



STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

AGENDA

Thursday, November 12, 2020

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Teleconference Meeting Only

Call-In Information Provided

NOTICE: Coronavirus COVID-19

See Attached Notice Regarding COVID-19

- I. Call to Order/Roll Call** (*Please remember to keep your phone line muted and unmute when announcing yourself for attendance or speaking)
- II. Scheduled Items – *Presentation materials to be posted on ESJGroundwater.org and emailed prior to the meeting.***
 - A. Discussion / Action Items:**
 1. Approval of the September 9, 2020 Meeting Minutes (Attachment)
 2. Funding and Financing Work Plan
 3. Referral of questions and issues to the Technical Advisory Committee
 - a. Water budget, model
 - b. Water available for recharge
 - c. Ground storage, water banking and permitting
 - d. Quantifying and tracking water demands and groundwater extraction
 - e. Recharge areas
 - f. Conveyance and storage
- III. Staff Reports**
 1. Contracting for Service with Woodard Curran for P68 Work
 2. GSA payments
 3. Budget Status Report
 4. DWR Update
- IV. Public Comment (non-agendized items)**
- V. Director's Comments**
- VI. Future Agenda Items**
- VII. Adjournment**

EASTERN SAN JOAQUIN GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

Steering Committee Meeting

AGENDA

(Continued)

NOTICE: Coronavirus COVID-19

Important Notice Regarding COVID 19 and Closure of Board Chambers to the Public During Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority Steering Committee Meeting

On March 18, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom issued Executive Order N-29-20 recognizing that COVID 19 continues to spread throughout our community resulting in serious and ongoing economic harm. Governor Newsom has therefore waived certain requirements of the Ralph M. Brown Act relating to public participation and attendance at public meetings.

Based on guidance from the California Department of Public Health and the California Governor's Officer, effective immediately and while social distancing measures are imposed, the meetings of the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Steering Committee Meetings are to be conducted via teleconference.

In order to minimize the spread of the COVID 19 virus, the following options are available to members of the public to listen to these meetings and provide comments to the Committee Members before and during the meeting:

1. You are strongly encouraged to listen to the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority Steering Committee meetings by attending the teleconference:

Join Microsoft Teams Meeting

[+1 209-645-4071](tel:+12096454071) United States, Stockton (Toll)

Conference ID: 233 724 094#

[Local numbers](#) | [Reset PIN](#) | [Learn more about Teams](#) | [Meeting options](#)

If you are connecting to Microsoft Teams for the first time, you will need to download the program to you PC. You can also download the Microsoft Teams App to you Apple or Android device by visiting the App Stores.

EASTERN SAN JOAQUIN GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

Steering Committee Meeting

AGENDA

(Continued)

Once connected, we request you kindly mute your phone.

2. If you wish to make a comment on a specific agenda item, please submit your comment via email by 5:00 p.m. on the Tuesday prior to the meeting. Please submit your comment to the Secretary of the Board at ksmith@sjgov.org. Your comment will be shared with the Board members and placed into the record at the meeting. Every effort will be made to read comments received during the meeting into the record but some comments may not be read due to time limitations. Comments received after an agenda item will be made part of the record if received prior to the end of the meeting.

Next Scheduled Meeting

Wednesday, December 9, 2020

8:30 am to 10:00 am

Location TBD

ESJGWA Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 9, 2020

Meeting called to order: at 8:32 am

The meeting was conducted via teleconference using Microsoft Teams. Reminders were provided to the attendees regarding meeting procedures.

Roll Call taken:

Roll call taken of members only.

In attendance were Chair Winn, Directors Mike Henry and Tom Flinn and Alternate Directors Mel Lytle; Walter Ward; Andrew Watkins and Brandon Nakagawa.

Others in attendance were logged via their sign in to Microsoft Teams.

Discussion / Action Items:

1. Approval of the August 12 , 2020 Meeting Minutes

Motion: Director Mike Henry

2nd: Director Tom Flinn

Chairman Cuck Winn asked for any Noes or Abstains. With none provided, the minutes were approved unanimously.

2. Resolution Authorizing the Secretary of the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority to Approve Expenditures and Execute Contracts within the Designations and Limitations of the Approved Budget Resolution.

Mr. Matt Zidar with San Joaquin County provided an overview of the Resolution to be reviewed and recommended to the GWA Board during October's Board Meeting, allowing for the ESJ GWA Secretary to approve expenditures and execute contracts within the designation and limitations of the approved budget resolution. Director Mike Henry asked for clarifications on the noted major and minor limitations to the authority. Mr. Zidar advised that major would be related to contract contingencies and the minor would be related to not cost time extensions or movement of budget with approved scopes of work. Alternate Director Mel Lytle stated that this authorization would be out of the norm and questioned if this authorization were to move forward, would notifications be made to the Board members when the secretary makes decisions. Mr. Zidar advised that such accounting and notification would be made part of the Staff and/or Secretary's Reports. Ms. Monica Streeter with Neumiller and Beardslee provided additional JPA details, stating that anything done within this Resolution would have to be within the Board approved budget. Ms. Streeter advised that if there are any issues, they needed to be identified so the Resolution could be adjusted. Mr. Zidar added that budget status reports will become included as a standing agenda item at future Board Meetings. Alternate Director Brandon

Nakagawa stated that as a process, the group enjoys the monthly Steering Committee Meetings and if there continues to be staff commitment on monthly check-ins with the Steering Committee on expenditures and progress, he will support the motion to approve. Chairman Chuck Winn stated that he was in agreement with Alternate Director Nakagawa in regards to regular reporting of expenditures and projects.

Motion: Director Mike Henry

2nd: Alternate Director Brandon Nakagawa

Chairman Cuck Winn asked for any Noes or Abstains. With none provided, the motion was approved unanimously.

3. DWR Draft GSP Project Proposal Solicitation Package Overview and Discussion of Approach to Project Selection.

Matt Zidar provided information on the DWR Draft Grant Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP) for implementation of GSP projects, including information on the first round awardable funds and cost share details. Mr. Zidar provided additional details on the eligible projects and provided the DWR grant schedule. Ms. Chelsea Spier with DWR advised that the application submittal date would remain the same, but would open earlier, in November, due to DWR being ahead of schedule.

Mr. Zidar asked for discussion, from the Committee, on; 1) the potential process for selecting the preferred project, 2) who would review, rank and select preferred grant projects, and 3) what the criteria would be used to evaluate GSA projects. It was noted that only one grant proposal could be submitted from a basin but could include multiple GSA projects in the application. Director Henry questioned if the GSAs were eligible to submit their own applications or if the thought was to have the GWA apply. Mr. Zidar advised that the GWA would determine which project or projects would be submitted for the region. Secretary Fritz Buchman added that the group also needed to look at who would pay for grant preparation, who ultimately submits the application and would cover the required local cost share portion. Alternate Director Lytle question if DWR had put out anything regarding the ranking criteria and if the GWA had any projects on the list that were ready to proceed. Mr. Zidar advised that criteria was included in the PSP by DWR and that GSA have been requested to provide project status reports at monthly Steering Committee meetings and scheduled GWA Board meetings. Ms. Spier confirmed that while the Basin could only submit one application, that application could include multiple projects. Chairman Winn asked to clarify that it is possible to submit two or three projects that fall within the grant amount. Ms. Spier confirmed. Secretary Buchman additionally questioned if the grant could fund only the construction portion of the project, or if planning and design could be included. Ms. Spier advised that the grant could fund development, but not fully, it must also fund construction of the project.

Chairman Winn reminded the Steering Committee that the overall goal is to provide sustainability to the Basin and the question was what the best way to achieve sustainability. Additionally, Chairman Winn discussed the question of project priority and how to determine that priority, as well as having discussions at the Board level. Mr. Zidar provided the project criteria table, which prompted further discussion on there being any projects within the basin that are at a level needed to proceed with an application for the grant and be competitive in a statewide competition with other critically over drafted basins. It was noted that a project needed to have been included in the GSP. The discussion circled

back around to the need for GSAs to provide details on their project statuses. The GSA will likely need identify that there is funding for maintenance and operations if a grant is to be awarded. Chairman Winn advised that as updates have been requested from the GSAs, and that we may need to request the GSAs have their project details at the next Board Meeting. The Committee agreed that the project selection should be left to the GWA to accomplish, and that there was no recollection of earlier discussions regarding the decisions on basin priority projects. Mr. Zidar advised there would be communication with GSAs to get their project details, including where they were with identifying funding, providing a local fund matching and delivery timeline. Secretary Buchman suggested to obtain details on the GSA projects that could be completed within the three year timeline.

The Committee confirmed the application deadlines and when decisions would be made. Ms. Spier confirmed timeline of November 2020 to January 2021.

Mr. Zidar discussed a chat question from Gerald Schwartz, regarding if a current project could be expanded and considered a qualified project. The group advised yes, could be a well-defined phase of the complete project so long as the portion seeking funding would provide tangible benefits. Ms. Spier added that if the GWA did choose a piece of an ongoing project, that was okay but there would not be reimbursement until the project was completed. Mr. Zidar added that cost share could not be done via other State funds but could use Federal funds. Alternate Director Nakagawa suggested that these details be discussed further at the next scheduled Technical Advisory Committee Meeting. Alternate Director Lytle added that it is important that the application submitted is creative, allowing for it to be competitive.

Staff Report

1. Groundwater Management and Safe Drinking Water in the San Joaquin Valley. Analysis of Critically Over-drafted Basins' Groundwater Sustainability Plans.

Mr. Matt Zidar briefly reviewed the prepared Staff Report regarding Groundwater Management and Safe Drinking water in the San Joaquin Valley and included links to the referenced studies. It was noted by the researchers that prepared the reports that the small water systems, domestic wells and human right to water were not fully addressed in almost all of the GSPs reviewed. Alternate Director Nakagawa advised the group that he has been following discussions and trying to get more engaged on a long-term CV Salts program within the State. Mr. Zidar advised that more discussion to be had on the Watershed Coordinator position to coordinate with the RCDs when implementing the GSP. Secretary Buchman added that when developing the water quality portion of the plan, there was a decision made to not weigh into water quality issues that already had a regulatory process in place. Secretary Buchman noted that the County manages over 30 water systems that majority serve Disadvantaged Communities (DAC) and the County doesn't have any small districts or DACs that aren't able to remediate contamination issues. Alternate Director Lytle added that the City of Stockton is working on a project that will extend water service to additional areas with water quality issues. Chairman Winn added that he has been involved in Delta Counties discussions regarding concerns about salt water intrusion and future water quality. Chairman Winn questioned if there would be any discussions on the issue as it becomes more relevant. Mr. Zidar advised that there has been limited consideration of drinking water since the issues are a target of other state and local programs, provide benefits to a limited population, often are regulatory compliance nature (with private sector interests or operations), have high costs and have

therefore been a relatively low priority in light of the need to address overdraft which would benefit all parties..

2. GSA Payments.

Matt Zidar provided an update on the status of GSA payments, stating that all invoices for the FY 19/20 6-month budget have been paid. Mr. Zidar advised that the invoices for FY 20/21 will be mailed to GSAs with two weeks.

Public Comment:

Ms. Chelsea Spier with DWR provided DWR program updates to the Committee. Ms. Spier provided details on an upcoming webinar hosted by Maven's Notebook and a Workshop pertaining to DAC and Tribal Engagement through IRWM.

No further Public Comments.

Director's Comments:

Director Mike Henry questioned the GWA moving forward in the application process for the Watershed Coordinator Grant and if any GSAs intended to apply as well. Matt Zidar advised that after some discussions, everyone was supportive of the application being submitted in partnership with the RCD by the GWA with the position being available to the GSAs to support outreach, monitoring and project development.

Future Agenda Items:

Matt Zidar provided some future agenda items based on meeting discussions. Items included providing regular monthly Budget and Project Status Reports per the Committee's request. Additional agenda items to include, recommending Resolution to the Board, Well Monitoring, DWR Grant Submittal Discussion and scheduled meeting for October.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 9:49 am by Chairman Winn.

Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority
Steering Committee Meeting Sign-In
September 9, 2020 **8:30 AM**

Chuck Winn	San Joaquin County	209-953-1160	cwinn@sigov.org	Present
Mel Lytle	City of Stockton	209-937-5614	mel.lytle@stocktonca.gov	Present
Mike Henry	Lockeford Community Services District	209-712-4014	midot@att.net	Present
Walter Ward	Eastside San Joaquin GSA	209-525-6710	wward@envres.org	Present
Robert Holmes	South San Joaquin GSA	209-484-7678	rholmes@ssjid.com	
Andrew Watkins	Stockton East Water District	209-948-0333	watkins.andrew@verizon.net	Present
Tom Flinn	North San Joaquin Water Conservation District	209-663-8760	tomflinn2@me.com	Present
Fritz Buchman	San Joaquin County	468-3034	fbuchman@sigov.org	Present
Matt Zidar	San Joaquin County	953-7460	mzidar@sigov.org	Present
Brandon Nakagawa *	South San Joaquin GSA - Alternate	209-249-4613	bnakagawa@ssjid.com	Present
Kristy Smith	San Joaquin County			
Renee Neal	San Joaquin County			
Alex Chetley	San Joaquin County			
Scot Moody	SEWD			
Chelsea Spier	DWR			
Monica Streeter	Neumiller + Beardslee			
Elba Mijango	City of Manteca			

November 2020 DWR Updates

Grants

California Grants Portal

The California State Library, in partnership with the Department of Water Resources and other state grantmaking agencies, has launched the California Grants Portal – your one destination to find all state grant and loan opportunities provided on a first-come or competitive basis. Visit grants.ca.gov to find funding opportunities for you and your community.

DWR: Prop 68 Sustainable Groundwater Management Implementation Grants for Critically Overdrafted Basins

The FINAL Proposal Solicitation Package for the Department of Water Resources' (DWR) Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Grant Program is now available. Round 1 with \$26 million available, is now open to Critically Over Drafted Basins, a second round with \$77 million will be open in 2022 to all high and medium priority basins. **An application assistance workshop will be held December 3, 2020 at 2:00 p.m** and **this solicitation will close on January 8, 2021**. The final PSP, application templates, and registration for the application workshop can be found here: <https://water.ca.gov/sgmgrants>

FEMA: Hazard Mitigation Grant Program

FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program has opened for Notice of Intent (NOI) to apply for a grant, due November 20, 2020. NOI's must be submitted through Cal OES. More information here: <https://www.caloes.ca.gov/cal-oes-divisions/recovery/disaster-mitigation-technical-support/404-hazard-mitigation-grant-program> **A reminder that federal grants can count towards the cost share requirements of State grants.**

DWR's Floodplain Management, Protection, and Risk Awareness (FMPRA) Grant Program

There is \$25M available to provide financial assistance for flood risk reduction activities related to stormwater, mudslide, and other flash flood related protections. The final grant guidelines are expected to be published in summer of 2021. <https://www.grants.ca.gov/grants/floodplain-management-protection-and-risk-awareness-program-2/>

Other state & federal grant websites for resources that may be helpful are:

- California Financing Coordinating Committee -- <https://cfcc.ca.gov/>, and
- CalOES grants -- <https://www.caloes.ca.gov/cal-oes-divisions/grants-management>
- US EPA -- <https://www.epa.gov/grants/specific-epa-grant-programs>, and
- Economic Development Administration -- <https://eda.gov/funding-opportunities/>
- The rollout webinars of FEMA's new grant, Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (risk reduction), started in July 2020 and can be found at: <https://www.fema.gov/bric>

Upcoming conferences, webinars, new reports and data

DWR is forming a technical advisory committee for the update of California Well Standards

Those interested in serving on the committee are asked to email Julie Haas at Julie.Haas@water.ca.gov. The committee will convene in March. California Well Standards was last updated in 1991. More information here: <https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management/Wells/Well-Standards>

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation: New Data sharing webpage

The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation has released the new Reclamation Information Sharing Environment (RISE) website. It provides access to Reclamation's water-related data. The site includes maps to help search for data in a particular area. There is also a catalog offering access to datasets and time-series data. <https://data.usbr.gov/>

Native American Day 9/25/20

The Governor issued a new policy encouraging State entities to seek opportunities to support California Tribes' co-management of and access to natural lands that are within a California Tribe's ancestral land and under the

November 2020 DWR Updates

ownership or control of the State of California, and to work cooperatively with California Tribes that are interested in acquiring natural lands in excess of State needs: <https://www.gov.ca.gov/2020/09/25/on-native-american-day-governor-newsom-takes-action-to-restore-land-promote-equity-for-california-native-communities/>

Building a Water-Resilient California

PPIC is hosting 3 one hour sessions on “building a water-resilient California” November 12, 17, and 19. Topics are Funding water systems while ensuring affordability and equity, Collaborative approaches to foster groundwater sustainability, and Priorities for a water-resilient California. Registration here:

https://www.ppic.org/event/building-a-water-resilient-california/?utm_source=ppic&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=event

California Water Plan 2016 Water Balance Data Release

A webinar was held Wednesday September 30th 9:30 – 11:30 by the CA Water Plan team to discuss the release of 2016 water balance data. A recorded video is available here: <https://youtu.be/VO8dmT9Zw9A>

DRAFT Urban and Agricultural Water Management Plans Released, DWR

DWR has released draft versions of two water management guidebooks; one for urban water management plans and the other for agricultural water management plans. Both plans serve as long-term water supply and demand management strategies. More information here: <https://water.ca.gov/News/News-Releases/2020/Sept-20/Planning-Tool-for-Local-Water-Managers-Released-for-Public-Comment>

Flood-MAR (Managed Aquifer Recharge)

A new survey on forming a Flood-MAR network is available:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FloodMAR_2020. This survey is being conducted on behalf of DWR. There is also a [new Lunch-MAR monthly speaker series](#). If you are interested in attending please email Jennifer.Marr@water.ca.gov (916) 651-9229 to be added to the calendar invite. To join the Flood-MAR listserv follow this link: https://listservice.cnra.ca.gov/scripts/wa.exe?SUBED1=DWR_FLOODMAR&A=1

Governor Newsom Releases Final Water Resilience Portfolio

The Governor released the final version of the Water Resilience Portfolio on Tuesday, July 28th:

<https://waterresilience.ca.gov/>. Given the recent drastic downturn in the state’s budget situation, the final version acknowledges that the pace of progress on the actions in the portfolio will depend upon the resources available. The portfolio is a comprehensive, aspirational document.

SGMA

GSPs have been submitted by all Critically Over-drafted basins.

GSPs and public comments have been posed on the SGMA portal here: <https://sgma.water.ca.gov/portal/gsp/all>. The public comment period is now open for the Madera Subbasin through December 23, 2020.

NEW Statewide Groundwater Level Change Report and Maps Available

The [Spring 2020 Groundwater Level Change Report](#) and accompanying maps are available on the DWR website and present a summary of groundwater level data. The report and maps include a discussion of groundwater level trends with multi-year comparisons which can assist with the development of GSPs.

REMINDER Submit Fall Groundwater Level Data to CASGEM

Monitoring Entities for the California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring (CASGEM) Program are asked to submit fall 2020 groundwater level measurements to the CASGEM Online System (OS). The data is due within 30 days of collection, and no later than December 31.

November 2020 DWR Updates

SVSim Beta Model Released

DWR has released the beta version of the [Sacramento Valley Groundwater-Surface Water Simulation Model \(SVSim\)](#) that can be used during GSP development. Instructions for use are included in the [Roadmap to Running SVSim](#) document. A calibrated version of SVSim is expected in fall 2020.

C2VSim Fine Grid

Version 1.0 is under QA/QC and documentation is under review. This is expected to be released in early Fall of 2020. C2VSim is an integrated numerical model that simulates water movement through the linked land surface, groundwater and surface water flow systems in California's Central Valley using the IWFEM modeling platform.

Draft Handbook for Water Budget Development

The handbook has been posted on the SGMA webpage and can be viewed at the following link under the “reports” tab: <https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management/Data-and-Tools>. A recent webinar discussing the handbook with a deeper dive on 4 topics can be viewed here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U1V4V-SG5jY&feature=youtu.be>

DWR is developing eight Proposition 68-funded technical projects

These projects include airborne electromagnetic surveys, improving groundwater elevation and quality monitoring networks, Statewide land use data collection, improved subsidence monitoring network, installing and maintaining stream gauges, maintaining and enhancing statewide well completion reports, managing and reporting sustainable groundwater information, and enhancing and maintaining DWR’s modeling tools. Fact sheets on each project can be viewed under the “Prop 68” tab here: <https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management/Data-and-Tools>

Facilitation Support Services (FSS): Funding still available

- GSA’s developing GSPs are eligible to receive funding for identification and engagement of interested parties, meeting facilitation, interest-based negotiation/consensus building, and public outreach facilitation
- More information can be found here: <https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management/Assistance-and-Engagement> New written translation services available in 10 languages for outreach materials (5,000 word maximum).

Technical Support Services (TSS): Funding still available

- COD basins have priority, but this application is open to all high and medium priority basins including those with an approved alternative plan. More information and applications can be found here: <https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management/Assistance-and-Engagement>
- Funds can be used for monitoring well installation, geophysical logging, geologic logging, groundwater level monitoring training, borehole video logging, and other field activities.

Draft Report on Drought and Water Shortage Vulnerability Released

- DWR recently released the draft *Small Water Suppliers and Rural Communities at Risk of Drought and Water Shortage Vulnerability and Recommendations and Guidance to Address the Planning Needs of these Communities* report. The report provides information for GSAs to consider and incorporate into future updates to GSPs and will help inform management decisions as these plans are implemented. More information can be found here including 2 recorded webinars: <https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Water-Use-And-Efficiency/Making-Conservation-a-California-Way-of-Life/County-Drought-Planning>