

MINUTES

SPECIAL 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, December 17, 2020

Meeting materials and recording can be found at the following link:
<https://turlockgroundwater.org/events/gd68773f587hk5wb3pfxfd8cjcxn2>

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 (Turlock Irrigation District) provided a brief presentation and explanation regarding conference call procedures.
- 2) **IDENTIFICATION OF PARTICIPANTS** – Michael Cooke, WTS GSA TAC Chair, took a roll call of meeting participants to include members and the public.
- 3) **CALL TO ORDER** – The meeting of the ETS GSA TAC was called to order at 2:02 p.m. by Kevin Kauffman, ETS GSA TAC Chair. The WTS GSA TAC was called to order at 2:32 p.m. by Michael Cooke, WTS GSA TAC Chair.

WTS GSA TAC MEMBERS PRESENT	ETS GSA TAC MEMBERS PRESENT
Michael Cooke – WTS GSA TAC Chair Lacey McBride - Merced County Michael Clipper – WTS GSA TAC Treasurer Karen Morgan – City of Ceres David Odom – Denair Community Services District Brody Patterson – Merced County Herb Smart – Turlock Irrigation District Debbie Montalbano – Turlock Irrigation District Bill Penney – Turlock Irrigation District Phil Govea – Turlock Irrigation District Brandon McMillan – Turlock Irrigation District Walt Ward – Stanislaus County Allison Martin – City Of Turlock Lea Simvoulakis, City of Hughson Leandro Maldonado – Delhi County Water District Curtis Jorritsma – Hilmar County Water District Michelle Harris – Keyes Community Services District	Kevin Kauffman – ETS GSA TAC Chair Lacey McBride – Merced County Brody Patterson – Merced County Dennis Yotsuya – Ballico-Cortez Water District Walt Ward – Stanislaus County

4) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

WTS GSA TAC MOTION: Hilmar County Water District (C. Jorritsma) moved, City of Hughson (L. Simvoulakis) seconded, that the minutes from the November 19th special meeting be approved. All voted in favor with none opposed. The Chair declared the motion carried.

ETS GSA TAC MOTION: Ballico-Cortez Water District (D. Yotsuya) moved, Merced County (B. Patterson) seconded, that the minutes from the October 22nd regular meeting and

November 5th and November 19th special meetings be approved. All voted in favor with none opposed. The Chair declared the motion carried.

5) PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Milt Treiweiler (Turlock Citizen) and Amanda Peisch-Derby (Department of Water Resources) addressed the Technical Advisory Committees.

6) BUDGET

Michael Clipper, WTS GSA TAC Treasurer, provided a brief report on the current bank account balance and pending invoices. Debbie Montalbano (Turlock Irrigation District) requested a scope of work and cost estimate from the consultant team for the annual report which will be due April 2022. Agency members should plan to budget for these costs in the 2021-2022 fiscal year. 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) NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT ZONE & CV-SALTS UPDATE

Parry Klassen (Valley Water Collaborative) discussed Nutrient Management requirements and process, and ways to share information and minimize duplication of effort between SGMA work and Nutrient Management efforts.

The Nitrate Control Program became effective on January 17, 2020. A Preliminary Management Zone Proposal (PMZP) with Early Action Plan (EAP) is due to the Regional Board by March 8, 2021 and will need to identify the proposed Management Zone Boundary, identify participating permitted dischargers, provide an initial assessment of nitrate conditions in groundwater, identify potentially impacted public water supplies and domestic wells where nitrate levels exceed water quality objectives, identify existing nitrate management practices of participating permitted dischargers, and establish an Early Action Plan to assure safe drinking water to those impacted in the short-term, while long-term solutions are developed and implemented.

Due to the overlapping goals and solutions for ensuring the sustainability of groundwater in the Central Valley, the Valley Water Collaborative is looking to collaborate with relevant GSAs to identify common issues, streamline monitoring and data management with an online data management system, and cost share on projects. It was recommended that a Memorandum of Agreement be developed between the Valley Water Collaborative and the WTS and ETS GSAs. More information can be found at www.valleywaterc.org. The Joint TAC Chairs thanked Parry for his presentation, especially shortening it to fit the day's agenda constraint; adding that full cooperation among all parties makes sense. Parry will provide the Joint TAC with an update on the Valley Water Collaborative in the Spring.

8) BASELINE SCENARIO

Phyllis Stanin (Todd Groundwater), Ali Taghavi (Woodard and Curran), and Dominick Amador (Woodard and Curran) presented the Baseline Conditions Integrated Modeling Results. The presentation included Water Budgets for the Turlock Subbasin and the WTS and ETS GSAs, Groundwater Elevation Contours, Groundwater Level Hydrographs, and Stream-Aquifer Interaction. The presentation is available for viewing at www.turlockgroundwater.org. Due to the length of this discussion, there was little time for response to questions and all agreed to continue that interaction off-line.

Next Steps include:

- Upcoming Modeling Scenarios
 - Sustainable Yield
 - Climate Change

- Continue Coordination with local GSAs

9) SGMA RELATED UPDATES

This is an opportunity for TAC members to discuss and provide updates on issues related to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. A list of topics could include, but are not limited to the items below. No action will be taken.

- Herb Smart (Turlock Irrigation District) provided the TACs with a public outreach update.
 - The second Groundwater Lunch Hour is Friday, December 18th, 2020.
 - The Environmental Defense Fund and Rural Community Assistance Corporation are developing a 15-week virtual Groundwater Leadership Institute, to consist of 10-20 participants who live in Turlock Subbasin. This will likely take place in Spring 2021; more information to come at future meetings.
 - The Ad Hoc Communications Committee is developing a video regarding water budgets to be distributed to the public around March 2021.
- Debbie Montalbano (Turlock Irrigation District) and Valerie Kincaid (WTS GSA General Counsel) provided a Round 3 Grant and GRAT update to the TACs.
 - The Access Agreement for the Round 3 Grant well installations has been drafted and circulated between the ETS & WTS GSAs and should be moving forward in the near future.
 - The License Agreement for the GRAT Tool will be going to the WTS GSA Board for approval at their next meeting.
 - The Non-Disclosure Agreement has been approved in draft form by the WTS GSA Board. If agency members would like to sign on to the agreement they should provide notice by December 22, 2020.

NEXT MEETING

The next special meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 17, 2021. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 28, 2021. Additional special meetings will be scheduled on the second Thursday of the month in both February and March of 2021.

9) ADJOURNMENT

WTS GSA MOTION: Hilmar County Water District (C. Jorritsma) moved, City of Hughson (L. Simvoulakis) seconded, that the meeting be adjourned at 4:11 p.m. All voted in favor with none opposed. The Chair declared the motion carried.

ETS GSA MOTION: Ballico-Cortez Water District (D. Yotsuya) moved, that the meeting be adjourned at 4:11 p.m. The Chair declared the motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted:



Tara Rodriguez
Acting Secretary, West Turlock Subbasin GSA TAC