Jason Colombini, John Herrick, Chairman Robert Holmes, Keith Bussman, Mel Panizza, and Scot Moody.

Abstain: Regina Lackey

2. Discussion and Possible Action to Dissolve the Steering Committee

The motion is to dissolve the ESJGWA Steering Committee. On February 12th, 2025, the Steering Committee was scheduled to meet during its regularly scheduled time of 8:30am, there were not enough GSA Members on the Roster to constitute a quorum to conduct Steering Committee Business. In lieu of Steering Committee meetings, staff recommends that the Board of Director hold workshops for topics requiring deliberation and significant technical and policy input. ESJGWA Board Members, their respective technical staff and legal counsel would be encouraged to attend these Board Workshops. The Board Chair will be responsible for keeping the meeting orderly and productive.

Motion: Michael Blower

Second: Jason Colombini

All in favor.

3. Financial Report

Hope Paulin, Management Analyst II from San Joaquin County Water Resources, presented the financial report thru February 2025.

4. Presentation of Preliminary 2025-2026 Annual Work Plan and Budget

Brandon Nakagawa presented a PowerPoint Presentation on the Annual 2025-26 Annual Work Plan and Budget.

5. Discussion and Possible Action to Cancel the May 14th Board Meeting Due to the ACWA Spring Conference

Motion to cancel the May 14th Board of Director's Meeting: Michael Blower

Second: John Herrick

All in favor.

6. GSA Spotlight

North San Joaquin Water Conservation Districts, Steve Schwabauer shared they are approximately 150K total acres and 75K irrigated acres within the NSJWCD, which was founded in 1948. The revenue from the annual Groundwater Charge to growers totaled \$2.5 million last year, and in FY 2024-25 is projected at \$3.5 million. NSJWCD's project for 2024 includes the Lakso recharge, half-mile replacement of the Acampo Road pipeline, purchase of a new portable pump, and installation of a temporary pump screen. In addition, Robert Wagner of CSJWCD inquired when will it be determined what each of the GSAs responsibilities will be in addressing the overdraft of underground.

III. STAFF/DWR Report

A. Staff Report – None

B. DWR Report – Chelsea Spier, of DWR reviewed highlights of her DWR report.

IV. DIRECTORS' COMMENTS

Director John Herrick commented that Form 700's are to be filed soon, and the process has changed. Michael Blower shared his appreciation for the ESJGWA Board and looks forward to working together. Richard Wagner, Chairman of the Central San Joaquin Water Conservation District introduced himself and stated there has been discussions for merging but at the moment those discussions were on hold.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

VI. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – Chairman Robert Holmes commented if there were any volunteers for the GSA Spotlight for June, please contact him or Brandon Nakagawa.

VII. ADJOURNMENT at 11:42 am