

SACRAMENTO CENTRAL GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY (SCGA)
Governing Board Meeting
Final Minutes
March 14, 2012

LOCATION: 10060 Goethe Road, Room 1212
Sacramento, CA 95827
9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

MINUTES:

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Paul Schubert called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

The following meeting participants were in attendance:

Board Members (Primary Rep):

Stuart Helfand, Agricultural Residential
David Armand, California American Water Company
Rick Bettis, Conservation Landowners
Ed Crouse, Rancho Murieta Community Services District
Ron Lowry, Omochumne-Hartnell Water District
Edwin Smith, Public Agencies Self-Supplied
David Ocenosak, Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District

Board Members (Alternate Rep):

Paul Schubert, Golden State Water Company
Darren Wilson, City of Elk Grove
Todd Eising, City of Folsom
Elizabeth Sparkman, City of Rancho Cordova
Jim Peifer, City of Sacramento
Herb Niederberger, County of Sacramento

Staff Members:

Darrell Eck, Executive Director, SCGA
Heather Peek, Clerk, SCGA
Ping Chen, SCGA
Ramon Roybal, SCGA

Others in Attendance:

Bruce Kamilos, Elk Grove Water District
Jose Ramirez, SRCSD
Amanda Platt, California Association of Resource Conservation Districts
Jim Blanke, RMC
Rodney Fricke, Aerojet Corp.
Mark Roberson, Water Forum
Rob Swartz, Sacramento Groundwater Authority

Mary Lou Cotton, Kennedy Jenks
Walt Sadler, HydroScience Engineers Inc.
Bill Konigsmark, Sacramento County Water Agency
Steve Dalrymple, West Yost Associates
Derrick Williams, HydroMetrics WRI
Mark Salmon, Parsons-Brinkerhoff

Member Agencies Absent

Agricultural Interests

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

3. CONSENT CALENDAR

The draft meeting minutes for the January 11, 2012 Board meeting, the January 17, 2012 Ag-Res Water Conservation Subcommittee meeting, and the February 28, 2012 Ag-Res Water Conservation Subcommittee meeting, were reviewed for final approval.

Motion/Second/Carried - Mr. Bettis moved, seconded by Mr. Lowry, the motion carried unanimously to approve the all items.

4. CALENDAR YEAR 2012 INVESTMENT POLICY FOR THE POOLED INVESTMENT FUND

Mr. Eck stated that because the Authority's funds are held by the County of Sacramento, they are part of the County's pooled investment fund which is subject to investment policies which are reviewed by the County Board of Supervisors on an annual basis. Mr. Eck pointed out that a copy of the County's investment policy for 2012 had been provided in the board package, and reported that the County's Director of Finance recommended that the report be received and filed by the SCGA Board. Mr. Eck added that any questions regarding the policy could be directed to Julie Valverde, Director of Finance for Sacramento County, or Bernard Santo Domingo, Chief Investment Officer.

5. 2010-2011 AUDIT REPORT

Mr. Eck introduced Bill Konigsmark, Accounting Manager for Sacramento County Water Agency (SCWA) and the Sacramento County Department of Water Resources (DWR). Mr. Konigsmark provided an overview of the 2010 – 2011 Audit Report as conducted by Vavrinek, Trine, Day & Co. Mr. Peifer stated that it looked like the auditors did a limited examination on internal controls and wanted to know if they had any questions that came from it. Mr. Konigsmark replied with no, there was not any concern. Mr. Lowry asked about the twenty percent annual budget reserve and whether or not it was law or policy. Mr. Konigsmark said that it was required according to the Authority's Joint Powers Agreement (JPA). Mr. Ocenosak wanted to know if the insurance components referred to in the report

would undergo a risk analysis. Mr. Konigsmark replied that there was currently a process of determining whether or not it was necessary.

6. FISCAL YEAR 2012/2013 BUDGET

Mr. Schubert requested for volunteers to form a budget committee to prepare a budget recommendation for the 2012-2013 fiscal year. Mr. Niederberger, Mr. Peifer and Mr. Bettis volunteered. Mr. Eck mentioned that purveyor groundwater pumping data was needed for preparation of the budget. It was decided that all such data be submitted to staff by April 16, 2012. Mr. Niederberger noticed a recent decline in regional groundwater pumping and requested that the budget discussion include a trend analysis of recent annual groundwater pumping totals.

7. LOCAL GROUNDWATER ASSISTANCE GRANT

Jim Blanke from RMC presented information regarding the AB 303 Local Groundwater Assistance Program grant application. He stated that a draft Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP) was currently out and that a final PSP was expected in late spring or early summer. Mr. Blanke stated that the Authority's proposal would center on Central Basin GMP Basin Management Objective #2: Maintain specific groundwater elevations within all areas of the basin consistent with Water Forum "solution". Specifically, development of groundwater elevation thresholds as addressed in Appendix B of the Central Basin GMP. Mr. Blanked reviewed slides describing the steps necessary to establish groundwater thresholds including, updating data records within the HDMS, revision and possible aggregation of the polygon grid, and identification of data gaps. Mr. Blanke then discussed the second part of the AB 303 proposal which would address the mapping of recharge areas, per the requirements of AB 359, including that recharge maps to be part of an agency's GMP in order to receive grant funding.

Mr. Niederberger asked if it was the intent for the recharge maps to address conditions solely within the central basin or if it would identify areas outside of the central basin as well. Mr. Blanke replied that most likely mapping would be for areas both inside and outside of the basin but that it had not been fully determined as yet.

Mr. Eck stated that in conjunction with Mr. Blanke's presentation, staff requested that the Board authorize the application for an AB 303 grant and to adopt a resolution designating the Executive Director of the Authority as the authorized representative to enter into agreement with the State for the AB 303 grant.

Mr. Schubert inquired about the cost of the application/grant proposal and about the grant amount being sought. Mr. Eck said the amount authorized for the grant application was for up to \$20,000, which was consistent with what had previously been spent and that the maximum amount of the grant was \$250,000. Mr. Ocenosak asked if there was a match requirement to which Mr. Eck replied in the negative.

Motion/Second/Carried - Mr. Helfand moved, seconded by Mr. Niederberger, the motion carried unanimously to authorize the application for an AB 303 grant and to adopt a resolution designating the Executive Director of the Authority as the authorized representative to enter into agreement with the State for the AB 303 grant.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE BOARD FROM THE AG/AG RES WATER CONSERVATION SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. Eck gave brief introductory remarks regarding the agricultural-residential conservation subcommittee that was formed on September 8, 2010 to address Central Basin GMP, Program Component 2 action items related to groundwater sustainability, specifically through the implementation of best management practices (BMP) aimed at reducing agricultural-residential water usage. Mr. Eck reported that after several meetings the subcommittee had recommendations for the Board.

An information presentation was given by subcommittee member Amanda Platt, California Association of Resource Conservation Districts, on the Ag-Residential Irrigation Efficiency Component of the 2011 Proposition 84 Regional Water Efficiency Project. Staff requested that the Board follow the subcommittee's recommendation to authorize the expenditure of \$10,000 to augment monies received from the Prop. 84 grant. The money would go toward supporting workshops and increasing the number of surveys and incentives provided to the ag-res community within the Central Basin.

Mr. Peifer stated that the City of Sacramento could not support the recommendation. Mr. Smith stated that in his experience, such efforts resulted in minimal participation from the community. Mr. Helfand concurred with Mr. Smith and stated his disapproval of the proposed workshops.

Mr. Niederberger inquired about the measurement for success of the program. Ms. Platt responded that tracking of the total number of workshops given and follow up data from water audits would be used.

Motion/Second/Carried – Mr. Niederberger moved, seconded by Mr. Bettis, the motion carried by majority to authorize the expenditure of \$10,000 to augment the agricultural-residential irrigation efficiency component of the 2011 Proposition 84 Regional Water Efficiency Project. Mr. Peifer, Mr. Smith, and Mr. Helfand opposed.

9. GROUNDWATER BANKING PROJECTS

Mary Lou Cotton, Kennedy/Jenks Consultants, was introduced and gave an information presentation on various groundwater banking projects throughout the State of California.

Mr. Bettis asked if there was an estimate of the total potential capacity of banked water state wide. Ms. Cotton replied that she did not know off hand but speculated that there may be an estimate in the California Water Plan. She further mentioned that the Kern Water Bank, the largest water bank in the state, had already demonstrated the ability to bank one million acre-feet.

Mr. Crouse asked how long water banks have been in used in California and what their effects are on subsidence and water quality. Ms. Cotton replied that the oldest water bank has effectively been operated since 1900. With respect to subsidence, Ms. Cotton stated that it would vary throughout the state depending on the geology and hydrogeology of a given area. With respect to water quality, Ms. Cotton stated that in

general, water banks have a positive effect though in areas with naturally occurring arsenic, issues may arise with pumping water into such an area that may create conflicts with Federal standards related to arsenic concentrations in pumped groundwater.

10. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Eck provided an update regarding the California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring (CASGEM) program, stating that staff had been working with California Department of Water Resources (DWR) staff on the addition of three monitoring wells in the City of Folsom and that DWR had accepted an updated SCGA monitoring plan on March 5th. Mr. Eck announced that the South Area Water Council (SAWC) met on March 6th 2012 to consider resolutions providing direction on moving forward with developing a governance structure, amending their current JPA, and adopting a groundwater management plan. The Ag Water Authority Board adopted a resolution that provides for a single representative from designated stakeholder groups and made recommendations for potential funding. Follow-up meetings involving the provisions of the resolution and the participating parties have not yet been scheduled. Mr. Eck also reminded Board members to provide a wet copy of the Statement of Economic Interest Form 700 by April 1st.

11. DIRECTORS' COMMENTS

Mr. Helfand announced that he had been meeting with Teichert Corporation regarding their new development along Jackson Highway and the potential of creating a well protection program.

Mr. Niederberger announced that he had been invited to speak at the Aerojet C.A.G. regarding the Sacramento County Water Agency/Aerojet agreement.

Mr. Schubert announced that Golden State Water Company had sent out for bid, a proposal to drill a replacement well for existing wells lost due to perchlorate contamination from Aerojet.

ADJOURNMENT

Upcoming Meetings –

Next SCGA Board of Directors Meeting – Wednesday, May 9th, 2012. 10060 Goethe Road, Sacramento, CA; SASD South Conference Room 1212 (Sunset Maple).

By:



Chairperson

5/9/12

Date



Date

5/9/12

Date

