

Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 11th, 2024

I. Call to Order/Roll Call

The Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority (GWA) Steering Committee meeting was held at the Council of Governments building at 555 Weber Avenue, in Stockton, CA at approximately 8:30 a.m., the meeting was called to order by Robert Holmes.

Roll Call, in attendance were Directors and Alternates: Jason Colombini, Mike Henry, Robert Holmes, Dante Nomellini, Christy McKinnon, Fritz Buchman, Justin Hopkins and Mitch Maidrand.

II. Scheduled Items

A. Discussion/Action Items

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

Motion: Mike Henry

Second: Justin Hopkins

All in favor.

2. Financial Report

Brandon Nakagawa reported that \$310,000.00 was activated from Reserves for the GSP Update and an additional \$262,000.00 came in from grant reimbursements. AARP funding has been transferred and the Westgate Landing well drilling is expected to begin.

Motion: Jason Colombini

Second: Dante Nomellini

3. Presentation on Post-GSP Update ESJGWA Work Plan

Katie Cole from Woodard & Curran shared the GSP Amendment Schedule. GSA's have been sent all administrative draft documents and they are due back on Friday. The GSA Open House will be held September 25th, 2024, at the Robert Cabral Agricultural Center. October 1st, 2024, is the anticipated date of the release of the Public review Draft GSP for a 30 day comment period. All comments will be reviewed and addressed in the final GSP document which will be ready around November 27th, 2024.

4. Recommendation on Amendment to Extend Staff Services with SSJID

Brandon Nakagawa shared the SSJID board approved an extension for him to continue to provide staff services to the GWA. The SSJID Board is concerned about the amount of work that needs to be done and the ESJGWA not having a plan going forward. Brandon stated the GWA has many needs, requirements and constituents. Staff is working on a 4-pronged approach to put the ESJGWA on solid footing: 1) Executive Director,

Executive Committee, consultant help, , and continuing to utilize County staff to clerk the Board of Directors and perform the financial functions..

Motion: Dante Nomellini

Second: Justin Hopkins

In favor: Jason Colombini, Mike Henry, Dante Nomellini, Christy McKinnon, Justin Hopkins and Mitch Maidrand.

Abstain: Robert Holmes

5. Recommendation to Release RFQ for On-call Technical Services

Brandon Nakagawa recommends using an RFQ process to solicit interest to consultants that have a background in SGMA, then develop a list to choose from to assign specific tasks. A workplan can then be created, assigned, and coordinated with consultants to complete the projects. An RFQ was attached to the agenda packet.

Motion: Jason Colombini

Second: Mike Henry

All in favor.

III. Staff/DWR Reports

1. Staff Report – None
2. DWR Report – Chelsea Spier from DWR shared the surface water documents will be out by September 20th with a public webinar and comment period.

IV. Director’s Comments – Mitch Maidrand of the City of Stockton, announced his retirement at the end of October of 2024.

V. Public Comment – Mary Elizabeth shared there hasn’t been any stakeholder meetings since September of 2020. Mary shared there were rich conversations held at these meetings, it was a diverse group and to consider having any ad hoc meetings open to the public.

VI. Future Agenda Items – Mary Elizabeth commented that DWC released guidance regarding SB55 Drought Contingency Planning effort. She would like to know how the GWA is working to initiate the public planning effort.

VII. Adjournment at 9:52 am

NOTE* - Meeting presentation material can be found on the website at www.esjgroundwater.org/.