

EASTERN SAN JOAQUIN GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY
Board Meeting Minutes
April 12th, 2023

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

The Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority (GWA) Board Meeting convened in Assembly Room 1 at the Agricultural Center, called to order by Mel Panizza at 10:35 AM.

Angie Provencio of San Joaquin County Water Resources Division conducted roll call.

In attendance: Jeremiah Mecham, Dan Wright, Myron Blanton, Mike Henry, John Herrick, Robert Holmes, Fritz Buchman, Mel Panizza, Joe Valente, and Scot Moody.

II. SCHEDULED ITEMS

A. Discussion/Action Items:

1. Approval of Minutes of January 11th, 2023

Changes to minutes should note that Chairman Winn did not call the January 11th, 2023, meeting to order, Mel Panizza called the meeting to order.

Motion:

Motion by John Herrick and seconded by Joe Valente. The vote was unanimous.

2. Preliminary Review of Survey Results and Next Steps for Communications and Engagement Plan

Craig Moyle from Stantec reviewed the survey data and websites. Craig Moyle shared the ESJ GWA Distribution List is roughly 300 people, with stakeholders on this list at about 75.

Responses to the survey are as follows:

Manteca GSA	18
East Side San Joaquin GSA	12
North San Joaquin GSA	25
San Joaquin County GSA	14
South San Joaquin Irrigation District	20
Stockton East GSA	25

Craig Moyle shared that the data showed the 3 top websites that stakeholders go to for information on SGMA are as follows:

1. Local GSA's website
2. San Joaquin County website
3. The DWR website

The goal through additional outreach, is to build the ESJ GWA website to be the first website stakeholders visit, from there they will branch off to the others. Craig Moyle shared interviews with interested parties in the basin will start in 2 weeks and will take 1 week to complete. He will send a draft plan to Matt within 3 weeks. Mike Henry requested a copy of the report shared. Matt noted that he did not want to distribute interim produce but that a summary of the survey and interviews could be prepared when the interview and manager surveys were complete. Such a report would be sent to the Board.

3. 2022 Annual Report

- a. **Review of Basin Conditions and Findings:** Matt Zidar presented the annual report to the Technical Advisory Committee and Steering Committee. Matt Zidar shared the report elements are groundwater elevation data, groundwater extraction information, surface water supply used or available for use, total water usage and any changes in groundwater storage. He shared 2019 was a wet year, 2020 was dry, 2021 was critical and 2022 is assumed to be critical as well. Matt commented that surface water supply used or available for use, for groundwater recharge or in-lieu shall be reported on quantitative data that describes the annual volume and sources for the preceding water year.
- b. **Review of progress and Status of Project Management GSAs:** Scot Moody shared that Oakdale Irrigation District (OID) efforts the last few years has come to fruition. The OID Board met with farmers regarding keeping water locally. The agreement was to keep water locally and gain commitment from landowners and farmers to take water from OID the following year at a minimum of 18" and OID would invest in keeping the water for local use. Joe Valente shared that North San Joaquin are taking charge of an abandoned vineyard for a groundwater project, and still looking into a basin in Lockeford, and moving on Dream project forward. Dan Wright shared that the City of Stockton is moving forward on a groundwater recharge pond next to the Delta treatment plan and that the project is on track as far as timing. Justin Hopkins shared that Stockton East did receive temporary flood diversion permit, DWR paid fees, and only allowed to divert till March 31st but about 120-acre feet of flood water. The Stockton East Board is working to change the incentive programs for growers to switch to surface water and will continue to come up with new ways to incentivize the use of surface water.
- c. **Discussion of Additional Project Management Actions:** Matt Zidar shared some discussions that took place at the TAC and Steering Committee meeting: project actions, data collection and monitoring, the SGMA grant and the need of \$500,000 to help accomplish the work, the idea of having funds available, grant writing and including some money for the engagement plan.

4. Budget Overview: Ad Hoc TAC and Steering Committee

The budget will be adopted in June. Budget packages were shared with the Steering Committee.

III. STAFF Reports/Water Resources

- a. Staff Report – none
- b. DWR Report – attached to the agenda package for individual review.
- c. Media Clippings – attached to the agenda package for individual review.

IV. DIRECTORS COMMENTS

Mike Henry commented on the water coming down from EBMUD noting that it would be great if farmers along the Mokelumne River could have intakes to put this water in the ground.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments

VI. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

VII. ADJOURNMENT at 11:53 AM