

SACRAMENTO CENTRAL GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY (SCGA)
Governing Board Meeting
Final Minutes
June 10, 2009

LOCATION: 10545 Armstrong Avenue, Suite 101
Mather, CA 95655
9:02 a.m. to 9:46 a.m.

MINUTES:

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Scott Fort called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

The following meeting participants were in attendance:

Board Members (Primary Rep):

Anthony Van Steyn, Agricultural Interests
Stuart Helfand, Agricultural Residential
Rick Bettis, Conservation Landowners
Edwin Smith, Public Agencies Self-Supplied
Ron Lowry, Omochumne-Hartnell Water District
Andy Soulé, California-American Water Company
Scott Fort, Golden State Water Company

Board Members (Alternate Rep):

Albert Stricker, City of Rancho Cordova
Clarence Korhonen, City of Elk Grove
Walt Sadler, City of Folsom
Herb Niederberger, Sacramento County Water Agency
José Ramirez, Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District

Staff Members:

Darrell Eck, Executive Director, Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority
Heather Hawke, Clerk, Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority
Ping Chen, Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority
Brian Gallucci, Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority

Others in Attendance:

Rodney Fricke, Aerojet
Ali Taghavi, WRIME
Jim Peifer, City of Sacramento
Mark Salmon
David Armand

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

3. CONSENT CALENDAR

Mr. Korhonen suggested that Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority keep a record of attendance by organization (member present and member absent) for the board meetings. Mr. Niederberger agreed and mentioned that the Executive Director should do an outreach to organizations with low attendance and remind them of their obligations to the Board. Mr. Fort concurred and indicated that he would participate in the outreach with the Executive Director.

Minutes of May 13, 2009 Board Meeting

Mr. Fort asked if there were any questions or comments on the May 13, 2009 meeting minutes. Being none, Mr. Fort called for a motion to approve the consent calendar items.

Motion/Second/Carried - Mr. Niederberger motioned and Mr. Bettis seconded, the motion was carried unanimously to approve the May 13, 2009 board meeting minutes.

4. BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT

SCGA Fiscal Year 09/10 Budget Discussion

- ***09/10 Budget Discussion***
 - Staff met with the Budget Committee (Committee) on May 28, 2009 to discuss preparation of the 2009-2010 fiscal year budget. The Committee consisted of Ed Crouse, Herb Niederberger, Walt Sadler, and staff.
 - Two budget proposals were discussed – one that assumed receipt of AB 303 grant money from the State for the Data Management System (DMS) update and one that assumed that the State’s financial problems would continue and that there would be no grant money available.
 - After some discussion by the Committee it was agreed that assuming that the State’s financial problems would continue would be the prudent approach to take.
 - The budget was developed based on the program requirements described in the Central Basin Groundwater Management Plan (GMP) – these are identified as GMP Related Expenses.
 - The budget also provides for:
 - Staff Expenses
 - Consultant Expenses
 - Office Expenses
 - Nominal amount for Well Protection Program
 - These budget items are summarized in Attachment D of the Board letter with a greater amount of detail provided in the separate handout identified as “Operating Expenses.”

- ***WRIME Contract & Local Groundwater Assistance Grant***
 - In September 2008 the Authority was awarded a Local Groundwater Assistance Grant by the State Department of Water Resources (DWR) to update the Authority's DMS.
 - In October 2008, staff completed the grant agreement with DWR and in November 2008 entered into a contract with WRIME to perform the work.
 - In January 2009, after work had begun, the Authority was informed by DWR that reimbursement would be delayed because of the State's budget problems.
 - State has assured grantees that they eventually intend to pay the cost to which they had committed through a valid agreement (Budget letter 09-09).
 - In March 2009, the Authority authorized development of a modified scope to provide an intermediate deliverable that could be used by staff until the entire contract could be completed. That deliverable is due July 1, 2009.
 - Previous assurances by DWR seemed to indicate that the State's budget problems would be resolved by mid-year. However, it appears that the budget issue will continue resulting in an indeterminate delay in completion of the DMS update.
 - Sufficient funding has been identified in the Authority's reserve to be able to complete work on the DMS update allowing the Authority to move forward on the important work of implementing the groundwater management plan as well as meeting our contractual obligation with WRIME.
 - With the release of funds from the reserve, sufficient funding still remains to meet the Authority's reserve requirement as described in Section 5.01(g) of the Authority's Policies and Procedures.
 - Once reimbursement is received from the State, any funds previously advanced to complete the DMS update will be returned to the Authority's reserve.
 - This cost is identified as "Encumbrance Roll to FY 09-10" shown on Attachment A of the Board letter.
- ***Well Protection Trust Fund***
 - During the 2008-2009 fiscal year, the Authority established the Well Protection Trust Fund anticipating that program implementation would begin in early 2009.
 - In March 2009, the Authority acknowledged that the rate of development was so low that it would be impossible to establish a new fee program with the support of the building industry and placed the program on hiatus.
 - In order to provide an administrative means to report on the status of the Trust Fund the Authority's staff has advised adoption of a budget even though it will not be funded.
- ***Board Actions***

Staff recommends adoption of Resolution 2009-01 to fund the Authority's administrative program for fiscal year 2009-2010, the Well Protection Fund Trust Fund for fiscal year 2009-2010, and to provide for the collection of the annual contribution as described in the JPA.

Motion/Second/Carried - Mr. Sadler moved and Mr. Niederberger seconded, the motion was carried unanimously to approve the SCGA fiscal year 2009/2010 budget.

Staff also recommends the Board authorize WRIME to complete the DMS contract work.

Motion/Second/Carried - Mr. Niederberger moved, and Mr. Bettis seconded, the motion was carried unanimously to authorize WRIME to complete the DMS contract.

5. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Eck stated that staff has contacted DWR to ascertain the status of invoices already submitted for reimbursement for the DMS contract work. Staff was informed by DWR that the State is processing the invoices so that reimbursement can be made as soon as grant money is available.

6. DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

Mr. Helfand asked if the frequency of Board meetings could be reduced from once per month. Mr. Niederberger suggested that the Board could meet on odd numbered months. Mr. Fort mentioned that his job duties had changed and that this proposed schedule would better fit his needs. Mr. Eck stated that the meeting frequency is defined in the Authority's Policies and Procedures and to change it the Board would need to take a formal action. Mr. Fort directed staff to develop the necessary paperwork and place the item on the Board's July 2009 agenda.

Mr. Soule asked if the State of the Basin Draft Report would be available in July. Mr. Eck responded that it would.



By:

Walter Sadler

Chairperson

07-08-09

Date

Heather Nole

07-08-09

Date