

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE WEST TURLOCK SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND THE EAST TURLOCK SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

2:00 p.m., Thursday, June 25, 2020

Meeting Recording: <https://youtu.be/b7qZio3ILjI>

IMPORTANT NOTICE: DUE TO THE ONGOING COVID-19 CRISIS AND PURSUANT TO EXECUTIVE ORDER N-29-20, THIS MEETING WAS HELD VIA CONFERENCE CALL WITHOUT A PHYSICAL MEETING LOCATION. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WISHED TO PROVIDE COMMENT OR OBSERVE THE MEETING WERE ENCOURAGED TO JOIN THE CONFERENCE CALL.

1) **WELCOME / MEETING PROCEDURES** – Herb Smart (TID) provided a brief presentation and explanation regarding conference call procedures.

2) **IDENTIFICATION OF PARTICIPANTS** – Lacey McBride, WTS GSA TAC Vice Chair, took a roll call of meeting participants to include members and the public.

3) **CALL TO ORDER** – The meeting was called to order at 2:04 p.m. by Lacey McBride, WTS GSA TAC Vice Chair and Kevin Kauffman, ETS GSA TAC Chair.

4) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

WTS GSA MOTION: Turlock Irrigation District (M. Cooke) moved, Delhi County Water District (L. Maldonado) seconded, that the minutes from the May 28th regular meeting, and June 11th special meeting be approved. All voted in favor with none opposed. The Vice Chair declared the motion carried.

ETS GSA MOTION: Ballico-Cortez Water District (D. Yotsuya) moved, Stanislaus County (W. Ward) seconded, that the minutes from the May 28th regular meeting, and June 11th special meeting be approved. All voted in favor with none opposed. The Chair declared the motion carried.

5) PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

6) BUDGET

Michael Clipper, WTS GSA Treasurer, provided a brief report on the current bank account balance and pending invoices. No action was taken.

Kevin Kauffman, ETS GSA TAC Chair, provided a brief report on the current bank account balance and pending invoices. No action was taken.

7) PROPOSITION 68 GRANT UPDATE

Debbie Liebersbach (TID) provided the TACs with an update on the Proposition 68 Grant Agreement. The contracting process is still in development for grant projects. Sustainable Conservation will be subcontracted through Todd Groundwater as main contractor for projects. The Groundwater Recharge Assessment Tool (GRAT) will be the first project for the group, which is anticipated to start in July.

8) GROUNDWATER DEPENDENT ECOSYSTEMS

Phyllis Stanin (Todd Groundwater) led a discussion regarding groundwater dependent ecosystems (GDEs). The GSP is required to identify GDEs within the basin using data available from the Department of Water Resources (DWR), or best available information. DWR developed Natural Communities Commonly Associated with Groundwater (NCCAG) maps which identified approximately 2,500 potential vegetation or wetland areas in the Turlock Subbasin, however an analysis needs to be conducted to research and review the NCCAG maps. Due to lack of funding available to research and ground-truth the initially identified areas, Todd Groundwater presented the option of collaborating and coordinating with Karen Morgan (City of Ceres) to assist the technical team with GDE analysis. After some discussion, the following action was taken:

WTS GSA MOTION: Denair Community Services District (R. Lindo) moved, Delhi County Water District (L. Maldonado) seconded, to allow TAC member, Karen Morgan (City of Ceres) to assist the technical team with an independent assessment associated with groundwater dependent ecosystems as a graduate student internship. All voted in favor with none opposed. The Vice Chair declared the motion carried.

ETS GSA MOTION: Ballico-Cortez Water District (D. Yotsuya) moved, Stanislaus County (W. Ward) seconded, to allow TAC member, Karen Morgan (City of Ceres) to assist the technical team with an independent assessment associated with groundwater dependent ecosystems as a graduate student internship. All voted in favor with none opposed. The Chair declared the motion carried.

9) SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT CRITERIA

Phyllis Stanin led a discussion regarding an update on projected water budget analysis, sustainable yield, and the land subsidence and water quality sustainability indicators. Member agencies from both the WTS and ETS GSAs have been working with Todd Groundwater to provide agricultural and urban data for the projected water budget analysis. Land subsidence has not been a significant issue in the Turlock Subbasin, however the Corcoran Clay suggests the potential for future subsidence. Continued monitoring and reporting will be needed to ensure sustainability is managed appropriately. Kevin Kauffman (Eastside Water District) requested a memo regarding land subsidence be developed and distributed for review by the TAC. Next steps for the WTS and ETS GSA TACs include projected water budget and sustainable yield analysis, develop undesirable results definition for sustainability indicators, select preliminary sustainable management criteria to include minimum thresholds and measurable objectives, and project and management actions to meet Subbasin Sustainable Yield. There was some discussion amongst the TACs however no action was taken.

10) SGMA RELATED UPDATES

This is an opportunity for TAC members to discuss and provide updates on issues related to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. No action was taken.

- Kevin Kauffman (Eastside Water District) provided a Proposition 218 update to the TACs. The ETS GSA TAC reported to the ETS GSA Board regarding a kick-off meeting with Provost and Pritchard, the consultant hired to assist with the Proposition 218 process, which will be presented to the public at the end of 2021 to allow time to secure funding for implementation of SGMA and adoption of the GSP. Following adoption of the GSP there will likely be another Proposition 218 process to secure funding for capitol improvement projects identified in the GSP. *Kevin Kauffman*
- Herb Smart (TID) updated the TACs regarding public outreach. A report on public outreach metrics will be available on the website following the meeting. Virtual Community Workshops will be held on July 8. Member Agencies are encouraged to register and attend the Workshop.
- Herb Smart (TID) updated the TACs regarding a stakeholder assessment which will be available at the July 8th Virtual Community Workshop.

11) NEXT MEETING

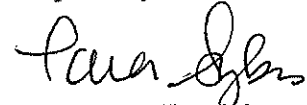
The next special meeting is scheduled for July 9, 2020.

13) ADJOURNMENT

WTS GSA MOTION: City of Ceres (K. Morgan) moved, Delhi County Water District (L. Maldonado) seconded, that the meeting be adjourned at 4:03 p.m. All voted in favor with none opposed. The Vice Chair declared the motion carried.

ETS GSA MOTION: It was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 4:04 p.m. All voted in favor with none opposed. The Chair declared the motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted:



Tara Sykes

Acting Secretary, West Turlock Subbasin GSA TAC