

MEETING MINUTES

Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the Eastern Management Area in the Santa Ynez River Groundwater Basin November 17, 2022

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, November 17, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. As a result of the COVID-19 emergency, this meeting occurred solely by video and teleconference in accordance with the Santa Barbara County Public Health Social Distance Recommendation and as authorized by State Assembly Bill 361, and Resolution EMA-2021-001 (passed on 10/21/2021, reaffirmed 8/25/2022).

EMA GSA Committee Members Present: Meighan Diethofer (Acting Alternate), Mark Infanti, Brad Joos, and Brett Marymee

EMA GSA Alternate Committee Members Present: Cynthia Allen, Mike Burchardi

Member Agency Staff Present: Jose Acosta, Bill Buelow, Marliez Diaz, Paeter Garcia, Amber Thompson, Kevin Walsh, and Matt Young

Others Present: Steve Anderson, Doug Circle, Elizabeth Farnum, Tim Gorham, Mary Heyden, Gay Infanti, Ronald Piazza, and Ray Shady

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

EMA GSA Committee Chair Brett Marymee called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and asked Mr. Buelow to call roll. Three EMA GSA Committee Members and one Acting Alternate were present providing a quorum plus two EMA GSA Alternate Committee Members.

EMA GSA Committee Member Brad Joos announced that Mr. Mike Burchardi was recently appointed as the EMA GSA Alternate Committee Member representing the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Improvement District No. 1 Board of Trustees.

II. Consider findings under Government Code section 54953(e)(3) to authorize continuing teleconference meetings under Resolution EMA-2021-001

Mr. Buelow briefly explained Assembly Bill 361, the Santa Barbara County Public Health recommendation, and adoption of Resolution EMA-2021-001, passed on October 21, 2021 and reaffirmed on August 25, 2022, which authorize public meetings to be conducted remotely via video and/or teleconference and that such conditions continue to exist. There was no discussion.

EMA GSA Committee Chair Brett Marymee made a MOTION to continue meeting remotely under Resolution EMA-2021-001. EMA GSA Committee Member Brad Joos seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

III. Additions or Deletions to the Agenda

No additions or deletions were made.

IV. Public Comment

EMA GSA Committee Chair Brett Marymee announced that a public comment letter was received from the Santa Ynez Water Group in advance of the meeting and was provided in the meeting packet. He asked Mr. Doug Circle if he had any additional comment.

Ms. Mary Heyden said thank you for including the Water Group's public comment letter in the meeting packet. She requested an update on JPA development for the EMA. Mr. Buelow stated updates will be provided at a future meeting.

Ms. Elizabeth Farnum asked if the EMA GSA Committee will consider offering a hybrid format for future meetings to provide both in person and remote participation.

V. Review and consider approval of meeting minutes of August 25, 2022

The minutes of the EMA GSA Committee meeting on August 25, 2022 were presented for GSA Committee approval. There was no discussion.

EMA GSA Committee Member Mark Infanti made a MOTION to approve the minutes of August 25, 2022, as presented. GSA Committee Member Brad Joos seconded the motion. There was no discussion and it passed 3-0-1 by roll call vote with GSA Acting Alternate Committee Member Meighan Dietenhofer abstaining.

VI. Review and consider approval of Financial Statements and Warrant List

The GSA Committee reviewed the financial reports of FY 2022-23 Periods 1 through 3 (through September 30, 2022) and the Warrant Lists for July, August, and September 2022. There was no discussion.

EMA GSA Committee Acting Alternate Member Meighan Dietenhofer made a MOTION to approve the July, August, and September 2022 Warrant Lists (Check Nos. 2010-2013) totaling \$1,664.34, as presented. GSA Committee Member Mark Infanti seconded the motion. There was no discussion and it passed unanimously by roll call vote.

VII. Review Grant Closure Letter from DWR

Mr. Buelow reviewed the October 31, 2022 letter received from Department of Water Resources (DWR) regarding "Grant Closure – Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Santa Ynez River Valley Basin – GSPs Planning and Preparation, Agreement

4600012741, Grant Closure”. The letter acknowledged that DWR released the full retention amount of \$129,599.99 and confirmed that contractual obligations for the 2017 Proposition 1 Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant Program agreement were fulfilled. He thanked EMA member agencies staff for efforts in fulfilling grant requirements. He announced that member agency staff is currently working on another grant application to DWR for implementation efforts.

Discussion followed. Mr. Buelow confirmed that \$33,333.33 of the retention funds should be deposited to the EMA GSA bank account once the funds arrive approximately 6-8 weeks after the letter date.

VIII. Review and Summary of Request(s) for EMA GSA Written Verification under Executive Order N-7-22 and other well permits processed by County EHS in the EMA

Mr. Buelow read the Memorandum regarding “EMA GSA Staff Memo for Santa Ynez River Valley Basin Well Verification Process” and reviewed the EMA GSA – Summary of Well Verifications and Other Wells (receipt dates of 8/16/2022 through 11/10/2022). He explained that of the six wells listed on the summary, three wells were exempt from Executive Order N-7-22 and complete well verification applications plus deposits were received for the three others. Discussion followed.

IX. Review and Consider Approval of Request(s) for EMA GSA Written Verification under Executive Order N-7-22 for the following parcel(s):

- a. APN: 135-270-015 for WP 0005268 (for Committee Approval)
- b. APN: 141-100-033 for WP 0005347 (for Staff Approval)
- c. APN: 137-070-021 for WP 0005319 (for Staff Approval)

Mr. Buelow reported that GSI Water Solutions reviewed the applications for the three required well verifications and provided a written reviews for each application. All three reviews were included in the meeting packet.

Mr. Buelow summarized the details of the well permit application and GSI Water Solutions’ review for a new well on APN 135-270-015 (Well Permit No. 0005268) for consideration by the EMA GSA Committee. Mr. Piazza, well applicant, was present and available to answer any questions. Discussion followed.

EMA GSA Committee Member Brad Joos made a MOTION to approve the written well verification for APN 135-270-015 (Well Permit No. 0005268), as recommended by GSI Water Solutions Review of New Well Application, dated October 31, 2022. GSA Committee Chair Brett Marymee seconded the motion. Public comments were received, and further discussion followed. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Mr. Buelow presented two GSI Water Solutions’ Reviews of Replacement Well Applications (APN 141-100-033 for WP 0005347 and APN 137-070-021 for WP 0005319) and the Written Verification letters issued by member agency staff, as authorized by the

EMA GSA Committee and recommended by GSI Water Solutions. There was no discussion.

X. Update and Briefing on SGMA Round 2 Implementation Grant Funding Opportunity and Review and Consider Approval of EMA GSP Implementation Projects and Management Actions

Mr. Buelow briefed the Committee on a SGMA Round 2 Implementation grant funding opportunity available from DWR and that member agencies staff are currently working on completing the application. The grant funding opportunity ranges from \$1 million to \$20 million per basin with a total of \$200 million available statewide to cover eligible costs incurred from October 4, 2022 through April 30, 2026 for approved GSP implementation projects, without a cost share requirement.

He reported that the basin-wide member agencies staff began the process to review grant eligible project types as well as the submitted GSPs and develop a Projects and Management Actions priorities list including project descriptions, budgets and schedules. The top four priority projects to include for the grant application were determined to be:

1. Basin-wide Metering Program
2. Rate Study for Basin
3. 5-year Updates to GSPs (required by DWR), Annual Reporting, and Consultant Responses to DWR GSP Review
4. Data Gap Filling, with each GSA determining the specific projects for the GSA.

Discussion followed.

XI. Review and Consider Approving Resolution EMA 2022-004 Authorizing the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District to Submit a Proposition 68 Grant Application for Implementation of SGMA on Behalf of the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin

Mr. Buelow read the title of Resolution EMA 2022-004. EMA GSA Committee Chair Brett Marymee waived the reading of the Resolution. There was no discussion and no public comment.

EMA GSA Committee Member Brad Joos made a MOTION approving RESOLUTION EMA 2022-004 APPROVING THE SANTA YNEZ RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT ON BEHALF OF THE EASTERN MANAGEMENT AREA IN THE SANTA YNEZ RIVER VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN TO MAKE AN APPLICATION TO THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES TO OBTAIN A GRANT UNDER THE 2021 SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT GRANT PROGRAM SGMA IMPLEMENTATION ROUND 2 GRANT PURSUANT TO THE CALIFORNIA DROUGHT, WATER, PARKS, CLIMATE, COASTAL PROTECTION, AND OUTDOOR ACCESS FOR ALL ACT OF 2018 (PROPOSITION 68) AND THE

CALIFORNIA BUDGET ACT OF 2021, AND TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT TO RECEIVE A GRANT FOR THE PROJECT: SGMA IMPLEMENTATION IN THE SANTA YNEZ RIVER BASIN, as presented. GSA Committee Member Mark Infanti seconded the motion. There were no public comments and no discussion. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

XII. Next Regular EMA GSA Meeting, Thursday, December 15, 2022, at 6:30 p.m.

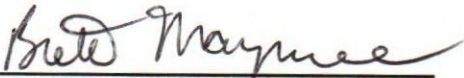
EMA GSA Committee Chair Brett Marymee announced the next regular EMA GSA meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 15, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. Mr. Buelow confirmed that if there were no written well verification requests to discuss, the meeting would be cancelled at least one week prior and written notice be provided.

XIII. EMA GSA Committee Requests and Comments for Future Agenda Items

There were no requests or comments.

XIV. Adjournment

GSA Committee Chair Brett Marymee adjourned the meeting at 7:58 p.m.



Brett Marymee, Chairman



William J. Buelow, Secretary

**GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILTY AGENCY FOR THE
EASTERN MANAGEMENT AREA (EMA)
IN THE SANTA YNEZ RIVER VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN**

JULY 2022 WARRANT LIST FOR COMMITTEE APPROVAL

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
			NONE	
MONTH TOTAL				\$ -

AUGUST 2022 WARRANT LIST FOR COMMITTEE APPROVAL

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
			NONE	
MONTH TOTAL				\$ -

SEPTEMBER 2022 WARRANT LIST FOR COMMITTEE APPROVAL

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
2010	09/14/22	GSI Water Solutions	Engineering Service: July 2022 Annual Report Data Upload	\$ 1,200.00
2011	09/14/22	Onsite Computers	Office 365 Basic License (email) - ema@SantaYnezWater.org	\$ 72.00
2012	09/14/22	Santa Barbara News Press	Legal Notices of July 21, 2022 Meeting to Establish Fee Publication dates: 7/7/22 and 7/14/2022	\$ 92.34
2013	09/14/22	Valley Bookkeeping	2022 3rd Quarter Bookkeeping (July, August, September 2022)	\$ 300.00
MONTH TOTAL				\$ 1,664.34

TOTAL CHECKS THIS QUARTER: \$ 1,664.34

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

RESOLUTION EMA-2022-004

**RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SANTA YNEZ RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT ON BEHALF OF THE EASTERN MANAGEMENT AREA IN THE SANTA YNEZ RIVER VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN TO MAKE AN APPLICATION TO THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES TO OBTAIN A GRANT UNDER THE 2021 SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT GRANT PROGRAM SGMA IMPLEMENTATION ROUND 2 GRANT PURSUANT TO THE CALIFORNIA DROUGHT, WATER, PARKS, CLIMATE, COASTAL PROTECTION, AND OUTDOOR ACCESS FOR ALL ACT OF 2018 (PROPOSITION 68) AND THE CALIFORNIA BUDGET ACT OF 2021, AND TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT TO RECEIVE A GRANT FOR THE PROJECT:
SGMA IMPLEMENTATION IN THE SANTA YNEZ RIVER BASIN**

WHEREAS, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (“SGMA”) requires that each groundwater basin in the state be managed by a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“GSA”), or multiple GSAs, and that such management be pursuant to an approved Groundwater Sustainability Plan (“GSP”), or multiple GSPs; and

WHEREAS, the Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the Eastern Management Area in the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin (“EMA GSA”), formed by Memorandum of Agreement dated April 27, 2017 (“EMA MOA”), is the exclusive GSA for the Eastern Management Area of the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin (Bulletin 118 Basin No. 3-015) (“Basin”); and

WHEREAS, the EMA MOA names the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District (SYRWCD) as the point of contact with the California Department of Water Resources (“DWR”); and

WHEREAS, the EMA GSA, together with the other two GSAs in the Basin, has entered into the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Coordination Agreement (“Coordination Agreement”), effective January 1, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the EMA GSA has adopted a GSP for the EMA; and

WHEREAS, SYRWCD coordinated the development and submittal of three approved GSPs for the Basin that are well coordinated and fully comply with SGMA and the SGMA regulations and are approvable by DWR, one GSP for each of the Central, Eastern, and Western Management

Areas, and submitted a Coordination Agreement, as appropriate for the Basin, prior to January 31, 2022; and

WHEREAS, funds are limited locally to implement the EMA GSP.

NOW, THEREFORE, the EMA GSA hereby resolves that the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District Board of Directors, on behalf of the EMA GSA and the other GSAs in the Basin, make an application to the California Department of Water Resources to obtain a grant under the 2021 Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Grant Program SGMA Implementation Round 2 Grant pursuant to the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access for All Act of 2018 (Proposition 68) (Pub. Resource Code, § 80000 et seq.) and the California Budget Act of 2021 (Stats. 2021, ch. 240, § 80), and to enter into an agreement to receive a grant for the: **SGMA Implementation in the Santa Ynez River Basin.**

The EMA GSA hereby authorizes and directs SYRWCD, as the Plan Manager designated under the Coordination Agreement as defined in SGMA Regulations section 351(z), to prepare the necessary data, conduct investigations, file such application, and execute a grant agreement and any future amendments (if required), submit invoices, and submit any reporting requirements with the California Department of Water Resources.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the governing Committee of the EMA GSA on November 17, 2022 by the following roll call vote:

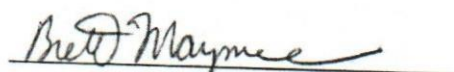
AYES: Meighan Diethofer (acting alternate), Mark Infanti, Brad Joos, and Brett Marymee

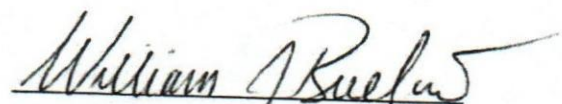
NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAINED: None

ATTEST:


Brett Marymee, Chairman


William J. Buelow, Secretary