

MEETING MINUTES

Amended 10/24/2019

Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the Eastern Management Area in the Santa Ynez River Groundwater Basin

A regular meeting of the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for the Eastern Management Area (EMA) in the Santa Ynez River Groundwater Basin was held on Thursday, April 25, 2019, at 6:30 PM at the Santa Ynez Community Services District Community Room, 1070 Faraday Street, Santa Ynez, California.

EMA GSA Committee Members Present:

Joan Hartmann Brad Joos Brett Marymee Karen Waite

Alternate EMA GSA Committee Members Present:

Cynthia Allen

Member Agency Staff Present:

Bill Buelow Paeter Garcia Amber Thompson Matt van der Linden
Kevin Walsh Matt Young

Others Present: Ten members of the public

I. Call to Order

Mr. Marymee called the meeting to order at 6:53 p.m. and asked Mr. Buelow to Call Roll. All Committee Members were present.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Marymee led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Mr. Buelow invited all in attendance to introduce themselves and say who they represent, if applicable. Mr. Buelow welcomed all in attendance.

Mr. Buelow reviewed history of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) requirements and what has been completed so far in the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin, including the creation of the three GSAs in the Basin (EMA, CMA, WMA), securing the DWR Prop. 1 Grant (Grant) funding and hiring of Consultants to prepare Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs) by the State deadline of January 31, 2022.

IV. Additions or Deletions to the Agenda

No additions or deletions were made.

V. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

VI. Consideration and possible Committee action on the following Administrative Items

a. Select Committee Chair and Vice Chair

Ms. Hartmann made a MOTION to appoint Mr. Marymee for the Chair position of the EMA GSA Committee. Ms. Waite seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Waite made a MOTION to appoint Mr. Joos for the Vice-Chair position of the EMA GSA Committee. Ms. Hartmann seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

b. Review and Approve Minutes

The minutes of the regular meeting of the EMA GSA on January 24, 2019 were considered for Committee approval.

Ms. Hartmann made a MOTION to approve the minutes. Ms. Waite seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. Staff update on Consultant for GSP activities in the Eastern Management Area

Mr. Young provided background on the consultant selection. Mr. Young advised the Committee that the GSI contract with the County was approved by the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors on February 12, 2019 and work has begun on the Stakeholder Engagement Plan and Data Management Planning and data compilation. GSI will be coordinating with Stetson Engineers, the consultant hired to prepare GSPs for the CMA and WMA, to ensure consistency between the three Management Areas. Staff discussed the idea of a common Stakeholder Communication Portal to be used by all three GSAs in the Basin. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Marymee asked for public comment. Questions and discussion ensued on agencies and consultants collaborating, availability of historical data and SGMA requirements for GSP activities in the EMA and the Basin.

VIII. Receive update on the Draft Intra-Basin Area Administrative Agreement between three GSAs

Mr. Buelow reported that Agency Staff continue to work on a Draft Intra-Basin Administrative Agreement (Agreement) between the three GSAs in the Santa Ynez River Valley Basin (Basin). The Agreement will formalize certain administrative matters between the three GSAs such as cost sharing, distribution of grant funds, and coordinating to deliver the three GSPs. When the Draft Agreement is complete, it will be circulated to the various Agencies in each GSA for review by their respective staff and legal counsel. Once that review is completed the Draft will be distributed to the three GSA Committees for review and endorsement in July 2019. After endorsement by the three GSA Committees, the Draft will go to the respective Board/Council of each of the GSA Agencies for approval.

IX. Consider approval of Draft Guidelines and Application for a Citizen Advisory Group (CAG) for the Eastern Management Area

Mr. Buelow reviewed the Citizen Advisory Group (CAG) guidelines, purpose, roles and responsibilities, governance and application developed by staff of the EMA agencies as requested by the EMA GSA Committee at the January 24, 2019 meeting. The Committee considered and discussed the proposed draft guidelines and application. The Committee heard public comments and questions.

The Committee discussed an application deadline, the number of proposed CAG members, the diversity of membership and other pertinent issues. Ms. Hartmann and Mr. Joos volunteered to serve on the Ad-Hoc Committee to screen and recommend applicants for selection to the CAG.

Ms. Waite made a MOTION to approve the application and guidelines with the following amendments; establish an application deadline of June 21, 2019; establish an Ad-Hoc Committee for application screening and recommendations comprised of two Committee Members, Ms. Hartmann and Mr. Joos, to be assisted by participating agency staff; Mr. Marymee seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

X. Discuss venue and cost for next regular meeting date and time: Thursday, July 25, 2019, 6:30 PM and determine location of future meetings

The Committee discussed moving the location of the regular EMA GSA Committee Meetings to the City of Solvang City Council Chambers due to \$30 cost of holding meetings at Santa Ynez CSD. There is no cost to hold meetings at City of Solvang City Council Chambers. Attendance at the meetings is anticipated to grow with creation of the CAG and additional public involvement. Discussion was held.

The Committee agreed to move the location of regular EMA GSA Committee meetings to the City of Solvang City Council Chambers, located at 1644 Oak Street, Solvang, CA effective with the next regular meeting scheduled for July 25, 2019, 6:30pm.


XI. EMA GSA Committee requests and comments

Ms. Hartmann thanked staff for doing a good job on the CAG Guidelines and likes the portal idea for Stakeholder Engagement communications.

XII. Adjournment

There being no further business, Mr. Marymee adjourned the meeting at 7:52 pm.

Respectfully submitted,


William J Buelow, Secretary

ATTEST:


Brett Marymee, Chair