



1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Ewart 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

Audie Foster, California American Water
Caryl Sheehan, Citrus Heights Water District
Marcus Yasutake, City of Folsom
Brett Ewart, City of Sacramento
Linda Dorn, 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
Robert Wichert, Sacramento Suburban Water District
Ted Costa, San Juan Water District

Staff Members

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

Others in Attendance

Robert Reisig, Kevin Thomas, Craig Locke, David Fairman, Dan York, Paul Selsky, Rebecca Guo, Brian Hensley, Pam Tobin, Greg Zlotnick, Tim Shaw, Hilary Straus, Alta Tura, N., Alan Vail, John Woodling and Kelye McKinney.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR

- a. Minutes of the December 10, 2020 SGA Board meeting.
- b. 2021 SGA Meeting Schedule

Mr. Peifer made a correction to the December 10, 2020 minutes on agenda item 5; the first sentence of the motion should read “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 x 3 committee would plan for a workshop.”

Motion/Second Carried (M/S/C) Ms. Harris moved, with a second by Mr. Yasutake to approve the December 10, 2020 SGA Board meeting minutes with the correction and the 2021 SGA meeting schedule. Audie Foster, California American Water, Caryl Sheehan, Citrus Heights Water District, Marcus Yasutake, City of Folsom, Brett Ewart, City of Sacramento, Linda Dorn, 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, Robert Wichert, 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. SGA STAFFING

Mr. Peifer provided information on SGA staffing focusing on staffing levels that would be needed for conducting the Sacramento Groundwater Authority in the future. He explained how the split of staff time for SGA and RWA has changed over time.

Mr. Swartz gave a presentation outlining why there is a need for additional SGA staffing, particularly under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). SGA is under an agreement with RWA to share staffing. His percentage of work for SGA and RWA has shifted as he worked on projects and grants for RWA. Staff percentages have also shifted as workloads have changed. Retired annuitants have been brought in on a limited basis as needed and appropriate to fill temporary workload increases.

There was discussion on whether one additional full time equivalent (FTE) staff for SGA is sufficient for the upcoming staffing level needs for next fiscal year. Mr. Swartz responded that workload levels will be closely monitored beginning with SGMA Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) implementation starting in 2022.

M/S/C Mr. Schubert moved, with a second by Mr. Gray to provide direction regarding staffing levels adding 1 FTE to the staffing plan for the Fiscal Year 2021 – 2022 budget. Audie Foster, California American Water, Caryl Sheehan, Citrus Heights Water District, Marcus Yasutake, City of Folsom, Brett Ewart, City of Sacramento, Linda Dorn, 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, Robert Wichert, Sacramento Suburban Water District and Ted Costa, San Juan Water District voted yes. The motion carried by a majority vote of all directors present.

5. SACRAMENTO CENTRAL GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY UPDATE

Mr. Peifer gave an update on the activities of the 3 x 3 committee. Staff is proposing a joint workshop with the Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority (SCGA), Regional Water Authority, and the SGA.

Mr. Woodling said that the Department of Water Resources (DWR) has been asked to provide facilitation for exploring the consolidation of SGA and SCGA in the work across the two subbasins.

After discussion, direction was given to staff to proceed with a 3x3 joint workshop with facilitation and then a follow up meeting with each individual agency.

6. DEVELOPMENT OF SGA FISCAL YEAR 2021 – 2022 BUDGET

Ms. Reina-Luken gave a presentation on the SGA fiscal year 2021 – 2022 budget including the fiscal year end forecast, 2022 budget assumptions and budget outlook, budget policies and fee calculations. As a result of COVID-19, an operating surplus is expected in certain categories. The Chair appointed a budget subcommittee that will work on the budget, which will be presented at the April SGA meeting for approval.

Chair Ewart appointed Marcus Yasutake, Paul Schubert, Mary Harris, and himself to the SGA Budget subcommittee.

7. SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT (SGMA) AND GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM UPDATE

Mr. Swartz, Manager of Technical Services, provided an update on the Sustainable Groundwater Management Program and where we stand with respect to SGMA compliance. The basics and background information for SGMA have been completed. Model calibration is complete along with draft sustainable management criteria with respect to groundwater levels. There have been discussions on the implementation agreement, water budget, results from the modeling, and management actions. A draft release Groundwater Sustainability Plan is expected

by the end of June with a plan for adoption presented to the SGA Board at the December Board meeting.

Mr. Swartz gave examples of how things look on the Sacramento River, Feather River, and the North American Subbasin and the relationship between the major river systems and the groundwater basin under SGMA. A new requirement in SGMA is consideration of groundwater dependent ecosystems that specific habitats and the environment rely on. He showed basin groundwater depths and how the elevation fluctuates with conditions. There is habitat that could be supported by groundwater and the GSP must account for it. Staff is developing an approach to protect the domestic users in the basin, looking at well construction information, moving through a process of establishing drafts, and with the modeling results, adjustments can be made.

Mr. Swartz gave an update on the latest hydrologic conditions and resulting monitored groundwater levels.

8. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Ryan Ojakian, Legislative and Regulatory Affairs Manager said that the legislature is at a high level focusing on priorities issue of COVID response, wildfire, housing, and homelessness. Among these, the issue of water affordability is most likely where there could be direct impacts to water agencies.

Mr. Ojakian said two bills of importance to SGA are AB 252 that relates to the ability to provide grant funding for land use, repurposing and multi benefit projects under SGMA implementation, and SB 230 that would establish a process by which the State Water Board must be monitoring and developing information on constituents of emerging concern.

9. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Peifer's Executive Director's Report was included in the SGA Board meeting electronic packet. The report included an opinion from the Attorney General clarifying Brown Act posting requirements.

10. DIRECTORS' COMMENTS

Ms. Sheehan reported that David Wheaton is the Citrus Heights Water District Board of Directors President, and Ms. Sheehan is the Vice President.

Mr. Wichert announced that he is Board President for the Sacramento Suburban Water District.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Board, Chair Ewart adjourned the meeting at 11:46 a.m.

By:

Chairperson

Attest:

Josette Reina-Luken, Board Secretary/Treasurer