

# MEETING MINUTES

## Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the Western Management Area in the Santa Ynez River Groundwater Basin May 24, 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, May 24, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. at the Vandenberg Village Community Services District Board Room, 3745 Constellation Road, Lompoc, California.

WMA GSA Committee Members Present: Myron Heavin

WMA GSA Acting Alternate Committee Members Present: Ron Stassi, and Kristin Worthley

WMA GSA Directors Absent: Committee Member and Alternate representing Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District

Staff Present: Joe Barget, Bill Buelow (remote), Brad Hagemann, and Amber Thompson

Others Present (in person): Paeter Garcia and Charlie Witt

Others Present (Video Conference): John Fio (EKI)

### 1. Call to Order and Roll Call

WMA GSA Committee Member Myron Heavin assumed the role of Acting Chair and called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. and asked Mr. Bill Buelow to call roll. One Committee Member and two Acting Alternate Committee Members were present providing a quorum. The Committee Member and Alternate representing Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District (SYRWCD) were absent.

### 2. Additions or Deletions to the Agenda

No additions or deletions were made.

### 3. Public Comment

There was no public comment. Ms. Thompson announced that no public comments were received in advance of the meeting.

### 4. Review and consider approval of meeting minutes of March 22, 2023

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

WMA GSA Acting Alternate Committee Member Ron Stassi made a MOTION to approve the minutes of March 22, 2023, as presented. GSA Acting Alternate Committee Member Kristin Worthley seconded the motion and it passed 3-0-1, with both Committee Member and Alternate from SYRWCD being absent.

**5. Review and consider approval of Financial Statements and Warrant List**

The WMA GSA Committee reviewed the financial reports of FY 2022-23 Periods 7 through 9 (through March 31, 2023) and the Warrant Lists for January, February, and March 2023. Discussion followed. There was no public comment.

WMA GSA Acting Alternate Committee Member Kristin Worthley made a MOTION to approve the Warrant Lists of January, February, and March 2023 (Check Nos. 1002-1005) totaling \$6,774.25, as presented. GSA Acting Alternate Committee Member Ron Stassi seconded the motion. There was no additional discussion or public comment and the motion passed 3-0-1, with both Committee Member and Alternate from SYRWCD being absent.

**6. 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**

**a. APN 097-371-074: The V Hotel LLC**

Mr. Joe Barget presented the DRAFT Review of Well Application in the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin, Western Management Area (WMA) APN: 097-371-074 (WP 0005512) MP Corp, aka The V Hotel at 3955 Apollo Way, Lompoc, CA, dated May 11, 2023.

Discussion followed and public comment was received.

WMA GSA Acting Alternate Committee Member Ron Stassi made a MOTION to provide the written verification under Executive Order N-7-22. GSA Committee Member Myron Heavin seconded the motion. There was no further discussion or public comment. The motion passed 3-0-1, with both Committee Member and Alternate from SYRWCD being absent.

**7. Consider WMA CAG Membership**

WMA GSA Acting Alternate Committee Member Kristin Worthley presented the invitation letters seeking for WMA Citizen Advisory Group (CAG) new membership. She pointed out that the thank you and invitation to apply letter for current WMA CAG members includes an invitation to a final meeting with lunch provided on June 28, 2023. Discussion followed.

Consensus was to send out the letters and application, as presented, and consider forming an Ad-Hoc committee to review the applications at the WMA GSA June meeting with the goal of appointing a new 7-member WMA CAG at the July 2023 meeting.

WMA GSA Acting Alternate Committee Member Kristin Worthley made a MOTION to approve providing lunch for the current WMA CAG members at the last WMA CAG meeting on June 28, 2023. GSA Acting Alternate Committee Member Ron Stassi seconded the motion. There was no additional discussion or public comment and the motion passed 3-0-1, with both Committee Member and Alternate from SYRWCD being absent.

**8. Discuss GMA Governance for the WMA**

WMA GSA Acting Alternate Committee Member Kristin Worthley provided an update on staff efforts in creating a JPA for the WMA GSA. Lengthy discussion followed and public comments were received. There was no action.

**9. Informational Correspondence**

- a. Santa Barbara County Farm Bureau, April 5, 2023**
- b. State Water Resources Control Board, April 14, 2023**
- c. Santa Barbara Cattlemen’s Association, May 3, 2023**
- d. Burton Ranch Development information update, May 4, 2023**

The Committee received the written communications and discussion followed. Staff advised that the Letter to DWR from Natalie Stork was received by DWR through the SGMA portal on GSPs after the comment period ended. The letter is being reviewed by staff and member agencies attorneys and a response will be forthcoming. Two letters are informational and supportive of an ag representative. WMA GSA Acting Alternate Committee Member Kristin Worthley briefed the committee on the Burton Ranch Development information update and pointed out that the new residential development approved to be built would cause more draw on the aquifer. Discussion followed. There were no public comments and no action.

**10. Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin, Western Management Area, Spring 2023 Measurements prepared by Santa Barbara County Water Agency, presented by John Fio, EKI**

Mr. John Fio, EKI, presented Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin, Western Management Area, Spring 2023 Measurements which was created by the Santa Barbara County Water Agency. The presentation indicated that all 23 measured representative wells were above Minimum Threshold elevation in the Spring 2023. Discussion occurred during and after the presentation. Public comments were received.

**11. Next WMA GSA Regular Meeting, Wednesday, June 28, 2023, 10:00 a.m. at Vandenberg Village Community Services District, Board Room, 3745 Constellation Rd., Lompoc**

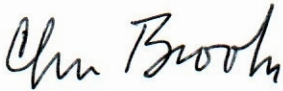
WMA GSA Committee Member Myron Heavin announced the next WMA GSA regular meeting will be Wednesday, June 28, 2023, at 10:00 a.m., at the Vandenberg Village Community Services District Board Room, 3745 Constellation Road, Lompoc, California.

**12. WMA GSA Committee reports and requests for future agenda items**

WMA GSA Acting Alternate Committee Member Kristin Worthley reported that Proposition 68 Grant funding recommendation was released and requested that Mr. John Fio provide the committee information on the funding recommendation. Mr. Fio reported that the DWR Prop. 68 Grant funding recommendation is to award the full amount requested of about \$5.5 million for seven projects.

**13. Adjournment**

WMA GSA Acting Chair Member Myron Heavin adjourned the meeting at 12:01 p.m.



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Chris Brooks, Chairman



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William J. Buelow, Secretary

**GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY FOR THE  
WESTERN MANAGEMENT AREA (WMA)  
IN THE SANTA YNEZ RIVER VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN**

**JANUARY 2023 WARRANT LIST FOR COMMITTEE APPROVAL**

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

**FEBRUARY 2023 WARRANT LIST FOR COMMITTEE APPROVAL**

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

**MARCH 2023 WARRANT LIST FOR COMMITTEE APPROVAL**

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
1002	03/13/23	GSI Water Solutions	November 2022 Well Verification Review (paid by Well Owner Deposits)	\$ 1,950.00
1003	03/13/23	Stetson Engineers	December 2022 Engineering Service (WY2022 Annual Report & GSP Implementation Work)	\$ 3,481.75
1004	03/13/23	Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District	Reimburse costs paid by SYRWCD for November 2022 Stetson Engineers WMA Annual Report Planning and GSP Implementation	\$ 1,042.50
1005	03/13/23	Valley Bookkeeping	2023 1st Quarter Bookkeeping (January, February, March 2023)	\$ 300.00
<b>MONTH TOTAL</b>				<b>\$ 6,774.25</b>

**TOTAL CHECKS THIS QUARTER: \$ 6,774.25**