

EASTERN SAN JOAQUIN GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY
Board Meeting
September 11th, 2024

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 Mel Panizza.

In attendance were Directors and Alternates: Jason Colombini, Mike Henry, Robert Holmes, Dante Nomellini, Christy McKinnon, Secretary Fritz Buchman, Keith Bussman, Mitch Maidrand, Mel Panizza, John Herrick, Myron Blanton, Eric Thorburn, Alan Nakanishi, and David Breitenbucher.

II. SCHEDULED ITEMS

A. Discussion/Action Items

1. Approval of the August 14th, 2024, Meeting Minutes

Motion: Eric Thorburn

Second: Keith Bussman

All in favor.

2. Presentation from River Partners: Mokelumne Integrated Conjunctive Use Project (MICUP)
Presentation not given, postponed to a later meeting.

3. Adoption of the Domestic Well Mitigation Program

Brandon Nakagawa shared this program will help allows funding for dry wells due to overdraft. The program is set up to include a claims period, investigation of the cause of well failure, and if it's caused by overdraft there is funding to replace the well. \$100,000 is sitting in the budget now, the other \$100,000 will come from next year's budget.

Motion: John Herrick

Second: Mike Henry

All in favor.

4. Approval of a Response to the San Joaquin Civil Grand Jury

Brandon Nakagawa shared one of the recommendations on the grand jury report was for a Community and Engagement (C&E) Plan. With assistance from Stantec, the C&E Plan is being drafted and will go to the Steering Committee first, then to the Board for recommendation for adoption.

Motion: Dante Nomellini

Second: David Breitenbucher

All in favor.

5. Approval of a Resolution Expanding the 2022 GSP Project List and Directing Staff to Include the Projects in the 2025 GSP Update

Brandon Nakagawa explained that a number of GSAs requested that the list of GSP Projects be expanded to include 5 additional projects from the South San Joaquin Irrigation District, the City of Escalon, CSJWCD, NSJWCD and SEWD. The proposed resolution would add the five projects to the list and help the GSA's to compete for grant money for their projects, There was enthusiasm among the requesting GSAs to work together rather than compete for grant support.

Motion: Jason Colombini

Second: John Herrick

All in favor.

6. Approval of an Amendment to Extend Staff Services with SSJID

Brandon Nakagawa shared the workplan coming out of the GSP update will be much more than in 2020, with the adoption being a new starting line and not the finish line. Modeling updates, reports, and possibly a demand reduction program. The GWA will need to do more. San Joaquin County Public Works has been the support for the GWA since the GWA was created. The amount of work necessary to sustain the GWA exceeds the capacity of the PW Department. SSJID has approved support services for Brandon Nakagawa through June of 2025. Mr. Nakagawa offered that that both executive leadership combined with leadership from GSA's is needed in order for the GWA to be successful. An executive committee concept might be a possible way to ensure that GSP implementation tasks that are delegated to the ESJGWA are completed. For the time being, Mr. Nakagawa suggested that the administrative and clerk functions of the GWA stay with Public Works. Director Colombini suggested that the transition be a recurring item for the Board and Steering Committee.

Motion: Alan Nakanishi

Second: John Herrick

All in favor.

7. Direct Staff to Release an RFQ for On-Call Technical Services

Brandon Nakagawa commented that ARPA funds granted by San Joaquin County need to be spent, and consultant help is needed. A request for Qualifications was drafted and will be released. The top firms will be added to an on-call consultant list. Secretary Fritz Buchman commented the Steering Committee made the recommendation to approve this item.

Motion: Robert Holmes

Second: David Breitenbucher

All in favor.

8. September 25th, GSA Open House and Presentation of 2025 GSP Update Public Review Draft

September 25th, 5:30PM, a formal open house will take place at the Robert J. Cabral Agricultural Center. Each GSA will have an area to set up to answer questions from their customers. Woodard & Curran will start their presentation at 6PM on the GSP update.

III. STAFF/DWR Report

- A. Staff Report** – Brandon Nakagawa shared that the well at Westgate Landing is installed. County Staff is appreciated for saving the funding. Alex Chetley shared also happening on September 25th, at 9AM is the Tracy Subbasin and ESJ Coordination meeting online.
- B. DWR Report** – Chelsea Spier from DWR shared the next surface water papers will be released in the next week or two with information on public meetings.

IV. DIRECTORS COMMENTS

None

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

VI. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

VII. ADJOURNMENT at 11:32am