



SACRAMENTO GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY
Regular Board Meeting
Final Minutes
October 11, 2007

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Tobin called the meeting of the Board of Directors to order at 9:00 a.m. at the Regional Water Authority/Sacramento Groundwater Authority office. Individuals in attendance are listed below:

Board Members

Pam Tobin, San Juan Water District (Chair)
Andy Soule', California American Water
Sandy Kozlen, Carmichael Water District
Chuck Rose, Citrus Heights Water District
Walt Sadler, City of Folsom
Rich Allen, Del Paso Manor Water District
Barry Brown, Fair Oaks Water District
Scott Fort, Golden State Water Company
David Simpson, Orange Vale Water Company
Mary Harris, Rio Linda/Elverta Community Water District
Neil Schild, Sacramento Suburban Water District
Jack DeWit, Agriculture
Terry Jewell, Self Supplied Industry

Staff Members

Ed Winkler, Rob Donlan (Legal Counsel), Rob Swartz, Nancy Egger, and Cecilia Partridge.

Others in Attendance

Al Dains (Citrus Heights Water District alternate), Stephen Hanson (Sacramento Suburban Water District alternate), Keith Wallace, Richard Shatz, Doug Smith, Ed Formosa, Alan Driscoll, Sharon Wilcox, Tom Gray, Shauna Lorange, Bob Churchill, Rob Roscoe, Paul Schubert, Dee Dillon, Roger Putty, Ali Taghavi, Toni Pezzetti, and Melanie Holton.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

3. CONSENT CALENDAR

a. Minutes of the August 9, 2007 meeting.

Motion/Second/Carried (M/S/C) Mr. Brown moved, with a second by Mr. Rose, that the consent calendar items be approved.

4. APPOINTMENT OF 2008 OFFICER NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Chair Tobin appointed the following members to the 2008 Officer Nominating Committee: Sandy Kozlen, Carmichael WD (chair); Terry Jewell, Self Supplied Industry; and Rich Allen, Del Paso Manor Water District.

5. ELVERTA SPECIFIC PLAN

The Elverta Specific Plan (ESP) is a proposed development project located in north-central Sacramento County. The proposed ESP is approximately 1,744 acres of mixed-use development, with a capacity of up to 4,950 residential housing units. The ESP will be served by Rio Linda/Elverta Community Water District (RLECWD) and California American Water (Cal-Am), with the RLECWD serving approximately 90% or approximately 4,000 acre-feet per year (AF/Y). For the last several years RLECWD has studied a number of options to meet future growth. The biggest challenge has been to develop a workable water supply strategy to meet Sacramento County's Community Plan Policy PF-8, a condition of the ESP development adopted by the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors in 1998 and amended through a 1999 resolution (Resolution 99-0493). Under current conditions, PF-8 essentially requires that there be no net "take" on the groundwater basin underlying the SGA as a result of constructing the ESP.

At the August 9, 2007 SGA Board meeting, staff was directed to review a proposed water supply plan and strategy submitted by Cal-Am for a project known as the Countryside Equestrian Estates within the ESP area. Recently, RLECWD transmitted a letter dated September 26, 2007 to the SGA Board requesting that SGA make a "formal finding" regarding PF-8. SGA staff and legal counsel prepared analyses of these proposals, which state that SGA has not yet been provided with sufficient information to make a "formal finding" on all of the elements of PF-8. However, the strategies provided by Cal-Am and RLECWD appear to be technically sound pending future contractual and financial information. The staff analysis is intended to help clarify PF-8 and what Cal-Am and RLECWD will need to provide to SGA and the County to comply.

Mr. Dillon, general manager with RLECWD and Mr. Soule', Senior Operations Manager with Cal-Am reported that they have been working with the various

involved parties on pending contracts and will also continue to work with SGA staff.

M/S/C Mr. Kozlen moved, with a second by Mr. Fort, to direct staff to continue working with water suppliers to recommend a determination regarding PF-8 compliance to the SGA Board.

6. WATER ACCOUNTING FRAMEWORK

In June 2007, the SGA Board adopted Phase II of the Water Accounting Framework. Upon adoption, SGA was directed to continue with Phase III, including a survey of existing successful groundwater banks in the state and development of a model groundwater banking program based on the results of that survey.

Kennedy/Jenks has contracted with RWA (RWA was awarded a grant through Prop 50 to fund WAF development) to complete the survey of existing banks. The task order has a not-to-exceed amount of \$19,823, and includes the following tasks:

- Project coordination meetings.
- Review existing banking operations, and develop final list of agencies to be surveyed based on initial screening of those willing to participate.
- Develop survey instrument for use in conducting surveys of participating water banking operations.

The SGA Chair appointed an oversight committee to review the proposed survey and results, and provide guidance on the next steps of the model groundwater banking program development. The Committee includes: Robert Roscoe, Sacramento Suburban Water District (chair); Shauna Lorange, San Juan Water District; Dee Dillon, Rio Linda/Elverta Community Water District; Ken Payne, City of Folsom; and Herb Niederberger, County of Sacramento.

M/S/C Mr. Brown moved, with a second by Mr. Fort, to appoint a Model Banking Guidelines Oversight Committee.

7. GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM UPDATE

In September 2007, the California Department of Water Resources announced that funding has been restored for its Local Groundwater Assistance Grant Program (AB303). SGA has been successful in its application for funds from this program on three previous occasions: \$200,000 for Data Management System development, \$250,000 for the SGA Regional Monitoring Well Network, and \$250,000 for a comprehensive update of the Integrated Groundwater and Surface Water Model for the SGA area.

Applications are expected to be released in mid-October and due back in early December. In anticipation of a short application period, SGA staff investigated a few potential options to be the focus of our next grant application. Rob Swartz reported that there are 2 finalists. The Sacramento County Environmental Management Department is a well permitting agency that is also responsible for local contamination investigations. They have expressed a desire in the past to launch a well abandonment program to identify existing domestic wells that are potential conduits for contamination and to develop a priority list of them for destruction and work to properly abandon them. The second option would be to obtain funding to conduct a study chosen from the list of items contained in the Sacramento Groundwater Authority's "*Groundwater Contamination in the Sacramento Region*" brochure that was published in 2006.

M/S/C Mr. Rose moved, with a second by Mr. Fort, to direct staff to work with the Groundwater Contamination Strategy Committee to develop an AB 303 grant application related to groundwater contamination risk assessment, within approved budget constraints.

8. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- **Status of SGA Board Appointments** – The County Board of Supervisors appointed Barry Brown and Randy Marx of Fair Oaks Water District and David Simpson and Thomas Gunter of Orange Vale Water Company to the SGA Board.
- **ACWA Region Election Results** – Mr. Winkler congratulated Rob Roscoe, Gray Allen, Ane Deister and Dave Peterson for their election to the ACWA region boards.

9. DIRECTORS' COMMENTS

Mr. Kozlen urged members to review Herb Niederberger's email (passed out at the meeting). He would like staff to work with the Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency (SAFCA) on a monitoring process. Ms. Lorange requested that staff issue a comment letter on the impact of ultimate pumping to groundwater. Mr. Donlan commented that SGA, as a responsible agency, should have been noticed about this issue. SGA has authority to recommend or require a mitigation, monitoring, or recording program that addresses the CEQA process. The comment letter should assert that SGA should have been notified and that we would like to be part of the process formally as they move forward.

M/S/C Mr. Kozlen moved, with a second by Ms. Harris, to add an emergency item to the agenda to direct staff to write a letter on behalf of SGA to SAFCA regarding the EIR, contingent upon review by legal counsel.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Board, Chair Tobin adjourned the meeting at 10:18 a.m.

By:

Chairperson

Attest:

Nancy Egger, Administrative Services Manager