



**SACRAMENTO GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY**  
**Regular Board Meeting**  
**Final Minutes**  
**August 9, 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)  
Tom Glover, California American Water  
Sandy Kozlen, Carmichael Water District  
Chuck Rose, Citrus Heights Water District  
Ken Payne, City of Folsom  
Herb Niederberger, County of Sacramento  
Rich Allen, Del Paso Manor Water District  
Barry Brown, Fair Oaks Water District  
Scott Fort, Golden State Water Company  
Tomas Gunter, Orange Vale Water Company  
Mary Harris, Rio Linda/Elverta Community Water District  
Neil Schild, Sacramento Suburban Water District  
Jack DeWit, Agriculture

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, Stephen Hanson, Dee Dillon, Roger Putty, Toni Pezzetti, Jose Ramirez, Greg Young, Jim Crowley, Bob Churchill, Ed Formosa, Shauna Lorange, Alicia Brundage, Greg Forest, Bret Hogge, Sharon Wilcox, and Debra Sedwick.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

### **3. CONSENT CALENDAR**

#### **a. Minutes of the June 14, 2007 meeting.**

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

### **4. ELVERTA SPECIFIC PLAN WATER SUPPLY PLANNING**

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 the California American Water Company (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. PF-8 essentially requires that there be no net 'take' on the groundwater basin underlying the SGA as a result of constructing the ESP.

Cal-Am has been negotiating with adjacent water suppliers to secure agreements to satisfy PF-8. Tom Glover, general manager with Cal-Am, provided an update on their proposed water supply plan and strategy for the Elverta Specific Plan. Mr. Glover's presentation covered the project location, water supply plan and strategy, water demand estimates, surface water supply source and Cal-Am's next steps. Mr. Glover explained that a water supply plan is needed to provide a reliable water source to the Countryside Equestrian Estates and meet PF-8 requirements. Cal-Am's next steps are to return their water supply plan to SGA for approval, execute water supply agreements and implement the water supply plan and strategy.

RLECWD, likewise, has been in discussions with adjacent agencies as well as SGA staff. SGA staff has attended multiple meetings at RLECWD's request, and have provided information about PF-8 and SGA's past position on this matter (October 10, 2002 letter from SGA to Sacramento County in packet). Recently RLECWD transmitted a letter dated July 24, 2007 to SGA requesting that SGA make a "formal finding" regarding PF-8. SGA staff and legal counsel prepared a draft response letter dated August 1, 2007, which states that SGA has not yet been provided with sufficient information to make a "formal finding" on PF-8. The response letter is intended to help clarify PF-8 and what RLECWD will need to provide to SGA and the County to comply. There was discussion regarding the contract, how to track surface water and how the PF-8 standard affects pumping. Mr. Winkler indicated that from the

SGA perspective the proposed draft water supply plan appears to meet the PF-8 requirements. The contract should include a plan for the long term and indicate the manner that the water will be phased. Rob Donlan clarified that SGA has been requested by the county to make recommendations, or proposed findings, on the agreement. SGA will be reviewing the agreement between the water purveyors to ensure that it complies with PF-8. This matter will be brought back to the board after SGA has received enough information to make a finding. Mr. Donlan indicated that this is an agreement that assures that arrangements are in place to deliver supplemental water supplies sufficient to prevent a long-term net increase in groundwater pumping.

Dee Dillon, general manager of RLECWD, provided an information update on the status and schedule of ESP water supply planning activities as well as the issues raised in their July 24, 2007 letter. Mr. Dillon gave a brief history of the Water Supply Master Planning Efforts for the Elverta Specific Plan and their efforts for PF-8 Compliance. Mr. Dillon referred the board to a letter dated August 7, 2007 addressed to SGA from RLECWD that he hopes to have finalized at their August 24<sup>th</sup> meeting. Next steps for the RLECWD Board will be to continue to work with SGA staff, and to work with Sacramento Suburban Water District to solve some of their current isolation problems. There were ideas proposed to solve the current and future difficulties of the ESP. The IRWMP is a vehicle that could be utilized for the types of projects suggested. Groundwater recharge and things that help implement the Water Forum Agreement would also qualify for IRWMP. Mr. Winkler said that staff would welcome all individual project proposals of a regional nature for grant application submission through Proposition 84.

Motion/Second/Carried (M/S/C) Mr. Kozlen moved, with a second by Mr. Schild to table the approval of the SGA response letter regarding Rio Linda/Elverta Community Water District until the next SGA Board meeting scheduled for October 2007.

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

Rob Swartz, Senior Project Manager with SGA, gave an update on the latest activities toward development 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. The entire update is scheduled to be completed by September 30, 2007, which coincides with when the grant ends.

## 6. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- **Status of SGA Board Appointments** – Mr. Niederberger indicated that appointments to the SGA Board for Fair Oaks Water District and Orange Vale Water Company will be taken to the County Board of Supervisors within the next month.
- **SGA Outreach 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 seven SGA agencies. Other presentations are scheduled in the coming months.
- **SB 178 (Steinberg)** – This is the follow-on legislation to SB 820 and SB 1640, both of which were vetoed by the Governor. SB 178 is now sponsored by Senator Steinberg. This bill requires reporting and monitoring of the various groundwater basins throughout the state. In particular, it points at groundwater elevation data. ACWA has taken a watch position on this bill. This bill passed the Water, Parks & Wildlife Committee and it should go to the floor of the legislature soon.
- **June 20, 2007 Letter from Semitropic Water Storage District** – A letter from the Semitropic Water Storage District in response to discussions with Chuck Rose was included in the packet. Semitropic operates a very successful large groundwater bank in the lower San Joaquin Valley. As SGA completes our Water Accounting Framework we'll be looking at how Semitropic does business. Semitropic has expressed interest in future partnerships with SGA.
- **American Water Works Association (AWWA) Fall Conference in Sacramento** – This conference will be held in Sacramento on October 22 through 26, 2007.
- **Groundwater Resources Association (GRA)** – This conference will be held at the Sacramento Convention Center September 18 and 19, 2007.
- **Roseville ASR Article** – An article in the Sacramento Business Journal gave information on groundwater banking in Placer County and highlighted the Roseville ASR well.

## 7. DIRECTORS' COMMENTS

Chuck Rose, as a member of LAFCO, mentioned that he is concerned when regular meetings of LAFCO are cancelled and rescheduled because this may discourage public participation.

**8. Adjournment**

With no further business to come before the Board, Chair Tobin adjourned the meeting at 10:12 a.m.

By:

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Chairperson

Attest:

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Nancy Egger, Administrative Services Manager