



Sacramento Groundwater Authority  
Managing Groundwater Resources  
in Northern Sacramento County

**SACRAMENTO GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY**  
**Regular Board Meeting**  
**Final Minutes**  
**October 9, 2008**

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**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)  
Tom Glover, California American Water  
Sandy Kozlen, Carmichael Water District  
Chuck Rose, Citrus Heights Water District  
Walt Sadler, City of Folsom  
Herb Niederberger, County of Sacramento  
Rich Allen, Del Paso Manor Water District  
Barry Brown, Fair Oaks Water District  
Paul Schubert, Golden State Water Company  
Doug Ose, Natomas Central Mutual Water Company  
David Simpson, Orange Vale Water Company  
Mary Harris, Rio Linda/Elverta Community Water District  
Neil Schild, Sacramento Suburban Water District  
Rink Sanford, Self Supplied Industry

Staff Members

John Woodling, Rob Donlan (Legal Counsel), Rob Swartz, Nancy Marrier and Cecilia Partridge.

Others in Attendance

Al Dains (Citrus Heights Water District alternate), Derrick Whitehead, Sharon Wilcox, Ed Formosa, Ali Taghavi, Bob Churchill, Dee Dillon, Tom Gray, Richard Shatz, Alan Driscoll, Debra Sedwick, Mary Lou Cotton, Sean Maguire, Alex Peterson, Dan Sherry, Jose Ramirez and Keith Wallace.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

### **3. CONSENT CALENDAR**

Minutes of the August 14, 2008 meeting.

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

In the interest of time, item number 5 was moved ahead of item number 4, but for the sake of continuity we will report items in the order that they were listed on the agenda.

### **4. WATER ACCOUNTING FRAMEWORK BANKING PROGRAM SURVEYS**

In June 2007, the SGA Board adopted Phase II of a Water Accounting Framework. Among other directions, the adoption directed staff to begin developing a model banking and exchange document that would help interested agencies to implement potential programs within the SGA area. Under guidance of the Model Banking Program Oversight Committee, staff hired Kennedy/Jenks to perform a survey of the characteristics of seven groundwater banking programs that are currently operating in the state. These results will help develop guidelines for a model banking program in the SGA region.

A summary of the survey results was given by Mary Lou Cotton, Senior Water Resources Manager, with Kennedy/Jenks Consultants. The goals of the Groundwater Banking Programs Survey were to obtain information about various existing banking programs, determine common practices and benefit from the experience of others. The key issues were to research administration and monitoring procedures, methods of operation, and cost and loss factors. Ms. Cotton presented information from each of the seven programs surveyed and reviewed their answers to specific questions. Ms. Cotton summarized the survey results with information on the overall relevance to SGA members. This summary included general information, organization, financial information and specific operations. Ms. Cotton summarized that the overall interest is the variety of banking program examples that the survey provides, as well as the great degree of success, both operational and political, that these programs have demonstrated. The survey indicates that groundwater banking in California is a viable mechanism for cooperative management of water resources.

### **5. PROPOSED CITY OF ROSEVILLE GROUNDWATER MODELING PROJECT**

In August 2008, staff was contacted by the City of Roseville to discuss an upcoming effort by the City to develop a groundwater model that would be used to simulate the operation of an aquifer storage and recovery (ASR)

program in Placer County. The City inquired if SGA was interested in coordinating in the modeling effort. In September 2008, staff participated on a conference call with City representatives and a consulting firm, Aquaveo, to discuss the current status of modeling and future objectives of SGA. In addition to the discussion of modeling, data management objectives were discussed. The City requested that staff place an informational presentation item on the October 9, 2008 SGA agenda to discuss the City's interests and to begin discussing coordination of longer-term modeling and data management needs.

Derrick Whitehead, City of Roseville, gave background on the City of Roseville's ASR project. Mr. Whitehead reported that the City had looked at the ASR project primarily for a backup source of supply to the American River. The Regional Board had taken the position that the injection of treated drinking water should be subject to waste discharge reporting requirements. As such, it would be necessary for Roseville to demonstrate that it can control the extent of injected water in order to maintain the beneficial uses of the groundwater basin. The City of Roseville has successfully completed ASR demonstrations, indicating that the project works. The City is working with a consultant to prepare a groundwater model, similar to what SGA has done with the expectation that the Regional Board will require this as part of the ASR permitting process.

The City's consultant, Aquaveo, gave a summary of what Roseville is planning to do and what the benefits are. Aquaveo's primary business is software development, training and consulting related to developing high tech computer models for water resource systems. Mr. Jones highlighted some of the groundwater models, the different data that they've developed and the many uses for that data. Mr. Jones indicated that the data can be customized for specific results.

Mr. Whitehead said that their effort aims to incorporate as much available information in the region into a useable, standardized framework for shared data management and modeling. Mr. Swartz reminded everyone that there has been previous discussion at SGA Board Meetings on this subject and that we are looking to move forward compatibly with a standardized system.

## **6. GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM UPDATE**

Work is continuing on the update of the SGA Groundwater Management Plan and Basin Management Report.

Chair Tobin appointed the following members to the 2009 Officer Nominating Committee: Pam Tobin, Mary Harris, Walt Sadler and Herb Niederberger. Voting will take place at the December board meeting.

## 7. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- **SGA Objectives Status** – The SGA Objectives Status was included in the packet. Chair Tobin asked if the SGA Objectives Status could be moved to SGA Strategic Planning.
- **SGA Financial Update** – A copy of the SGA financial update through August was included in the packet. A revenue update indicated that all fiscal year 2009 dues have not been received.
- **RWA Strategic Planning** – Mr. Woodling announced that we are in the process of planning a comprehensive strategic plan for RWA. RWA Chair Dion identified an eight member task force to develop a process for the strategic plan. Mr. Woodling suggested that possibly next calendar year would be a good time frame to visit an SGA strategic plan.
- **Electronic Board Packets** – Staff has estimated that we could save approximately \$4,000 per year in copying and postage costs by switching to an electronic version of the RWA and SGA board packets. Transitioning to this system will be happening over the next few months. Staff but will continue to provide hard copies of packages to those that require them.
- **Holiday Social/Awards Banquet Update** – The 2008 RWA Holiday Social is scheduled for December 10 at the Sacramento Marriott Rancho Cordova. Our guest speaker will be Elissa Lynn, Senior Meteorologist with the California Department of Water Resources and former TV broadcaster.
- **ACWA Groundwater Policy Principals** – Mr. Woodling reported that the ACWA Groundwater Committee is developing a set of draft principles for groundwater; similar to the ACWA Blueprint. Mr. Woodling and Mr. Swartz are participating in the drafting effort.

## 8. DIRECTORS' COMMENTS

Mr. Kozlen requested that the state conservation program be included as a topic for a future RWA board meeting.

## Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Board, Chair Tobin adjourned the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

By:

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Chairperson

Attest:

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Nancy Marrier, Finance and Administrative Services Officer