



1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Foster 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

S. Audie Foster, California American Water
John Wallace, Carmichael Water District
Al Dains, Citrus Heights Water District
Marcus Yasutake, City of Folsom
Darrell Eck, County of Sacramento
Paul Schubert, Golden State Water Company
Brett Gray, Natomas Central Mutual Water Company
John Wingerter, Orange Vale Water Company
Neil Schild, Sacramento Suburban Water District
Pam Tobin, San Juan Water District
Mike DeWit, Agriculture

Staff Members

John Woodling, Rob Swartz, Adam W. Robin, Nancy Marrier, Cecilia Partridge, Monica Garcia and Chris Sanders, legal counsel.

Others in Attendance

Ali Taghavi, Jim Graydon, Kristene Tidwell, Dave Zuber, Linda Dorn, Joe Doran, Debra Sedwick, Kelye McKinney, Brett Storey, Dan York, David Fairman, Abigail Madrone, Karl Brustad, Rob Roscoe, Dave Jones, Roger Kohne, David Gordon, and Hilary Straus. Nicole Krotoski participated on the conference phone

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR

a. The minutes of the December 14, 2017 meeting

Motion/Second/Carried (M/S/C) Mr. Schubert moved, with a second by Mr. Eck, to approve the December 14, 2017 SGA Board minutes. The motion carried by the unanimous voice vote of all directors present.

4. APPOINT A BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018 - 2019

Staff is beginning preparation of the 2018-19 SGA budget. The Chair generally appoints a budget subcommittee to provide feedback in preparing a draft budget for consideration by the full board.

Chair Foster appointed Marcus Yasutake, Neil Schild, Al Dains and Darrell Eck to the SGA Budget Subcommittee for Fiscal Year 2018 – 2019. Mr. Foster will serve as chair of the subcommittee.

5. FEDERAL GOVERNMENT APPROVES SOCIAL SECURITY COVERAGE FOR SGA EMPLOYEES

John Woodling, Executive Director, said that in early 2013, CalPERS' Office of Audit Services (OAS) audited the Regional Water Authority (RWA). In July 2013, OAS issued a draft report finding that five out of six RWA employees work only part time for RWA on the basis that those employees also provide services to the Sacramento Groundwater Authority (SGA). The findings allowed SGA to apply for CalPERS membership. SGA submitted a new agency application to CalPERS on February 2, 2015. SGA was informed by CalPERS that their membership was approved and they began making their own payments beginning on July 1, 2016.

In an attempt to mirror the Regional Water Authority's (RWA) contract with PERS, SGA needed to participate in the social security program. Votes were taken and all employees agreed to participate. This process has taken about a year to complete. To finalize the contract, the SGA Board has to approve the following items:

- 1) Certified copy of the Resolution of Intention
- 2) Form CON-12, Certification of Governing Body's Action
- 3) Form CON-12A, Certification of Compliance with Government Code Section 8507

The Board adopted the Resolution of Intention on December 14, 2017. The earliest date that the final Resolution may be adopted is January 3, 2018. There must be a 20 day period between the adoption of the Resolution of Intention and the adoption of the final resolution pursuant to Government Code Section 20471. There are no exceptions to this law. The final resolution was attached.

M/S/C Ms. Tobin moved, with a second by Mr. Schubert, to approve the Resolution of Intention to Amend the SGA PERS Contract to Include Social Security Coverage. The motion carried by the unanimous voice vote of all directors present.

6. SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT (SGMA) UPDATE

John Woodling reported that we are awaiting the State's release of the final version of the best management practices for setting sustainable management criteria.

Staff is watching Assembly Bill 1944 (Garcia), which would do two things related to SGMA. It would 1) divide the San Luis Rey Valley Groundwater Basin into an upper and lower subbasin and would designate the subbasins as medium priority until the department reassesses basin prioritization, and 2) amend the definition of “groundwater” to include water flowing in known and definite channels in the San Luis Rey Valley. Although the bill would have no impact on other areas of the state, legislative actions on these issues could be precedent-setting for the implementation of SGMA.

Mr. Woodling reported that we did get the release of the state’s recommendations for the grants for the development of a groundwater sustainability plan (GSP). SGA is being recommended for a grant award on behalf of the groundwater sustainability agencies (GSAs) in the North American Subbasin (NASb).

7. GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM UPDATE

Rob Swartz, Manager of Technical Services, provided an update on relevant items with the Groundwater Management Program. Staff is proposing to start work in late spring on items related to development of a NASb GSP. Staff had originally proposed to release one RFQ to include multiple work tasks. While working with the other GSAs, it was determined that one RFQ would be too complicated and it was decided that we release two RFQs. The first RFQ, worth roughly \$500,000, will be for support services to assist filling data gaps and preparing the GSP. The second RFQ is for modeling services for updating our groundwater model to provide answers that are required in the GSP on sustainable yield in the basin and other water budget information. The estimated value of the second RFQ is \$500,000. Both RFQs have been reviewed by the other GSAs and will be distributed on February 9th and will also be available on the SGA website. March 9, 2018 is the deadline for a response to the RFQs. After the GSAs have each reviewed the submitted responses, the GSAs will meet to reach consensus on the results. The results will be presented to the SGA Board at the April meeting with staff seeking approval for securing consulting services. The next step with the other GSAs is to prepare a project agreement to ensure that the funding commitments are all in place with a funding plan in accepting the grant from the Department of Water Resources.

Brett Storey, Administrator for the Placer County GSA, thanked Mr. Swartz for his leadership in submitting the grant and taking a lead role in coordinating the NASb GSAs.

Staff has identified the need to do some monitoring in a couple of monitoring wells adjacent to the American River to obtain surface water/groundwater interaction information for development of the NASb GSP. Aerojet has agreed to provide access to the monitoring wells. Staff made arrangements to purchase the pressure transducers and Aerojet agreed to pick up the remaining costs including the installation labor, the monitoring and to provide data on a long-term basis.

8. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

SGA Outreach – Mr. Woodling has been reappointed as Chair of the ACWA Groundwater Committee for the 2018-19 term. The first meeting of the Committee for 2018 will be February 21st. Mr. Woodling also serves on the ACWA State Legislative Committee. Mr. Woodling and Mr. Swartz will provide an update on SGA and SGMA at the of the Natomas Central Mutual Water Company annual shareholders meeting on February 13, 2018.

Looking at the current weather there are opportunities for various parties to complete water transfers. Mr. Woodling disclosed that several agencies in the SGA area have begun exploring the possibility of a coordinated groundwater substitution transfer.

9. DIRECTORS' COMMENTS

Ms. Tobin said that ACWA will be holding a strategic workshop on March 9, 2018. If anyone has concerns or questions that they would like addressed at the workshop please contact Ms. Tobin or Mr. Woodling. There is a lot of member representation for ACWA region 4 that provides opportunities that we should take advantage of. San Juan Water District is sponsoring Mike DeWit to represent the agriculture community on the new agriculture committee that was formed by ACWA.

Mr. DeWit reported that the agriculture community needs rain. He said that some in the agriculture industry are already using their wells.

Chair Foster said that he appreciates the members who accepted appointments to the budget committee. There will be robust conversation in the SGA Board meetings in the coming year over relationship building and how the different agencies interact together under the basin plan. He asked that all SGA members make an effort to attend all SGA Board meetings or have their agency representative present.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Board, Chair Foster adjourned the meeting at 9:23 a.m.

By:

Chairperson

Attest:

Nancy Marrier, Finance and Administrative Services Manager