

**SACRAMENTO GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Tuesday, January 25, 2022; 2:00 p.m.**

AGENDA

This is a Special Board Meeting (workshop) regarding the potential business case for integration and staffing of the Sacramento Groundwater Authority (SGA) and the Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority (SCGA)

The public shall have the opportunity to directly address the Board on any item of interest before or during the Board's consideration of that item. Public comment on items within the jurisdiction of the Board is welcomed, subject to reasonable time limitations for each speaker. Public documents relating to any open session item listed on this agenda that are distributed to all or a majority of the members of the Board of Directors less than 72 hours before the meeting are available for public inspection in the customer service area of the Authority's Administrative Office at the address listed above. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you have a disability and need a disability-related modification or accommodation to participate in this meeting, please contact the Executive Director of the Authority at (916) 847-7589. Requests must be made as early as possible, and at least one full business day before the start of the meeting. The Board of Directors may consider any agenda item at any time during the meeting.

Note: Pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20 and given the state of emergency regarding the threat of COVID-19, the meeting will be held via teleconference.

Meeting Information:

SGA Workshop
Tues., Jan. 25, 2022 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM (PST)

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/233158173>

You can also dial in using your phone.

United States: [+1 \(646\) 749-3122](tel:+16467493122)

Access Code: 233-158-173

- 1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**
- 2. PUBLIC COMMENT:** Members of the public who wish to address the Board may do so at this time. Please keep your comments to less than three minutes.
- 3. CONSENT CALENDAR:** All items listed under the Consent Calendar are considered and acted upon by one motion. Anyone may request an item be removed for separate consideration.
 - a.** Extend Resolution 2021-02, including requisite findings, to renew authorization to hold meetings of the Board of Directors via teleconference pursuant to Assembly Bill 361 until such time as the State of Emergency resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic no longer impacts the ability of Board members and the public to safely meet in person.

Action: Approve Consent Calendar

4. WORKSHOP TOPIC: POTENTIAL BUSINESS CASE FOR INTEGRATION AND STAFFING OF SGA AND SCGA

Presentation and Discussion: Jim Peifer, Executive Director, Rob Swartz, Manager of Technical Services, John Woodling, SCGA Interim Executive Director, and Gina Bartlett, Consensus Building Institute

5. ADJOURNMENT

2022 SGA BOARD MEMBERS

Organization	Representative/Alternate	Appointing Authority
California American Water	S. Audie Foster Christina Baril (alternate)	Sacramento City Council
Carmichael Water District	Paul Selsky Jeff Nelson (alternate)	Sacramento County
Citrus Heights Water District	Caryl Sheehan, David Wheaton (alternate)	Citrus Heights City Council
City of Folsom	Marcus Yasutake Chair Kerri Howell (alternate)	Folsom City Council
City of Sacramento	Jeff Harris Brett Ewart (alternate) Larry Carr (alternate)	Sacramento City Council
County of Sacramento	Sue Frost Darrell Eck (alterante) Linda Dorn (alternate)	Sacramento County
Del Paso Manor Water District	Robert Matteoli Vacant (alternate)	Sacramento City Council
Fair Oaks Water District	Randy Marx Vice Chair Michael McRae (alternate)	Sacramento County
Golden State Water Company	Paul Schubert Lawrence Dees (alternate)	Sacramento City Council
Natomas Central MWC	Matt Lauppe Brett Gray (alternate)	Sacramento City Council
Orange Vale Water Company	John Wingerter Craig Davis (alternate)	Sacramento County
Rio Linda/Elverta CWD	Mary Harris Robert Reisig (alternate)	Sacramento County
Sacramento Suburban Water District	Bob Wichert Kevin Thomas (alternate) Dave Jones (alternate) Craig Locke (alternate)	Sacramento City Council
San Juan Water District	Ted Costa Pam Tobin (alternate)	Sacramento County
Agriculture	Mike DeWit	Sacramento County
Self-Supplied Industry	Larry Johnson	Sacramento City Council

AGENDA ITEM 2: PUBLIC COMMENT

Members of the public who wish to address the Board may do so at this time. Please keep your comments to less than three minutes.

AGENDA ITEM 3: CONSENT CALENDAR

All items listed under the Consent Calendar are considered and acted upon by one motion. Anyone may request an item be removed for separate consideration. The items to be considered and approved include:

- a) Extend Resolution 2021-02, including requisite findings, to renew authorization to hold meetings of the Board of Directors via teleconference pursuant to Assembly Bill 361 until such time as the State of Emergency resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic no longer impacts the ability of Board members and the public to safely meet in person.

Action: Approve Consent Calendar Item

AGENDA ITEM 3a: Extend Resolution 2021-02 including requisite findings

BACKGROUND:

In order for the SGA Board to meet virtually, the SGA Board must approve the extension of Resolution 2021-02. The Board initially approved Resolution 2021-02 at the October Board meeting and reapproved it on November 10, 2021, December 9, 2021, and January 6, 2022. If the Board approves the proposed action, the Board meeting may continue using a virtual format. Should the Board not approve the action, the Board meeting will immediately end.

Per legal counsel's recommendation, the action is to extend Resolution 2021-02, including requisite findings, to continue to hold meetings of the Board of Directors via teleconference pursuant to Assembly Bill 361 until such time as the State of Emergency resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic no longer impacts the ability of Board members and the public to safely meet in person. On Tuesday, January 4th, the United States reported a pandemic record of more than 1 million new infections according to data compiled by John Hopkins University. The omicron variant now represents nearly every COVID case sequenced by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Attachment:
Resolution 2021-02

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-02

AUTHORIZING CONTINUED UTILIZATION OF TELECONFERENCING FOR MEETINGS OF THE SACRAMENTO GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS UNDER ASSEMBLY BILL 361 UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THE STATE OF EMERGENCY RESULTING FROM THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC NO LONGER IMPACTS THE ABILITY OF MEETING ATTENDEES TO MEET SAFELY IN PERSON

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom proclaimed a State of Emergency under the California Emergency Service Act in response to the threat of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on June 11, 2021, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-08-21, which repealed or modified certain provisions of previously issued Executive Orders related to the pandemic and extended certain provisions so as to enable the State of California to continue to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Paragraph 42 of Executive Order N-08-21 suspended provisions of the Ralph M. Brown Act at California Government Code section 54953 and provided that governing bodies of local public agencies in the State of California could utilize teleconferencing to hold public meetings in place of in-person meetings, subject to certain requirements; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order N-08-21 specified that it would remain in effect through September 30, 2021; and

WHEREAS, on September 16, 2021, Governor Newsom signed Assembly Bill 361 (AB 361) into law; and

WHEREAS, AB 361 provides that a governing body of a local public agency may conduct public meetings via teleconferencing in any of the following circumstances: (A) the governing body holds a meeting during a proclaimed state of emergency, and state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing; or (B) the governing body holds a meeting during a proclaimed state of emergency for the purpose of determining, by majority vote, whether as a result of the emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees; or (C) the governing body holds a meeting during a proclaimed state of emergency and has previously determined, by majority vote, that, as a result of the emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees; and

WHEREAS, Governor Newsom's March 4, 2020, proclamation of a State of Emergency is still in effect; and

WHEREAS, both the California Department of Industrial Relations, Division of Occupational Safety and Health and the Sacramento County Public Health Department are currently recommending measures to promote social distancing at worksites; and

WHEREAS, Sacramento Groundwater Authority Board (Authority) meetings, closed session meetings, special meetings, and workshops are attended by Authority Board members, Authority employees and members of the public; and

WHEREAS, on September 20, 2021, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-15-21, which affirmed that effective October 1, 2021, governing bodies of local public agencies could utilize teleconferencing for public meetings in accordance with the provisions of AB 361; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Executive Order N-15-21, the Sacramento Groundwater Authority Board of Directors has met under California Government Code section 54953(e)(1)(B) to determine whether, as a result of the State of Emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees; and

WHEREAS, conducting meetings by teleconference would directly reduce the risk of transmission among meeting attendees, including members of the public and agency staff, which has the ancillary effect of reducing risk of serious illness and death as well as reducing community spread of the virus;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the Sacramento Groundwater Authority hereby finds and determines as follows:

- 1. The Board has considered the circumstances of the State of Emergency declared by Governor Newsom; and**
- 2. Both State and local officials continue to recommend measures to promote social distancing.**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, pursuant to AB 361 and based on the findings above, all Authority Board meetings, closed session meetings, special meetings, and workshops will be held via teleconference in accordance with the provisions of California Government Code section 54953(e).

EXTENDED this 25th day of January, 2022 by the following vote:

AGENDA ITEM 4: WORKSHOP TOPIC: POTENTIAL BUSINESS CASE FOR INTEGRATION AND STAFFING OF SGA AND SCGA

Background

Since mid-2020, representatives and staff of the RWA, SGA, and SCGA have evaluated options related to staffing of the SCGA. On June 7, 2021, a joint workshop of the RWA, SGA, and SCGA boards was held to discuss an option of a consolidated SGA and SCGA. The workshop encouraged participants to express their concerns relative to a merged organization and described a four-phase process in which concerns would be evaluated and addressed within the appropriate phase. In August 2021, the SCGA board voted to move forward to phase 2 to explore possible governance options of a potential merged organization. SGA has deferred action on phase 2 to allow for more information to be provided on the potential merged organization and to prioritize completion of the required Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for the North American Subbasin.

On October 14, 2021, John Woodling provided an overview of the SCGA at an SGA board workshop. He described the existing governance, staffing, and financing of SCGA and the current status of the South American Subbasin and its GSP.

The purpose of this SGA board workshop is to provide information on a possible staffing model for a merged organization and discuss whether there are benefits from the SGA perspective. While governance is an issue that will be fully addressed during phase 2, we will discuss some of the possible mechanisms for addressing concerns expressed regarding a merged organization.

Presentation and Discussion: Jim Peifer, Executive Director, Rob Swartz, Manager of Technical Services, John Woodling, SCGA Interim Executive Director, and Gina Bartlett, Consensus Building Institute