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**VINA GSA AND ROCK CREEK RECLAMATION DISTRICT GSA  
JOINT BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

June 10, 2026

**1. VINA GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY (GSA) BOARD MEETING**

1.1. Call To Order: 3:30 p.m.

1.2. Roll Call

**Board Members Present:**

Tod Kimmelshue, Vice Chair  
Derek Sohnrey  
Katie Hawley  
Steven Koehnen  
Jim Graydon

**Staff Present**

Dillon McGregor, GSA Program Manager  
David Kehn, City of Chico  
Brandon Mortimer, City of Chico  
Christina Buck, County of Butte  
Becky Fairbanks, SGM Grant Project Manager

**2. ROCK CREEK RECLAMATION DISTRICT (RCRD) GSA BOARD MEETING**

2.1. Call to Order: 3:31 p.m.

2.2. Roll Call

**Board Members**

Darren Rice, Chair  
Bruce McGowan, Treasurer  
James Strong  
Hal Crain  
Elvin Bentz  
Dan Paiva  
Jon Lavy

**3. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

Members of the public were invited to address the Vina GSA and RCRD GSA Boards at this time on any matter not already listed on the agenda.

**Public Commenters:**

1.) <NONE>

#### **4. JOINT VINA GSA/RCRD GSA BOARD MEETING AGENDA**

##### **4.1. \*Recharge Feasibility Analysis Project Recap**

The Boards received a presentation on the main outcomes of the Recharge Feasibility Analysis, a Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) grant-funded effort to identify opportunities to enhance recharge in the Vina subbasin. When available, the study's reports will be posted on the project [webpage](#). **(Report – Christina Buck, Assistant Director, Butte County Water & Resources Conservation and Joe Turner, Geosyntec Consultants)**

##### **Questions/Comments from the Board**

Jim Graydon – When will projects be presented in a comparative analysis to allow the Board to decide which project(s) to pursue? Answer – The final report is currently being finalized. There is not currently a plan to present the projects in a comparative analysis against one another; generally, projects will be brought back to the Board as potential funding opportunities arise.

Jim Graydon – Will the annual recharge potential for Flood-MAR projects be summarized in acre-ft/year in the final report? Answer – Yes.

Jim Graydon – When will site S-1 be discussed with DTSC? Answer – Once potential funding is identified, that would be the appropriate time.

Tod Kimmelshue – Will the Durham Mutual Irrigation District study be shared with the Board? Answer – Yes.

Tod Kimmelshue – Will grant funding be available to Durham Mutual to make the repairs? Answer – Future grant opportunities could be pursued to fund repairs. (Christina Buck).

Katie Hawley – Which agency will provide the grant match? Answer – The water company can be the applicant, with the GSA providing technical assistance (Christina Buck/Dillon McGregor).

##### **Public Commenters:**

1.) <NONE>

**Action:** Accepted as information.

##### **4.2. \*Update on the Status and Anticipated Timeline for the Vina Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Periodic Evaluation**

Staff provided an update on anticipated topics and timelines for the Periodic Evaluation over the next several months, along with a review of webpages and interactive maps available to support those discussions. **(Verbal Report – Christina Buck, Assistant Director, Butte County Water & Resources Conservation)**

##### **Public Commenters:**

1.) <NONE>

**Action:** Accepted as information.

**A power outage at approximately 4:15 p.m. interrupted the meeting and disabled virtual meeting attendance. Vice Chair Kimmelshue called for a five-minute break while staff attempted to restart the Zoom meeting. Staff were unable to reestablish virtual attendance, and the meeting was called back to order at 4:21 p.m. for in-person attendees only.**

**4.3. \*Consideration of Groundwater Sustainability Plan Amendments to the Land Subsidence Sustainable Management Criteria (SMC) in response to the Department of Water Resources' Recommended Corrective Actions**

Staff presented an overview of proposed amendments to the land subsidence monitoring network and Sustainable Management Criteria (SMC) in the Vina Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) in response to the Department of Water Resources' (DWR) Recommended Corrective Actions. The Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SHAC) reviewed the proposed amendments at its May 27, 2026, meeting and provided recommendations to the Vina GSA Board. (*Report – Christina Buck, Assistant Director, Butte County Water & Resources Conservation.*)

**Questions/Comments from the Board**

Jim Graydon – The definition of undesirable results is vague; the “two consecutive years with infrastructure impacts” language could use some refinement, since 0.5' of subsidence over five years would not, on its own, trigger Caltrans action.

Tod Kimmelshue – If we observe 0.5' of subsidence, we will take action regardless of whether infrastructure impacts are present. Have we looked at the definitions used by other subbasins, and should we consider aligning with theirs if they differ from ours? Answer – This method aligns with several neighboring GSAs.

**Public Commenters:**

1.) James Brobeck – Written submission.

**RCRD GSA ACTION:**

A motion to approve changes to the Land Subsidence Sustainable Management Criteria as plan amendments and document the response to DWR's Recommended Corrective Action in the Periodic Evaluation consistent with the approach to amend the GSP was passed unanimously by the Rock Creek Reclamation District GSA.

**VINA GSA ACTION:**

Board Member Hawley requested further discussion of the proposed amendment prior to voting. Discussion continued among Board Members Hawley, Kimmelshue, and Graydon regarding whether including impacts to infrastructure as an undesirable effect was necessary or might complicate matters. Board Member Hawley proposed an amendment to keep this metric as part of the SMC, which was discussed by the Board, but ultimately the board went forward with the original motion.

A motion to approve changes to the Land Subsidence Sustainable Management Criteria as plan amendments and document the response to DWR's Recommended Corrective Action in the Periodic Evaluation consistent with the approach to amend the GSP was made by Board Member Hawley. That motion was seconded by Board Member Sohnrey. The motion passed unanimously

**4.4. \*Consideration of the Approach to Addressing Interconnected Surface Water (ISW) in the Periodic Evaluation in response to the Department of Water Resources' Recommended Corrective Actions**

Staff presented an overview of the proposed approach to address interconnected surface waters in the Vina Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Periodic Evaluation in response to the Department of Water Resources' (DWR) Recommended Corrective Actions. The Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SHAC) reviewed the approach at its May 27, 2026 meeting and provided a recommendation to the Vina GSA Board. (*Report – Christina Buck, Assistant Director, Butte County Water & Resources Conservation.*)

**Public Commenters:**

1.) Jim Brobeck – Written submission included in board packet. Mr. Brobeck also commented in-person.

**RCRD GSA ACTION:**

A motion to approve the approach as presented by staff to addressing DWR's Recommended Corrective Actions regarding ISW in the Periodic Evaluation was passed unanimously by the Rock Creek Reclamation District.

**VINA GSA ACTION:**

A motion to Approve the approach as presented by staff to addressing DWR's Recommended Corrective Actions regarding ISW in the Periodic Evaluation was made by Board Member Hawley. That motion was seconded by Board Member Graydon. The motion passed unanimously.

**5. ADJOURNMENT:**

The Vina GSA/RCRD Joint Board meeting adjourned to the Vina GSA at 5:08 p.m.

**\*\*\*RECONVENE TO VINA GSA BOARD MEETING\*\*\***

**1. Vina Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) Board Meeting**

**1.1 Call To Order:** 5:09 p.m.

**1.2 Roll Call**

**Board Members Present:**

Tod Kimmelshue, Vice Chair  
Derek Sohnrey  
Katie Hawley  
Steven Koehnen  
Jim Graydon

**2. CONSENT AGENDA:**

**2.1 \*Approval of the 5-13-26 Vina GSA Board Meeting Minutes.**

**Requested Action:** Approve the 5-13-26 Vina GSA Board Meeting Minutes.

**2.2 \*Consideration of Resolution No. 2026-01 Approving the Fiscal Year 2026-27 Annual Operations Budget.**

The Board reviewed two draft budget options at the May Board meeting and directed staff to move forward with the budget that includes funding for development of a Well Mitigation Plan. The Board considered adoption of the Vina Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) Fiscal Year 2026-27 Annual Operations Budget, with the proposed budget totaling \$986,150 in operational expenses, to be funded through collection of SGMA regulatory fees. **(Report – Dillon McGregor, GSA Program Manager)**

**Requested Action:** Adopt Resolution No. 2026-01 Approving the Fiscal Year 2026-27 Annual Operations Budget and authorize the Chair to sign.

**2.3 \*Consideration of Resolution No. 2026-02 Setting Regulatory Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Fees for Fiscal Year 2026-27**

The Board considered adopting the Vina Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) SGMA regulatory fees for Fiscal Year 2026-27. The proposed fees have been calculated in accordance with the fee methodology established in Resolution No. 2025-02. Fee amounts are set forth in Attachment A. **(Report – Dillon McGregor, GSA Program Manager)**

**Action: BOARD MEMBER GRAYDON PULLED THIS ITEM FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA FOR DISCUSSION.**

**2.4 \*Consideration of Resolution No. 2026-03 Certifying to the County of Butte the Validity of the Legal Process Used to Place Direct Assessments (Special Assessments) on the Secured Tax Roll**

The Board considered adopting a resolution certifying to the County of Butte that the Vina Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) has completed all legal requirements necessary to place SGMA regulatory fees on the Butte County secured property tax roll for collection. *(Report – Dillon McGregor, GSA Program Manager)*

**Public Commenters:**

1.) <NONE>

**Requested Action:** Adopt Resolution No. 2026-03 Certifying to the County of Butte the Validity of the Legal Process Used to Place Direct Assessments (Special Assessments) on the Secured Tax Roll and authorize the Chair to sign.

**2.5 \*Consideration of Approval of Sustainable Groundwater Management Grant Agreement Amendment No. 3**

The Board will consider approval of Amendment No. 3 to the Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Grant Agreement between the Vina Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) and the California Department of Water Resources (DWR). The proposed amendment reallocates \$88,944.05 in unspent grant funds from completed project components to remaining active components to support completion of grant-funded activities. The amendment does not increase the total grant award and is intended to ensure full local utilization of available grant funds. *(Report – Becky Fairbanks, SGM Grant Projects Manager)*

**Public Commenters:**

1.) Jim Brobeck – Written submission

**Requested Action:** Approve Amendment No. 3 to Sustainable Groundwater Management Grant Agreement No. 4600015664 between the Vina Groundwater Sustainability Agency and the California Department of Water Resources and authorize the Director of Water and Resource Conservation to sign all documents necessary to execute the amendment on behalf of the GSA.

**ACTION:** A motion to approve consent agenda items 2.1, 2.2, 2.4, and 2.5 was made by Board Member Koehnen. That motion was seconded by Board Member Hawley. The motion passed unanimously.

**3. REGULAR AGENDA**

**3.1 Formation of an Ad Hoc Nomination Committee for Non-Agricultural Domestic Well User Stakeholder Alternate Director Vacancy**

The Non-Agricultural Domestic Well User Stakeholder Alternate Director submitted a letter of resignation from the Vina Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board of Directors, effective May 14, 2026. Per Section 7.3.2(c) of the Joint Powers Agreement, the Board must form an ad hoc nomination committee to provide a recommendation for appointment of a new Alternate Director. The committee shall consist of representatives from the Member Agencies, excluding Butte County, and shall carry out an open and transparent public process to recommend a qualified candidate for appointment by the Butte County Board of Supervisors. *(Report – Dillon McGregor, GSA Program Manager)*

**ACTION:** A motion to form an ad hoc committee to nominate a Non-Agricultural Domestic Well User Stakeholder Alternate Director was made by Board Member Hawley. That motion was seconded by Board Member Sohnrey. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **4. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT**

##### **2.3 Consideration of Resolution No. 2026-02 Setting Regulatory Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Fees for Fiscal Year 2026-27**

Board Member Graydon pulled item 2.3 from the consent agenda for discussion. The Board discussed the item, and a motion to approve consent agenda item 2.3, pending confirmation of the accuracy of the resolution and include an explanation of the methodology with the resolution, was made by Board Member Koehnen. The motion was seconded by Board Member Graydon. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **5. COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS**

##### **5.1 Program Manager Report (Information Only – Dillon McGregor, GSA Program Manager)**

The program manager and management committee provided updates on:

- Interbasin Coordination
- Public Meeting
- Request for Proposal

##### **5.2 \*Butte County Public Health Department Quarterly Well Permit Summary. (Information Only)**

#### **6. BOARD MEMBER REQUESTS FOR FUTURE ITEMS:**

Board Member Hawley requested that staff provide an agenda forecast so the Board can be aware of upcoming topics leading up to the GSP Periodic Evaluation.

Board Member Kimmelshue noted that after the periodic evaluation is complete, he would be bringing forward a request for staff to look at reported flooding in the Rock Creek/Keifer Slough area to assess potential partnerships to help address the issue.

#### **7. ADJOURNMENT:**

The Vina GSA adjourned at 5:41 p.m. to a Vina GSA Regular Board Meeting on July 8, 2026, at 3:30 p.m. at the Chico City Council Chamber Building at 421 Main Street, Chico, CA and online via Zoom for viewing only.