

MEETING MINUTES

Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the Western Management Area in the Santa Ynez River Groundwater Basin March 22, 2023

A regular meeting of the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for the Western Management Area (WMA) in the Santa Ynez River Groundwater Basin was held on Wednesday, March 22, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. at the Vandenberg Village Community Services District Board Room, 3745 Constellation Road, Lompoc, California.

WMA GSA Directors Present: Jeremy Ball, Chris Brooks, Myron Heavin, and Steve Jordan,

WMA GSA Alternate Directors Present: Art Hibbits, Ron Stassi, and Kristin Worthley

Staff Present: Joe Barget, Bill Buelow, Marliez Diaz, Brad Hagemann, and Amber Thompson

Others Present (in person): Lindsay Cokeley, Paeter Garcia, and Derek McLeish

Others Present (Video Conference): John Fio (EKI), Curtis Lawler (Stetson Engineers),
and Brett Stroud (Young Wooldridge)

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

WMA GSA Chair Chris Brooks called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and asked Mr. Bill Buelow to call roll. All Directors were present providing a quorum. Three GSA Alternate Directors were also present.

II. Additions or Deletions to the Agenda

No additions or deletions were made.

III. Public Comment

There was no public comment. Mr. Buelow announced he did not receive any public comments in advance of the meeting.

IV. Review and consider approval of meeting minutes of February 22, 2023

The minutes of the WMA GSA Committee meeting on February 22, 2023 were presented for GSA Committee approval. There was no discussion or public comment.

WMA GSA Director Myron Heavin made a MOTION to approve the minutes of February 22, 2023, as presented. GSA Director Steve Jordan seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

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

Mr. Buelow reported that the WMA GSA received two requests for written verifications under Executive Order N-7-22 which were issued written verification letters.

a. APN 093-070-058- Launchpad Lands, LLC

Mr. Buelow presented the DRAFT Review of Well Application in the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin, Western Management Area (WMA) APN: 093-070-058 (WP 0005467) Launchpad Lands, LLC, dated February 8, 2023 (updated March 7, 2023) and the WMA GSA Verification letter dated March 7, 2023.

b. APN 093-020-012 - Jordan-Cramer Ranch

Mr. Buelow presented the Draft Review of New Well Application in the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin, Western Management Area (WMA) APN: 093-020-012 (WP 0005360) Jordan-Cramer Ranch, dated February 17, 2023 and the WMA GSA Verification letter dated March 7, 2023.

There was no discussion, no public comment and no action.

VI. Consider Approving and Submitting the Second Annual Report for the Western Management Area of the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin to DWR

Curtis Lawler, Stetson Engineers, presented information the Second Annual Report for the Western Management Area of the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin for submission to DWR. He stated that, as required by DWR, the Second Annual Report includes data from the prior water year of October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022. He noted that the last data points of water levels in the Report are the measurements of October 2022 before the recent winter storms. He also pointed out that that the Annual Report shows that there is nothing alarming in the WMA with the sustainability indicators. Discussion followed and public comments were received.

WMA GSA Director Myron Heavin recommended all member agencies should forward the Annual Report to the rest of their respective governing boards.

WMA GSA Director Myron Heavin made a MOTION to approve the Second Annual Report Water Year 2022 for the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Bulletin 118 Basin No. 3-15 Western Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency, authorize staff to make any non-substantive edits, if needed, and direct staff to upload document to DWR. GSA Director Steve Jordan seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Public comment was received requesting public outreach efforts with regards to the Second Annual Report.

VII. Discuss GMA Governance for the WMA

Mr. Buelow provided an update on staff efforts in creating a JPA for the WMA GSA. Discussion followed. Directors favored migrating the details of the current Memorandum of Agreement into a Joint Powers Authority for the WMA.

There was no public comment and no action.

VIII. Update on Required Conflict of Interest Form 700 Filings

Ms. Amber Thompson reported that most Committee Members have filed their required Conflict of Interest Form 700s with the County of Santa Barbara prior to the deadline and she is working with those who still need to file.

IX. Consider change in the set meeting time for regular meetings of the WMA GSA

Mr. Buelow reported of a potential timing conflict for one of the WMA GSA Directors. Discussion followed regarding changing the meeting time for regular meetings of the WMA GSA. The Committee unanimously decided to not change the start time of the regular meetings.

X. Next WMA GSA Regular Meeting, Wednesday, April 26, 2023, time TBD at Vandenberg Village Community Services District, Board Room, 3745 Constellation Rd., Lompoc


WMA GSA Chair Chris Brooks announced the next WMA GSA regular meeting will be Wednesday, April 26, 2023, at 10:00 a.m., at the Vandenberg Village Community Services District Board Room, 3745 Constellation Road, Lompoc, California.

XI. WMA GSA Committee reports and requests for future agenda items


WMA GSA Director Steve Jordan expressed concern about the flood control of the Santa Ynez River and the water supply of the WMA GSA.

XII. Adjournment

GSA Director Chris Brooks adjourned the meeting at 11:25 a.m.



Myron Heavin, Acting Chair



William J. Buelow, Secretary