

## NOTICE AND AGENDA OF REGULAR MEETING

GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY  
FOR THE CENTRAL MANAGEMENT AREA  
IN THE SANTA YNEZ RIVER GROUNDWATER BASIN

WILL BE HELD  
AT **10:00 A.M.**, MONDAY, AUGUST 23, 2021

### TELECONFERENCE MEETING ONLY – NO PHYSICAL MEETING LOCATION

**Public participants can view presentation materials and live video on their device.**

#### **New meeting and public participation platform: ZOOM**

You do NOT need to create a ZOOM account or login with email for meeting participation.

**ZOOM.us** - “Join a Meeting”

**Meeting ID: 867 3398 8155 Meeting Passcode: 607203**

**DIRECT LINK:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86733988155?pwd=bjhvQVVjOUZkMlJXdzUrTXpsQmYyQT09>

**Public participant webcams will be disabled and phones/microphones will be muted until times made available during meeting for public comment.**

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION DIAL-IN NUMBER: 1-669-900-9128**

**PHONE MEETING ID: 867 3398 8155 #**

*If your device does not have a microphone or speakers, you can call in for audio with the phone number and Meeting ID listed above to listen and participate while viewing the live presentation online.*

**Teleconference Meeting During Coronavirus (COVID-19) Emergency:** As a result of the COVID-19 emergency and Governor Newsom’s Executive Orders to protect public health by issuing shelter-in-home standards, limiting public gatherings, and requiring social distancing, this meeting will occur solely via teleconference as authorized by and in furtherance of Executive Order Nos. N-29-20 and N-33-20. **Virtual meeting is in accordance with the latest SB County Health Office Order.**

**Important Notice Regarding Public Participation in Teleconference Meeting:** Those who wish to provide public comment on an Agenda Item, or who otherwise are making a presentation to the GSA Committee, may participate in the meeting using the dial-in number and passcode above. **Those wishing to submit written comments instead, please submit any and all comments and materials to the GSA via electronic mail at [bbuelow@syrwcd.com](mailto:bbuelow@syrwcd.com).** All submittals of written comments must be received by the GSA no later than **Friday, August 20, 2021**, and should indicate “**August 23, 2021 GSA Meeting**” in the subject line. To the extent practicable, public comments and materials received in advance pursuant to this timeframe will be read into the public record during the meeting. Public comments and materials not read into the record will become part of the post-meeting materials available to the public and posted on the SGMA website.

**In the interest of clear reception and efficient administration of the meeting, all persons participating in this teleconference are respectfully requested to mute their phones after dialing-in and at all times unless speaking.**

AGENDA ON NEXT PAGE

GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY  
FOR THE **CENTRAL MANAGEMENT AREA**  
IN THE SANTA YNEZ RIVER GROUNDWATER BASIN

MONDAY, AUGUST 23, 2021, 10:00 A.M.

**AGENDA OF REGULAR MEETING**

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call
- II. Introductions and review of SGMA in the Santa Ynez River Valley Basin
- III. Additions or Deletions to the Agenda
- IV. Public Comment (Any member of the public may address the Committee relating to any non-agenda matter within the Committee’s jurisdiction. The total time for all public participation shall not exceed fifteen minutes and the time allotted for each individual shall not exceed five minutes. No action will be taken by the Committee at this meeting on any public item.)
- V. Review and consider approval of meeting minutes of May 24 and July 26, 2021.
- VI. Receive CMA GSA Financial update and consider approval of CMA Warrant List
- VII. Receive update from Citizen Advisory Committee on meeting for “Draft Sustainable Management Criteria and Monitoring Network Technical Memorandum”
- VIII. Receive Presentation from Stetson Team on “Summary and Overview of Draft GSP for the CMA”
- IX. Receive Presentation from Young Wooldridge on “SGMA Governance and Funding Options” (Brett Stroud, Young Wooldridge LLC).
- X. Next “Special” CMA GSA Meeting: Monday, October 4, 2021, 10 AM  
*Note: that this meeting is being held out of sequence and towards the end of the Draft GSP public review period. Please advise availability.*
- XI. Next “Regular” CMA GSA Meeting: Monday, November 15, 2021, 10:00 AM  
*Note: that this meeting is being held out of sequence and one week early to accommodate Thanksgiving holiday. Please advise availability.*
- XII. CMA GSA Committee requests and comments
- XIII. Adjournment

[This agenda was posted 72 hours prior to the scheduled special meeting at 3669 Sagunto Street, Suite 101, Santa Ynez, California, and <https://www.santaynezwater.org> in accordance with Government Code Section 54954. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to review agenda materials or participate in this meeting, please contact the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District at (805) 693-1156. Notification 72 hours prior to the meeting will enable the GSA to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting.]

# **DRAFT MEETING MINUTES**

## **Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the Central Management Area in the Santa Ynez River Groundwater Basin May 24, 2021**

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, May 24, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. As a result of the COVID-19 emergency and Governor Newsom's Executive Orders to protect public health by issuing shelter-in-home standards, limiting public gatherings, and requiring social distancing, this meeting occurred solely via teleconference as authorized by and in furtherance of Executive Order Nos. N-29-20 and N-33-20 and in accordance with the latest Santa Barbara County Health Officer Order.

GSA Committee Directors Present: Ed Andrisek, Meighan Dietenhofer (Acting as Alternate), Art Hibbits

Alternate GSA Committee Director Present: Cynthia Allen

Staff Present: Bill Buelow, Rose Hess, Amber Thompson, Kevin Walsh, Matt Young

Others Present: Bryan Bondy, Doug Circle, Len Fleckenstein, Larry Lahr, Deby Laranjo, Curtis Lawler (Stetson Engineers), Matt Naftaly (Dudek), Steve Slack (CDFW), and one member of the public whose name was not registered.

### **I. Call to Order and Roll Call**

GSA Committee Director Ed Andrisek called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m., welcomed all in attendance and asked Mr. Bill Buelow to do roll call. A quorum was met.

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

Mr. Buelow announced names of phone and video attendees.

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. He recalled that the committee discussed and evaluated Sustainable Management Criteria (SMC) and Measurable Objectives for CMA GSA during the last meeting. Thus far, the CMA GSA Committee has prepared a Stakeholder Engagement Plan, a Data Management Plan, a Draft Hydrogeologic Conceptual Model, a Groundwater Conditions Technical Memorandum and a draft Water Budget toward submitting a complete Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) in January 2022. All documents are accessible on [SantaYnezWater.org](http://SantaYnezWater.org).

### **III. Additions or Deletions to the Agenda**

No additions or deletions were made.

### **IV. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

### **V. Review and Approve Minutes**

The minutes of the GSA Committee meetings on February 22, April 12, April 26 and May 10, 2021 were presented for GSA Committee approval. There were no comments.

GSA Committee Director Art Hibbits made a MOTION to approve the minutes of February 22, April 12, and May 10, 2021, as presented. GSA Committee Director Ed Andrisek seconded the motion and it passed unanimously by roll call vote.

GSA Alternate Committee Director Cynthia Allen made a MOTION to approve the minutes of April 26, 2021, as presented. GSA Committee Director Ed Andrisek seconded the motion and it passed 2-0-1 by roll call vote with GSA Alternate Committee Director Cynthia Allen, Acting as Alternate, and GSA Committee Director Art Hibbits abstaining.

### **VI. Receive CMA GSA Financial Update and Consider approval of CMA Warrant List**

Mr. Buelow presented the financial reports of FY 2020-21 Periods 1 through 9 (through March 31, 2021) and the Warrant Lists for January, February, and March 2021 for GSA Committee review. There were no comments.

GSA Committee Director Art Hibbits made a MOTION to approve the January, February, and March 2021 Warrant Lists as presented (Nos. 1026-1032 plus one wire transfer and associated bank fee) totaling \$131,475.74 and financial reports as submitted. GSA Committee Director Ed Andrisek seconded the motion and it passed unanimously by roll call vote.

### **VII. Receive update from Citizen Advisory Group on Draft Water Budget**

Mr. Bill Buelow presented the CMA Citizen Advisory Group (CAG) Memorandum dated May 13, 2021, prepared by representative Cindy Douglas, regarding CMA CAG's review and discussion of Draft Water Budget Technical Memorandum. Discussion followed. CMA CAG members Len Fleckenstein, Deby Laranjo, and Larry Lahr agreed with Mr. Buelow's review of the memorandum and commented that the CMA CAG members had good discussions and that the meeting was very productive.

On behalf of CMA CAG Member Sharyn Merrit, GSA Committee Director Art Hibbits submitted a document titled "Navigating Groundwater-Surface Water Interactions under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act" by Berkeley Law and UC Water, dated March 2018. GSA Committee Director Art Hibbits asked if this document had been reviewed or discussed at the CMA CAG meeting. Mr. Buelow replied he received the

document today and it was not discussed at the CMA CAG meeting. Mr. Buelow will forward the document to the consultant team.

### **VIII. Receive Presentation from Stetson Team on “Sustainable Management Criteria and Projects and Management Actions for the CMA”**

Mr. Matt Naftaly (Dudek) presented “Sustainable Management Criteria and Projects and Management Actions for the CMA” dated May 24, 2021. Discussion followed.

- Regarding slide 10, GSA Committee Director Art Hibbits asked for clarification about historical low elevations in Buellton Upland since the slide 10 in the printed presentation preview says 0-15 feet below 2020 levels, but Mr. Naftaly and the slide 10 presented today stated it is 0-20 feet. Mr. Naftaly verified, based on hydrograph, that the historic low elevations in Buellton Upland were 20 feet below 2020 levels is correct.
- Regarding slide 9, GSA Committee Director Art Hibbits asked why the list of potential representative monitoring wells includes wells in Buellton Upland without complete data and asked why a well is included as a monitoring well if all the construction data is not available. Mr. Naftaly confirmed that not all data is available for all wells but the consultant team continues to look for additional data for monitoring wells and for wells with better data available. Mr. Curtis Lawler explained that a lot of the monitoring wells in the list are from DWR well completion inventory set so the data is not available. Unfortunately, perforations were not recorded so historical water level data was not included on the historical data. He suggested the solution is to perform video logs of the four county wells to find location of perforations. Although water level data is not available for the past, the wells will establish the network now and will be regularly monitored in the future. Discussion continued.
- The consultants asked the CMA GSA Committee for guidance on setting the Minimum Thresholds for water in storage and concurrence to other Minimum Thresholds to prepare Draft Sustainable Management Criteria (SMC) chapter of Draft Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP). Discussion followed.
  - GSA Committee Director Art Hibbits preferred to get an early warning to potential problem so the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin can avoid serious problems like what has happened in other basins. He encouraged the committee to set levels that protect the individual landowners on smaller parcels.
  - Regarding slide 17, Alternate GSA Committee Director Meighan Dietenhofer asked for clarification on proposed Minimum Thresholds and well impact analysis. She mentioned the conservative levels set by the EMA GSA Committee.
  - Regarding slide 20, Alternate GSA Committee Director Meighan Dietenhofer asked for clarification setting Minimum Thresholds and Measurable Objectives for water quality. She expressed concern and recommended that the CMA GSA not rely on availability of state water to increase water supply. She asked for clarification on proposed vegetation removal programs.

- Mr. Lawler explained the benefit of using the historical low shown on the hydrographs as a good level to determine the Minimum Threshold and that SGMA rules allows for changes to be made to limits set.
- GSA Committee Director Ed Andrisek asked who determined the basis year as 2020. Mr. Lawler explained that 2020 is variable and can be changed. He recommended keep doing what have been doing. Mr. Naftaly showed on hydrograph the wet years provided recovery to groundwater.
- Bryan Bondy spoke on behalf of Santa Ynez Water Group. He expressed concern that the concept of triggers and Minimum Thresholds may be mixed up. He requested caution with setting Minimum Threshold that is too conservative and is being used as a trigger.
- Regarding slide 12, Mr. Bondy commented that the importance of top of screen as a significant level is being overstated to the committee and stakeholders. He requested cautioned with using top of screen as a level since graph shows about 30% of wells have groundwater levels already below top of screen. He pointed out the significant break in impacts on wells is at 40 feet below 2020 water levels. Therefore, the Santa Ynez Water Group proposes consideration of 35 feet below 2020 water levels.
- Regarding slide 21, Mr. Bondy asked for clarification why Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems (GDE) are being discussed under the “Depletion of Interconnected Surface Water” levels as groundwater and surface water are not the same. Mr. Bondy pointed out that per the Draft HCM, ½ of the Interconnected Surface Water (red circle area on map) channel is underlaid by bedrock so plants cannot be GDE. He asked for careful consideration before committing to projects for the small potential GDE (purple area circled in red on map) which may impact rest of CMA. He suggested first determining if the ecosystems in that area use groundwater or another source of water.
- Len Fleckenstein asked if the CAG would have opportunity to comment on slides separately? Mr. Buelow clarified that the presentation is method to gather input to produce SMC section. The CAG and public will be able to review Draft SMC chapter document and provide comment.
- Regarding slide 17, Mr. Fleckenstein asked for clarification for setting Minimum Thresholds and triggers. Mr. Naftaly, Mr. Lawler and Mr. Buelow explained Minimum Threshold per SGMA definition and relationship with management actions.
- GSA Committee Director Art Hibbits asked what the confidence level is of the well impact analysis. Mr. Lawler stated he is very confident in the well perforation analysis and gave several reasons.
- GSA Committee Director Ed Andrisek asked about Minimum Threshold levels set by EMA and WMA committees. Mr. Buelow explained the EMA Minimum Thresholds levels and difference of typical well depth of users in EMA versus CMA.
- Discussion continued.

**Guidance received:**

GSA Committee Director Art Hibbits made a **MOTION** requesting staff to add to the Draft Sustainable Management Criteria a groundwater level Minimum Threshold at 15 feet below 2020 groundwater water levels and setting an early trigger at 10 feet below Spring 2020 groundwater water levels for one consecutive year of measurement. The motion was seconded by GSA Committee Director Ed Andrisek and passed unanimously by Roll Call vote.

GSA Committee Director Art Hibbits made a **MOTION** requesting staff to add to the Draft Sustainable Management Criteria a Water Quality Measurable Objective equal to the action levels set by the Regional Water Quality Control Board for Total Dissolved Solids at the MCL of 1,000 mg/L, Chloride at 150 mg/L, Sulfate at 700 mg/L, Boron at 0.5 mg/L, Sodium at 100 mg/L and Nitrate at the MCL of 10 mg/L. The motion was seconded by GSA Committee Director Ed Andrisek and passed unanimously by Roll Call vote.

No decision was made on setting Minimum Thresholds for Interconnected Surface Water on the Draft Sustainable Management Criteria but committee agreed to have consultants address comments received, consider data in the document titled “Navigating Groundwater-Surface Water Interactions under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act” by Berkeley Law and UC Water dated March 2018 and determine GDE locations then move forward by including a Minimum Threshold level recommended by consultants in the Draft Sustainable Management Criteria.

GSA Committee Director Art Hibbits made a **MOTION** requesting staff to add to the Draft Sustainable Management Criteria a Land Subsidence Minimum Threshold of 6 inches from 2015 elevation caused by groundwater extraction and interfering with land uses or infrastructure and continue monitoring of InSAR data, continuous GPS data and infrastructure condition. The motion was seconded by GSA Committee Director Ed Andrisek and passed unanimously by Roll Call vote.

No decision was needed on a Minimum Threshold for Sea Water Intrusion for the Draft Sustainable Management Criteria since it is not applicable to the CMA.

**IX. Next “Special” CMA GSA Meeting: Monday, June 28, 2021, 10:00 AM**

Mr. Buelow announced the next proposed meeting for the CMA GSA Committee will be a Special Meeting on Monday, June 28, 2021 at 10:00 am most likely via online video or phone conference until COVID-19 restrictions are lifted.

**X. Next Regular CMA GSA Meeting: Monday, August 23, 2021, 10:00 AM**

Mr. Buelow announced that the next CMA GSA Committee Regular Meeting will be on Monday, August 23, 2021, 10:00 am location to be determined. Due to continuing COVID-19 restrictions, it may be held via video/teleconference call.

**XI. CMA GSA Committee requests and comments**

There were no requests or comments.

## **XII. Adjournment**

GSA Committee Director Art Hibbits **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 1:00 pm. The motion was seconded by GSA Committee Director Ed Andrisek.

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Ed Andrisek, Chairman

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William J. Buelow, Secretary

DRAFT

# **DRAFT MEETING MINUTES**

## **Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the Central Management Area in the Santa Ynez River Groundwater Basin July 26, 2021**

A SPECIAL meeting of the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for the Central Management Area (CMA) in the Santa Ynez River Groundwater Basin was held on Monday, July 26, 2021. As a result of the COVID-19 emergency and Governor Newsom's Executive Orders to protect public health by limiting public gatherings, and requiring social distancing, this meeting occurred solely via teleconference as authorized by and in furtherance of Executive Order Nos. N-29-20 and N-33-20.

GSA Committee Members Present: Cynthia Allen (Acting as Alternate), Ed Andrisek, Meighan Diethofer (Acting as Alternate)

Staff Present: Bill Buelow, Rose Hess, Amber Thompson, Kevin Walsh, Matt Young

Others Present: Bryan Bondy, Doug Circle, Larry Lahr, Deby Laranjo, and Curtis Lawler (Stetson Engineers)

### **I. Call to Order and Roll Call**

GSA Committee Director Ed Andrisek called the meeting to order at 10:07 am. Mr. Buelow called roll. A quorum was met.

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

Mr. Buelow announced names of phone and video attendees.

Mr. Buelow reviewed history of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) requirements and Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) development milestones completed so far in the Santa Ynez River Basin. The CMA GSA Committee released a Draft Sustainable Management Criteria GSP section for public comment which recently ended, held one CMA CAG meeting and planned a continuation of that meeting for July 27, 2021.

He advised that all although current public comment periods are closed, previously released documents can still be located on [SantaYnezWater.org](http://SantaYnezWater.org). He reminded everyone there will be additional public comment periods for final draft GSP and the final submitted GSP.

### **III. Additions or Deletions, if any, to the Agenda**

No additions or deletions were made.

#### **IV. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

#### **V. Receive update on GSP comments and correspondence received**

Mr. Buelow introduced and reviewed three public comment letters that were received in addition to many individual comments received via the online groundwater communication portal regarding draft sections of the draft GSP document. Two of the letters were written to the EMA GSA Committee but he wanted to share the information with the CMA GSA Committee as well.

A letter received from Doug Circle, on behalf of the Santa Ynez Water Group, expressed disappointment in the short amount of time recently allotted for public comment on the draft SMC section of the draft GSP. Mr. Buelow explained the public comment process in place for draft sections, assured everyone that the full draft GSP document will be available for public review and comment for six weeks before submittal of the final document to DWR followed by DWR posting the submitted final document for a 60-day comment period.

A letter to the EMA GSA was received from U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) commented on the draft SMC section of the draft GSP and is being reviewed by consultants and member agency staff.

A letter to the EMA GSA was received from the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board requested coordination between the EMA GSA and the newly formed Los Olivos Community Services District (LOCSA). Mr. Buelow contacted Lisa Palmer, President of the LOCSA, and signed her up as an Interested Party to receive all future EMA notices and communications.

There was no discussion and no action taken.

#### **VI. Receive update from Citizen Advisory Group on Draft Water Budget**

Mr. Bill Buelow presented the CMA Citizen Advisory Group (CAG) Memorandum dated July 26, 2021, prepared by representative Len Fleckenstein, regarding CMA CAG's review and discussion of Draft Numeric Groundwater Model Technical Memorandum. CMA CAG members, Deby Laranjo and Larry Lahr, concurred with the memo was a good summary of the CAG meeting.

#### **VII. Receive Presentation from Stetson Team on "Sustainable Management Criteria and Projects and Management Actions for the CMA"**

Mr. Curtis Lawler (Stetson Engineers) gave a presentation on the projects and management actions and implementation of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan in the CMA.

There was public comment, GSA Committee Member, consultant, and staff discussion during and following the presentation.

- Acting Alternate GSA Committee Director Meighan Dietenhofer agreed that water conservation is a great idea. He informed the committee that Supervisor Joan Hartmann has expressed favor for stormwater bio-swamp projects in other meetings and she would prefer to avoid the higher cost of imported water.
- Mr. Bryan Bondy, on behalf of Santa Ynez Water Group, requested that the GSA committee consider offering a cap-and-trade approach for groundwater allocation to create a market. He suggested this type of program would be attractive to the Santa Ynez Water Group.
- Mr. Bondy expressed concern about urban water conservation projects, as it was proposed since it appeared that Ag interests would need to pay most of fees but projects proposed were for urban areas.
- Mr. Curtis Lawler pointed out a typo on slide 30. The correction is: Voluntary Fallowing could yield up to 300 AFY (not 3,000).
- Acting Alternate GSA Committee Director Meighan Dietenhofer asked what the incentive is for Ag stakeholders is to participate in a proposed voluntary fallowing project if they are not being paid. Mr. Lawler answered as it would be a voluntary program, there would not be payment to not farm part of land but as farmers rotate crops for soil regeneration, they could include fallowing in that process. He added voluntary fallowing could possibly be mutually beneficial if included with a cap-and-trade program for stakeholders to build up a water credit to use in future.
- Acting Alternate GSA Committee Director Meighan Dietenhofer informed the committee that rainwater harvesting has been successful for her neighbors and mosquitos have not been a problem with the use of lids. He mentioned a program by Santa Barbara Channel Keepers that gave away rain collection barrels and taught people how to use in Santa Barbara.
- Mr. Bryan Bondy said the Santa Ynez Water Group does not think voluntary fallowing program would be successful since Ag stakeholders are in business to make money unless it is combined as part of a cap-and-trade program. He emphasized that fallowing needs an economic driver to be a successful program.
- Acting Alternate GSA Committee Director Meighan Dietenhofer asked if meter costs in a proposed required meter plan are expected to be paid for by well owners. She asked if there will be a program to help pay for meters. Mr. Lawler said the cost would be to each individual well owner. Mr. Bill Buelow added that the Santa Barbara County Water Agency is working on establishing a rebate program to help defray the cost of meters. Acting Alternate GSA Committee Director Meighan Dietenhofer agreed that a metering program is important to implement.

- Acting Alternate GSA Committee Director Meighan Diethofer asked if cap-and-trade program is included in the proposed projects and management actions. Mr. Lawler confirmed that type of program is included in Group 3 as PMA 7 “Annual Pumping Allocation Plan”. He said consultants placed that program in Group 3 instead of Group 1 because of the expected initial costs and extensive management needed.
- Mr. Matt Young, Santa Barbara County Water Agency, spoke about a proposed well metering rebate/subsidy plan in the planning stages to defray cost for private well owners. The County Water Agency is working on a plan for the entire county and expects to send something to Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors this fall.
- Acting Alternate GSA Committee Director Meighan Diethofer asked if PMA 10, Rainwater Harvesting project, currently placed in Group 4 could be moved Group 1 as water conservation and mentioned it is a standard practice in Israel. Mr. Lawler suggested moving planning for rainwater harvesting into Group 1 to establish barrel availability.
- GSA Committee Director Ed Andrisek asked consultants and staff to compile pros and cons of different systems for rainwater harvesting to be presented to the committee in the future.
- **The CMA GSA Committee Directors provided a consensus requesting consultants to continue with the proposed Projects and Management Actions as presented and discussed for completion of the draft GSP section.** They requested an emphasis on rainwater harvesting, metering program and a cap-and-trade program.

**VIII. Next Regular CMA GSA Meeting: Monday, August 23, 2021, 10:00 AM**

Mr. Buelow announced that the next CMA GSA Committee Regular Meeting to include conducting quarterly business will be Monday, August 23, 2021, 10:00 AM, via video/teleconference.

**IX. CMA GSA Committee requests and comments**

CMA GSA Committee Director Ed Andrisek requested pros and cons facts about the proposed projects and management actions be compiled and provided to the committee.

**X. Adjournment**

GSA Committee Director Ed Andrisek adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

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Ed Andrisek, Chairman

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William J. Buelow, Secretary

SYRWCD CMA  
BALANCE SHEET  
JUNE 30, 2021

Assets

Current Assets

Mechanics Bank #5472	\$147,763.63	
Other Current Assets	1,000.00	
	-----	
TOTAL Current Assets		148,763.63
		-----
TOTAL Assets		\$148,763.63
		=====

Liabilities AND Equity

TOTAL Liabilities		-----
		.00

Net Position

Retained Earnings	256,411.70	
Retained Earnings-Current Year	(107,648.07)	
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TOTAL Net Position		148,763.63
		-----
TOTAL Liabilities AND Equity		\$148,763.63
		=====

SYRWCD CMA  
INCOME STATEMENT  
FOR THE 12 PERIODS ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

	QUARTER TO DATE		YEAR TO DATE	
	ACTUAL	PERCENT	ACTUAL	PERCENT
<b>Revenue:</b>				
Revenue				
Operating Assessments	\$10,000.00	100.0 %	96,457.07	24.5
Grant Revenue	.00	.0	297,992.57	75.5
<b>TOTAL Revenue</b>	<b>10,000.00</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>394,449.64</b>	<b>100.0</b>
TOTAL Revenue	10,000.00	100.0	394,449.64	100.0
Gross Profit	10,000.00	100.0	394,449.64	100.0
<b>Expenses:</b>				
Operating Expenses				
Outside Staff Support	150.00	1.5	787.50	.2
<b>TOTAL Operating Expenses</b>	<b>150.00</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>787.50</b>	<b>.2</b>
Consultants				
General Consultant	.00	.0	22.50	.0
Stakeholder Engagement	20,756.75	207.6	40,645.96	10.3
GSP - DMS	.00	.0	774.47	.2
GSP - HCM	20,266.35	202.7	134,001.79	34.0
GSP - Water Budget, GW Models	44,465.88	444.7	133,656.10	33.9
GSP - Monitor/Measure	18,598.64	186.0	18,617.64	4.7
GSP - Sustainable Mgt Criteria	27,938.25	279.4	27,938.25	7.1
GSP - Projects/Mgt Actions	2,998.25	30.0	2,998.25	.8
GSP - GSP Doc	10,910.00	109.1	10,910.00	2.8
GSP-AEM Survey	18,225.50	182.3	131,700.25	33.4
<b>TOTAL Consultants</b>	<b>164,159.62</b>		<b>501,265.21</b>	<b>127.1</b>
Non Operating Expenses				
Misc Expense	.00	.0	45.00	.0
<b>TOTAL Non Operating Expenses</b>	<b>.00</b>	<b>.0</b>	<b>45.00</b>	<b>.0</b>
<b>TOTAL Expenses</b>	<b>164,309.62</b>		<b>502,097.71</b>	<b>127.3</b>
<b>Net Income from Operations</b>	<b>(154,309.62)</b>		<b>(107,648.07)</b>	<b>(27.3)</b>
Earnings before Income Tax	(154,309.62)		(107,648.07)	(27.3)
<b>Net Income (Loss)</b>	<b>\$(154,309.62)</b>		<b>(107,648.07)</b>	<b>(27.3)</b>

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

**APRIL 2021 WARRANT LIST FOR COMMITTEE APPROVAL**

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
1033	04/08/21	Stetson Engineers	February 2021 Engineering Service (Task Order #2 & AEM Work)	\$ 27,935.18
<b>MONTH TOTAL</b>				<b>\$ 27,935.18</b>

**MAY 2021 WARRANT LIST FOR COMMITTEE APPROVAL**

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
1034	05/13/21	Stetson Engineers	March 2021 Engineering Service (Task Order #2 & AEM work)	\$ 31,696.92
<b>MONTH TOTAL</b>				<b>\$ 31,696.92</b>

**JUNE 2021 WARRANT LIST FOR COMMITTEE APPROVAL**

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
1035	06/29/21	Stetson Engineers	April and May 2021 Engineering Service (Task Order #2 & AEM work)	\$ 104,527.52
1036	06/29/21	Valley Bookkeeping	2021 2nd Quarter Bookkeeping (April, May, June 2021)	\$ 150.00
<b>MONTH TOTAL</b>				<b>\$ 104,677.52</b>

<b>TOTAL THIS QUARTER: \$ 164,309.62</b>
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CENTRAL MANAGMENT AREA  
CITIZEN ADVISORY GROUP

MEMORANDUM

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**DATE:** July 26, 2021

**TO:** CMA GSA Committee

**FROM:** CMA Citizen Advisory Group  
(Representative Sharyne Merritt)

**SUBJECT:** Review and Discussion of Chapter 3: Central Management Area Sustainable Management Criteria and Monitoring Network

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**Attendees**

CMA CAG Members in attendance: Sharyne Merritt, Larry Lahr, Len Fleckenstein, and Jeff Newton

Staff in attendance: Bill Buelow (SYRWCD)

Consultants in attendance: Jean Moran and Curtis Lawler (Stetson Engineers)

**Purpose**

The CMA GSA Committee requested staff for the GSA agencies to coordinate meetings of the CMA CAG. Through a coordinated effort, the CAG held a meeting via teleconference due to the COVID-19 restrictions. The meeting was held on July 26, 2021. The purpose of the meeting was for the CMA CAG (CAG) to review the Chapter 3 of the GSP: Central Management Area Sustainable Management Criteria and Monitoring Network. The Memorandum was prepared by the Stetson Engineer's team. A copy of the document was made available to the CAG prior to the meeting at [www.SantaYnezWater.org](http://www.SantaYnezWater.org).

CAG Comments on the Central Management Area Sustainable Management Criteria and Monitoring Network. Each member of the CAG was given the opportunity to ask questions or make comments on the

Draft Technical Memo. Discussion occurred with each question and comment by various members of the CAG, Staff and Consultants. Below is a summary of the comments and questions by topic:

**Sustainability Management Criteria**

- CAG members noted that the wording "absence of undesirable effects" is a double negative and therefore difficult to read

- Consultant indicated that is the wording in SGMA. The outlook for SGMA is to avoid causing undesirable results
- CAG members expressed need for greater clarity regarding the Buellton (Upland) Aquifer and the Santa Ynez River Alluvium and their connectivity. CAG members requested map to show where upland aquifer is below the alluvium and where it is not. Consultant noted that the Buellton Aquifer fades in and out; there is a section of the Buellton Aquifer from the CMA eastern boundary of the Buellton Bend
- CAG members noted that contrary to statement on p 2, the storage within the Santa Ynez River Alluvium Subarea fluctuates in response to not only existing water rights and environmental regulations but also in response to pumping, releases, and precipitation.
- Consultant noted ground water model will calculate flux and seasonal changes.
- The consultant noted that the Buellton Aquifer is made up of older material with lower permeability; there is low groundwater flux from Buellton Aquifer to the Santa Ynez Alluvium.
- CAG members asked if there a basic definition of groundwater: does it flow both down from alluvium and up (springs that bubble up).
  - Consultant: Yes, ground water is defined in SGMA as water beneath surface of the earth, when a zone below the water table is completely saturated. This does not include water that flows in known and definite channels, it is a subterranean stream. Spring is where groundwater intersects the land surface.
- CAG members asked if the list of well owners a data gap. Do we know who has wells and where they are?
  - Consultant: We have a list of well owners and update as new permits are issued, though perhaps we want to update and refresh our well registration. The GSA may require well owners to install meters.
  - Consultant: We will request information on depth of wells when we update the data base.
- CAG members asked if “Chronic lowering” is identified as an undesirable result. Does this not happen on a recurring basis? It might it be clearer to note that groundwater levels decrease during dry periods but recover in wet years. The document notes that there has not been a loss in groundwater storage in the last 49 years. This could be interpreted as saying it has never gone down. It would be clearer to say it has lowered but has recovered during wet years
  - Consultant: Yes, that might be clearer; there needs more description of what happens and what that means
- CAG members asked if future water budget forecasts will include increasing CO2?
  - Consultant: Climate change will be included in future water budget. SGMA requires taking climate change into consideration.
- CAG members asked that when we are talking about groundwater levels is there any reason to distinguish upper aquifer from deep aquifer under river?

- Consultant: Currently there are only four wells that have long term historic data; two in Santa Rosa creek, two in the Santa Ynez River Alluvium. The consultant said that groundwater is very localized, and conditions change from place to place.
- CAG members said that more clarity is needed on the depletion of interconnected surface water; The CAG further questioned how alluvium is interconnected with the deeper Buellton Aquifer? Can the Buellton Aquifer can in fact influence the Santa Ynez River water?
  - Consultant: There is no groundwater basin west of the Buellton Bend, therefore there is no interconnection between the Buellton Aquifer and the River Alluvium. East of the Buellton Bend, the Buellton Aquifer is connected to the Santa Ynez River Alluvium. The issue of connection between groundwater, river alluvium and the river are clarified in the Water Budget.
- CAG members asked why the minimum threshold was set as 15-feet below 2020 water levels instead of 20 feet below; is there a different impact?
  - Consultant: There is no difference in impact. The GSA committee wanted to be conservative
- The CAG discussed section 3.6.2, which clarifies distinction between the river alluvium and underlying aquifers, and all agreed this discussion should be up front in document. A CAG member asked if the first page of each chapter have map and definition of terms?
- CAG asked if the State Water Project data are relevant to project?
  - I Consultant: State Water is considered surface water and is added to the basin; therefore, it is part of surface water budget.
- CAG members expressed concern using impacted well screens to establish water level minimum thresholds and water storage minimum thresholds. CAG members said that older wells were installed in with as much screen as they could get away with; now screens are lower to avoid cascading water. Wells that are very old should not be considered.
- CAG members discussed there is little difference between a 15-foot and 20-foot below 2020 water levels for minimum thresholds.
  - Consultant: there is a second reason 15 ft was chosen: Referencing the recent historic low water level. The consultant explained that the Basin conditions should not be allowed to get too much lower than the historic-low water level. SGMA says “don’t make it worse than 2015”. Don’t go too far below historic low.

There were no further comments.