

SACRAMENTO CENTRAL GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY (SCGA)
Governing Board Meeting
Final Minutes
June 13, 2007

LOCATION: 10545 Armstrong Avenue, Suite 101
Mather, CA 95670
9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

MINUTES:

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Scott Fort called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Roll call was taken and the following meeting participants were in attendance:

Board Members (Primary Rep.)

Scott Fort, Golden State Water Company
Stuart Helfand, Agricultural-Residential
Ron Lowry, Omochumne-Hartnell Water District
Edwin Smith, Public Agencies/Self Supplied
Anthony van Steyn, Agricultural Interests

Board Members (Alternate Rep.)

Mel Johnson, City of Sacramento
Clarence Korhonen, City of Elk Grove
Wayne Kuntz, Rancho Murieta Community Services District
Herb Niederberger, Sacramento County/Sacramento County Water Agency
Ruben Robles, Sacramento Regional Sanitation District
Andy Soulé, California-American Water Company
Albert Stricker, City of Rancho Cordova

Staff Members

Darrell Eck, County of Sacramento/Sacramento County Water Agency (SCWA)
Daniel Jones, County of Sacramento/Sacramento County Water Agency (SCWA)
Ramon Roybal, County of Sacramento/Sacramento County Water Agency (SCWA)

Others in Attendance

Jose Ramirez, Sacramento Regional Sanitation District

2. Public Comment

Chair Fort called for any public comment. No public comment was made.

3. Consent Calendar

The draft meeting minutes for the meeting held on May 16, 2007, were reviewed for final approval.

Motion/Second/Carried – Ed Smith moved, by a second from Ron Lowry to approve the minutes.

4. Central Basin Well Protection Program:

- Discussed draft schedule for completion of ordinance, cooperative agreements with applicable land use agencies and the registration process. (*Handouts: "Central Basin Well Protection Program (WPP) Implementation Schedule" & Implementation Summary*)

Agreements with Land Use Agencies

- Darrell Eck discussed the adoption of an ordinance by SCGA to establish a WPP fee. Mel Johnson asked whether or not a previously approved project would have to pay the fee, say, at building permit. Darrell responded that this was an example of a detail that would be worked out during coordination with the various land-use agencies.

Registration: Identify Parcels

- Darrell discussed the logistical and technical challenges regarding the identification of eligible parcels within the Central Basin. Reported that SCGA staff had sorted potential eligible parcels by land area increments of $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$ acre which yielded 15,127 and 8,440 parcels, respectively. Darrell stated that staff was in the process of refining the sorting parameters of eligible parcels in order to potentially bring the number down to a more manageable volume. Ron Lowry suggested that 1-acre parcels would be an appropriate sorting parameter. Ruben Robles agreed. Ron Lowry also asked if the WPP registration form could be made accessible on the SCGA website. Ruben Robles suggested that parcels could be sorted by whether or not it has a septic system. Mr. Robles reported that the Sanitation District is gathering septic system information and that this may be used to identify eligible parcels based on the assumption that a parcel with a septic system may also have a private water well. After some discussion it was realized that the timing of completion of the Sanitation District's project would not coincide with the WPP process. Mr. Robles also suggested that that SCGA sort out parcels that fall within the boundaries of municipal water districts. Ron Lowry mentioned that SMUD has separate rates for domestic and agricultural customers. Staff to investigate.

Registration: Notification

- Darrell discussed the format and cost of the mailer that will be sent to eligible parcels. Regarding the mailer, Stuart Helfand suggested that it be made very clear on the notification that the program isn't any kind of tax or fee being assessed and that the program is to the individual land owner's benefit. Mr. Lowry suggested that since only one mailer will be sent that SCGA should implement an aggressive PR campaign to insure that the public understands what the program is and that the mailer is not junk mail.

Verification

- Mr. Eck presented a draft timeline for the verification process based on the implementation of the North Vineyard WPP. Andy Soulé questioned whether or not it will be necessary to send out staff to verify the existence and operation of a well as long as the private owner registers the well. Dan Jones pointed out that it is necessary to know that a well is operational prior to accepting it into the program and that it would be difficult to assess the cause of a failed well, in the case of a claim, without a prior field verification. Mr. Soulé suggested that the individual land owners pay for the field verification. Stuart Helfand pointed out that the well owner should not have to incur this cost as the program is meant to be a “buy in” for large-scale builders in the Central Basin.

Motion/Second/Carried – Herb Niederberger moved, by a second by Ed Smith to direct staff to pursue further development of the screening process to reduce the list of potential registrants.

5. Discussion on Appointment of Executive Director

- Scott Fort asked if the SCGA Board could appoint the Executive Director without all the JPA Signatory Board Members present. Mr. Eck replied that all Signatory Board Members are only required for votes on budgetary issues. Mr. Niederberger requests that “Permanent” be removed from the title of the Agenda item as it was not intended that the Executive Director hold this position for life.

Motion/Second/Carried – Scott Fort moved, by a second by Ron Lowry to appoint Darrell Eck as Executive Director. “Ay” concurrence by remainder of the Board.

6. Executive Director’s Report

- **Carry over of funds:** According to administrative staff the FY 2006-2007 budget balance may carry over to FY 2007-2008 budget.
- **Invoice Payment and Requirement:** Regarding returned check footnote; the check in question was not originally made out to the required “County of Sacramento.”

Brown Act requirements for committees: In response to the question regarding the requirement for noticing a meeting in which less than quorum of Board members would be participating Counsel advised that a notice was required.

- **Budget Committee meeting:** The Budget Committee Meeting to discuss the 2007-2008 fiscal year budget is scheduled for Friday, June 15 at the Old County Administration Building.
- **South Area Water Council:** Meeting scheduled for afternoon of June 13, 2007.

7. Directors' Comments

- Herb Niederberger compliments staff for work done.
- Wayne Kuntz mentioned the effect of drought conditions on local farmers. Alerted Board to efforts by RMCSD to provide recycled water to area cattle rancher whose irrigation reservoir was running abnormally low.
- Ruben Robles asked about the administration and reporting of information related to Board activities on SCGA's website. Requested a report.
- Mel Johnson asked about the status of the citizen's advisory committee. Mr. Johnson wanted to make sure it was not being neglected. Darrell responded that it would be discussed at the upcoming budget Committee meeting.
- Albert Stricker communicated interest in meeting with Darrell Eck and Dan Jones regarding the WPP.

No other comments.

8. Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Board, Chair Scott Fort adjourns meeting at 10:05 a.m.

By:

Scott D Fort
Chairperson

7/11/07
Date

Attest:

Michelle Fiorino

7/11/07
Date

