

SOLANO GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Chair:

Mayor Ronald Kott
City of Rio Vista

Vice Chair:

Director Dale Crossley
Reclamation District No. 2068

DIRECTORS:

Vice-Mayor Scott Pederson
City of Dixon

Director Jack Caldwell
California Water Services

Director Spencer Bei
Dixon Resource
Conservation District

Director Ryan Mahoney
Maine Prairie Water District

Supervisor John Vasquez
Solano County District 4

Supervisor Skip Thomson
Solano County District 5

Director John Roteveel
Solano County Farm Bureau

Director Russ Lester
Solano County Agricultural
Advisory Committee

Director Kurt Balasek
Solano Resource
Conservation District

SECRETARY/TREASURER:

Roland Sanford
Solano County Water Agency

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

DATE: Thursday, July 11, 2019

TIME: 5:30 P.M.

PLACE: Berryessa Room
Solano County Water Agency Office
810 Vaca Valley Parkway, Suite 203
Vacaville

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

4. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Limited to 5 minutes for any one item not scheduled on the Agenda.

5. **CONSENT ITEMS**

(A) Minutes: Approval of the Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting of April 11, 2019.

7. **BOARD MEMBER REPORTS** (estimated time: 5 minutes)

RECOMMENDATION: For information only.

8. **SECRETARY/TREASURER REPORT** (estimated time: 5 minutes)

RECOMMENDATION: For information only.

9. BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020 (estimated time: 15 minutes)

RECOMMENDATIONS

Hear Staff report and consider adoption of the Agency's fiscal year 2019-2020 budget.

10. TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday, September 12, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. at the SCWA offices.

The Full Board of Directors packet with background materials for each agenda item can be viewed on the Agency's website at

www.scwa2.com/resources-management/ground-water/solano-gsa-bod

Any materials related to items on this agenda distributed to the Board of Directors of Solano Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency less than 72 hours before the public meeting are available for public inspection at the Agency's offices located at the following address: 810 Vaca Valley Parkway, Suite 203, Vacaville, CA 95688. Upon request, these materials may be made available in an alternative format to persons with disabilities.

**SOLANO SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES**

MEETING DATE: April 11, 2019

The Solano Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board of Directors met this evening at the Solano County Water Agency Offices. Present were:

Vice-Mayor Scott Pederson, City of Dixon
Mayor Ronald Kott, City of Rio Vista
Supervisor John Vasquez, Solano County District 4
Supervisor Skip Thomson, Solano County District 5
Director Jack Caldwell, Cal Water Services-Dixon
Director Dale Crossley, Reclamation District 2068
Director Russ Lester, Solano County Agricultural Advisory Committee

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:38 p.m. by Chairman Thomson.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On a motion by Mayor Kott and a second by Supervisor Vasquez, the Board unanimously approved the Agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Board of Directors has developed a rotational basis for officers based off of the different representative groupings. For example, year one, the Chairperson was elected from the Unincorporated Area Representatives, Supervisor Thomson, and the Vice Chairperson from the Municipal Representatives, Mayor Kott.

Mayor Kott agreed to become the Chair of the Board of Directors.

On a motion by Vice-Mayor Pederson and a second by Supervisor Vasquez, the Board unanimously approved Director Crossley as the Vice Chairperson of the Board of Directors.

CONSENT ITEMS

Director Lester asked for a correction on the meetings notes where it stated that the next meeting was December 13th. Staff stated that the December meeting was cancelled after the completion of the notes for the October 11th meeting. Staff will make the correction.

On a motion by Supervisor Thomson and a second by Director Crossley, the Board unanimously approved Consent Item 5(a) Minutes.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Director Lester reported that the Solano Ag Advisory Committee and the Solano County Board of Supervisors are hosting an Ag Tour on April 30th. There are still a few spots available on the bus. The tour is designed to get people acquainted to different parts of the County, what type of agriculture production is going on there-this tour is focused on soils and water. The tour will go from Vacaville to the Dixon Ridge to Hastings Island. Please give the Ag department a call if you are interested in joining the tour at 707-784-1310.

SECRETARY/TREASURER REPORT

Staff had nothing to add to the written report.

SOLANO SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN OPEN HOUSE MEETINGS

Staff and technical experts held a series of Open House meetings in April to update stakeholders on the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) and the Solano Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) in the Solano Subbasin. Staff, Joseph McIntyre from Ag Innovations and Vicki Kretsinger from Luhdorff and Scalmanini reported on the success of these Open House meetings.

The first Open House meeting was on April 2 in Dixon. Supervisor Thomson, Supervisor Vasquez, Vice-Mayor Pederson, Director Bei, and Director Balasek attended the meeting. There were also two Directors from the Solano Irrigation District GSA present, Directors Kluge and Porter. There were approximately 40 stakeholders at the meeting.

The April 4th meeting was in Rio Vista. Supervisor Thomson attended that meeting as well. There were also three Directors from the North Delta GSA, Director Nakahara (RD 501), Director Correia (RD 2067), and Director Wilson (RD 2111). There were about a dozen stakeholders at this meeting.

At the April 10th meeting in Vacaville, Directors Crossley and Lester were present and there were about 20 stakeholders at the meeting.

The content for the Open House meetings was pretty similar to the presentation given this Board last October on the GSP. Presentation topics included an overview of SGMA from Vicki Kretsinger, Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) in the Solano Subbasin by staff, and local Groundwater Conditions in the Solano Subbasin by Nick Watterson.

Copies of the presentations were included in the Board packet. There were also a number of handouts for stakeholders, copies of which were provided to the Board.

From the GSA perspective, most of the questions centered around how the GSAs would be working together formally. I mentioned the drafting of an MOU that all of the GSAs would have to approve-that we have been working together at the staff level through general consensus. Stakeholders had a lot of specific questions about specific parcels.

Supervisor Thomson stated that he wanted to compliment staff and Luhdorff and Scalmanini on their presentations at the Open House meetings and Ag Innovations for the excellent layout of the meetings. There were a lot of good questions, stakeholders were engaged. There were questions where we do not have an answer yet and staff handled those adeptly.

From the technical perspective, some of the common themes or issues were: there was a mixture of understanding on SGMA and groundwater as a whole; there was a general interest in local groundwater conditions but many stakeholders also understood that we also have to look at a subbasin scale; there were questions regarding the water balance and sustainable yield; and there were issues with local wells going dry.

Mayor Kott asked if there were going to be any follow up meetings.

Staff stated that was part of the message we conveyed at these meetings-this will be a stakeholder driven process. There will be a series of workshops, at least 5 over the next couple of years, to get stakeholders involved in key components of the GSP, such as the water budget, or management actions, or the sustainable yield.

Director Crossley asked if the comments were similar at each of the three locations?

Staff stated that questions were generally the same regardless of location, but there were a few issues brought up at Rio Vista that were more legacy issues of the Delta as a whole and not necessarily pertaining to groundwater.

From the facilitator's, and general outreach and education perspective, it means a lot to have the elected officials, the Directors of the GSAs, come to these types of meetings, so thank you for those that could make it. These were information meetings; we have not been in front of the public on these issues for two years and our goal was to get SGMA back on their radar. No one wants to see new rules and regulations, so another goal was to really start to set up relationships between the GSAs and stakeholders, to convey we were all working to manage our groundwater resources to continue with the agricultural traditions in the subbasin.

There was a lot of positive feedback on the work we were doing, that we were moving forward with SGMA. We did two surveys, there were about 70 stakeholders altogether and we got 45 surveys back. We are trying to build a pattern with what the public can expect to happen over the next couple of years. There were some real interesting questions regarding how water moves into and out of the basin. Our biggest challenge moving forward it to keep engagement into this process as accessible as possible.

Supervisor Vasquez also thanked all of the speakers and stated that the general knowledge of the public is probably not that great when it comes to SGMA and the presentations did a very good job of explaining some very technical issues in a way where most anyone could understand what we have to do. The Governor and the legislators are pushing a whole lot of housing bills to increase housing density, the question that keeps coming up is how do you water the next million homes?

Staff stated that we have to address these kinds of issues in the GSP, the connection between surface water and groundwater and beneficial uses and users will all be looked at. And there will probably be some big picture issues that we cannot completely address at the GSP scale. Some of these questions will be policy level issues that these GSA Board's will have to take a look at.

Director Lester stated that an interesting thing that was stated at the Vacaville meeting was that our horizon is quite far out. There was a concern for a number of developments around the City that could potentially affect groundwater or might in the next few years.

Staff stated these are all legitimate concerns and we will be trying to address them in the GSP. The overall goal of this GSP is to protect the groundwater resources.

Vice-Mayor Pederson stated that everyone did a fantastic job at the meeting in Dixon. You could see by the attendance that there was hunger for knowledge. I question whether five meetings over a three-year period will solve the thirst. We may want to revisit that number.

Staff stated that there will be a wide level of stakeholder interest. For some, five meetings will be enough. We are looking at forming a stakeholders or citizens committee for those that want to participate more frequently, whether it be on a quarterly basis or even monthly to help us move forward on this Plan.

TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

The time and place of the next meeting is Thursday, June 13, 2018 at 5:30 p.m., at the SCWA offices.

ADJOURNMENT

This meeting of the Solano Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board of Directors was adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Roland Sanford
Secretary to the Solano Subbasin
Groundwater Sustainability Agency

SOLANO SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Roland Sanford, Secretary to the Board

DATE: July 11, 2019

SUBJECT: July 2019 Update

Basin Prioritization Recommendations

Earlier this year DWR announced proposed reprioritizations of many groundwater basins across the state, including the Solano Subbasin – from “medium” to “high” - and the nearby Napa-Sonoma Lowlands Subbasin, a portion of which is located in western Solano County, from “low” to “medium”. In general, the proposed reprioritizations are reportedly based on information regarding groundwater extraction impacts to aquatic habitats, information pertaining to groundwater-surface water interactions, and as a result of previously approved basin boundary modifications.

Elevating the priority of the Solano Subbasin from medium to high would have no significant impact to the scope of the Solano Subbasin GSP or the deadline for adopting the Solano Subbasin GSP. However, characterizing the Solano Subbasin as a high priority basin could, in the future, subject the Solano Subbasin to additional regulatory oversight. Elevating the priority of the Napa-Sonoma Lowlands Subbasin from low to medium would necessitate formation of a GSA for that subbasin, and preparation of a GSP.

As discussed at previous Board meetings, staff believes DWR erred in their evaluation of the Solano Subbasin, as well as the Napa-Solano Lowlands Subbasin, and pursuant to Board direction, the Solano Subbasin GSA submitted letters of opposition to the proposed reprioritization of the Solano Subbasin. The Solano County Water Agency, Solano County, and the City of Napa submitted letters of opposition to the proposed reprioritization of the Napa-Sonoma Lowlands Subbasin.

DWR has announced that their recommendation for the Napa-Sonoma Lowlands Basin is to remain a low-priority subbasin and not subject to SGMA.

Draft Prioritization announcements for the Solano Subbasin will likely not be made until later this fall.

The comment letter was included in the Board of Director's email update regarding the cancellation of the June 13th Board of Directors meeting. The comment letter is included in the Board packet.

Solano Collaborative Updates

As the Board of Directors are aware, staff have been meeting with staff of the other Groundwater Sustainability Agency's in the Solano Subbasin on a monthly basis. The bulk of the work is centered around development of the Solano Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) with a coordinated effort it bringing back recommendations to the respective GSA Boards of Directors.

Currently, staff are working on drafting a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to describe how all of the GSA's will work towards the development of a single GSP for the Solano Subbasin. Staff are hoping to bring a working draft of the MOU to the Board of Directors at their September 12th meeting for review and recommendations. The Solano County Water Agency has agreed to avail of their counsel for legal review of the MOU at no cost to the Agency, when appropriate. The goal is to have a legal reviewed and Board approved MOU by all GSA's before the end of the calendar year.

As we move into more meaningful sections of the GSP, such as the water budget, and ultimately the sustainable yield sometime next year (how much groundwater that can be extracted on an annual basis that does no harm to the overall subbasin's conditions), decisions on how to proceed will be increasingly difficult and will tend to be more at the policy level. Having the MOU in place to describe how these decisions will be made is important to get ahead of such decisions.

Groundwater Sustainability Plan Update

Sections of the GSP that are currently under development:

- GSP Outline, Executive Summary, and Introduction
 - This task is approximately 30% complete
- Plan Area, Basin Setting, and References
 - This task is approximately 5% complete
- Sustainability Goal, Undesirable Results, Minimum threshold, and Measurable Objectives
 - This task is just underway
- Projects and Management Actions to Achieve Sustainability Goal
 - This task is approximately 5% complete
- Preparation of Stakeholder Outreach Plan
 - This task is just underway

Solano Groundwater Sustainability Plan Website

Continuous updates are being made to the Solano Groundwater Sustainability Plan website. The address for the website is:

<http://www.solanogsp.com>

**ACTION OF
SOLANO GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY**

DATE: July 11, 2019

SUBJECT: Solano Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Budget

RECOMMENDATION:

Hear Staff report and consider adoption of the Agency's fiscal year 2019-2020 budget.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

None.

BACKGROUND:

The proposed FY 2019-2020 budget includes funding to develop the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP), membership to ACWA and insurance through the ACWA-JPIA for the Agency. The Agency does not pay any employee salaries, rent for office space, or costs for office equipment.

The bulk of expenses are for work performed by Luhdorff & Scalmanini towards development of the GSP. Total expenses for FY 2019-2020 are estimated to be \$655,507.

The bulk of revenues are from the 2017 Proposition 1 Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant. Payments are made in arrears for work done on the GSP (there is a 10% holdback until the end of the grant cycle in 2022). Additional revenues are from 2017 Agency membership dues. Estimated reserves for FY 2019-2020 will be \$397,373.

An audit of the Agency's financial records will be included as a separate line item of the Solano County Water Agency's (SCWA) annual audit (amount of work required is trivial and will be absorbed by SCWA).

Recommended: _____
Roland Sanford, Secretary

Approved as
recommended

Other
(see below)

Continued
on next page

Modification to Recommendation and/or other actions:

I, Roland Sanford, Secretary to the Solano Groundwater Sustainability Agency, do hereby certify that the foregoing action was regularly introduced, passed, and adopted by said Board of Directors at a regular meeting thereof held on July 11, 2019 by the following vote.

Ayes:

Noes:

Abstain:

Absent:

Roland Sanford
Secretary to the
Solano Groundwater Sustainability Agency

SOLANO GSA
 Operating Budget Report
 For the Year Ending
 June 30, 2020

		Annual Budget	Current Month Activity	Year to Date
<u>Expenses</u>				
<i>Admin Expenses</i>				
6090AC	MEMBERSHIPS	203.00	0.00	0.00
6350AC	INSURANCE	2,500.00	0.00	0.00
	Subtotal Admin Expenses	2,703.00	0.00	0.00
<i>Other Services</i>				
6611AC	GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN DEVELOPMENT		0.00	0.00
			0.00	0.00
	Q3 2019	163,201.00		
	Q4 2019	163,201.00		
	Q1 2020	163,201.00		
	Q2 2020	163,201.00		
	Total Expenses	655,507.00	0.00	655,507.00
 <u>Revenues</u>				
4900AC	MISCELLANEOUS INCOME	396,538.00	0.00	396,538.00
4978AC	Prop 1 Grant		0.00	0.00
	Q4 2018	50,107.70		
	Q1 2019	118,710.00		
	Q2 2019	146,881.00		
	Q3 2019	146,881.00		
	Q4 2019	146,881.00		
	Q1 2020	46,881.00		
	Total Revenues	1,052,879.70	0.00	1,052,879.70
	Net	\$	0.00	\$ 397,372.70

**Estimated Year 2 Quarterly Budget (July 2019 - January 2020)
Solano Subbasin GSP**

TASK	Year 2 (FY 2019/2020)				
	Q3 (July-Sep 19)	Q4 (Oct-Dec 19)	Q1 (Jan-Mar 20)	Q2 (Ap-June 20)	Total
Task 1 - Direct Project Administration	\$10,378	\$10,378	\$10,378	\$10,378	\$41,512
Task 2 - Annotated Outline, Chapter 1.0 and Executive Summary	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Task 3 - Chapters 2, 3, 4, 5, and 10 (Plan Area, Basin Setting, Water Supply, Water Budget, and References)	\$89,454	\$89,454	\$89,454	\$89,454	\$357,817
Task 4 - Chapter 6 and 7 (Sustainability Goal, Undesirable Results, Minimum Threshold, and Measurable Objectives; Monitoring Data Management & Reporting)	\$18,750	\$18,750	\$18,750	\$18,750	\$75,000
Task 5 - Chapter 8 Projects and Management Actions to Achieve Sustainability Goal	\$11,079	\$11,079	\$11,079	\$11,079	\$44,317
Task 6 - Chapter 9 Plan Implementation	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Task 7 - Plan Preparation: Administrative Draft, Draft and Final GSP	\$21,049	\$21,049	\$21,049	\$21,049	\$84,195
Task 8 - Stakeholder Outreach (Technical Support)	\$12,491	\$12,491	\$12,491	\$12,491	\$49,962
Tasks 1-8 TOTAL	\$163,201	\$163,201	\$163,201	\$163,201	\$652,803