

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR JOINT MEETING OF THE  
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEES OF THE  
WEST TURLOCK SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY AND  
EAST TURLOCK SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY**

**MARCH 21, 2023, 2:00 p.m.**

Meeting materials and recording can be found at the following link:

<https://turlockgroundwater.org/events/regular-meeting-of-the-turlock-subbasins-technical-advisory-committees>

**1. WELCOME / MEETING PROCEDURES**

WTS GSA TAC Chair Michael Cooke announced that the Regular Joint Meeting of the West Turlock Subbasin (WTS) and East Turlock Subbasin (ETS) Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) Technical Advisory Committees (TAC) is being held in person at 333 E. Canal Drive, Turlock, CA (Turlock Irrigation District) in the Canal 203 Conference Rooms. Members of the public may participate in the meeting and provide public comment in-person, via the Zoom webinar feature, or by telephone.

**2. CALL TO ORDER**

WTS GSA TAC Chair Michael Cooke called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.

ETS GSA TAC Chair Sarah Woolf called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.

<b>WTS GSA TAC MEMBERS PRESENT (AT THE TIME ROLL WAS CALLED)</b>	<b>ETS GSA TAC MEMBERS PRESENT (AT THE TIME ROLL WAS CALLED)</b>
Michael Cooke, WTS GSA TAC Chair Herb Smart, Turlock Irrigation District Christy McKinnon, Stanislaus County Adriel Ramirez, Merced County Lacey McBride, Merced County Miguel Alvarez, City of Modesto Debbie Montalbano, Turlock Irrigation District Karen Morgan, WTS GSA TAC Vice Chair Richard Lindo, Denair Community Services District Mike Pitcock, Waterford for Hickman Michelle Harris, Keyes Community Services District  <i>Other WTS GSA TAC members may have arrived after the time roll was called.</i>	Sarah Woolf, ETS GSA TAC Chair Christy McKinnon, Stanislaus County Adriel Ramirez, Merced County Matt Beaman, Merced Irrigation District Lacey McBride, ETS GSA TAC Vice Chair  <i>Other ETS GSA TAC members may have arrived after the time roll was called.</i>

**3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Member of the public Milt Trieweiler addressed the Technical Advisory Committees encouraging groundwater recharge in the Turlock Subbasin.

**4. MEETING MINUTES**

**A. Minutes of the February 14, 2023 Special Joint Meeting of the West Turlock Subbasin GSA and East Turlock Subbasin GSA Technical Advisory Committees**

**Action by the West Turlock Subbasin GSA TAC:**

Motion by Waterford for Hickman (*Pitcock*), seconded by Stanislaus County (*McKinnon*), Approving Minutes of the February 14, 2023 Special Joint Meeting of the West Turlock Subbasin GSA and East Turlock Subbasin GSA Technical Advisory Committees. All voted in favor with none opposed. The Chair declared the motion carried.

**Action by the East Turlock Subbasin GSA TAC:**

Motion by Merced Irrigation District (*Beaman*), seconded by Stanislaus County (*McKinnon*), Approving Minutes of the February 14, 2023 Special Joint Meeting of the West Turlock Subbasin GSA and East Turlock Subbasin GSA Technical Advisory Committees. All voted in favor with none opposed. The Chair declared the motion carried.

**5. BUDGET UPDATE**

WTS GSA TAC Chair Michael Cooke announced that WTS GSA Treasurer Michael Clipper is not present for today's meeting; however, a recent budget update was provided at last week's WTS GSA Board meeting (March 16, 2023), and noted if information is needed to contact Treasurer Clipper.

ETS GSA TAC Chair Sarah Woolf provided an informational update regarding the account balance for the East Turlock Subbasin.

**6. GSP SECOND ANNUAL REPORT**

Liz Elliott and Arden Wells with Todd Groundwater and Dominic Amador with Woodard & Curran presented an overview of the GSP Second Annual Report (for Water Year 2022) due to the DWR on April 1 including reporting period and timing (October 2021 through September 2022), contents of the report, model update and draft results, Spring 2022 monitoring event, additional analyses (sustainable management criteria/hydrographs, groundwater elevation contour maps Fall 2021 and Spring 2022, water budgets, water quality analysis, and subsidence update), and next steps.

Member of the public Milt Trieweiler addressed the consultants and Technical Advisory Committees.

TAC, consultants, and ETS GSA Coordinator discussion throughout the presentation included clarification regarding the groundwater pumping graph, cone of depression and wells that are below minimum thresholds and the various activities in progress to address the imbalance and decrease groundwater demand, coordination between GSAs for monitoring and to fill data gaps, limited surface water availability over the last (critical) dry year as well as influences outside of the Turlock Subbasin that have resulted in more groundwater pumping within the TID area, continued work on programs and management actions to ensure storage is not drawn down, coordination with existing programs that address nitrates (such as the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program), and the subsidence analysis compared to potential errors within the InSAR data.

**Action by the West Turlock Subbasin GSA TAC:**

Motion by Turlock Irrigation District (*Smart*), seconded by Denair Community Services District (*Lindo*), Approving the GSP Second Annual Report (for Water Year 2022) and recommending submittal to the Department of Water Resources (DWR). All voted in favor with none opposed. The Chair declared the motion carried.

**Action by the East Turlock Subbasin GSA TAC:**

Motion by Merced Irrigation District (*Beaman*), seconded by Merced County (*McBride*), Approving the GSP Second Annual Report (for Water Year 2022) and recommending submittal to the Department of Water Resources (DWR). All voted in favor with none opposed. The Chair declared the motion carried.

**7. ROUND 2 MULTIBENEFIT LAND REPURPOSING PROGRAM GRANT**

ETS GSA Coordinator Mike Tietze provided an overview of the East Turlock Subbasin GSA Grant Application to the California Department of Conservation for the Round 2 Multibenefit Land Repurposing Program including the grant award (\$40 million total, with a focus on \$10 million block grants), goal for grantees to develop a multibenefit agricultural land repurposing plan and to conduct permitting and project design, seeking various partners to help implement the program and build capacity in the region, key themes of the application, and application due date of March 29. The ETS GSA is taking the lead on the grant application since the GSP has a specific management action for land fallowing or repurposing that applies to the ETS GSA.

ETS GSA TAC Chair Sarah Woolf spoke about her familiarity with this type of grant and the unique opportunity to receive planning dollars.

WTS GSA TAC Chair Michael Cooke noted this matter was taken to the WTS GSA Board last week and they approved a letter of support.

There were no public comments.

*WTS GSA TAC Chair Michael Cooke left the meeting at approximately 3:56 p.m. WTS GSA TAC Vice Chair Karen Morgan resumed presiding duties.*

**8. SGMA RELATED UPDATES**

- Communication/Outreach

WTS GSA TAC Member Herb Smart spoke about messaging for the Annual Report (social media and email distribution) and trying to find funds within the budget to implement website translation at a low cost of \$200 annually.

- Consolidated Final PEIR Implementation

Turlock Subbasin Plan Manager Debbie Montalbano spoke about the WTS GSA having certified the Consolidated Final PEIR last week, the ETS GSA scheduled to consider this week, and a workshop to be held on April 11 on how to use the PEIR related to projects and management actions.

- Spring Monitoring Event

Turlock Subbasin Plan Manager Debbie Montalbano provided an update regarding the Spring Monitoring Event which is scheduled to be completed by April 15 with measurements done over the next few weeks.

- Grant

Turlock Subbasin Plan Manager Debbie Montalbano provided an update regarding the status of the final grant reporting, noting all work is to be done by April 30 with reporting occurring over the next couple of months, also noting that we don't expect to hear back on the latest grant application (Round 2 SGMA Implementation) until August.

ETS GSA Coordinator Mike Tietze provided updates regarding development of the fiscal year 2023-2024 budget, repurposing TSS wells and installing them near the rivers between the Eastern and Western aquifers to address data gaps, status of projects that increase readiness to receive replenishment water if made available by TID and moving into Phase II to see how this can be augmented and expanded, and a workshop held earlier this month on the pumping management framework and an associated pilot program.

## 9. NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the Joint Technical Advisory Committees is scheduled for Tuesday, April 11, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. – Turlock Irrigation District offices.

## 10. ADJOURNMENT

***Adjournment by the West Turlock Subbasin GSA TAC:***

Motion by City of Modesto (*Alvarez*), seconded by Denair Community Services District (*Lindo*), to adjourn the meeting at 4:04 p.m. All voted in favor with none opposed. The Vice Chair declared the motion carried.

***Adjournment by the East Turlock Subbasin GSA TAC:***

Motion by Merced Irrigation District (*Beaman*), seconded by Merced County (*McBride*), to adjourn the meeting at 4:04 p.m. All voted in favor with none opposed. The Chair declared the motion carried.



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Jennifer Land, Secretary  
West Turlock Subbasin  
Groundwater Sustainability Agency  
Technical Advisory Committee