

**NOTICE AND AGENDA OF REGULAR MEETING**

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

**WILL BE HELD  
AT 10:00 A.M., WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25, 2021**

**TELECONFERENCE MEETING ONLY – NO PHYSICAL MEETING LOCATION**

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

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**Meeting ID: 843 2284 9762 Meeting Passcode: 009112**

**DIRECT LINK:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84322849762?pwd=bGFZEYVRVVV1Z0RFILOWFQnNAYmXvZz09>

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

**PHONE MEETING ID: 843 2284 9762 #**

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**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 **Tuesday, August 24, 2021**, and should indicate **“August 25, 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 **WESTERN MANAGEMENT AREA**  
IN THE SANTA YNEZ RIVER GROUNDWATER BASIN

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25, 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 26 and July 28, 2021
- VI. Receive WMA GSA Financial update and consider approval of WMA Warrant List
- VII. Receive update from Mr. Derek McLeish of the WMA Citizen Advisory Committee on meeting regarding “Draft Sustainable Management Criteria and Monitoring Network Technical Memorandum”
- VIII. Receive Presentation from Stetson Team on “Summary and Overview of Draft GSP for the WMA”
- IX. Receive Presentation from Brett Stroud, Young Wooldridge on “SGMA Governance and Funding Options” (Brett Stroud, Young Wooldridge LLC)
- X. Next “Special” WMA GSA Meeting: Wednesday, October 6, 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” WMA GSA Meeting: Wednesday, November 17, 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. WMA 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 Western Management Area in the Santa Ynez River Groundwater Basin May 26, 2021**

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 Monday, May 26, 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: Chris Brooks, Meighan Dietenhofer (Acting as Alternate), Myron Heavin, Steve Jordan, and Kristin Worthley (Acting as Alternate)

Alternate GSA Committee Director Present: Art Hibbits, and Katherine Stewart

Staff Present: Joe Barget, Bill Buelow, Amber Thompson, Kevin Walsh, Matt Young

Others Present: Bryan Bondy, Doug Circle, John Fio (EKI), Trevor Jones (Dudek), Karen Kistler, Curtis Lawler (Stetson Engineers), Matt Naftaly (Dudek), Anita Regmi (DWR), Steve Slack (CDFW), Scott Williams, and four (4) members of the public whose name were not registered.

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

GSA Committee Director Chris Brooks called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. and asked Mr. Bill Buelow to call roll. Three Committee Directors and two Acting Alternates were present providing a quorum.

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

Mr. Buelow announced names of phone and video attendees. There was no review of SGMA in Santa Ynez River Valley Basin.

### **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 24, April 14, April 28, and May 12, 2021 were presented for GSA Committee approval. There were no comments.

GSA Committee Director Myron Heavin made a MOTION to approve the minutes of February 24, April 14, April 28, and May 12, 2021, as presented. GSA Committee Director Steve Jordan seconded the motion and it passed unanimously by roll call vote.

**VI. Receive WMA GSA Financial Update and Consider approval of WMA 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 Steve Jordan made a MOTION to approve the January, February, and March 2021 Warrant Lists as presented (Nos. 1025-1031 plus one wire transfer and associated bank fee) totaling \$132,045.76 and financial reports as submitted. GSA Committee Director Myron Heavin 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 WMA Citizen Advisory Group (CAG) Memorandum dated May 24, 2021 regarding WMA CAG's review and discussion of Draft Water Budget Technical Memorandum.

**VIII. Receive Presentation from Stetson Team on "Sustainable Management Criteria and Projects and Management Actions for the WMA"**

Mr. Trevor Jones (Dudek) presented "Sustainable Management Criteria and Projects and Management Actions for the WMA" dated May 26, 2021, a follow up to the presentation and discussion of May 12, 2021. Discussion occurred during the presentation.

- Acting Alternate GSA Committee Director Kristin Worthley asked for clarification on the two sustainability factors involving groundwater level in storage. Mr. Jones explained that the GSA needs to manage to the Measurable Objectives but if undesirable results are occurring then the GSA must take action. Mr. Lawler explained sustainability is defined as the absence of undesirable results which are tied to the minimum thresholds. Discussion continued.
- Regarding slide 29, GSA Committee Director Steve Jordan asked if a well located in the recharge zone should be used as representative well? Mr. Lawler explained the forebay of the Lompoc area (as in location of well 7N/34W-34F6) is very responsive to water flow in the river and it is important to have representative wells in this area because the City of Lompoc wells are located in the same area. He also recommended that the GSA Committee look at the historical low levels in the hydrographs and set minimum thresholds that are not too far below the historical low. Discussion continued.

- Alternate GSA Committee Director Katherine Stewart asked for clarification on setting minimum thresholds and the future options to change a minimum threshold, if needed. Mr. Lawler explained the importance of setting minimum thresholds. Mr. Buelow added that the GSA Committee can also set triggers for management actions prior to reaching an established minimum threshold. Discussion continued.
- GSA Committee Director Myron Heavin commented that he does not see information in the well impact analysis accounts for new housing developments and the increased use of water by the City of Lompoc. Mr. Jones replied that the need is to establish what level indicates a significant and unreasonable depletion of supply based on well production ability.
  - Mr. Matt Naftaly (Dudek) added that population growth and water use analysis is included in the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) in Chapter 2 and will figure into other parts of the GSP.
- Mr. Barget asked for clarification on the individual hydrographs with all the marker lines comparing measurable objectives using 2011 while minimum threshold levels are shown below 2020 groundwater levels. Mr. Naftaly pointed out that the wavy vertical line on hydrograph indicates 2020. Mr. Lawler clarified the reasoning behind using the 2011 level for setting the measurable objective and the 2020 levels for setting the minimum threshold for groundwater in storage in both of the principal aquifers.
- Alternate GSA Committee Director Art Hibbits explained well data shown on hydrographs that the extreme lows could be due to the measurement being taken when the well was pumping or pumping by wells nearby causing interference due to density of wells in the WMA.
- Alternate GSA Committee Director Art Hibbits asked about the confidence levels of data and since consultants chose the specific wells to be included in the monitoring network, is it possible for that the GSA can be accused of being cherry-picking the data. Mr. Naftaly explained that the process used to select monitoring wells was driven by two key features: optimize aerial coverage of measurements to characterize conditions across the entire WMA and the availability of historical data thus not cherry-picked data.
- Alternate GSA Committee Director Art Hibbits expressed concern with the water level differences of the years chosen by consultants since 2011 was the last time Cachuma's Bradbury Dam spilled and 2020 is following an 11-year drought. Mr. Jones explained the use of historical range of data to determine at what level indicates a depletion of supply.
  - Alternate GSA Committee Director Art Hibbits advised that between 2011 and 2020, many wells in the WMA have needed to be deepened, acid treated or other treatment due to reduction in ability to provide supply. Mr. Jones stated that data has not been provided showing those treatments and impacted wells. Alternate GSA Committee Director Art Hibbits suggested consultants talk to the local major well drilling companies to see how many wells have been impacted due to lower water levels and have needed rehabilitation to be productive.

- Acting Alternate GSA Committee Director Kristin Worthley asked if the graph on slide 8 showing the total quantity of wells considers if new wells are being drilled to replace wells that are no longer productive due to insufficient groundwater levels in storage.
- Mr. Lawler explained that consultants showed and explained the historical data but the significant and unreasonable level is set by the GSA Committee and the confidence level in the data.
- Discussion continued regarding groundwater levels versus well production.
- Mr. Lawler stated consultants have given three set of data: Historical groundwater production data is stable, hydrographs show highs and lows of water levels, and well impact analysis. He explained plans can always benefit from more data no matter how much has been provided. Mr. Buelow explained that consultants today are looking for input to produce a draft document for the public to review and provide comment.
- GSA Committee Director Myron Heavin asked for clear suggested direction from consultants that the committee can provide reaction to.
- GSA Committee Director Chris Brooks suggested the need to compare the farmer view versus municipal user view.
- A lengthy discussion continued regarding setting minimum thresholds, management objectives, and the well impact analysis.
- Regarding slide 30, Ms. Anita Regmi, DWR, asked what are kinds of impacts would be seen at the different levels proposed on the well impact analysis? Mr. Jones explained the well impact analysis shows static water level at or below top of screen could potentially cause aeration in well and reduce production capability. He also stated the information available does not tell if or how many wells can go dry unless we look at the bottom of screen.
- Mr. Bryan Bondy, on behalf the Santa Ynez Water Group stated that the group does not believe water levels at or below the top of screen cause impacts that are truly significant and unreasonable effect and requested that the GSP lay out a clear and deliberate process to take a closer look at what actual affects would be at different levels after GSP is adopted but before the first 5-year adjustment to the plan.
  - Mr. Kevin Walsh explained impacts if water level falls below of top of screen based on industry known air entrainment problems. Top of screen is good proxy for indication of possible impacts occurring.
  - GSA Committee Director Steve Jordan pointed out that water level can impact water quality especially in the Lompoc Plain. Mr. Buelow agreed that keeping water levels as high as possible in the Lompoc Plain is an important factor to help avoid water quality impacts as well as water production ability and explained the SGMA criteria which establishes minimum thresholds for each sustainability indicator.
  - Mr. Bryan Bondy commented on differences between theoretical well design and actual well design by individual well drillers in the field. In his experience of

reviewing wells, a lot of wells do not follow the theoretical design therefore the impacts can be caused by improper design. He agreed with Mr. Buelow's statement that everyone benefits from higher water levels but primary concern of Santa Ynez Water Group is at what costs or trade-offs are needed to achieve those higher water levels.

- A 5-minute break was taken from 12:03-12:08 pm.
- GSA Committee Director Steve Jordan expressed concern about the average Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) levels since he has wells that he can no longer use due to low water quality. He explained that some farmers are reducing use or taking the wells producing low-quality water out of production, but they may not be listed as an inactive well, and that some farmers are using higher quality water produced from wells in other locations and trucking for use in the low-quality water areas. He prefers TDS to be 1,250 mg/L but is ok with TDS minimum threshold set at 1,600 mg/L.
- Regarding slide 37, GSA Committee Director Steve Jordan suggested that well #7N/34W-35K9 and other wells in that forebay area of Lompoc not be used as a representative monitoring well since they are in the recharge zone during water rights releases from Cachuma Reservoir. Otherwise, levels reflected by these wells may adversely affect water supply for City of Lompoc. He also suggested consultants consider the quality of the riparian habitat currently in the forebay region.
- GSA Committee Director Chris Brooks in favor of proposed ongoing monitoring and setting minimum threshold of a half-foot of subsidence from 2015 elevation caused by groundwater extraction and interfering with land uses or infrastructure since land subsidence has not been an issue in the WMA.
- Mr. Trevor Jones presented a preliminary look at example projects and management actions for the WMA. Discussion followed.
  - GSA Committee Director Myron Heavin suggested maximizing recharge from wastewater treatment plant by relocating water to different locations in the WMA. He suggested two currently unused percolation ponds located at the south end of Rucker Road.
  - GSA Committee Director Chris Brooks mentioned gallery wells.
  - Alternate GSA Committee Director Kristin Worthley asked if recycle/reclaimed water could be used for farming. Alternate GSA Committee Director Art Hibbits advised one cannot use reclaimed water on edible crops.
  - GSA Committee Director Steve Jordan shared that Castroville area uses reclaimed water on golf courses but does not know if the use on edible crops in WMA is allowed.
  - Alternate GSA Committee Director Art Hibbits shared that the City of Montecito received a grant from the State of California for outreach to encourage private wells to be added to the monitoring network in a data gap area. He suggested staff and consultants follow up to see if there is a grant opportunity that can benefit the WMA.

- Alternate GSA Committee Director Art Hibbits spoke about a UC Berkley study about how surface water is interconnected with groundwater. He asked staff and consultants to review the study to determine if groundwater and surface water can operate independently thus be governed independently.
- Alternate GSA Committee Director Art Hibbits recommended the Sustainable Management Criteria for WMA GSA be set cautiously and be conservative with an early warning requirement as was done in the Sustainable Management Criteria section for the CMA GSA. Mr. Buelow announced the groundwater in storage minimum threshold levels, and trigger points for initial management actions that were set in the CMA and in the EMA.
- GSA Committee Director Chris Brooks requested a consensus from the committee to instruct consultants to move forward with writing the Draft Sustainable Management Criteria section.
- Alternate GSA Committee Director Kristen Worthley asked for clarification about establishing projects and management actions. Mr. Jones verified projects and management action is in a different chapter and the topic will be addressed again before decisions will be made for that chapter.

**Guidance received:**

- GSA Committee Director Chris Brooks made a **MOTION** requesting staff to add to the Draft Sustainable Management Criteria a groundwater level Minimum Threshold for the Lompoc Plain set at 10 feet below 2020 groundwater water levels for the Upper Aquifer in the WMA and a Minimum Threshold of 20 foot below 2020 levels for the Lower Aquifer in the WMA. Discussion followed. The motion was seconded by GSA Committee Director Myron Heavin and passed unanimously by Roll Call vote 4-0.
- GSA Committee Director Steve Jordan made a **MOTION** requesting staff to add the following to the Draft Sustainable Management Criteria as proposed by Dudek in their presentation:
  - A Water Quality Measurable Objective set at:
    - Salinity as Total Dissolved Solids at the MCL of 1,250 mg/L in the Lompoc Plain, 600 mg/L in the Lompoc Upland, 750 mg/L in the Lompoc Terrace, and 1,500 mg/L in the Santa Rita Upland;
    - Chloride at the MCL of 250 mg/L in the Lompoc Plain, 150 mg/L in the Lompoc Upland, 210 mg/L in the Lompoc Terrace, and 150 mg/L in the Santa Rita Upland;
    - Sulfate at the MCL of 500 mg/L in the Lompoc Plain, 100 mg/L in the Lompoc Upland, 100 mg/L in the Lompoc Terrace, and 700 mg/L in the Santa Rita Upland;
    - Boron at the MCL of 0.5 mg/L in the Lompoc Plain, Lompoc Upland, and Santa Rita Upland, no level set for the Lompoc Terrace;

- Sodium at the MCL of 250 mg/L in the Lompoc Plain, 130 mg/L in the Lompoc Upland, 100 mg/L in the Lompoc Terrace, and 100 mg/L in the Santa Rita Upland;
- and Nitrate at the MCL of 2 mg/L in the Lompoc Plain and Lompoc Upland, and 1 mg/L in the Lompoc Terrace and Santa Rita Upland.
- Seawater Intrusion chloride concentration set at the 500 mg/L isocontour.
- Interconnected Surface Water set the groundwater elevations level near the Santa Ynez River at 83 feet (the historical low groundwater levels in the Upper Aquifer).
- Land Subsidence minimum threshold set at half-foot of subsidence from the 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 as reported by relevant agencies.
- There was no discussion. The motion was seconded by GSA Committee Director Myron Heavin and passed unanimously by Roll Call vote 4-0.

**IX. Next “Special” WMA GSA Meeting: Wednesday, June 23, 2021, 10:00 AM**

Mr. Buelow announced the next proposed meeting for the WMA GSA Committee will be a Special Meeting on Wednesday, June 23, 2021 at 10:00 am most likely via online video or phone conference until COVID-19 restrictions are lifted.

**X. Next Regular WMA GSA Meeting: Wednesday, August 25, 2021, 10:00 AM**

Mr. Buelow announced that the next WMA GSA Committee Regular Meeting will be on Wednesday, August 25, 2021, 10:00 am location to be determined. Due to continuing COVID-19 restrictions, it may be held via video/teleconference call.

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

There were no requests or comments.

**XII. Adjournment**

GSA Committee Director Chris Brooks adjourned the meeting at 1:40 pm.

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Ed Andrisek, Chairman

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William J. Buelow, Secretary

## **DRAFT MEETING MINUTES**

### **Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the Western Management Area in the Santa Ynez River Groundwater Basin July 28, 2021**

A SPECIAL meeting of the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for the Western Management Area (WMA) in the Santa Ynez River Groundwater Basin was held on Monday, July 28, 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 Directors Present: Chris Brooks, Meighan Dietenhofer (Acting as Alternate), Steve Jordan, and Kristin Worthley (Acting as Alternate)

Alternate GSA Committee Director Present: Katherine Stewart

Staff Present: Joe Barget, Bill Buelow, Amber Thompson, Kevin Walsh, Matt Young

Others Present: Bryan Bondy, Ken Domako (VSFB), John Fio (EKI), Curtis Lawler (Stetson Engineers), Anita Regmi (DWR), Steve Slack (CDFW), and one (1) member of the public whose name was not registered.

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

GSA Committee Director Chris Brooks called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and asked Mr. Bill Buelow to call roll. Two Committee Directors and two Acting Alternates were present providing a quorum.

#### **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 WMA GSA Committee released a Draft Sustainable Management Criteria GSP section for public comment which recently ended and held one WMA CAG meeting to discuss that section. A memorandum of comments will be presented at the WMA GSA meeting in August.

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 WMA GSA Committee as well.

A letter 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 Doug Circle, on behalf of the Santa Ynez Water Group, expressed disappointment with 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 the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board requested coordination between the EMA GSA and the newly formed Los Olivos Community Services District (LOCSD). Mr. Buelow contacted Lisa Palmer, President of the LOCSD, 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 WMA Citizen Advisory Group (CAG) Memorandum dated July 28, 2021, which he prepared on behalf of the WMA CAG, regarding the WMA CAG's review and discussion of Draft Numeric Groundwater Model Technical Memorandum.

There was no discussion and no action taken.

## VII. Receive Presentation from Stetson Team on “Projects and Management Actions and GSP Implementation for the WMA” and review remaining GSP schedule

Mr. Curtis Lawler (Stetson Engineers) gave a presentation on the projects and management actions and implementation of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) in the WMA to receive direction from the Committee for the consultant team to complete the section for the draft GSP. The proposed projects and management actions (PMA) were organized into the following groups: General Management PMAs (Group 1), Early Warning PMAs (Group 2), Minimum Threshold PMAs (Group 3), and Other PMAs (Group 4). The purpose of PMAs is to improve groundwater levels. The purpose of implementation actions related to the PMAs is to monitor groundwater levels.

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

- WMA GSA Director Steve Jordan asked why wastewater reclamation is not considered for Group 1. Mr. Lawler advised that wastewater reclamation is listed in Group 4 because the wastewater return flow from the Lompoc wastewater treatment plant already has a good use and plays an important role to prevent seawater intrusion.
- WMA GSA Alternate Director Katherine Stewart asked for clarification on imported water program listed in Group 1. Mr. Lawler explained that Group 1 projects are to be implemented in the first year. Supplemental Imported Water Program is listed in Group 1 not to be fully implemented in first year but to begin next steps including setting up a fund to be ready if the GSA chooses to pursue in the future.
  - WMA GSA Director Chris Brooks advised that the Lompoc Valley residents voted against importing state water due to the high cost and lack of need at the time. He stated that Vandenberg Village Community Services District believes an imported water program is not a good option to pursue for Lompoc.
  - WMA GSA Acting Alternate Director Kristin Worthley agreed but is not opposed to leaving imported water program as an option for future but advised the project could be very difficult to implement as the Lompoc Valley residents have not been very receptive in the past.
  - WMA GSA Acting Alternate Director Meighan Dietenhofer asked how supplemental imported water will be funded. Mr. Lawler said the funding source is unknown at this time but possibly funded through groundwater extraction fees or potential grants.
  - After extensive discussion, the consensus of the WMA GSA Committee was to move supplemental imported state water from the Group 1 list to Group 4.

- WMA GSA Director Steve Jordan said that he believes there is still additional recharge water available from the Lompoc wastewater treatment plant that should be considered as a PMA. He is also interested in establishing a metering program.
- WMA GSA Director Chris Brooks asked about securing a monitoring well located on the edge of the aquifer near Vandenberg Village CSD and Mission Hills CSD to measure hydrocarbons from the petroleum preserve especially if oil production in the area resumes. Mr. Lawler agreed with that location for monitoring of a potential data gap.
- Discussion occurred regarding a potential PMA in Group 1 to ban water softeners in the WMA GSA to maintain water quality of groundwater.
  - WMA GSA Acting Alternate Director Kristin Worthley agreed with including a ban on water softeners. She said that the City of Lompoc already has an ordinance in place to phase out the use of water softeners in the area.
  - WMA GSA Director Chris Brooks agreed with a ban on water softeners and said Vandenberg Village CSD currently bans the installation of new water softeners.
  - Discussion continued about how all water agencies in the WMA GSA can achieve this project and communicate with entire Lompoc valley community. WMA GSA Acting Alternate Director Kristin Worthley offered to explore how to move forward on this potential PMA.
  - After extensive discussion about a ban on water softeners, the consensus of the WMA GSA Committee was to keep this potential PMA in Group 1 as it is written.
- WMA GSA Director Chris Brooks suggested considering the Mission Hills CSD ponds for storage of stormwater but may be currently used by Mission Hills CSD for wastewater overflow.
- WMA GSA Director Steve Jordan suggested a need to modernize the stormwater collection as recharge process in the Lompoc area similar to a reclamation project developed in Salinas and systems used in other basins.
- WMA GSA Director Steve Jordan asked if allocation triggers discussed in potential PMA 11 (Agricultural Land/Pumping Allowance) are to be set per aquifer or basin wide. Mr. Lawler confirmed triggers and allocations will be set per aquifer.
- The consensus of the WMA GSA Committee was to move PMA 12 (Recycled Non-Potable Reuse Water) from Group 4 to Group 1 to be more quickly addressed.
- WMA GSA Acting Alternate Director Meighan Diethofer summarized some of the potential PMAs that were discussed at the CMA WMA meeting.

- WMA GSA Director Chris Brooks asked WMA GSA Director Steve Jordan about concerns with a metering concern from a farmer standpoint. WMA GSA Director Steve Jordan said meter maintenance and installation could cause issues. He advised that metering and reporting of riparian water use is currently being done monthly.
- WMA GSA Director Chris Brooks asked about a potential Santa Barbara County plan of funds for metering program. Mr. Matt Young spoke about a program being developed, applicable county-wide, to subsidize costs of new meter installation as a reimbursement program which is expected to roll out this fall or winter. Discussion followed.
- WMA GSA Director Chris Brooks mentioned that cannabis is a new land use in the WMA and there are concerns that some farms are not reporting water use. He asked how we can make sure that everyone is reporting and paying their fair share. Mr. Buelow reported that the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District (District) has implemented new procedures to track proposed and current cannabis operations located in the District including following up with Santa Barbara County staff. The new procedures are proving successful in getting new well producers registered and reporting all groundwater pumping.
- WMA GSA Director Steve Jordan commented that if one does not report water use then they will not have water rights.
- Acting Alternate GSA Committee Director Meighan Dietenhofer expressed concern about PMA 8a (Deepen Existing Wells) as an assistance funding project to deepen existing wells with water supply issues being in Group 3. After discussion, the consensus of the WMA GSA Committee was to move PMA 8a (Deepen Existing Wells) from Group 3 to Group 4.
- WMA GSA Director Chris Brooks asked about funding for potential PMAs and if grants are actively being pursued. Mr. Bill Buelow reported that a basin wide member agency staff meeting was recently held to discuss post GSP governance options, including funding. Brett Stroud of Young Wooldridge, legal counsel for Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, provided a presentation to member agency staff at that meeting. Mr. Stroud will provide a similar presentation on governance options during all three GSA Committee regular meetings in August. He mentioned potential DWR Proposition 1 or Proposition 68 grant funding opportunities for GSA to implement different projects.
- WMA GSA Director Steve Jordan asked for clarification on the length of comment periods for the draft GSP. Mr. Buelow advised that SGMA regulations do not require any specific length for comment periods on draft documents. Due to the limited time available before the final GSP submittal deadline, the comment period for the draft GSP document will be set for six weeks. Then, once the completed GSP document

has been submitted to DWR, within 20-days, DWR will post the final GSP for a 60-day public comment period through the DWR SGMA site.

**VIII. Next Regular WMA GSA Meeting: Wednesday, August 25, 2021, 10:00 AM**

Mr. Buelow announced that the next WMA GSA Committee Regular Meeting to include conducting quarterly business will be Wednesday, August 25, 2021, 10:00 AM, via video/teleconference.

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

There were no requests or comments.

**X. Adjournment**

WMA GSA Director Chris Brooks adjourned the meeting at 12:21 p.m.

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Chris Brooks, Chairman

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William J. Buelow, Secretary

SYRWCD WMA  
BALANCE SHEET  
JUNE 30, 2021

Assets

Current Assets

Mechanics Bank #8301	\$142,038.46	
Other Current Assets	1,000.00	
	-----	
TOTAL Current Assets		143,038.46
		-----
TOTAL Assets		\$143,038.46
		=====

Liabilities AND Equity

TOTAL Liabilities		-----
		.00

Net Position

Retained Earnings	285,448.97	
Retained Earnings-Current Year	(142,410.51)	
	-----	
TOTAL Net Position		143,038.46
		-----
TOTAL Liabilities AND Equity		\$143,038.46
		=====

SYRWCD WMA  
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	\$38,374.00	100.0 %	209,675.32	44.2
Grant Revenue	.00	.0	264,357.36	55.8
<b>TOTAL Revenue</b>	<b>38,374.00</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>474,032.68</b>	<b>100.0</b>
TOTAL Revenue	38,374.00	100.0	474,032.68	100.0
Gross Profit	38,374.00	100.0	474,032.68	100.0
<b>Expenses:</b>				
Operating Expenses				
Outside Staff Support	150.00	.4	787.50	.2
<b>TOTAL Operating Expenses</b>	<b>150.00</b>	<b>.4</b>	<b>787.50</b>	<b>.2</b>
Consultants				
General Consultant	.00	.0	22.50	.0
Stakeholder Engagement	24,827.25	64.7	46,086.07	9.7
GSP - DMS	.00	.0	1,826.22	.4
GSP - HCM	17,903.93	46.7	169,544.46	35.8
GSP - Water Budget, GW Models	27,469.64	71.6	197,367.38	41.6
GSP - Monitor/Measure	21,598.14	56.3	22,322.64	4.7
GSP - Sustainable Mgt Criteria	32,344.36	84.3	32,344.36	6.8
GSP - Projects/Mgt Actions	3,056.25	8.0	3,056.25	.6
GSP - GSP Doc	11,310.00	29.5	11,310.00	2.4
GSP - AEM Survey	18,229.06	47.5	131,730.81	27.8
<b>TOTAL Consultants</b>	<b>156,738.63</b>	<b>408.5</b>	<b>615,610.69</b>	<b>129.9</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>156,888.63</b>	<b>408.8</b>	<b>616,443.19</b>	<b>130.0</b>
Net Income from Operations	(118,514.63)	(308.8)	(142,410.51)	(30.0)
Earnings before Income Tax	(118,514.63)	(308.8)	(142,410.51)	(30.0)
Net Income (Loss)	\$(118,514.63)	(308.8) %	(142,410.51)	(30.0)

**GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY FOR THE  
WESTERN MANAGEMENT AREA (WMA)  
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>
1032	04/08/21	Stetson Engineers	February 2021 Engineering Service (Task Order #1 & AEM work)	\$ 25,601.89
<b>MONTH TOTAL</b>				<b>\$ 25,601.89</b>

**MAY 2021 WARRANT LIST FOR COMMITTEE APPROVAL**

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
1033	05/13/21	Stetson Engineers	March 2021 Engineering Service (Task Order #1 & AEM work)	\$ 27,328.10
<b>MONTH TOTAL</b>				<b>\$ 27,328.10</b>

**JUNE 2021 WARRANT LIST FOR COMMITTEE APPROVAL**

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
1034	06/29/21	Stetson Engineers	April & May 2021 Engineering Service (Task Order #1 & AEM work)	\$ 103,808.64
1035	06/29/21	Valley Bookkeeping	2021 2nd Quarter Bookkeeping (April, May, June 2021)	\$ 150.00
<b>MONTH TOTAL</b>				<b>\$ 103,958.64</b>

**TOTAL THIS QUARTER: \$ 156,888.63**

**WESTERN MANAGEMENT AREA  
CITIZEN ADVISORY GROUP  
MEMORANDUM**

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DATE: July 28, 2021

TO: WMA GSA Committee

FROM: WMA Citizen Advisory Group  
(Memo by Derek McLeish)

SUBJECT: Review and Discussion Draft Sustainable Management Criteria and Monitoring Network Technical Memorandum

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**Western Management Area (WMA) Citizens Advisory Group (CAG) Members:**

CAG Members in attendance: Charles Witt, Ken Domako and Derek McLeish.

Staff and Consultants in attendance: Mr. Bill Buelow (SYRWCD), Mr. Curtis Lawlor (Stetson), Ms. Kristin Worthley (City of Lompoc), and Mr. Joe Barget (VVCSD).

**Purpose**

The WMA GSA Committee requested staff for the GSA agencies to coordinate meetings of the WMA CAG. Through a coordinated effort, the CAG held a meeting via teleconference due to the COVID-19 restrictions. The meeting was held on July 27, 2021. The purpose of the meetings was for the WMA CAG (CAG) to review the Draft Sustainable Management Criteria and Monitoring Network Technical Memorandum. The Memorandum was prepared by the Stetson Engineer's team. A copy of the documents was made available to the CAG prior to the meeting at [www.SantaYnezWater.org](http://www.SantaYnezWater.org).

**CAG Comments on Draft Sustainable Management Criteria and Monitoring Network Technical Memorandum**

CAG members discussed some wording changes that they felt were more precise and accurate for the consultants to consider. The CAG also asked how long the rate of overdraft will take to reach the proposed minimum thresholds. There was further discussion between CAG members and consultants about the current rate of aquifer depletion and potential adverse conditions in 20 years or 50 years. Discussion followed.

The CAG discussed the flood of 1969, which dislodged a bridge, which was subsequently demolished and its effect on seawater intrusion. The consultants and CAG discussed the amount

of head required to maintain current conditions and prevent seawater intrusion. Five feet of head equals 200ft of encroachment protection. The CAG asked if maps of the bridge/seawall could be obtained.

The CAG discussed water quality and the issue of water softeners. Consultants reminded the CAG that water quality standards are set to levels in 2015.

There was a discussion of potential interties between the City of Lompoc and the Federal Prison and the availability of state water. Vandenberg is capable of banking state water in off years. There was also discussion of proposed desalination projects at Vandenberg Space Force Base. There was further discussion regarding current research of an offshore buoy desalination plant, which could produce 800-900 acre-feet of water.

The CAG discussed the water use of cannabis and the impacts to the groundwater in storage. There was a discussion of the status of the WMA compared to other coastal groundwater basins and the importance of rainfall.