

# Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority Special Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024

## I. Call to Order/Roll Call

The Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority (GWA) Steering Committee meeting was held at the Robert Cabral Agricultural Center in Assembly Room 1. At approximately 8:30 a.m., the meeting was called to order by Chairman Robert Rickman.

Roll Call: In attendance were Director and Alternates: Andrew Watkins, Jason Colombini, Mike Henry, Mitch Maidrand, Robert Holmes, Secretary Fritz Buchman and Chairman Robert Rickman.

## II. Scheduled Items

### A. Discussion/Action Items

#### 1. Approval of the December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023, meeting minutes.

**Motion:** Andrew Watkins

**Second:** Mike Henry

**All in favor.**

#### 2. Update on Stakeholder Engagement and Outreach Plan

Brandon Nakagawa shared the participation has been great. Stakeholders include local and private pumpers, farmers, etc. The best fit options should be discussed and chosen by the group regarding outreach communications.

#### 3. Discussion on Draft Well Mitigation Program

Steve Schwabauer shared the policy provides for a claim process. The user can contact the GWA or OES regarding a failed well, they will be given information regarding the process, the GWA will establish a committee to review the claims. Members of the committee will include: a District Engineer, Hydrologist hired by the GWA, County Environmental Health Officer, and a fifth entity to be recommended as a non-involved GEM or designee.

#### 4. Recommendation and Approval of an Amendment No. 1 to Land Use Agreement A-22-375 License to Use Land or Groundwater Monitoring Stations with San Joaquin County for the Westgate Landing Monitoring Well

**Motion:** Jason Colombini

**Second:** Robert Holmes

**All in favor.**

**5. Recommendation to Approve a Memorandum of Understanding with San Joaquin County to Receive American Rescue Plan Act Funding for Monitoring Network Enhancements**

**Motion:** Mike Henry  
**Second:** Andrew Watkins  
**All in favor.**

**6. Recommendation to Submit 2023 Groundwater Reports**

**Motion:** Mike Henry  
**Second:** Robert Holmes  
**All in favor.**

**7. Spring and Fall Groundwater Reports**

Bob Granberg shared the Spring and Fall Groundwater Reports linked [here](#).

**8. Discussion on Upcoming ESJGWA Work Plan and Draft 2024-2025 Annual Budget**

Brandon Nakagawa shared the work plan which includes: GSP update, groundwater monitoring in the Spring and Fall, and administration. The report is due April 1<sup>st</sup> and is crucial to prevent a GSA from being sent into probation.

**III. Staff/DWR Reports**

1. **2024 Spring Groundwater Monitoring Schedule** – Brandon shared the monitoring schedule is almost complete, Spring came a little early, but they are starting early as well.
2. **DWR** – Chelsea shared updates on the DWR attachment in the agenda.
3. **Other Items** – Brandon commented the next Board meeting will be in June. Steering Committee will meet in April. Please plan on attending the June Board meeting to pass the budget.
4. **Communications** - None

**IV. Directors Comments** - None

**V. Public Comment** - None

**VI. Future Agenda Items** - None

**VII. Adjournment at 9:55am**

NOTE\* - Meeting presentation material can be found on the website at [www.esjgroundwater.org/](http://www.esjgroundwater.org/).