



**SACRAMENTO GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY**  
**Regular Board Meeting**  
**Final Minutes**  
**June 14, 2007**

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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)  
Andy Soule', California American Water  
Sandy Kozlen, Carmichael Water District  
Chuck Rose, Citrus Heights Water District  
Walt Sadler, City of Folsom  
Gary Reents, City of Sacramento  
Herb Niederberger, County of Sacramento  
Rich Allen, Del Paso Manor Water District  
Barry Brown, Fair Oaks Water District  
Tomas Gunter, 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), Rob Roscoe, Jose Ramirez, Shauna Lorange, Tom Gray, Sharon Wilcox, David Simpson, Toni Pezzetti, Roger Putty, Tim Williams, Jon Traum, Jim Blanke, Keith Wallace, Bob Churchill, Dee Dillon, and Ali Taghavi.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

### **3. CONSENT CALENDAR**

#### **a. Minutes of the April 12, 2007 meeting.**

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

### **4. SGA INTEGRATED GROUNDWATER AND SURFACE WATER MODEL (IGSM) ENHANCEMENTS**

In June 2005, SGA was notified that it was successful in its application for funding through the California Department of Water Resources Local Groundwater Management Assistance grant program (AB 303 grant). The subject of the AB 303 grant application was an update of the Integrated Groundwater and Surface Water Model for the SGA area. The grant award totals \$249,840 and does not require an SGA cost-share.

The model update consists of three primary phases. The first phase (Phase 1a) was the development of modeling assumptions and refinement of the existing model physical parameters (for example, how large a land parcel is represented in the model) and was completed in December 2005 by WRIME, Inc. The second model phase (Phase 1b) was to update the model hydrology information (for example, daily flow data on the American River and groundwater elevation data from wells in the basin). Phase 1b was completed in December 2006 through a contract between WRIME and the Regional Water Authority (RWA) and was funded through a Prop 50 planning grant. The final model phase (Phase 2 funded by the SGA AB 303 grant) to perform actual calibration of the model and develop a baseline conditions model from which proposed projects can be evaluated commenced in December 2006 and is now nearing completion.

Ali Taghavi, with WRIME, gave a presentation explaining the Integrated Groundwater and Surface Water Model. The model is being developed to simulate hydrologic system responses to proposed future projects and conditions. The current effort focuses on the area north of the American River and part of the central Sacramento County basin. The model requires extensive input data, including: aquifer geometry data, hydrologic data, land and water use, and groundwater levels. The model input data was collected from local water purveyors, state agencies and the SGA database. The model will be used to gain an understanding of the current hydrologic system and to formulate future projects and studies.

### **5. GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM UPDATE**

Rob Swartz gave an update on the latest activities toward development and implementation of the SGA Groundwater Management Program. In April 2007, SGA staff issued requests to member agencies to update their 2005-2006

groundwater-related data for purposes of updating the Data Management System (DMS). Information requested includes monthly groundwater extraction, well status, information on newly constructed wells, water quality and water elevation data. This data was requested by May 4, 2007, and will be used in updating the biennial Basin Management Report in 2008. As of June 4, 2007, data was received from 5 of the 11 requested agencies.

In May 2007, staff coordinated with Shaw Environmental to collect water quality samples from six wells in the regional monitoring well network constructed through an AB303 grant awarded by DWR in 2004. SGA staff also reviewed an initial draft of a Groundwater Management Plan being developed for western Placer County.

A copy of the most recent update to the SGA Groundwater Management Plan Implementation Table was enclosed in the packet. There was discussion about obtaining data on agriculture pumping and it was determined that there is not a need for this information at this time.

## **6. WATER ACCOUNTING FRAMEWORK**

Ed Winkler, SGA Executive Director, updated the board on the development of the Water Accounting Framework (Framework). At the April 12, 2007 SGA Board meeting, staff distributed the latest draft (the April 2007 draft version was enclosed in the packet) of the second phase of a three-phase effort to develop a Framework intended to accomplish the following objectives:

1. Ensure a safe and sustainable water supply for the greater Sacramento region.
2. Encourage water purveyors to “bank” water in the basin, when available, for use during dry periods.
3. Establish a framework that supports groundwater banking programs by setting forth rules for operating a model groundwater bank, and monitoring the basin to ensure its sustainability as the program is implemented.
4. Refine and enumerate SGA’s role in implementing the objectives of the Framework.

In an April 17, 2007 memorandum from the SGA executive director to all members, comments on the draft Framework were requested by May 11, 2007. The April 2007 Framework version represents a significant change from previous versions by shifting focus to the development of a model groundwater bank that will serve as a tool for members that wish to participate in groundwater banking activities from within the SGA area. Staff is recommending that the Board adopt Phase 2 of the Framework, so that Phase III efforts (which are funded through a Prop 50 Planning Grant that terminates on January 2, 2008) can begin. Tasks to be completed under Phase III include:

- Development of an accounting spreadsheet tool to maintain an ongoing record of banking activities.
- Briefings on the Framework and its objectives to appropriate local stakeholder groups as requested by participating agencies.
- Development of a model groundwater banking program that will establish criteria for operating a groundwater bank, including confirming deposits and withdrawals, and setting loss or dissipation factors. The model groundwater bank will consider how other successful groundwater banks operate within the state and will also consider local conditions and needs during its development.
- Investigate establishing monitoring criteria for parameters and objectives identified in the adopted SGA Groundwater Management Plan.

Mr. Winkler summarized by saying that staff believes that the framework represents a key step forward and is an integral component of SGA's overall Groundwater Management Program and is consistent with the Water Forum agreement. It is a policy framework that will provide appropriate mechanisms and incentives for members that wish to participate in conjunctive use and banking and exchange. It emphasizes autonomous decisions by the agencies as opposed to a regulatory approach. Staff believes that it will bolster our integrated planning efforts through RWA as well. This helps position us better as a region and as individual members to enter into agreements, both internal and external, to increase water supply reliability and potentially achieve some cost recovery through partnerships and grants.

There was discussion regarding banking and exchange needs for water in dry years and how to facilitate that to achieve the maximum benefit. Mr. Kozlen commented that we are de-emphasizing potential regulatory measures that he feels may be necessary. He wants to look at long-term drought conditions. He requested that this be addressed in the next phase of the process. He believes that we need to outline criteria to help make informed and responsible regulatory decisions when conditions become more critical.

M/S/C Mr. Reents moved, with a second by Mr. Brown, to approve Resolution 2007-02 adopting Phase 2 of the Water Accounting Framework.

## 7. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- **RWA Proposition 50 grant award letter** – Mr. Winkler reported that RWA has received a \$25 million Proposition 50 implementation grant to support conjunctive use infrastructure (and other measures) throughout the region. These grants dollars will go to ten RWA/SGA members to help fund 14 separate projects.

- **Elverta Specific Plan (ESP)** – Mr. Winkler reported that discussions continue on the ESP and the application for approval of entitlements is before the County Board of Supervisors. SGA is attempting to facilitate communications between the County, developers, and principle water suppliers. There is a meeting scheduled for June 15<sup>th</sup> with Supervisor Roger Dickinson to discuss project status.
- **SGA Information Presentations** – Chair Pam Tobin and Executive Director Ed Winkler have been making presentations to interested agencies as part of an outreach effort to educate agency directors on the status of groundwater management in the region and SGA's mission and role. To date presentations have been made to the boards of San Juan WD, Orange Vale WC and Citrus Heights WD. Other presentations are scheduled in the coming months.
- **McClellan AFB** – Mr. Swartz, Senior Project Manager, gave a presentation at the McClellan Restoration Advisory Board meeting. A copy of the newsletter article on SGA was included in the packet.
- **SB 395 (Cox)** – Mr. Winkler reported on SB 395 (Cox), relating to ASR technology and attempts to clarify/streamline the permitting process. At the last SGA Board meeting the members authorized a support letter. (A copy was included in the packet.) The author of the bill has agreed to convert this to a 2-year bill with the understanding that the Senate Committee on Environmental Water Quality would write a letter to RWQCB expressing urgency in getting the issues resolved. Mr. Winkler thanked Mr. Roscoe who has been spearheading this issue with a series of meetings with legislators.
- **SGA 2007 Objectives Status Report** – The SGA 2007 Objectives Status Report was included in the packet. This report reports on the adopted objectives, the current status and future scheduled efforts.
- **ACWA Executive Director Appointment** – Mr. Winkler announced that Timothy Quinn has been named the new ACWA Executive Director. Mr. Quinn served with the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California for 22 years as the district's primary representative for statewide issues.
- **ACWA Region Elections** – ACWA region elections are held every two years and are officially underway for the next term. Mr. Winkler encouraged anyone in Region 4 who might be interested in the running for the ACWA Region 4 Board to apply before July 2, 2007.

**8. DIRECTORS' COMMENTS**

Chuck Rose thanked everyone for their support in helping him get reelected to LAFCO. Mr. Rose also mentioned that the LAFCO conference will be held in Sacramento this year.

Chair Tobin thanked staff for the work that has been done on the Water Accounting Framework as well as the SGA presentations that have been made to the individual boards.

**9. Adjournment**

With no further business to come before the Board, Chair Tobin adjourned the meeting at 10:38 a.m.

By:

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Chairperson

Attest:

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Nancy Egger, Administrative Services Manager