



Vina Groundwater Sustainability Agency
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Vina Groundwater Sustainability Agency
Regular Board Meeting Minutes

May 13, 2026

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

1.1. Call to Order: 3:40 p.m.

1.2. Roll Call

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Katie Hawley – City of Chico
Steven Koehnen – Agricultural Groundwater User (Alternate)
Jim Graydon – Domestic Well Users Representative
Tod Kimmelshue – Butte County (Vice Chair)

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Derek Sohnrey, Durham Irrigation District

2. CONSENT AGENDA:

2.1. ***Approval of the 4-8-26 Vina GSA Board Meeting Minutes.**

Requested Action: Approve the 4-8-26 Vina GSA Board meetings minutes.

2.2. ***Consideration of Contract No. 26-01 with Hansford Economic Consulting LLC for Fiscal Year 2026/27 Tax Roll Services.**

The Board considered approval of Contract No. 26-01 with Hansford Economic Consulting LLC to prepare and submit the Vina Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) groundwater sustainability fee for placement on the Fiscal Year 2026/27 Butte County tax roll, and to provide the data needed to bill parcels not collected through the tax roll, such as State and County-owned parcels. **(Report – Dillon McGregor, GSA Program Manager)**

Requested Action: Approve Contract No. 26-01 with Hansford Economic Consulting LLC for Fiscal Year 2026/27 tax roll services.

ACTION:

A motion to approve the Consent Agenda was made by Board Member Hawley. That motion was seconded by Board Member Graydon. The motion passed with the following vote:

AYES: Board Members Hawley, Koehnen, Graydon, and Kimmelshue

NOES: <NONE>

ABSENT: Board Member Sohnrey

ABSTAIN: <NONE>

3. Items Removed from Consent
<NONE>

4. **Public Comments**

Members of the public were invited to address the Board at this time on any matter not already listed on the agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENTERS:

<NONE>

5. **Regular Agenda**

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

Staff provided an update on the anticipated topics and timelines over the next several months related to the Periodic Evaluation. *(Verbal Report – Christina Buck, Asst. Director Butte County Water and Resource Conservation)*

Requested Action: Accept as information.

PUBLIC COMMENTERS:

<NONE>

ACTION:

Board Member Hawley requested the name be changed to GSP Periodic Evaluation and Amendment. Board Member Graydon Requested a timeline be provided.

5.2. ***Consideration of a Well Mitigation Program in the Vina Subbasin**

The Board received a presentation on well mitigations programs from across the state and options and considerations for developing a Well Mitigation Program in the Vina Subbasin, informed by recent Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SHAC) recommendations. *(Report – Christina Buck, Assistant Director, Butte County Water & Resources Conservation.)*

Requested Action: Provide direction to staff on the approach and timing for a Well Mitigation Program including how it is described in the Periodic Evaluation, and whether to include funds in the Fiscal Year 2026/27 budget to support initiation of development of a mitigation program in 2027.

PUBLIC COMMENTERS:

Susan Schrader

ACTION:

Comments given by Board Member Graydon indicated the analysis is incomplete until all options from the 2022 GSP area are analyzed. Board Member Hawley stated she would like to include California Water Service service area in any well mitigation program alternatives.

A motion to include a statement in the Vina Subbasin Periodic Evaluation that the GSA intends to develop a Domestic Well Mitigation Program during the next implementation period (2027-2032), tailored to the specific conditions and needs of the subbasin was made by Board Member Hawley. That motion was seconded by Board Member Graydon. The motion passed with the following vote:

AYES: Board Members Hawley, Koehnen, Graydon, and Kimmelshue

NOES: <NONE>

ABSENT: Board Member Sohnrey

ABSTAIN: <NONE>

5.3. *Financial and Administrative Systems Ad Hoc Committee Update

Staff provided an update on the work of the Financial and Administrative Systems Ad Hoc Committee. Topics covered at recent Committee meetings include the proposed Fiscal Year 2026/27 budget, financial services through the Butte County Auditor-Controller's office, member agency contributions, and the potential development of a reserve policy and procurement policy. **(Report – Dillon McGregor, GSA Program Manager)**

Requested Action: Accept as information.

PUBLIC COMMENTERS:

<NONE>

ACTION:

Direction was given to consider including monthly/quarterly financial reporting with future board packets as well as to communicate the implications for rate payers when the GSA incurs legal costs.

5.4. * Fiscal Year 2026/27 Annual Operations Budget Discussion

Staff presented two draft Fiscal Year 2026/27 Annual Operations Budget scenarios for the Vina Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA): one included funding for a Well Mitigation Program and one that did not. Each scenario outlined anticipated revenues and expenditures and supports the GSA's administrative functions and groundwater sustainability activities for the upcoming fiscal year. **(Report – Dillon McGregor, GSA Program Manager)**

Requested Action: Provide direction to staff on the Fiscal Year 2026/27 Annual Operations Budget scenario to bring back for Board adoption in June 2026.

PUBLIC COMMENTERS:

<NONE>

ACTION:

Direction was given to proceed with the proposed budget which included funding for a Well Mitigation Program.

6. Program Manager Report – (Information Only - Dillon McGregor, GSA Program Manager)

- Updates on events: Land Subsidence Strawman Proposal Discussion Session, Legal Implications of Recharge Brown Bag Webinar, Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Discussion, Interbasin Coordination Public Meeting
- Update on Outreach and the GSA Website
- SGM Grant Update & Proposed Budget Reallocation
- Well and Wastewater Ordinances Update – Butte County Assistant Director, Christina Buck provided information regarding the County's initiation of updates to the County's Water Well and Wastewater Ordinances.

7. Communications And Reports

7.1. Update on Interbasin Coordination (Information Only)

8. Board Member Requests for Future Items

Board Member Graydon requested an agenda item covering the determination of consistency process that will be applied to projects proposed by others within the Vina Subbasin

9. Adjournment:

The Vina GSA Board meeting adjourned at 5:06 p.m. to a Vina GSA Regular Board Meeting on June 10, 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.