### **MEETING MINUTES**

# Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the Central Management Area in the Santa Ynez River Groundwater Basin February 24, 2020

A regular meeting of the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for the Central Management Area (CMA) in the Santa Ynez River Groundwater Basin was held on Monday, 24 February 2020 at the Buellton City Council Chambers, 140 West Highway 246, Buellton, California.

**GSA Committee Directors Present:** 

Ed Andrisek

Art Hibbits

Alternate GSA Committee Director Present:

Cynthia Allen

Staff Present:

Bill Buelow

Rose Hess

Amber Thompson

Matt Young

Others Present:

Maygan Cline (GeoSyntec)

Anita Regmi (DWR)

and seven members of the public

Others Via Phone:

Curtis Lawler and Miles McCammon (Stetson Engineers)

Zoe Carlson (Dudek)

#### I. Call to Order

GSA Committee Director Andrisek called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. and welcomed all in attendance.

#### II. Pledge of Allegiance

GSA Committee Director Andrisek led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### III. Introductions and Review of SGMA in Santa Ynez River Valley Basin

GSA Committee Director Andrisek invited everyone to introduce themselves. Ms. Anita Regmi from the State of California Department of Water Resources (DWR) explained her role as the Point of Contact for the Santa Ynez River Groundwater Basin. Ms. Regmi further described DWR's role to provide resources for the implementation of SGMA. She explained that DWR will review the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) within two years of submittal. DWR will also provide financial assistance in form of grants, technical assistance, and other support services. DWR has funds available for well installation and for monitoring equipment. Ms. Regmi previously attended CMA GSA meetings via phone. This was her first time attending in persona and encouraged anyone with questions to contact her directly.

Mr. Buelow reviewed history of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) requirements and what has been completed so far in the Santa Ynez River Basin including the creation of the three Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) in the Basin (EMA, CMA, WMA), securing Department of Water Resources (DWR) Prop. 1 Grant (Grant) funding, hiring Consultants, coordinating efforts between the eight agencies participating in the three GSAs, and establishing a Citizen Advisory Group (CAG).

### IV. Additions or Deletions, if any, to the Agenda

No additions or deletions were made.

#### V. Public Comment

Mr. Mark Preston, Buellton resident, asked for clarity on a County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors meeting agenda item regarding SGMA calling to identify and designate fringe areas. Mr. Matt Young from Santa Barbara County Water Agency explained the areas involved are the Goleta Groundwater Basin and Santa Maria Groundwater Basin.

### VI. Review and Approve Minutes

GSA Committee Director Andrisek submitted the minutes of the meetings of October 28, 2019 for GSA Committee approval.

GSA Committee Director Hibbits made a <u>MOTION</u> to approve the minutes. GSA Committee Director Andrisek seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

# VII. Receive CMA GSA financial update and approve CMA Warrant Lists

Mr. Buelow presented the financial reports of FY 2018-19 Period 12 and FY 2019-20 Periods 1 through 6 (through December 31, 2019) and the Warrant Lists for July, August and September 2019 and October, November and December 2019. The GSA Committee reviewed them, and discussion followed.

The GSA Committee unanimously approved the July, August, September, October, November and December Warrant Lists as presented (Nos. 1004 – 1009). GSA Committee Director Hibbits made a <u>MOTION</u> to approve the warrant lists and financial reports as submitted. GSA Committee Director Andrisek seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

## VIII. Receive update on Intra-Basin Administrative Agreement

Mr. Buelow gave an update on the Intra-Basin Administrative Agreement for Implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act in the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin (Agreement) stating that it had been endorsed by all three GSAs and adopted by all but one of the eight GSA Member Agencies in the Basin. Mr. Buelow further explained that the eighth agency is meeting this week to consider

adopting the Agreement and that he expects it will be approved by all agencies by the end of the week.

# IX. Receive Draft Final Outreach and Engagement Plan and Draft Final Data Management Plan

Mr. Buelow presented the Draft Final Outreach and Engagement Plan and Draft Final Data Management Plan. He reported that both plans have been made available for public review and comment, according to SGMA guidance. The CAG reviewed both plans and submitted a memorandum with their comments. Consultants received the public comments and revised the plans. Mr. Buelow reported that changes can still be made at the direction of the CMA GSA Committee prior to the January 2022 GSP submission. At that time, if no changes are made, the Draft Final Plans will become Final.

Discussion followed. GSA Committee Director Hibbits asked if any controversies arose from either of the Draft plans. Mr. Buelow reported there were no controversies with either of the plans. GSA Committee Directors requested the public comments received on both plans be made available to the public via the **SantaYnezWater.org** website.

Public comment and discussion followed.

### X. Receive update on GSP activities in the CMA and Basin

Ms. Cline, Geosytec Consultants, along with Curtis Lawler and Miles McCammon, Stetson Engineers, (via phone) and Zoe Carlson, Dudek, (via phone) presented an update on the consultants GSP activities in the CMA GSA. The presentation included an update of consultant team activities since the last GSA Committee meeting in October 2019. The presentation included a SGMA overview, GSP milestones timeline, review of Draft Final Outreach and Engagement Plan and Draft Final Data Management Plan. The consultants reviewed newly initiated work, ongoing activities and the next steps to create a SGMA compliant GSP for the CMA GSA.

Public comment and discussion followed.

- Ms. Lombardo, owner of the Ventura County -based American Agri-Women, asked when the public will be able to view the reports and data used in the Plan. Mr. Buelow replied that the process has not been established yet. Consultants will determine usability of the data which is being peer reviewed by professionals familiar with the geology of the basin. Any data available from the public is welcome to be submitted for consideration and should be forwarded him at the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District. No action was needed or taken by the GSA Committee.
- GSA Committee Director Hibbits asked when DWR will release feedback on the GSPs recently submitted by the Critically Over Drafted Basins to review. Ms.

Regmi reported that five plans were received. SGMA gives DWR two years to review the plan. However, DWR does not expect to take the full two years and will attempt to release the review in batches. The submitted GSPs are now posted online at the DWR SGMA website and available for public comment for 75 days. The GSPs are and are expected to be implemented, immediately after submission, during DWR's review process.

- Mr. Preston asked if public will be able to view the data being used (to prepare the GSP) with references, to see historical development of groundwater pumping and the levels over time. Ms. Cline, Mr. Buelow and Mr. Young confirmed it will be available and added that historical pumping data as far back as 1980 is expected to be used in the development of the GSP even though the law only requires data beginning from 2015.
- Mr. Fleckenstein asked who is taking the lead on development of the GSP for the CMA including data management, hydro geologic conceptual model, etc. Ms. Cline reported that Stetson Engineers is the lead consultant. Dudek and Geosyntec are subcontractors to Stetson, and all three consulting firms are working as a team. The Stetson team is coordinating with EMA GSA's consultant GSI..
- Ms. Lindsey Cokely asked if data from all wells in the area are being used or if only
  those of specific depths or rock type. Ms. Cline replied that no well data collected
  is precluded, however consultants will assign wells to principle aquifers after they
  prioritized the usefulness of the data.

# XI. Next CMA Meeting: Monday, May 18, 2020, 10:00 AM, at the Buellton City Council Chambers, 140 W. Highway 246, Buellton, CA

Mr. Buelow announced that the next CMA GSA Committee Meeting will be Monday, May 18, 2020, 10:00 AM, at the Buellton City Council Chambers, 140 W. Highway 246, Buellton, CA.

### XII. CMA GSA Committee requests and comments

Mr. Buelow announced that the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, on behalf of the Central and Western Management Area GSAs applied for and received a Prop. 68 Grant from the DWR. He clarified that the requested funding was approved however the exact amount is yet to be determined. The final award notification should be received in March 2020. The funds will be used for an Aerial Electro-Magnetic Survey of the CMA, which will help confirm and improve the Hydrogeologic Conceptual Model. A similar survey is planned in the EMA and WMA portions of the basin.

GSA Committee Director Andrisek requested the timeline slide and consultant presentation be posted on the Basin website.

## XIII. Adjournment

GSA Committee Director Andrisek adjourned the meeting at 11:47 a.m.

Ed Andrisek, Chairman

William J. Buelow, Secretary

# SANTA YNEZ RIVER VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN CENTRAL MANAGEMENT AREA (CMA) GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILTY AGENCY (GSA)

## JULY 2019 WARRANT LIST FOR COMMITTEE APPROVAL

NUMBER DATE

**PAYEE** 

**DESCRIPTION** 

AMOUNT

**NONE** 

\$

### **AUGUST 2019 WARRANT LIST FOR COMMITTEE APPROVAL**

NUMBER	DATE	PAYEE	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	 AMOUNT
1004	-	VOID	VOID	\$ -
1005	08/19/19	Stetson Engineers	June 2019 Engineering Service (Task Order #2)	\$ 10,878.54
1006	08/19/19	Valley Bookkeeping	FY 2018-19 4th Quarter Bookkeeping (April, May, June)	\$ 150.00
			TOTAL	\$ 11,028.54

## SEPTEMBER 2019 WARRANT LIST FOR COMMITTEE APPROVAL

NUMBER	<u>DATE</u>	PAYEE	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	AMOUNT	
1007	09/18/19	Stetson Engineers	July 2019 Engineering Service (Task Order #2)	\$	12,256.00
			TOTAL	\$	12,256.00

TOTAL THIS QUARTER: \$ 23,284.54

# GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILTY AGENCY FOR THE CENTRAL MANAGEMENT AREA (CMA) IN THE SANTA YNEZ RIVER VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN

### OCTOBER 2019 WARRANT LIST FOR COMMITTEE APPROVAL

NUMBER DATE

**PAYEE** 

**DESCRIPTION** 

**AMOUNT** 

**NONE** 

\$

## NOVEMBER 2019 WARRANT LIST FOR COMMITTEE APPROVAL

Consulting - Grant Financial

NUMBER DATE

**PAYEE** 

**DESCRIPTION** 

<u>AMOUNT</u>

1008

1009

11/06/19 Stetse

Stetson Engineers

Bartlett, Pringle & Wolf

August & September 2019 Engineering Service

\$ 27,703.55

11/00/19 Steller Engine

(Task Order #2)

\$ 188.83

TOTAL

\$ 27,892.38

### **DECEMBER 2019 WARRANT LIST FOR COMMITTEE APPROVAL**

**NUMBER** 

**DATE** 

11/06/19

**PAYEE** 

DESCRIPTION

AMOUNT

**NONE** 

\$

**TOTAL THIS QUARTER: \$ 27,892.38**