

WEST TURLOCK SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

July 18, 2019 - 6:00 PM
Special Meeting

Turlock Irrigation District, Board Room 105
333 E. Canal Drive, Turlock, California

AGENDA

BOARD MEMBERS

Joe Alamo, Turlock Irrigation District
Chair

Curtis Jorritsma, Hilmar County Water District
Vice Chair

Mike Kline, City of Ceres
Leandro Maldonado, Delhi County Water District
David Odom, Denair Community Services District
Jeremy Young, City of Hughson

Rodrigo Espinoza, Merced County
Miguel Alvarez, City of Modesto
Vito Chiesa, Stanislaus County
Gil Esquer, City of Turlock

NOTICE REGARDING NON-ENGLISH SPEAKERS: West Turlock Subbasin GSA meetings are conducted in English and translation to other languages is not provided. Please make arrangements for an interpreter if necessary.

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Secretary of the Board at (209) 883-8374. Notification 72 hours prior to the meeting will enable the Agency to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. If requested, the agenda and documents in the agenda packet will be made available in alternative formats to person with a disability.

AGENDA PACKETS: Prior to the GSA meeting, a complete agenda packet is available for review in the Board Secretary's office located at 333 East Canal Drive, Turlock, CA, during normal business hours. Materials related to an item on this agenda submitted to the Agency after distribution of the agenda packet are also available for public inspection in the Board Secretary's office.

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. ROLL CALL

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES of the regular meeting of May 2, 2019.

D. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD - LIMITED TO ITEMS DESCRIBED IN THE NOTICE FOR THIS MEETING.

This is the time set aside for citizens to address the GSA concerning any item that has been described in the notice for the meeting, including Consent Calendar items, before or during consideration of that item. If you wish to speak regarding an item on the agenda, you may be asked to defer your remarks until the Agency Board addresses the matter.

E. STAFF UPDATES

- Joint TAC Update – *Michael Cooke*

- Public Outreach Update – *Herb Smart*
- GSP Update – *Debbie Liebersbach*
- Interbasin Coordination Update – *Lacey Kiriakou*

F. AGENDA ITEMS (INCLUDING consent, regular business items, action, reports, public hearings or closed session)

1. **Draft Proposal Solicitation Package for Sustainability Groundwater Planning Grant** Request for approval of an agreement hiring Todd Groundwater to prepare a grant application on behalf of the entire Turlock Subbasin for Round 3 of the Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant Program.
- *Michael Cooke*

Recommended Action:

Motion: Authorizing the Chair to execute an agreement with Todd Groundwater for the preparation of a funding request on behalf of the entire Turlock Subbasin and request that the East Turlock Subbasin GSA take action to approve funding its portion of the grant application and grant cost share in the same percentage as the previous DWR grant.

2. **Cancellation of the August 1, 2019 Regular Meeting**

Recommended Action:

Motion: Canceling the August 1, 2019 regular meeting of the West Turlock Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

H. COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

Board Members may provide a brief report on notable topics of interest. The Brown Act does not allow discussion or action by the Legislative Body.

I. ADJOURNMENT

The next scheduled regular meeting will be held on November 7, 2019 at 6:00 PM, TID Board Room 105, 333 E. Canal Drive, Turlock.

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE WEST TURLOCK SUBBASIN
GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY**

Turlock Irrigation District Office
Board Room 105
333 E. Canal Drive, Turlock, CA

6:00 p.m.
May 2, 2019

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Joe Alamo called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

B. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Directors Alves (City of Modesto), Ward (Stanislaus County), Jorritsma (Hilmar CWD), Espinoza (Merced County), Esquer (City of Turlock), Kline (City of Ceres), Lindo (Denair CSD), Maldonado (Delhi CWD) and Alamo (TID)

ABSENT: Director Young (City of Hughson)

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ACTION: *Motion* by Director Ward, seconded by Director Kline, that the minutes of the regular meeting of February 7, 2019 be approved as submitted. All voted in favor with none opposed. The Chair declared the motion carried. Director Young was absent.

D. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Milt Trieweiler addressed the Board concerning the importance of the decisions that the Groundwater Sustainability Agencies will be making concerning the sustainability of water in California.

E. STAFF UPDATES

- **Joint Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Update** - Michael Cooke, Technical Advisory Committee Chair, reported that the East and West Turlock Subbasin TACs continue to meet jointly. Their activities include review of the GSP, creation of a standardized logo for the Turlock Subbasin, receiving updates of the SED and Don Pedro relicensing efforts, tracking the CV salts efforts to reduce nitrates and other nutrients in groundwater, and coordination work with the Merced Subbasin.
- **Public Outreach Update** – Herb Smart, Technical Advisory Committee Member, provided an overview of the recent public workshop held in Denair. Mr. Smart advised that Technical Workshop #3 is scheduled for May 23, and the next community workshop will be held in July. He reported that there are 245 members of the Interested Parties email group who receive notifications of all meetings and workshops. The website address is turlockgroundwater.org.
- **Groundwater Sustainability Plan Update** - Debbie Liebersbach, Technical Advisory Committee Member, provided information on the progress of the GSP. She reported that work continues on model development, and that at the TAC technical workshop, the consultant team will be unveiling the model. A basin setting

draft has been provided to the TAC for comments which addresses topography, boundaries, aquifers, levels, quality, water balance and sustainability.

- **Interbasin Coordination Update** – Lacey Kiriakou, Technical Advisory Committee Vice Chair, reported on coordination efforts between the Turlock and Merced Subbasins. A meeting has been scheduled for May 28 for representatives from both subbasins to discuss their coordination efforts. There are no new updates from the Modesto or Delta-Mendota basins.
- **Budget Update:** Michael Clipper, Treasurer of the WTS GSA, gave an overview of expenditures and revenues for the GSA, and provided information about the fund balances in the GSA and Basin accounts. Mr. Clipper noted that a draft version of the annual audit for the West Turlock Subbasin had been received, and will be available for the TAC to review at their next meeting. Once filed with the State, it will be brought back to the Board for acceptance.

F. AGENDA ITEMS

1. ADOPTON OF THE 2019-20 BUDGET

Michael Clipper, Treasurer of the WTS GSA, presented the annual budget for the next year, including the annual membership fees. Mr. Clipper noted that membership fee invoices will go out in July. The Board took the following action:

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-02

RESOLUTION OF THE WEST TURLOCK SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY APPROVING THE 2019-20 OPERATING BUDGET

WHEREAS, the West Turlock Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency has been formed via a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA); and

WHEREAS, the West Turlock Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (WTS GSA) shall approve a budget as per Article 16. Budget and Expenses of the JPA; and

WHEREAS the Treasurer of the JPA has prepared a 2019-20 Operating Budget for approval by the Board of Directors of the WTS GSA.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the WTSGSA that the 2019-20 Operating Budget (Exhibit A) be approved.

EXHIBIT A

**West Turlock Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Budget
July 2019 to June 2020**

Membership Dues 2019 - 2020	104,000.00
Cash Call	0.00
	<u>104,000.00</u>

Expenditures	
General Administration	
Legal	72,000.00
Labor	15,000.00
	<u>87,000.00</u>

Miscellaneous	
Auditors	11,000.00
Meeting Costs & Incidental Fees	2,000.00
	<u>13,000.00</u>

Total Expenditures	<u>100,000.00</u>
Revenue Over Expenditures	4,000.00

Annual Membership Fees

Agency Name	Membership Status	Annual Fees
City of Ceres	Member	\$10,000
City of Hughson	Member	\$10,000
City of Modesto	Member	\$10,000
City of Turlock	Member	\$10,000
Delhi County Water District	Member	\$10,000
Denair Community Services District	Member	\$10,000
Hilmar County Water District	Member	\$10,000
Merced County	Member	\$10,000
Stanislaus County	Member	\$10,000
Turlock Irrigation District	Member	\$10,000
City of Waterford for Hickman	Associate Member	\$2,000
Keyes Community Services District	Associate Member	\$2,000
TOTAL INITIAL BUDGET		\$104,000

Moved by Director Espinoza, seconded by Director Jorritsma, that the foregoing resolution be adopted.

The following vote was had:

Ayes: Directors Alves, Ward, Jorritsma, Espinoza, Esquer, Kline, Lindo, Maldonado
and Alamo
Noes: Directors None
Absent: Director Young

The President declared the resolution adopted.

2. TURLOCK SUBBASIN LOGO

Herb Smart, Technical Advisory Committee Member, advised the Board of the process used to develop a logo for the Turlock Subbasin. He provided a picture of the logo variations selected by the Joint TACs and examples of how the logo will be used.

ACTION: *Motion* by Director Jorritsma, seconded by Director Esquer, affirming the decision of the Joint Technical Advisory Committees concerning the selection of a standardized logo to represent the Turlock Subbasin. All voted in favor with none opposed. The Chair declared the motion carried. Director Young was absent.

G. COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

There were no comments from the Board.

H. ADJOURNMENT

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 6:31 p.m.

Secretary

WEST TURLOCK SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

July 18, 2019
Special Meeting

Turlock Irrigation District, Board Room 105
333 E. Canal Drive, Turlock, California

AGENDA REPORT

TO: West Turlock Subbasin GSA Board

FROM: Michael Cooke, Technical Advisory Committee Chair

SUBJECT: Application for Sustainability Groundwater Planning Grant Funding

ACTION: **MOTION:** Authorize the Chair to execute an agreement with Todd Groundwater for the preparation of an application for grant funding on behalf of the entire Turlock Subbasin and seek reimbursement from all benefitting parties pursuant to existing cost share agreements.

Background

DWR has released a Draft Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP) for Round 3 of its grant program supporting Groundwater Sustainability Planning and Projects. DWR is administering the Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant Program, using funds authorized by Propositions 1 and 68. This funding round totals \$47.25 million, of which the Turlock Subbasin would be eligible to receive up to \$1 million dollars in addition to its previous grant award. If awarded funds, the Subbasin would likely be required to provide at least a 10 percent cost match. If awarded the maximum grant fund of \$1 million, the Subbasin would be obligated to provide \$115,000 in cost match funds.

Although this solicitation is categorized as a planning grant, the draft PSP specifies that funding can be used for projects that go beyond typical planning activities, including but not limited to, pilot and demonstration projects, CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act) analyses, and the installation of monitoring wells and/or instrumentation.

To enable the Turlock Subbasin to apply for grant funding, Todd Groundwater developed a draft proposal (attached) which outlines a proposed process for developing and submitting an application on behalf of the GSAs. The cost for developing and submitting the application is \$45,440. The proposal includes a description of some potential Subbasin projects. The grant's scoping process would enable additional input from stakeholders on final projects to be included.

The application process for this round of funding is expected to be very competitive. The Department of Water Resources plans to release the final PSP later this summer. Once released, applicants will have five weeks to submit an application.

The program requires that one GSA apply for the funding on behalf of the Subbasin. The draft PSP indicates that grant administration would occur through a revision of the existing grant agreement administered by the WTS GSA on behalf of the Turlock Subbasin.

At the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting on June 28, 2019, the TAC recommended that the WTS GSA approve an agreement with Todd Groundwater to prepare and submit a Round 3 Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant application on behalf of the Turlock Subbasin. The ETS GSA TAC passed a recommendation that its GSA Board approve its share of the funding to support the WTS GSA Board to enter into an agreement with Todd Groundwater to prepare and submit a Round 3 Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant for the Turlock Subbasin.

Also attached for your review and consideration is a preliminary cost breakdown, prepared pursuant to the GSP cost distribution, for both the grant application costs, and the cost share requirements required should the Subbasin apply for and receive \$1 million in additional grant funds to enable the Turlock Subbasin to further efforts toward compliance with Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) requirements.

Recommendation

Therefore, staff recommends the Agency take two actions related to the Draft Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP) for Sustainability Groundwater Planning Grants:

1. Authorize the Chair to execute an agreement with Todd Groundwater for the preparation of a grant application on behalf of the entire Turlock Subbasin; and
2. Request ETS GSA take action to approve funding its portion of the grant application and grant cost share in the same percentage as the previous DWR grant.

Proposed Funding of Grant #2

Members

	Proposal	Grant (estimated)	Reserve (estimated)	Due July 2020 Total	% of Basin	% of GSA
Turlock Irrigation District						
City of Turlock	\$9,238.67	\$23,381.32	\$24,397.90	\$57,017.89	20.33%	40.15%
Stanislaus County	\$9,238.67	\$23,381.32	\$24,397.90	\$57,017.89	20.33%	40.15%
City of Ceres	\$1,198.92	\$3,034.23	\$3,166.16	\$7,399.30	2.64%	5.21%
City of Modesto	\$1,147.08	\$2,903.04	\$3,029.26	\$7,079.38	2.52%	4.98%
Merced County	\$727.82	\$1,841.98	\$1,922.07	\$4,491.88	1.60%	3.16%
Delhi CWD	\$711.23	\$1,799.99	\$1,878.25	\$4,389.47	1.57%	3.09%
City of Hughson	\$241.81	\$611.98	\$638.59	\$1,492.38	0.53%	1.05%
Denair CSD	\$191.90	\$485.66	\$506.78	\$1,184.35	0.42%	0.83%
Hillmar CWD	\$161.82	\$409.54	\$427.35	\$998.71	0.36%	0.70%
	\$152.89	\$386.93	\$403.75	\$943.56	0.34%	0.66%
Total West Turlock	\$23,010.82	\$58,236.00	\$60,768.00	\$142,014.82		

Stanislaus County	\$3,124.39	\$7,907.23	\$8,251.02	\$19,282.63	6.88%	13.93%
Merced County	\$5,712.71	\$14,457.79	\$15,086.39	\$35,256.89	12.57%	25.47%
Eastside WD	\$12,098.30	\$30,618.50	\$31,949.74	\$74,666.54	26.62%	53.94%
Ballico Cortez WD	\$1,484.81	\$3,757.78	\$3,921.16	\$9,163.75	3.27%	6.62%
Merced ID	\$8.97	\$22.71	\$23.69	\$55.37	0.02%	0.04%
Total East Turlock	\$22,429.18	\$56,764.00	\$59,232.00	\$138,425.18		

Stanislaus County Total	\$4,323.30	\$10,941.46	\$11,417.17	\$26,681.93		
Merced County Total	\$6,423.94	\$16,257.78	\$16,964.64	\$39,646.36		



June 17, 2019

DRAFT PROPOSAL

To: West Turlock Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (WTSGSA)
c/o Debra Liebersbach

From: Liz Elliott, Senior Hydrogeologist
Phyllis Stanin, Vice President

Re: **Proposal to Prepare and Submit a Round 3 Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Planning Grant Application for Turlock Subbasin**

The West Turlock Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (WTSGSA) and the East Turlock Subbasin GSA (ETSGSA) are cooperatively developing a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for the Turlock Subbasin. This undertaking is being funded, in part, by a Proposition 1 Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Planning Grant awarded under Round 2 of the SGM program and administered by the Department of Water Resources (DWR). Both GSAs participated in the Round 2 grant application; the WTSGSA agreed to be the grantee for purposes of grant administration. Additional SGM funds for GSP planning and implementation are now being made available for Round 3 of the SGM Grant program. DWR will award \$47.25 million in Round 3 Planning Grants, funded by Proposition 68 (\$46.25 million) and Proposition 1 (\$1 million).

The GSAs would like to pursue additional grant funding for expanded activities and tasks to support development and implementation of the GSP. As the current lead of the technical team assisting with the GSP, Todd Groundwater has been asked to develop this scope, cost estimate and schedule to prepare a grant application for funding under the Round 3 SGM Grant program.

ROUND 3 GRANT OVERVIEW

The WTSGSA, on behalf of the Turlock Subbasin, was awarded a Round 2 Planning Grant and is therefore eligible for a maximum Round 3 Planning Grant consisting of the difference between the previous award and \$2 million. Because the WTSGSA was awarded \$1 million during Round 2, they are eligible for a maximum of \$1 million during Round 3. DWR would amend the existing grant agreement with the WTSGSA to add any funds awarded in Round 3. Preference for Planning Grant awards will be given to groundwater basins that did not receive Round 2 funding, and DWR expects Round 3 to be “highly competitive.”

A minimum match of 25 percent of the project cost as local cost share is required but can be reduced for projects benefiting a severely disadvantaged community (SDAC), disadvantaged community (DAC), or economically distressed area (EDA) in accordance with Table 1 of DWR’s May 2019 Planning Grants Proposal Solicitation Package – Round 3 (Draft PSP), reproduced below.

Table 1 – Eligibility for Cost Share Waiver

Percent Community(ies) that is/are DA	Required Minimum Local Cost Share Percent Proposition 68/Proposition 1
Less than 26%	25% /50%
26% - 50%	15%
51% - 75%	10%
76% - 100%	0%

As stated in the 2017 Round 2 Planning Grant Application, based on census data from 2010 to 2014, 63 percent of the geographic area of Turlock Subbasin was covered by a SDAC, DAC and/or EDA. Assuming this percentage has remained between 51 and 75 percent, a minimum local cost share of 10 percent will be required. If the maximum grant amount is awarded, this is equivalent to a local cost share of \$100,000. The 10 percent local cost share can be reduced by eligible costs incurred since June 5, 2018, when Proposition 68 was approved by voters.

The grant solicitation period will open for five weeks in summer 2019, with anticipated grant awards in winter 2019. The following is the schedule provided in the Draft PSP as Table 2, reproduced below:

Table 2 – Schedule for Sustainable Groundwater Planning – Round 3 Grant Solicitation

Milestone or Activity	Tentative Schedule*
Final 2019 Guidelines and PSP posted to open solicitation	Summer 2019
Applicant Workshop(s)	Summer 2019
Announcement of Solicitation Closes	Fall 2019
Final Awards	Winter 2019
<i>* Dates are subject to change and will be determined based on number of comments received for the draft documents, number of applications received, amount of funds requested, and number of grant awards given.</i>	

Based on information provided in DWR’s recent Public Workshop, the solicitation period is estimated to open in August/September 2019 and close in October/November 2019.

AUTHORIZING DOCUMENTATION

If the GSAs decided to pursue SGM Round 3 funding, the WTSGSA, as the applicant, is required to adopt a Resolution that authorizes the preparation of a grant application and agrees to execute a grant agreement with DWR if funds are awarded. This adopted Resolution must be included with the grant application at the timing of submittal. We assume that the TAC will take the responsibility of working with the WTSGSA Board to prepare, adopt, and sign the resolution as soon as practicable after approving the proposal to prepare the application. Given the current quarterly schedule of GSA meetings (with the next GSA meeting in August), the adoption of a resolution during the solicitation period could present a timing issue; a Special Board Meeting may be required. A template Resolution is included in the Draft PSP (page 16).

POTENTIAL PROJECTS

The Technical Advisory Committees (TACs) and the technical consulting team for the WTSGSA and ETSGSA have identified four potential projects that are eligible for Round 3 Planning Grant funding, including:

- Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) of the GSP
- Groundwater Recharge Assessment Tool (GRAT) Development for the Turlock Subbasin
- Monitoring well installation
- Analysis of interconnected surface water

As part of the grant application process, the merits and costs of each of the four projects will be identified and weighed to determine the best grouping of projects to be included in the grant application. The following descriptions summarize preliminary aspects of these projects; projects will be further defined and revised with the TACs during the application process.

Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) for the GSP

A Draft PEIR focused on the management actions contained in the GSP could be conducted concurrent with final GSP preparation. The GSP as a planning document is exempt from CEQA and can be adopted by the GSAs without additional environmental review. However, management actions recommended in the GSP would require analysis under CEQA. This project would allow for expedited environmental review and project implementation compared to initiating CEQA review after GSP adoption and submittal to DWR. Because it is difficult to predict what issues or public comments might need to be addressed for the Final PEIR, the project would include the CEQA process through the publication of the Draft PEIR only.

If the project is awarded funds, the Draft PEIR would be submitted to DWR in late summer 2022, after the GSP is submitted in January 2022 and before the extended Grant Agreement deadline in October 2022. The Final PEIR will be finalized after October 2022 and would

need to be funded by the GSAs. There is some risk that the Draft PEIR would need to be revised based DWR's review of the GSP. But, according to DWR, the likelihood that they would require revisions to projects is low.

A CEQA consultant would need to be retained to prepare the Draft PEIR if the project is awarded funds. In addition, a CEQA consultant is also needed to assist with the grant application including a project description, work plan, benefits, and costs. For this work, we recommend that Todd Groundwater retain the services of Environmental Science Associates (ESA), a leading environmental science and water planning firm to assist with preparing the grant application. In particular, Turlock Irrigation District (TID) has recently been working with an associate at ESA, Meredith Parkin, who has expertise in programmatic review of groundwater recharge projects; such projects will likely be included in the Turlock Subbasin GSP.

Groundwater Recharge Assessment Tool (GRAT)

Sustainable Conservation and the Earth Genome provided the WTSGSA and ETSGSA with a proposal for developing a Groundwater Recharge Assessment Tool (GRAT) in the Turlock Subbasin. Todd Groundwater would work with Sustainable Conservation and the Earth Genome to help improve the GRAT with local texture data from the Turlock Subbasin. The tool could provide improved capabilities for a screening-level analysis of potential recharge sites and assist with GSP scenario development for meeting sustainable management goals. The GRAT would also serve as a long-term planning tool to assist with optimizing available surface water in the Subbasin and ongoing replenishment of groundwater supplies.

Monitoring Well Installation

Based on analyses conducted thus far for the GSP, there is a need for improved groundwater monitoring throughout the Subbasin including in the eastern Subbasin, along the Subbasin river boundaries, and in depth-discrete wells screened above and below the Corcoran Clay in the western Subbasin. The number, locations, and construction details of potential monitoring wells have not been determined. As part of the grant application, a technical work plan will be developed addressing site selection, well design, and monitoring well installation.

Costs for monitoring well installation may also be covered by DWR through its Technical Support Services (TSS) funding program. The Turlock Subbasin has an approved TSS application and can now apply for funding for specific projects. Information is currently being developed to address some of the monitoring objectives described above. As the TSS program progresses, the work plan for the grant application will be developed to coordinate with planned TSS activities.

Analysis of Interconnected Surface Water

GSP regulations require an analysis of interconnected surface water and the current GSP work plan includes a limited analysis. However, since the GSP project was initiated, DWR has developed guidance and mapping of natural communities associated with groundwater

(NCCAG). The Nature Conservancy and others have developed details on vegetation and habitat that should be considered in the analysis. Recognizing that most of the comments on the GSP Alternative Plans and additional work required by DWR were related to an inadequate analysis of this sustainability indicator, a more rigorous analysis would support the GSP process. Such an analysis would also support the PEIR of the GSP. Because of the importance of surface water supplies for the GSP and the recent decrease in surface water required by State actions, understanding interconnected surface water is important to both the GSP and the sustainability of the Subbasin.

SCOPE OF WORK

The following are the tasks necessary to prepare and submit a Round 3 SGM Planning Grant application.

Task 1: Coordination with the GSAs and Project Selection

As stated above, the TACs are considering four different projects for Round 3 Planning Grant funding. Following the notice to proceed, Todd Groundwater will develop a preliminary scope of work and cost estimate for each of the four potential projects that are described above. This preliminary information will provide sufficient information for the TACs to recommend project selection; a more refined scope of work will be developed for the selected projects in the grant application. Todd Groundwater will coordinate with the GSAs, with input from ESA for the PEIR and from Sustainable Conservation and the Earth Genome for the GRAT, to decide which projects to include in the grant application. Once a Draft grant application is completed, Todd Groundwater will coordinate with the GSAs to review the work plan, budget and schedule.

The scope includes two in-person meetings with the TACs prior to submittal of the grant application. One meeting will be held at the beginning of the project, after the preliminary scope of work and cost estimate for the potential projects are compiled, to discuss the potential projects and decide which projects to include in the grant application. The second meeting will be held once a draft work plan is complete.

Attendance at a WTSGSA Board Meeting is not currently included. The WTSGSA delegated the application process to the TACs, and it is assumed that the TAC meetings will be the proper venue for working through the details of the application. If a Todd Groundwater team member is needed to address questions by the Board on the grant application, we would be happy to provide a cost estimate for an additional meeting.

Task 2: Prepare Grant Application and Submit to DWR

Todd Groundwater will prepare and submit the grant application to DWR through the online GRanTS system in three steps.

Task 2.1: Prepare Draft Application

Todd Groundwater will complete a draft of the grant application in accordance with the requirements described in the Draft PSP. The grant application consists of five sections or “Tabs,” as follows:

Application Information Tab: includes general applicant information, proposal budget, geographic information and legislative information. For this material, we will rely primarily on material prepared for the Round 2 Grant Application.

Projects Tab: includes project information, project budget, geographic information, and legislative information.

Questions Tab: includes questions about the project description, funding, eligibility, and DAC cost share waiver or reduction.

Climate Risk in Investments Tab: this is an optional tab that includes whether the organization has a climate change vulnerability assessment or considered the risk of climate change in its capital reserves and investments. For this item, we will work directly with agencies of the GSAs to incorporate relevant documents, as available. Even if the GSAs do not yet have relevant information, member agencies in the Subbasin may have primary sources that could be applicable to this optional Eligibility Criterion. If we can show agency documentation for climate change analyses, it might be worth extra credit in the selection process.

In addition to the eligibility criterion for Climate Risk, the PSP guidelines suggest that the project’s contribution to climate change risk be demonstrated. If included, the Draft PEIR project will clearly document the climate change analysis for GSP projects. For costing purposes, only general and available information will be provided in the application regarding the project’s reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and carbon sequestration.

Attachments Tab: includes six attachments

- Attachment 1 – Authorization documentation
- Attachment 2 – Eligibility applicant documentation
- Attachment 3 – Work plan (with a 25-page limit, not including figures, maps, letters of support, etc.)
- Attachment 4 – Budget
- Attachment 5 – Schedule
- Attachment 6 – SDAC, DAC, and/or EDA

Letters of Support:

The attachments will also include letters of support. As part of the selection process, DWR will consider whether the proposed project has Subbasin-wide support and will need documentation. The ETSGSA letter of support will be of primary importance. We will also prioritize letters of support from the various disadvantaged communities in the Subbasin (for Attachment 6). In addition, we will also request support letters from member agencies in the Subbasin, adjacent subbasins, and other local groups, as applicable. We will work with

TAC members to request and compile letters, focusing on the letters of support developed for the Round 2 application, which clearly demonstrated widespread support. (Over 30 letters of support were included in the Round 2 application.) We anticipate and appreciate the assistance from TAC members and local managers on this process.

A draft grant application containing these items will be submitted to the GSAs for review and comment.

Task 2.2: Prepare Final Application

Todd Groundwater will revise and finalize the grant application based on comments received from the GSAs.

Task 2.3: Submit Application to DWR

Todd Groundwater will submit the final grant application to DWR through the online GRanTS system.

SCHEDULE

According to the Draft PSP, the grant solicitation period will be open for five weeks in summer 2019 and the grant application must be submitted during this open period. The exact dates of this open period, however, are not known at this time. Based on information provided in DWR’s recent Public Workshop, the solicitation period is estimated to open in August/September 2019 and close in October/November 2019.

Todd Groundwater anticipates that it will take approximately eight weeks to prepare and submit the grant application. The following is a general outline of the schedule:

Tasks	Week								
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Notice to Proceed									
Authorizing Resolution ¹	?								
Develop Scope and Costs of Potential Projects									
Initial Meeting with the GSAs									
Prepare Draft Application									
GSAs Review Draft Application									
Meet with GSAs to Discuss Draft Application									
Revise and Finalize Application									
Submit Application to DWR									

Note:

1. The Authorizing Resolution by the WTSGSA will need to be completed in August 2019, during the next scheduled quarterly meeting. It is unclear how this will fit into the grant application schedule.

ESTIMATED COST

We will prepare and submit the Round 3 SGM Planning Grant Application to DWR for a not to exceed amount of \$45,440. A detailed cost estimate is provided in Attachment A. This cost estimate includes contribution from ESA, the CEQA subconsultant, to develop the work plan and cost estimate for the Draft PEIR. It is assumed that the work plan and cost estimate for the GRAT will be based on the proposal previously provided to the GSAs by Sustainable Conservation and the Earth Genome.

We look forward to assisting you with this grant application and the opportunity to bring additional resources to the Subbasin's sustainability efforts.

WEST TURLOCK SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

July 18, 2019
Special Meeting

Turlock Irrigation District, Board Room 105
333 E. Canal Drive, Turlock, California

AGENDA REPORT

TO: West Turlock GSA Board
FROM: Dorinda Soiseth, Secretary
SUBJECT: Cancellation of the August 1 Regular Meeting

MOTION: That the August 1, 2019 regular meeting of the West Turlock Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency be canceled.

Background

The Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) forming the West Turlock Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (WTS GSA), Article 12.2, directs that the Governing Board shall meet at least quarterly at a time and place set by the Governing Board, and at such other times as determined by the Governing Board and listed in the Agency's bylaws.

The Bylaws for the Agency, Article 3.1, direct that the Board shall hold at least one (1) regular meeting each calendar quarter, or as often as the Board deems necessary, and that a special meeting of the Board may be called.

The Board adopted Resolution No. 2018-04 which established regular meeting dates for 2019, including August 1.

Summary

Since the Turlock Subbasin will be eligible to apply for another \$1M in grant funding from DWR, and the grant application process could begin as early as August, it was necessary to call a special meeting of the Board to obtain authorization to apply for the grant. By calling this special meeting, it will not be necessary to meet again in August.

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Board take action to cancel the regularly scheduled meeting of August 1, 2019.