1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Sheehan called the meeting of the Board of Directors to order at 9:00 a.m. as a teleconference meeting. Individuals in attendance are listed below:

Board Members
Caryl Sheehan, Citrus Heights Water District
Marcus Yasutake, City of Folsom
Brett Ewart, City of Sacramento
Patrick Kennedy, County of Sacramento
Robert Matteoli, Del Paso Manor Water District
Randy Marx, Fair Oaks Water District
Paul Schubert, Golden State Water Company
Brett Gray, Natomas Central Mutual Water Company
John Wingerter, Orange Vale Water Company
Mary Harris, Rio Linda/Elverta Community Water District
Kevin Thomas, Sacramento Suburban Water District
Ted Costa, San Juan Water District

Staff Members
Jim Peifer, Rob Swartz, Ryan Ojakian, Josette Reina-Luken, Cecilia Partridge, Monica Garcia and Chris Sanders, legal counsel

Others in Attendance

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR

Minutes of the October 8, 2020 SGA Board meeting.
Motion/Second Carried (M/S/C) Ms. Harris moved, with a second by Mr. Ewart, to approve the October 8, 2020 SGA Board meeting minutes. Caryl Sheehan, Citrus Heights Water District, Marcus Yasutake, City of Folsom, Brett Ewart, City of Sacramento, Patrick Kennedy, County of Sacramento, Robert Matteoli, Del Paso Manor Water District, Randy Marx, Fair Oaks Water District, Paul Schubert, Golden State Water Company, Brett Gray, Natomas Central Mutual Water Company, John Wingerter, Orange Vale Water Company, Mary Harris, Rio Linda/Elverta Community Water District, Kevin Thomas, Sacramento Suburban Water District and Ted Costa, San Juan Water District voted yes. The motion carried by a majority vote of all directors present.

4. 2020 AUDIT REPORT

Peggy Vande Vooren, Gilbert & Associates, gave an overview of the SGA June 2020 audit report. She gave a summary of the scope of the audit including the actual audit report, the communications with those charged with governance, the opinion and the scope. There was a clean unmodified opinion with no audit adjustments and there were no new accounting policies that needed to be implemented. The Management Discussion analysis provides information on the financial statements. The financial statements reflect revenues and expenses from the grant programs activity.

There is an additional opinion letter in the audit report, the government auditing standards, that was performed as internal controls and compliance as part of the audit. There were no findings in those areas.

Caryl Sheehan, Citrus Heights Water District, Marcus Yasutake, City of Folsom, Brett Ewart, City of Sacramento, Patrick Kennedy, County of Sacramento, Robert Matteoli, Del Paso Manor Water District, Randy Marx, Fair Oaks Water District, Paul Schubert, Golden State Water Company, Brett Gray, Natomas Central Mutual Water Company, John Wingerter, Orange Vale Water Company, Mary Harris, Rio Linda/Elverta Community Water District, Kevin Thomas, Sacramento Suburban Water District and Ted Costa, San Juan Water District voted to accept the 2020 SGA financial audit report.

5. SACRAMENTO CENTRAL GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY (SCGA) STAFFING PRESENTATION

Mr. Peifer said that the Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority (SCGA) staffing issue is about the Regional Water Authority (RWA) providing staffing services for the SCGA that could also affect the SGA. It is important to safeguard the viability of the total basin through the coordination of policies and activities across the three sub basins on projects and programs of mutual benefit. Through discussion it was
determined that we should promote the efficient operation through cost sharing arrangements, shared staff, equipment and facilities when possible and appropriate.

The Chair and Vice Chair of RWA, SGA and SCGA have been meeting as the 3x3 Committee. Mr. Peifer gave a presentation to the SGA board on what the relationship between SGA and RWA looks like. An MOU was adopted by the authorities giving direction to further discuss possibilities. Information was provided on the different staffing scenarios and staff time that may be allocated for different positions with RWA and SGA and with the consolidation of SCGA. There has been discussion about the differences and similarities of the agencies how legal costs, administrative costs and staffing needs may change for the agencies. There is possible cost savings by the SGA with consolidation.

Mr. Peifer asked for input from the SGA Board if they are interested in the 3x3 Committee proceeding to investigate the possibility of a consolidated organization weighing the possible benefits and if there are any fatal flaws found.

After discussion, it was suggested that the effort move forward working through different proposals and options addressing the many questions and concerns. Total employment costs and future costs to agencies need to be explored and reported to the Boards. Current staffing and how staff time would be allocated was a concern. Since this was the first presentation to the SGA Board, a workshop for the Board was suggested to present additional background information.

M/S/C Mr. Yasutake moved, with a second by Mr. Wichert, to move forward with further investigation of the consolidation option, and the 3 by 3 committee would plan for a workshop. Caryl Sheehan, Citrus Heights Water District, Marcus Yasutake, City of Folsom, Brett Ewart, City of Sacramento, Patrick Kennedy, County of Sacramento, Robert Matteoli, Del Paso Manor Water District, Randy Marx, Fair Oaks Water District, Paul Schubert, Golden State Water Company, Brett Gray, Natomas Central Mutual Water Company, John Wingerter, Orange Vale Water Company, Mary Harris, Rio Linda/Elverta Community Water District, Kevin Thomas, Sacramento Suburban Water District and Ted Costa, San Juan Water District voted yes. The motion carried by a majority vote of all directors present.

6. SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT (SGMA) – RELATED AND GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM UPDATE

Mr. Swartz, Manager of Technical Services, provided status for the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) development. Draft sections of the document were released early in November with comments due on December 15th. There are sections focused on the background explaining what the hydrogeologic conditions and other conditions are in the basin. Our consultant is close to completing calibration of the model and will have water budgets projections to estimate what the
basin will look like in the future. Work is being done on the sustainable management criteria for the basin. There are workshops planned in late January to get input on the sustainable management criteria with additional workshops on the projected water budget and to begin exploring proposed management actions. Following the workshops there will be a revised sustainable management criteria.

The next few months will involve completing various GSP elements followed by the release of a draft public review GSP. Each GSA is required to notify its cities and counties in their jurisdiction of the draft GSP release. After the 90 days, a public hearing can be scheduled for comments and at that point we could consider adopting the GSP. The entire process is expected to be completed by January 31, 2022.

7. ELECTION OF SGA 2021 OFFICERS

A Nominations Committee was appointed for the 2021 SGA Chair and Vice Chair including Paul Schubert, Pam Tobin and Chair Sheehan. The SGA Board elects a chair and vice-chair annually at its December Board meeting.

Nominations from the committee were for Brett Ewart as 2021 SGA Chair and Marcus Yasutake as 2021 SGA Vice Chair.

M/S/C Mr. Schubert moved, with a second by Mr. Wingerter, to elect the 2021 SGA Chair and Vice Chair. Caryl Sheehan, Citrus Heights Water District, Marcus Yasutake, City of Folsom, Brett Ewart, City of Sacramento, Patrick Kennedy, County of Sacramento, Robert Matteoli, Del Paso Manor Water District, Randy Marx, Fair Oaks Water District, Paul Schubert, Golden State Water Company, Brett Gray, Natomas Central Mutual Water Company, John Wingerter, Orange Vale Water Company, Mary Harris, Rio Linda/Elverta Community Water District, Kevin Thomas, Sacramento Suburban Water District and Ted Costa, San Juan Water District voted yes. The motion carried by a majority vote of all directors present.

8. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Mr. Peifer’s Executive Director’s Report was included in the SGA Board meeting electronic packet. The report included a Legislative/Regulatory Update, a report on the Water Forum negotiations, and on SGA outreach. Unaudited SGA financial reports through September 30, 2020 were enclosed.

9. DIRECTORS’ COMMENTS

Chair Sheehan said that 2020 was a challenging year, but we have been able to continue to be productive which is an accomplishment. She congratulated the SGA members and agencies for continuing to stay the course and keeping our water safe and moving things forward.
Mr. Yasutake thanked Chair Sheehan for her leadership in 2020 and for nominating him as 2021 SGA Vice Chair.

Mr. Ewart thanked the SGA Board for their confidence in nominating him as 2021 SGA Chair. He reported that the City of Sacramento has completed an initial study for the systematic replacement of its groundwater well program. They will be moving into an Environmental Impact Report to make sure they are comprehensively covering the impacts on the basin. He wished everyone Happy Holidays.

Mr. Wichert said that as a new member he wanted to thank all the members, especially Chair Sheehan, for the welcoming attitude and patience throughout the meeting.

Mr. Schubert and Mr. Gray thanked Chair Sheehan for serving as 2020 SGA Chair and wished everyone Merry Christmas.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to come before the Board, Chair Sheehan adjourned the meeting at 11:19 a.m.

By:

_____________________________________________
Chairperson

Attest:

Josette Reina-Luken, Board Secretary/Treasurer