



## 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  
Mark Emmerson, Carmichael Water District  
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  
Bob Wichert, Sacramento Suburban Water District  
Ted Costa, San Juan Water District  
Mike DeWitt, Agriculture  
Larry Johnson, Self-Supplied

### Staff Members

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

### Others in Attendance

Robert Reisig, Kevin Thomas, Craig Locke, Dan York, Paul Selsky, Brian Hensley,  
Pam Tobin, David Wheaton, Dave Jones, Kathleen McPherson, William Roberts,  
Tim Shaw, Hilary Straus, Alan Vail, John Woodling, Paul Helliker, Cathy Lee,  
Vanessa Nishikawa, and Rob Roscoe.

## 2. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

### **3. CONSENT CALENDAR**

Minutes of the February 11, 2021 SGA Board meeting.

Motion/Second Carried (M/S/C) Ms. Harris moved, with a second by Mr. Schubert to approve the February 11, 2021 SGA Board meeting minutes. Audie Foster, California American Water, Mark Emmerson, Carmichael Water District, 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, Mike DeWitt, Agriculture and Larry Johnson, Self-Supplied voted yes. The motion carried by a majority vote of all directors present.

### **4. SGA FISCAL YEAR 2021 – 2022 BUDGET**

Ms. Reina-Luken, Financial and Administrative Services Manager, gave an overview of the 2021-2022 FYE budget summary, major assumptions, proposed operating budget projections and administrative budget fee structure. She gave a power point presentation explaining how the base fee and groundwater fees are determined, what the additional staffing needs are, the CalPERS and PERS unfunded liability, OPEB, the SGMA/GSP program budget, SGA designations and the SGA budget outlook. The FY22 fee increase is 15% as projected in the FY21 budget. Each agency's fee is different based on their groundwater pumping. At the board's direction, a project manager position was added to staff at a salary budgeted at the top level of the Associate Project Manager. Currently, employees pay the entire employee share of SGA PERS. The employer PERS cost will increase with additional staffing. Staff recommends keeping the current level of PERS funding until the FY22 evaluation report. SGA shares OPEB costs with RWA and those costs are declining with additional annual payments being made. SGA designations include a set aside for SGA's share of FY27 GSP 5-year update. There will also be a designation for a possible office expansion and relocation in FY22.

It was suggested that a committee be formed to review the minimum base fee. There was discussion on additional staffing, the scope of work for the anticipated position, and the need for additional office space in the short term and long term. Mr. Swartz said that additional staff would work on implementation of SGMA, work on water quality, water elevations, and annual reporting. The position would be funded by SGA.

M/S/C Mr. Schubert moved, with a second by Mr. Emmerson to adopt Resolution No. 2021-01 to fund the administrative and program

budgets for FY 2021 – 2022 and provide for the collection of said funds. Audie Foster, California American Water, Mark Emmerson, Carmichael Water District, 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, Mike DeWitt, Agriculture and Larry Johnson, Self-Supplied voted yes. The motion carried by a majority vote of all directors present.

## **5. SACRAMENTO CENTRAL GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY UPDATE**

Mr. Peifer said that this is a standing agenda item. Staff is moving through the process with the Department of Water Resources who have approved facilitation services for the Water Forum. Gina Bartlett, Consensus Builders Institute, is acting as the facilitator. A meeting will be scheduled with Ms. Bartlett to prepare for the next Board meeting to discuss this item and other work that needs to be done.

## **6. SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT (SGMA) AND GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM UPDATE**

Mr. Swartz reported on activities to develop the GSP. He gave an updated status report on SGMA. There is a recording available of a detailed model and water budget meeting that was held. Staff intends to continue to interact with the public to discuss and coordinate evaluation of projects and management actions. Staff continues to develop a GSA Implementation Agreement with the other four Groundwater Sustainability Agencies in the North American Subbasin. Under SGMA, groundwater budgets need to be prepared under four different conditions including recent historical conditions, a current conditions budget, a projected groundwater budget and a projected with climate change simulations.

Mr. Swartz provided information on expanding conjunctive use where more groundwater is used during dry periods and surface water is used during wet periods. He gave an update on groundwater pumping, the balance between the inflows and outflows to determine the change in storage and surface water usage in municipal areas. We are in a positive state of storage in the basin with the next analysis to be done is a to project conditions using 50 years of hydrology as a simulation going forward. We will be in a constant state of updating both our modeling and our groundwater sustainability plan every five years. As some of the projects come to more certainty and we learn more, we can run simulations and understand what those impacts would be. Many agencies worked with RWA on a recently completed American River Basin Study and one of the highlights of that was

to develop a better estimate of climate change projections at a regional scale with the American River watershed.

In terms of modeling, the conclusions that can be reached now are the basin is in good health today and we can absorb a certain amount of future projected growth. The climate change modeling suggests that there is a possibility that we could have a future shortage. We will want to look at projects and management actions to expand conjunctive use in the urban areas. Staff expects to continue to do some evaluations along those lines. Under SGMA, there remains work to be done with sustainable management criteria with proposed management objectives and minimum thresholds.

Staff continues to work on projects and management actions as we work to complete the GSP public review draft. Staff is also coordinating closely with the South American Subbasin to ensure consistency between the respective GSPs.

## **7. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

Ryan Ojakian, Legislative and Regulatory Affairs Manager, gave a summary on the legislative cycle from bill introduction to early April. There have not been many bills introduced specifically related to groundwater. The state budget is in a surplus, while the long-term budget remains in a slight deficit. The Senate has proposed \$3.4 billion of the surplus to address drought related issues with \$300 million for implementation of SGMA. Any funds that become available will go towards implementation. Staff continues to advocate for dedicated funding for implementation of conjunctive use. A bill that needs to be monitored is AB 252 that focuses on critically overdraft basins and relates to the ability to provide grant funding for land use, repurposing and multi benefit projects. AB 754 is a work in progress that would delay the due date for GSP for high and medium priority basins by a year. AB 588 on MCL compliancy would create a period of time after an MCL is established for compliance. AB 1434 would lower the indoor water use efficiency standards as part of the larger water objectives.

## **8. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Peifer's Executive Director's Report was included in the SGA Board meeting electronic packet.

## **9. DIRECTORS' COMMENTS**

Ms. Dorn, County of Sacramento, reported that the county has a SGMA update workshop with the Board of Supervisors on April 20<sup>th</sup>. The workshop will include all four subbasins in the county.

Mr. Ewart reported that the City of Sacramento in partnership with Sacramento Suburban Water District is preparing to participate in a groundwater substitution transfer. He will keep the SGA Board updated as things progress.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to come before the Board, Chair Ewart adjourned the meeting at 10:53 a.m.

By:

---

Chairperson

Attest:

---

Josette Reina-Luken, Board Secretary/Treasurer