

Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 12th, 2023

I. Call to Order/Roll Call

The Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority (GWA) Steering Committee meeting was held at the San Joaquin County Robert J. Cabral Agricultural Center in Stockton, California (2101 E. Earhart Avenue Conference Rm 1). At approximately 8:46 a.m. call to order was conducted by Robert Holmes and roll call was taken of members only.

In attendance were Director and Alternates: Andrew Watkins, Robert Holmes, Fritz Buchman, Mike Henry, Mel Lytle and Joe Valente

II. Scheduled Items

A. Discussion/Action Items

1. Approval of the March 8th, 2023, minutes with the correction of the meeting location from the Robert J. Cabral Agricultural Center to SJC Public Works, Conference Rm. A.

Motion to approve the minutes with the location correction: Mike Henry
2nd: Andrew Watkins
The vote was unanimous.

2. Review the Proposed Budget and Recommendation to the GWA Board for May Meeting

Matt Zidar agreed to adjust the budget or follow up why that decision was made. Mel Lytle shared concern about the percentages based on the GSAs and requests to look between the needs and wants because based on the proposed budget, City of Stockton is paying 17% of the overall budget. Robert Holmes commented, to his recollection, for the past 3/4 years South San Joaquin contributed \$17,000 – \$20,000 a year to the GWA. The minimum and low number is low. Robert Holmes is in support of the lower budget number then waiting to see if grant funding is approved and if projects come forward that deserve funding, then an amendment can take place. Mel Lytle commented that strategy is easier for him to support but shared the need in the middle budget. Andrew Watkins commented he remembers \$62,000 was allocated for grant writing last year, that everyone was going to pay for. Andrew Watkins reminded that at a previous meeting, Jennifer Spaletta recommended that \$100,000 in the budget be allocated for reimbursements, Andrew Watkins stated, a \$100,000 line item is required for grant writing, or the money will be used elsewhere for general funds and reminded that those funds had a purpose to benefit everyone. Mel Lytle recommended a deeper look at the ability to complete the listed items in the middle row and possibly modifying to reflect the capability of the GWA.

3. Monitoring Well Development

Matt Zidar reviewed the Memo: Status of Well Drilling, attached in the agenda package. Mel Lytle asked Matt Zidar if he is looking to monitor the previous wells that were put in under the USDS Program. Matt stated it is something that needs to be done and needs attention and suggested bringing in a consultant to get that completed. Mel Lytle stressed the importance of the well data and recommended resources be put in place to monitor the wells.

4. WAF Ad Hoc Committee Nominations and Formation

Matt Zidar reminded the Board that nominations for the WAF Ad Hoc Committee are due to the Chair, Robert Rickman with a cc: to Angie Provencio and Alicia Connelly by Friday. Technical and Management Staff are needed but board quorum cannot be met in this group.

III. Staff/DWR Reports

1. DWR Report
2. Other Items – **none**

IV. Public Comment – none

V. Directors Comment – Robert Holmes comment he hasn't seen a water year like this year since 1983 and reminds the group that data collection right now is critical.

VI. Future Agenda Items - none

VII. Adjournment at 9:58 am