

MEETING MINUTES

Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Central Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board of Directors September 04, 2024

A special meeting of the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Central Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CMA GSA) Board of Directors was held on Wednesday, September 04, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. at the City of Buellton, City Council Chambers, 140 West Highway 246, Buellton, California.

Directors Present: Larry Lahr and John Sanchez

Non-Voting Directors Present (Teleconference): Meighan Diethofer (Acting Alternate)

Others Present (In Person): Bill Buelow, Rose Hess, Alex Pappas, Carol Redhead, and Amber Thompson

Others Present (Teleconference): Doug Circle, Gib Fates (Geosyntec), Paeter Garcia, Curtis Lawler (Stetson Engineers), Kadie McShirley, Matt Scrudato, Isaac St. Lawrence, Scarlet Tovar (DWR), and Legal Counsel Steve Torigiani

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

CMA GSA Board Chair Lahr called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Mr. Buelow called roll. Two Directors and one non-voting Acting Alternate Director were present providing a quorum.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

CMA GSA Board Chair Lahr led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Closed Session

The Board went into closed session at 10:03 a.m. to discuss the following item:

- b. Public Employee Appointment: Special Legal Counsel (Gov. Code § 54957(b)(1))

4. Reconvene into Open Session and Report from Closed Session (Gov. Code § 54957.1)

The Board reconvened into Open Session at 10:12 a.m. Ms. Thompson reported that Director Sanchez made a MOTION to retain Isaac St. Lawrence of McMurtrey, Hartsock, Worth, & St. Lawrence as Special Counsel to advise the GSA regarding the proposed Subgrant Agreement (Item 9.a.), Director Lahr seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

To accommodate the limited available time of Mr. St. Lawrence, special counsel, the Board unanimously agreed to move Agenda Item 9.a. to be discussed after Agenda Item 4 and move Closed Session Item 3.a. to be discussed after Agenda Item 12.

5. Additions or Deletions to the Agenda

There were no additions or deletions to the agenda

6. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

7. Review and Consider Approval of Minutes of the Special Meeting of June 24, 2024

The minutes of the CMA GSA Board special meeting on June 24, 2024 were presented for Board consideration. There was no discussion or public comment.

Director Sanchez made a MOTION to approve the minutes of the CMA GSA Board special meeting on June 24, 2024, as presented. Director Lahr seconded the motion. There was no discussion or public comment. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

8. Review and Consider Approval of Financial Statements and Warrant List

The CMA GSA Board considered the financial reports of FY 2023-24 Periods 10 through 12 (through June 30, 2024). Discussion followed.

Mr. Buelow presented the Warrant Lists for April, May, and June 2024. There was no discussion or public comment.

Director Sanchez made a MOTION to approve the Warrant Lists for April, May, and June 2024 (Check Nos. 1031-1035) totaling \$18,100.58, as presented. Director Lahr seconded the motion. There was no discussion or public comment. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

9. Receive Updates and Consider Taking Action on the following:

a. Subgrant Agreement with SYRWCD

This item was considered earlier in the meeting, after Agenda Item 4.

Mr. Buelow summarized the Subgrant Agreement with Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District (“SYRWCD”).

Mr. St. Lawrence explained the purpose of the Subgrant Agreement and reviewed the duties of SYRWCD and the three Groundwater Sustainability Agencies. He reported that the Subgrant Agreement was approved by the WMA GSA Board and that the EMA GSA member agency staff have been looking at it. He advised the Board that he approved of the form of the Subgrant Agreement, and that if there are any changes made to the Agreement by any of the parties then all parties may need to consider the amended version.

Public comment was received, and discussion followed.

Director Sanchez made a MOTION to approve and authorize execution of the Subgrant Agreement for Implementation of Grant Agreement Number 4600015265 Between the State of California Department of Water Resources and Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District. Director Lahr seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

b. Monitoring Well Access Agreement – Polo Village

Mr. Torigiani provided an update on the Monitoring Well Access Agreement for Polo Village in Buellton. There was no discussion or public comment.

c. EKI Scope of Work and consider approval of Grant Implementation Projects and authorize CMA GSA Contract

Mr. Buelow reported on the current EKI Scope of Work for certain Grant Component work on behalf of the entire basin through a contract held with the WMA GSA. He explained the need to establish an agreement for GSP Implementation tasks for Components 2 and 5 work for the CMA GSA. Staff recommendation was to establish an agreement between the CMA GSA and EKI Environmental and approve a Scope of Work for GSP Implementation tasks for Components 2 and 5 work for the CMA GSA. Legal counsel recommended changes to the form of agreement. Discussion followed.

Director Sanchez made a MOTION to approve and authorize execution of the EKI Scope of Work for GSP Implementation tasks for Components 2 and 5 for the CMA GSA and associated agreement, not to exceed \$707,000, subject to final form of agreement being acceptable to legal counsel and plan manager and authorize legal counsel to negotiate changes to the form of agreement consistent with his recommendations to the Board. Director Lahr seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

d. Discuss the addition of an Agricultural Representative

Mr. Buelow presented the First Amendment to Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement for Santa Ynez River Valley Basin Central Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“Amendment”) to add the non-voting position of an Agricultural Representative Director to the CMA GSA JPA Board of Directors. Mr. Buelow explained that the governing bodies of each of the JPA Member Agency need to approve the Amendment at a public meeting for the Amendment to be effective. Discussion followed and public comment was received.

Director Sanchez made a MOTION to endorse and recommend consideration of the First Amendment to Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement for Santa Ynez River Valley Basin Central Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency, as presented, by the JPA member agencies. Director Lahr seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

- e. Review Stetson Engineers Scope of Work and cost estimate and consider approval of ongoing technical support and authorize CMA GSA Contract

Mr. Buelow presented the Stetson Engineers Scope of Work and Estimated Cost for Central Management Area (CMA) Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Implementation Support for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 with a total budget listed as \$7,000. He explained this Scope of Work is for Stetson Engineers to support the CMA GSA with technical issues for this fiscal year and recommended the CMA GSA establish a contract directly with Stetson Engineers. Discussion followed. There was no public comment.

Director Sanchez made a MOTION to approve and authorize execution of an agreement with Stetson Engineers, Inc., subject to approval of legal counsel and the plan manager as to the form of the agreement, with the ability to add more Scopes of Work to the contract, subject to approval by the Board in the future, and to approve the Scope of Work for Task Order No. 1 for GSP Implementation Support for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 in an amount not to exceed \$7,000. Director Lahr seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

10. Basin-wide Joint-GSAs Meeting Friday, September 6, 2024, 10 a.m. at Buellton City Council Chambers

Mr. Buelow announced a Basin-wide Joint-GSAs meeting is scheduled for Friday, September 6, 2024, 10 a.m. at the Buellton City Council Chambers. Both CMA GSA Directors reported they are available to attend. There was no public comment or action.

11. Next CMA GSA Board Regular Meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 18, 2024, at Buellton City Council Chambers

The next scheduled CMA GSA Board Regular meeting is scheduled to be held on Monday, November 18, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. at the Buellton City Council Chambers, 140 West Highway 246, Buellton, California. The Board discussed availability for November 18, 2024 and determined there would be a lack of quorum available to meet on November 18, 2024. After unanimous consensus, Director Lahr directed staff to cancel the regular meeting scheduled for Monday, November 18, 2024, and called for a special meeting to be scheduled for Tuesday, October 15, 2024, 10:00 a.m., at the Buellton City Council Chambers, 140 West Highway 246, Buellton, CA.

12. CMA GSA Board reports and requests for future agenda items

There were no reports or requests.

Earlier in the meeting, the Board unanimously agreed to move Closed Session Item 3.a. to be discussed after Agenda Item 12.

3. Closed Session (Second Session)

The Board went into a second closed session at 11:45 a.m. to discuss the following items:

- a. Conference with Real Property Negotiator (Gov. Code § 54956.8)
 - i. GSA Designated Representative: Bill Buelow
 - ii. Property: APN 137-090-067
 - iii. Under Negotiation: Price and Terms of Payment
 - iv. Negotiation With: Buellton Polo Village Partners, LP

4. Reconvene into Open Session and Report from Closed Session (Gov. Code § 54957.1)

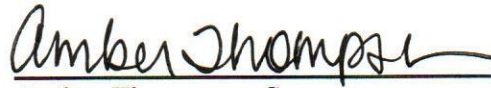
The Board reconvened into Open Session at 12:12 p.m. Ms. Thompson stated there was no reportable action taken in the second Closed Session.

13. Adjournment

Chair Lahr adjourned the meeting at 12:12 p.m.



Larry Lahr, Chair



Amber Thompson, Secretary

**SANTA YNEZ RIVER VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN
CENTRAL MANAGEMENT AREA (CMA)
GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY**

APRIL 2024 WARRANT LIST FOR BOARD APPROVAL

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
			NONE	\$ -
MONTH TOTAL				\$ -

MAY 2024 WARRANT LIST FOR BOARD APPROVAL

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
1031	05/15/24	Stetson Engineers	February & March 2024 Engineering Service (WY2023-24 Annual Report & GSP Implementation Work)	\$ 12,371.97
MONTH TOTAL				\$ 12,371.97

JUNE 2024 WARRANT LIST FOR BOARD APPROVAL

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
1032	06/12/24	Stetson Engineers	April 2024 Engineering Service (GSP Implementation - Monitoring Network)	\$ 1,146.00
1033	06/12/24	Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District	Reimburse costs for SantaYnezWater.org & SantaYnezWater.com website domains paid by SYRWCD 3/29/2024 & 5/8/2024 (\$45.34 total split 1/3 per GSA)	\$ 15.11
1034	06/12/24	Valley Bookkeeping	Quarterly Bookkeeping (April, May, June 2024)	\$ 300.00
1035	06/12/24	Young Wooldridge	Legal Services (May 2024)	\$ 4,267.50
MONTH TOTAL				\$ 5,728.61

TOTAL CHECKS THIS QUARTER: \$ 18,100.58