



## Vina Groundwater Sustainability Agency

308 Nelson Avenue  
Oroville, CA 95965  
(530) 552-3592

Agenda Prepared: 6/20/2024

Agenda Posted: 6/21/2024

Prior to: 5:30 p.m.

### Board Members:

Evan Tuchinsky, Chair  
Jeff Rohwer, Vice Chair  
Matt Doyle  
Tod Kimmelshue  
Kasey Reynolds

## VINA GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

Meeting Agenda

**June 26, 2024, 5:30 P.M.**

Chico City Council Chamber, 421 Main Street, Chico CA

**IN PERSON AND ONLINE MEETING VIA ZOOM FOR VIEWING ONLY**

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### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

Please use the following information to remotely view the Vina GSA Board meeting online. ***Pursuant to recent changes to the Brown Act Teleconferencing Rules, no public comments or questions will be taken online.***

### **ZOOM MEETING INFORMATION:**

To access the live meeting, you have the following options:

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2. From a web browser <https://zoom.us/join>
  - a. When prompted, use Meeting ID: 869 8360 0705
3. Directly from your mobile phone you can tap:  
+16699006833,,86983600705# US (San Jose)
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  - a. 1 669 900 6833
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Please note when you access the meeting, ***you will be placed into a waiting room and admitted*** into the meeting by the Meeting Host. You will also be placed on mute and will not be able to provide comments in the meeting.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT INFORMATION:**

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When submitting public comments via email, please indicate the item number your comment corresponds to in the subject line. Comments submitted will be sent to the full GSA Board members electronically prior to the start of the meeting. Email comments will be acknowledged and read into the record by name only during the public comment period for each agenda item. Emailed comments received prior to the end of the meeting will be made part of the written record but not acknowledged at the meeting.

**VINA GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY BOARD  
SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA  
June 26, 2024**

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

1.1. Call to Order

1.2. Roll Call

**2. CONSENT AGENDA:**

**2.1. APPROVAL OF THE 05/08/24 VINA GSA BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**Action:** Approve the Vina GSA meeting minutes.

**2.2. CONSIDERATION OF APPOINTMENTS TO THE STAKEHOLDER ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

The Vina Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) has vacancies for two (2) positions on its Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SHAC): the Environmental Representative and the Non-irrigated/Rangeland Representative. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis. The Board will consider one application for the Environmental Representative position. **(Dillon Raney)**

**REQUESTED ACTION:** Review the application and appoint an Environmental Representative to the SHAC.

**3. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT – IF ANY**

**4. SPECIAL AGENDA** - Pursuant to Government Code ' 54956 (a), the Board is prohibited from considering any other business at this meeting.

**4.1. PRESENTATION OF VINA GSA SGMA PROJECTS**

The Board will receive a presentation on public engagement and outreach efforts for the Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Grant Program projects. **(Report – Christina Buck & Becky Fairbanks)**

**REQUESTED ACTION:** Accept as information.

**4.2. FEE STUDY UPDATE AND PRESENTATION OF OTHER GSA FUNDING MECHANISMS**

The Board will receive a presentation on the current Vina GSA Fee Study, including potential fee pathways, various fee structures, and an overview of the progress made to date. **(Report – Catherine Hansford & Schaelene Rollins, Hansford Economic Consultants (HEC))**

**REQUESTED ACTION:** Discuss and give direction to Staff.

**4.3. CONSIDERATION OF COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF CHICO FOR THE LINDO CHANNEL SURFACE WATER RECHARGE PROJECT**

Staff will present an overview of the Cooperative Agreement between the Vina GSA and the City of Chico. This agreement allocates \$10,000 for services provided by City of Chico staff in support of the Lindo Channel Surface Water Recharge Project. **(Report – Dillon Raney)**

**REQUESTED ACTION:** Approve and Authorize the Chair to sign the Cooperative Agreement between the Vina GSA and the City of Chico for the Lindo Channel Surface Water Recharge Project for the Vina Subbasin Grant Funded Project.

**4.4. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 2024-01 APPROVING THE FISCAL YEAR 2024-25 ANNUAL OPERATIONS BUDGET**

The Board will review and consider the proposed budget for the Vina GSA operations and SGMA compliance activities for the 2024-25 fiscal year. **(Report – Dillon Raney)**

**REQUESTED ACTION:** Approve the following resolution approving the 2024-25 operations budget for the Vina GSA.

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-01 APPROVING THE FISCAL YEAR 2024-25 ANNUAL OPERATIONS BUDGET

**4.5. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 2024-02 SETTING THE 2024-25 VINA GSA OPERATIONS FEE AND REQUEST OF BUTTE COUNTY TO COLLECT THE FEE ON THE 2025 TAX ROLL**

If the proposed 2024/25 fiscal year budget is approved, the Board will consider a resolution to establish and collect a GSA operations fee for fiscal year 2024/25. **(Report – Dillon Raney)**

**REQUESTED ACTION:** Approve the following resolution establishing a Vina GSA Operations fee for the fiscal year 2024/25.

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-02 SETTING THE 2024-25 VINA GSA OPERATIONS FEE AND REQUEST OF BUTTE COUNTY TO COLLECT THE FEE ON THE 2025 TAX ROLL

**5. COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS**

5.1. Management Committee Report **(Verbal Report – Dillon Raney)**

**6. ADJOURNMENT:**

The Vina GSA Board meeting will adjourn to Closed Session after tonight's Vina GSA Board Meeting.

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**1. CLOSED SESSION PUBLIC COMMENTS OR BOARD DISQUALIFICATIONS:**

Members of the public may address the board at this time on the closed session item only; comments are limited to three minutes, or time limit as determined by the chair.

**2. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION:**

**3. CLOSED SESSION**

3.1 Call to Order

**4. CLOSED SESSION AGENDA**

4.1 **PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.9(d)(1) - CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION – Butte County Superior Court #23CV02789.**

4.2 **PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.9(d)(1) - CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION – Butte County Superior Court #22CV00321.**

**5. CLOSED SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT:**

Report on any action taken during the closed session.

**6. ADJOURNMENT:**

The Vina GSA Closed Session will adjourn to a Vina GSA Board Meeting on September 11, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. at the Chico City Council Chamber Building at 421 Main Street., Chico, CA and online via Zoom for viewing only.



Please contact the City of Chico Public Works Department at (530) 894-4200 if you require an agenda in an alternative format or if you need to request a disability-related modification or accommodation. This request should be received at least three working days prior to the meeting.

**MINUTES OF THE  
VINA GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY  
ADJOURNED REGULAR MEETING**

Meeting of

**May 8, 2024, 5:30 p.m.**

Chico City Council Chamber Building, 421 Main Street, Chico CA

**IN-PERSON AND ONLINE VIA ZOOM (viewing/listening only)**

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

**1.1. Call to Order**

The Vina GSA meeting was called to order by Chair Tuchinsky at 5:31 p.m.

**1.2. Roll Call**

**Board Members Present:**

Evan Tuchinsky  
Jeffrey Rohwer  
Matt Doyle  
Kasey Reynolds  
Todd Kimmelshue

**Board Members Absent:** None

**Management Committee Members Present:**

Christina Buck, Kamie Loeser, and Dillon Raney (Butte County Department of Water & Resource Conservation (BCDWRC), Linda Herman and David Kehn (City of Chico), and Jeannie Trizzino (Durham Irrigation District).

**2. CONSENT AGENDA:**

**2.1. APPROVAL OF THE 4/10/24 VINA GSA BOARD MEETING MINUTES.**

**Action:** Approve the Vina GSA 4/11/24 meeting minutes.

Board Member Kimmelshue motioned to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Rohwer

The motion carried as follows:

AYES: Board Members Reynolds, Kimmelshue, Doyle, Vice Chair Rohwer, and Chair Tuchinsky

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

**3. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT – NONE**

**4. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Members of the public may address the Board at this time on any matter not already listed on the agenda; comments are limited to three minutes. The Board cannot take any action at this meeting on requests made under this section of the agenda.

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Jim Brobeck and Claudia Reynolds provided comments to the Board.

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5. **NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS: NONE**

6. **REGULAR AGENDA**

6.1. **CONSIDERATION OF APPOINTMENT TO THE STAKEHOLDER ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

The Vina Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) has vacancies for two (2) positions on its Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SHAC): the Environmental Representative and the Non-irrigated/Rangeland Representative. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis. The Board will consider one application for the Non-irrigated/Rangeland Representative position. **(Report – Dillon Raney)**

**REQUESTED ACTION:** Review the application and appoint a Non-irrigated/Rangeland Representative to the SHAC.

This item was removed from the agenda because it was determined that the applicant was ineligible to be on the SHAC.

6.2. **BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024/25**

Staff presented the projected revenues from the Fee Study and seek guidance from the Board on specific line items. This discussion is in preparation for the anticipated adoption of the budget at the June meeting. **Report – Dillon Raney)**

**REQUESTED ACTION:** Discuss and give direction to staff.

The Board did not make any changes to or provide direction to the Staff regarding the proposed budget.

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There were no public comments on this item.

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7. **COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS**

Management Committee Members Loeser and Buck provided updates on the following items:

7.1. Butte County Public Health Department Quarterly Well Permit Summary. **(Information only – Dillon Raney)**

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Jim Brobeck provided comments on Item.

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8. **ADJOURNMENT:**

The Vina GSA Regular Board meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m. to a Vina GSA Board Meeting on June 12, 2014 at the Chico City Council Chamber Building at 421 Main Street., Chico, CA and online via Zoom for viewing only.



**Vina  
Groundwater Sustainability Agency  
Agenda Transmittal**

**Agenda Item: 2.2**

**Subject:** Consideration of Appointments to the Stakeholder Advisory Committee

**Contact:** Dillon Raney

**Phone:** (530) 552-3589

**Meeting Date:** June 26, 2024

**Consent Agenda**

**Department Summary:**

The Vina Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) receives input and recommendations on groundwater sustainability plan (GSP) development and implementation from the Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SHAC). As memorialized in the SHAC Charter (modified and approved October 11, 2023), the intent for the SHAC is to provide community perspective and participation in Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) implementation. The Vina GSA SHAC is comprised of ten (10) members representing the beneficial uses and users of groundwater within the Vina Subbasin. Members must live or work in or represent an organization with a presence in the Subbasin. Interested individuals apply to the GSA and the GSA Board appoints at-large members to fill the SHAC seats.

Beginning on September 6, 2023, the Vina GSA initiated a call for applications to fill six (6) SHAC vacancies, adopting a rolling application process, which is explicitly stated on the Vina GSA website. As of April 10, 2024, the Board appointed four (4) members to the committee. However, two (2) positions remain vacant: the Environmental Representative and the Non-Irrigated/Rangeland Representative.

The Vina GSA has received one application from Ms. Holly Swan, who has applied for the Environmental Representative position. Upon review of Ms. Swan's application, she is eligible to serve on the SHAC. This position will expire in December 2027, to accommodate the recently adopted staggered terms, in which half the SHAC would be appointed every two years.

Currently, the GSA has not received applications for the Non-Irrigated/Rangeland Representative position.

**Fiscal Impact:** None

**Staff Recommendation:** Make one appointment to the Environmental Representative seat with term ending in December 2027.



Vina Groundwater Sustainability Agency  
Stakeholder Advisory Committee  
VinaGSA@gmail.com

**Vina Groundwater Sustainability Agency**  
**Stakeholder Advisory Committee Application**

*Updated 11/7/2023*

**Date submitted:** 5/20/24

**First and last name:** Holly Swan

**Address, phone number and email address:**



**Describe how you meet eligibility (circle one):** *to verify that you are a resident or are employed in the Vina GSA boundaries search the GSA Map View: <https://sgma.water.ca.gov/webgis/index.jsp?appid=gasmaster&rz=true>*

- Resident living within the jurisdiction of the Vina GSA
- Employed at an organization with a presence within the jurisdiction of the Vina GSA

**Which at-large seat(s) are you applying for:**  Environmental



Vina Groundwater Sustainability Agency  
Stakeholder Advisory Committee  
VinaGSA@gmail.com

**2. Current Occupation(s):**

*Project Manager for the Mt. Lassen Region of California Trout, a 501(c)3.*

**3. Current License(s) and / or Certifications:**

NA

**4. Relevant Education / Experience:**

*See attached resume.*

**5. Other Relevant Board(s) / Commission(s) / Committee(s) on which you serve / have served (paid or volunteer):**

*Currently on the Board for Chico Area Flyfishers as the Conservation Chair.*

**6. Letters of Support:**

**7. References:**

*Cheri Chastain, Brailsford and Dunlavey, Senior Associate, 530-624-9982, cchastain@bdconnect.com  
Marvin Pratt, California State University, Director of Environmental Health and Safety, 530-624-2287, mpratt@csuchico.edu*

**8. Please explain your reasons for wishing to serve and, in your opinion, how you feel you can contribute to the Vina GSA Advisory Committee:**

*I'm thrilled at the opportunity to serve on the Vina CGA SHAC. My interest in serving stems from a deep concern for environmental sustainability and a belief in the importance of proactive, informed decision-making to ensure the long-term health of our water resources. I advocate for an integrated approach to water management that considers the interconnectedness of groundwater and surface water systems. By managing groundwater sustainably, we can maintain base flows in rivers and streams, which are essential for supporting healthy aquatic habitats and fish populations. I believe I can contribute in two key ways:*

- 1. Expertise:** *Addressing groundwater sustainability also directly benefits surface water ecosystems and fish populations. I bring a strong background in natural resource management, with a focus on fish species.*
- 2. Collaboration:** *Effective groundwater management requires collaboration among diverse stakeholders, including government agencies, community groups, and industry representatives. I have a track record of fostering collaboration and consensus-building, which will be invaluable in facilitating productive discussions and finding common ground among stakeholders.*

NOTE: The Agency will keep all applications on file for one year from the date of receipt of the application.

# Holly Swan

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## EDUCATION

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**M.S. in Environmental Planning & Resource Management, CSU Chico, 2022**

**Thesis:** “Understanding Barriers to Beaver Relocation as a Restoration Tool in California”

Relevant Coursework: Environmental & Conservation Planning, Science & Environmental Regulations, Grant Writing & Other Fundraising Strategies, Environmental Impact Analysis

*Awards: Outstanding Thesis Award for Academic Year 2022-2023*

**Master’s Certificate in Natural Resources Policy & Administration, University of Florida, 2019**

Relevant Coursework: Conflict, Collaboration, & Community Engagement in Natural Resources, Policy & Economics of Natural Resources, Conservation Behavior, Managing Public Lands & Waters

**B.S. in Biological Sciences, CSU Chico, 2007**

## QUALIFICATIONS

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- Regulatory and policy analysis
- Compliance monitoring
- Project management
- Technical reporting and data review
- Training, education, and outreach
- Field sampling and surveying
- Program development and management
- Partnership building

## EXPERIENCE

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**Project Manager, California Trout, July 2022 – Present**

Primary duty is to manage restoration projects that benefit native wild fish. This includes authoring and securing state, federal, and private foundation grants, creating project teams and technical advisory committees, managing restoration projects from inception to completion to ensure they are completed on time and within budget, tribal engagement, and stakeholder and community outreach. Work directly with Regional Administrator, Staff Attorney, Grants Team, and Finance Department to ensure regulatory compliance objectives are met.

**Highlights and special projects:**

- First employee of a newly expanded geographic region, the Mt. Lassen Region. Helped build new region from the ground up.
- Authored, secured, and began managing a \$10M fish passage improvement grant for new region within the first 6 months of employment. This flagship project is located on Big Chico Creek.
- Worked with other non-governmental organizations to form a dams-out coalition in Battle Creek.
- Assisted with expanding regional impact by hiring additional project manager and became supervisor of new hire.

**Environmental Program Manager/Industrial Hygienist, CSU Chico, May 2018 – July 2022**

Primary duty is to manage fifteen environmental health and safety programs for the University. This includes monitoring regulatory compliance, auditing of existing policies, updating written plans, communicating program requirements to campus community, and creating in-person and online training. Collection of data to compile risk assessments, job hazard analysis, and accident reports. Contact for faculty, staff, and management regarding environmental and human health concerns. Liaison between University and regulatory agencies.

**Highlights and special projects:**

- Authored five plans for newly adopted environmental health and safety standards, including the University’s Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan.

- Interfaced with trades personnel, construction project managers, architects, and engineers to bring new Science Building online and demolish existing facility.
- Created inspection plans and forms to monitor compliance with NPDES permit and SPCC Plan.
- Prepared public outreach documents on storm water pollution and spill prevention.
- Worked with Deans and Chairs to implement a recently mandated laboratory safety software.

**Industrial Waste Inspector, City of Chico, August 2015 – May 2018**

Primary duties included interpreting the City’s municipal code and Clean Water Act to perform inspections and ensure industrial user compliance. Educated and collaborated with business owners on environmental regulations and compliance timelines. Entered data to track industrial user compliance and prepared written technical reports.

**Highlights and special projects:**

- Created public education and outreach program including writing and securing a grant for an educational sewer camera van wrap about fats, oils, and grease.
- Assisted Senior Industrial Waste Inspector with Industrial Pretreatment Program development.
- Reviewed permit applications and building plans for sewer discharges from industrial users.
- Produced training for sanitary sewer overflow emergency response for Public Works Department.
- Liaison between City and Audubon Society for use of treatment ponds as bird watching location.

**Branch Laboratory Director, Basic Laboratory, Inc., June 2009 - August 2015**

Primary duties included managing and directing lab personnel, project management, customer service and retention, and review of data for accuracy and integrity. Managed chemical monitoring schedules for clients, entered data, and created reports for regulatory agencies. Monitored sales, productivity, and supply inventory. Explained policies, procedures, and water results to clientele and operators.

**Highlights and special projects:**

- Started in entry-level position of Sample Custodian, promoted to Branch Laboratory Director.
- Performed analyses on water and collected water samples following site sampling plans.
- Oversaw merger of Basic Laboratory with outside entity including building rapport with and transitioning all new clients.

**Biological Technician, USDA Forest Service, Mendocino National Forest, May 2008 - October 2008**

Conducted botanical field surveys in the field using topographic maps, aerial photos, and GPS. Project goal was to locate potential habitat of sensitive plant species and assess possible environmental impacts on habitat prior to deforestation. Completed vegetation mapping and site descriptions. Imported GPS coordinates into ArcMap.

**Highlights and special projects:**

- Used USDA’s Plant Database to compile an information pamphlet on sensitive and invasive weeds for the general public to utilize.

**COMPUTER SKILLS**

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- Microsoft Office programs: Word, Excel, Outlook, PowerPoint
- Articulate training software
- Qualtrics survey software
- Various industry-specific databases and software systems



## Vina Sustainable Groundwater Management

Water managed locally, responsibly and as part of the whole

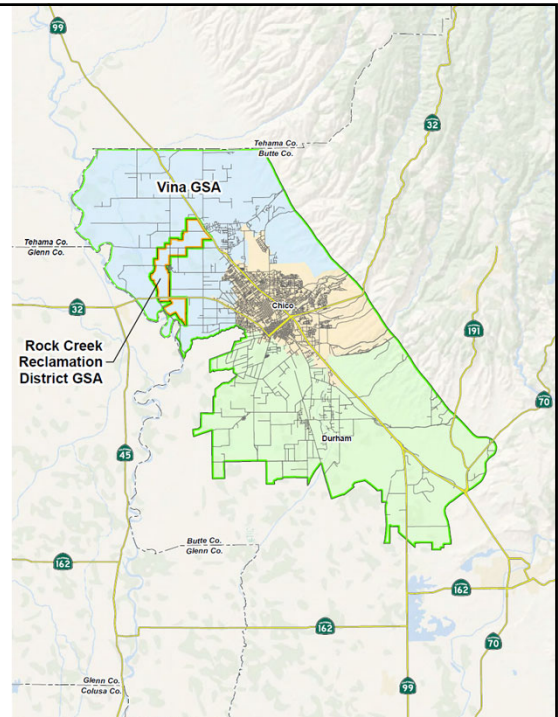




## The Vina Subbasin

Primary Characteristics of the Vina Subbasin:

- Chico
- Durham
- Orchards
- Rangeland
- Access to the Sacramento River and Butte Creek





## Land Management

**What is it?**  
The process of managing the development and use of land.

**How do we accomplish this?**

- Practices and technologies that enhance productive capacity of land while protecting and improving natural resources, i.e., soil and water

# Water Supply

## What is it?

Surface water supply is a source, means, or process of supplying water from a river, lake, or stream

## Why is it important?

- Enhances availability
- Improves reliability
- Flood control
- Reduces overdraft



# Water Conservation

## What is it?

The practice of using water more efficiently to reduce unnecessary usage.

## How do we become more efficient?

- Use data to guide water management
- Alternative irrigation systems and technologies



# Groundwater Recharge

## What is it?

When water seeps into the ground to replenish underground aquifers

## How does recharge effect sustainability?

- Can help improve groundwater levels and storage conditions
- Water for recharge can come from a variety of sources: surface water, stormwater runoff, and recycled water



Vina SGM  
Projects

## Projects coming over the next two years

- Data Gap Identification and Data Improvement
- Inter-basin Coordination Analysis
- Water Supply and Recharge Feasibility
- Extend Orchard Replacement Incentive Program
- Lindo Channel Project

# Get Involved

We need feedback from ALL beneficial users to reach groundwater sustainability. Whether you are a domestic well owner, an agricultural user, or an urban resident we need your input!

Want to get involved in person?



Attend one of our upcoming meetings

Help us gather information to inform decision making



[Take Our Survey](#)

Want to learn more?



Follow the Butte County Department of Water and Resource Conservation on Facebook





# VINA GSA Board of Directors

## *Fee Study*

June 26, 2024

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## Today's Objectives

- Present and Discuss
  - Fee Study Goals
  - Funding Pathways
  - Fee Structure Options
  - Case Study Research
- Fee Study Timeline

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## Fee Study Goals

1. **Establish a fee that more accurately considers the diverse groundwater users and land uses within the GSA's boundaries**
2. Examine all fee setting options allowable under SGMA that are legally defensible
3. Secure a fee structure that generates a sufficient, stable revenue stream based on best available data and developed information
4. Secure a fee structure adopted with maximum buy-in from fee payors
5. Demonstrate due diligence to incorporate input and knowledge received during the outreach process into the fee-setting process

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## Funding Pathways

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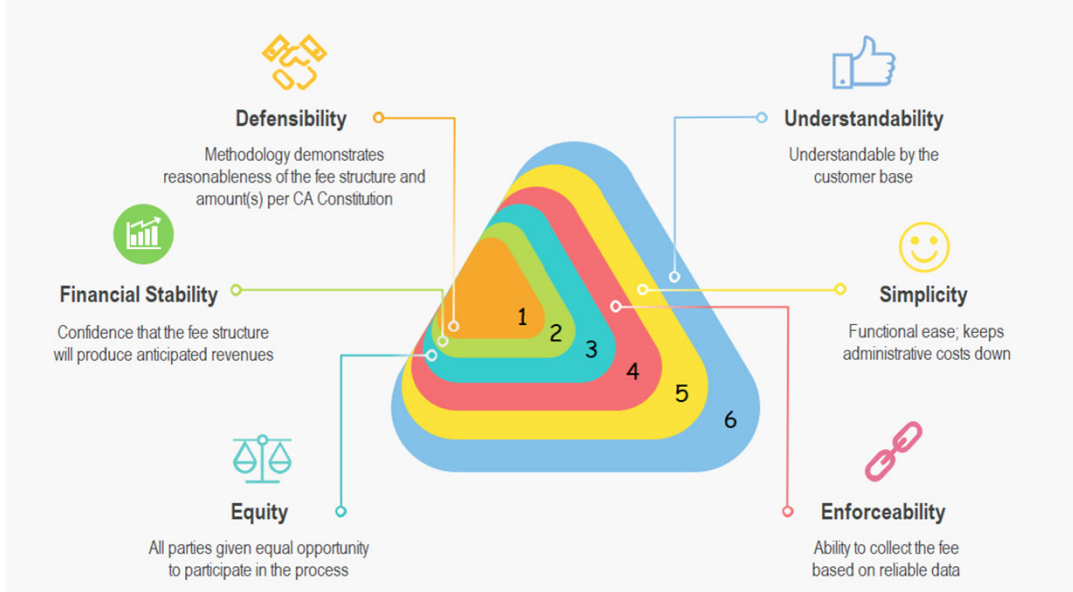
	Regulatory Fee (Prop 26)	Property-Related Fee (Prop 218)
<b>Capital Projects</b>	Cannot fund	Can fund capital projects
<b>Nexus</b>	Must demonstrate reasonableness (\$ for the activity and burden to benefit received)	Must demonstrate reasonableness and meet 5 requirements in a <b>cost-of-service study</b> : 1. Revenues shall not exceed funds required to provide the service 2. Revenues shall not be used for any other purpose than for what the fee was imposed for 3. The fee is an incident of property ownership and must not exceed proportional cost-of-service attributable to the parcel 4. Service must be used by, or immediately available to, the owner of the property charged 5. Service is not available to the public at large
<b>Noticing</b>	Public noticing 14 days before the hearing in newspaper(s) and materials on VGSA website 20 days before	Notice mailed to every owner of record on the last equalized roll at least 45 days before the public hearing

	Regulatory Fee (Prop 26)	Property-Related Fee (Prop 218)
<b>Customer Vote</b>	No vote / no ballot	No vote / no ballot Can protest (1 per parcel)
<b>Adoption</b>	Resolution or Ordinance	Resolution or Ordinance upon finding there is <u>not</u> a majority protest
<b>Adjustments</b>	Can adjust whenever needed by following the noticing and adoption requirements  Consideration of annual inflation adjustment recommended in resolution	Maximum fees are set for the period noticed, or maximum fees could be indexed for up to 5 years  New process required at end of the period noticed



# Fee Structure Options

## Vina Board Considerations



## Fee Structure Options

- Wellhead Fee
- Parcel Fee
- Acreage Fee
- Point of Connection Fee
- Extraction Fee
- Hybrid – combination of options

Fee Structure can  
have a base fee or  
minimum fee

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## Case Study Research

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## Researched GSAs (with a 10730 or 10730.2 Fee)

### Northern California (16)

- Merced Subbasin
- Sonoma County (3 GSAs)
- Madera County (3 GSAs)
- Merced Irrigation-Urban
- Corning Subbasin
- Wyandotte
- Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority
- Solano Groundwater Authority
- Ukiah Valley Basin
- Salinas Valley Basin
- Colusa Groundwater Authority
- Tehama County

### Southern California (9)

- McMullin Area
- Kings River East
- Indian Wells Valley
- Fillmore and Piru Basins
- Cuyama Basin
- Tri-County Water Authority
- Mound Basin
- Carpinteria
- Montecito Groundwater Basin

## Fee Pathway and Structure

### Pathway

- ❖ 15 are Prop. 26 Fees
- ❖ 11 are Prop. 218 Fees (1 GSA has both a 26 fee and a 218 fee)

### Structure

- ❖ 10 are extraction-only fee
- ❖ 12 have acreage-only fee
- ❖ 3 have hybrid fee (2 of which have base fees)

Note: GSAs with fees under injunction, or for a basin that is in probation, and GSAs with assessments were excluded.

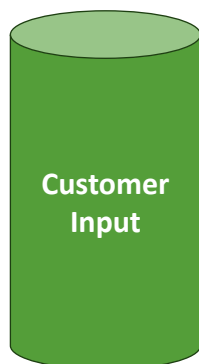
## Summary of Researched GSA Fee Information

	Extraction	Acreage	Hybrid
<b>PROP 26</b>	Mound Basin GSA	Merced Irrigation-Urban GSA	Salinas Valley Basin GSA
	Sonoma Valley GSA	Chowchilla (Madera Co. GSA)	Ukiah Valley Basin GSA
	Santa Rosa Plain GSA	Delta-Mendota (Madera Co. GSA)	
	Petaluma Valley GSA	Madera (Madera Co. GSA)	
	Fillmore & Piru GSA	Tehama County GSA	
	Cuyama Basin GSA		
	Indian Wells Valley GSA		
	Kings River East GSA		
<b>PROP 218</b>	Tri-County Water Authority	McMullin GSA	Sacramento Central GW Authority
	Indian Wells Valley GSA	Merced Subbasin GSA	
	Carpinteria GSA	Montecito Groundwater Basin GSA	
		Solano Groundwater Authority	
		Corning Subbasin GSA	
		Wyandotte GSA	
		Colusa Groundwater Authority	

The 3 Sonoma GSAs & Carpinteria GSA are the only researched GSAs that place extraction fees on property tax bills

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## How is the Fee Best Determined?



### Considerations of:

- ❖ Reasonable relationship between the charge and benefit received
- ❖ Resources capabilities of the GSA to implement the fee
- ❖ Disparities in ability to pay
- ❖ Language and cultural barriers

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## Summary Points

### Researched GSA Fee Studies

Many of the fee studies that have been completed confuse assessments / engineer's reports, property-related fees / cost-of-service studies, and regulatory fees / fee studies

Comparison fees are not necessarily good for reference. VGSA should create a fee structure that works best for all the beneficiaries in VGSA; it could be unique to VGSA.



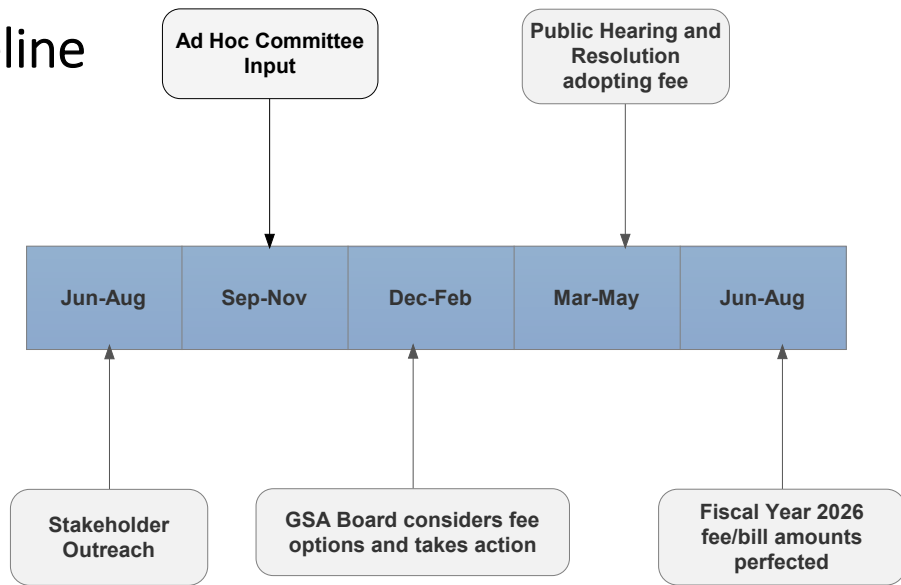
## Fee Study Timeline

## Fee Study Progress

Item	Action	Percent Complete
Authorization to Proceed	March 2024 Board Meeting	
Data Gathering	Ongoing	75%
Development of Interactive Web Map for Data Interpretation & Analysis	Prepared; the map will continue to be updated until the project is complete, when it will be published on the GSA's website	80%
Outreach Plan	Complete	100%
Case Studies Research	Complete	100%
Stakeholder Meetings	In Progress	

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## Timeline



HANSFORD  
ECONOMIC CONSULTING

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## Contact Information

### Technical Questions:

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### Process & Management:

Dillon Raney

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### Outreach:

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**Vina  
Groundwater Sustainability Agency  
Agenda Transmittal**

**Agenda Item: 4.3**

**Subject:** Consideration of Cooperative Agreement with the City of Chico for the Lindo Channel Surface Water Recharge Project

**Contact:** Dillon Raney

**Phone:** (530) 552-3589

**Meeting Date:** June 26, 2024

**Special Agenda**

**Department Summary:**

On April 10, 2024, the Vina Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) entered into a grant agreement with the Department of Water Resources (DWR) to implement the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). One of the key projects under this agreement is the Lindo Channel Surface Water Recharge Project. This project aims to address groundwater level declines in the City of Chico. By redirecting excess flows from Big Chico Creek into the unlined, natural Lindo Channel, the project will support increased groundwater recharge and reduce potential flooding within the city. The benefits include improved groundwater levels for domestic well users and support for groundwater-dependent ecosystems in Big Chico Creek.

The Vina GSA issued a request for proposals and selected Geosyntec to carry out the project's tasks. As a member agency, the City of Chico recognizes the importance of enhancing groundwater recharge while ensuring flood protection. With its expertise in stormwater and flood control systems, the City will collaborate with Geosyntec and the Vina GSA as a subject matter expert on project tasks. The Board is asked to consider a cooperative agreement with the City of Chico, allocating up to \$10,000 to the City for its contributions to the Lindo Channel Surface Water Recharge Project.

**Fiscal Impact:** No impact to the Vina GSA annual budget. The expenses for this contract are covered by the SGM Grant.

**Staff Recommendations:** Approve the cooperative agreement with the City of Chico or provide direction to the Management Committee.

**Cooperative Agreement**  
**Between**  
**The Vina Groundwater Sustainability Agency**  
**And**  
**The City of Chico**  
**For the**  
**Lindo Channel Surface Water Recharge for the Vina Subbasin Grant Funded**  
**Project**

When signed by both parties, this letter constitutes a Letter Agreement between Vina Groundwater Sustainability Agency (Agency) and the City of Chico (City), regarding funding for the Lindo Channel Surface Water Recharge Project as part of the Vina Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan (Project).

**A. THE AGREEMENT PROVIDES THAT:**

1. The Agency applied for and was awarded a grant from the State of California Department of Water Resources.
2. The purpose of the grant is to implement projects in the Vina Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan.
3. One of the projects in the approved grant agreement work plan is the Lindo Channel Surface Water Recharge Project.
4. The City understands the value of supporting increased groundwater recharge while maintaining flood protection within the City.
5. The City understands the value of improving groundwater levels for domestic well users within the City.
6. The Agency published a request for proposals and solicited competitive proposals for the Project.
7. The Agency contracted with Geosyntec to complete tasks of the Project.
8. The City has expertise in its stormwater and flood control systems.
9. The City will support Geosyntec as a subject matter expert on Project tasks.
10. The Agency will fund the City \$10,000 for its services.

**B. AUTHORITY:**

Pursuant to the City of Chico FY2023-24 Budget Policies (G.6.c), the City Manager is authorized to enter into agreements with the State of California and other public agencies in conjunction with projects for which funds have been budgeted.







**Vina  
Groundwater Sustainability Agency  
Agenda Transmittal**

**Agenda Item: 4.4**

**Subject:** Consideration of a Resolution to Adopt The 2024-25 Fiscal Year Operating Budget for the Vina GSA

**Contact:** Dillon Raney

**Phone:** (530) 552-3589

**Meeting Date:** June 26, 2024

**Special Agenda**

**Department Summary:**

The Vina Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) is required to develop and adopt an annual budget before the beginning of each fiscal year, requiring a supermajority vote (4/5 vote) by the Board of Directors (Board) for approval.

The annual budget is based on the five-year fee revenue projection (Attachment A) from the independent Fee Report completed and adopted on May 10, 2023. This report details the anticipated costs associated with compliance with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). The budget includes the operational activities related to the Vina GSA, costs associated with SGMA compliance requirements, and the implementation of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP).

On May 8th, 2024, member agency staff presented a draft budget proposal for the 2024/25 fiscal year, seeking direction on multiple line items. Adjustments were recommended based on the current needs of the GSA, particularly higher legal defense requirements. By using last year's budget and gained operational experience, staff provided a more accurate estimate for certain line items, allowing for the removal of contingencies and inflation adjustments. Based on staff recommendations and board discussions, the board directed staff to proceed with the draft budget and incorporate board feedback.

According to the adopted Fee Report, the estimated revenue requirement for Fiscal Year 2024/25 was \$495,250, excluding funds from the Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Grant Program. However, the proposed budget for FY 2024/25 is \$441,350, reflecting adjustments based on the current needs and financial strategies of the GSA.

The Vina GSA FY 2024/25 budget represents the most cost-effective approach to achieving SGMA compliance while maintaining local control over groundwater resources. The detailed budget is included as Attachment B for your review.

**Staff Recommendations:**

1. Approve Vina GSA FY24-25 Operations Budget (Attachment B)
2. Approve Resolution No. 2024-01 Approving the Fiscal Year 2024-25 Annual Operations Budget

Attachment A

Table 4: VINA GSA - Long Term Funding Fee Project					
Updated Five-Year Revenue Projections - GSA Operational Budget (assuming NO DWR SGMA Implementation Grant Funds)					
5-Year GSP Implementation Inflation Adjustment	0%	3%	3%	5%	5%
Proposed	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Cost Category-GSA Admin.	FY23-24	FY24-25	FY25-26	FY26-27	FY27-28
<b>Professional Services - Admin.</b>					
Auditor	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
Financial Services	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500
Legal Services	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000
Program Manager (w/County management)	\$110,000	\$110,000	\$110,000	\$110,000	\$110,000
<b>Professional Services - Admin. Sub-total</b>	<b>\$167,500</b>	<b>\$167,500</b>	<b>\$167,500</b>	<b>\$167,500</b>	<b>\$167,500</b>
<b>Office Expense</b>					
Bank Fees	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250
Insurance	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
Outreach (per education and outreach plan)	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
Website	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
Supplies	\$5,000	\$2,000	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500
<b>Office Expense Sub-total</b>	<b>\$19,250</b>	<b>\$16,250</b>	<b>\$15,750</b>	<b>\$15,750</b>	<b>\$15,750</b>
Professional Services - GSP Implementation	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000
Legal Defense Reserve	\$100,000	\$50,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000
County Tax Roll Fee Support	\$9,000	\$9,000	\$9,000	\$9,000	\$9,000
Contingency (10%)	\$32,075	\$26,775	\$24,725	\$24,725	\$24,725
<b>GSA Admin. Sub-total</b>	<b>\$352,825</b>	<b>\$294,525</b>	<b>\$271,975</b>	<b>\$271,975</b>	<b>\$271,975</b>
5-Year GSP Implementation Inflation Adjustment	0%	3%	3%	5%	5%
<b>Cost Category-SGMA Compliance</b>	<b>FY23-24</b>	<b>FY24-25</b>	<b>FY25-26</b>	<b>FY26-27</b>	<b>FY27-28</b>
Annual Reporting (with continued DWR monitoring)	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$40,000
Five Year GSP Update w/Modeling Calibrations	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$40,000
Surface-GW Interaction Modeling	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000
GSA Coordination & Outreach (w/in and between GSAs)	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000
Data Management System Maintenance	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
Long Term Financial Planning/Fees	\$12,500	\$12,500	\$12,500	\$12,500	\$12,500
Grant Procurement	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
Contingency (8%)	\$13,800	\$13,800	\$13,800	\$13,800	\$13,000
<b>SGMA Compliance Sub-Total</b>	<b>\$186,300</b>	<b>\$186,300</b>	<b>\$186,300</b>	<b>\$186,300</b>	<b>\$175,500</b>
TOTAL VGSA Administration (w/inflation adjustment)	\$352,825	\$303,361	\$288,294	\$301,892	\$315,491
TOTAL VGSA SGMA Compliance (w/inflation adjustment)	\$186,300	\$191,889	\$197,478	\$206,793	\$203,580
<b>TOTAL VGSA Operational Budget</b>	<b>\$539,125</b>	<b>\$495,250</b>	<b>\$485,772</b>	<b>\$508,685</b>	<b>\$519,071</b>

**Attachment B**

<b>VINA SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY</b>	
<b>Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Operations Budget</b>	
<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>Recommended FY2024/2025</b>
Proposition 218 Landowner Fees	\$441,350
DWR SGMA Round 2 Grant Funding	\$2,347,755
Rock Creek Reclamation District	\$0
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$2,789,105</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
<b>Cost Category-GSA Admin.</b>	
<b>Professional Services - Admin.</b>	
Professional Audit Services (every 2 years, 21-22, 22-23)	\$15,000
Financial Services	\$2,500
Legal Services (excluding defense)	\$25,000
Program Manager (w/County management)	\$110,000
<b>Professional Services - Admin. Sub-total</b>	<b>\$152,500</b>
<b>Office Expense</b>	
Bank Fees	\$0
Insurance	\$2,000
Outreach (per education and outreach plan)	\$0
Website	\$2,000
Supplies	\$2,000
<b>Office Expense Sub-total</b>	<b>\$6,000</b>
Professional Services - GSP Implementation	\$25,000
Legal Defense Reserve	\$120,000
Legal Defense Reserve Accrued FY 23/24	\$40,000
County Tax Roll Fee Support	\$9,000
<b>GSA Admin. Sub-total</b>	<b>\$352,500</b>
<b>SGMA Compliance - Fee Based</b>	
Annual Report Professional Services Accrued FY 23/24	\$1,850
Long Term Financial Planning/Fees	\$87,000
<b>SGMA Compliance Fee Based Sub-Total</b>	<b>\$88,850</b>
<b>Total Fee Based Operational Budget</b>	<b>\$441,350</b>
<b>SGMA Compliance - SGM Grant Program</b>	
DWR SGMA Round 2 Grant Funding	\$2,347,755
Annual Reporting (with continued DWR monitoring)	
Five Year GSP Update w/Modeling Calibrations	
Surface-GW Interaction Modeling	
GSA Coordination & Outreach (w/in and between GSAs)	
Data Management System Maintenance	
<b>SGMA Compliance - SGM Grant Program</b>	<b>\$2,347,755</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$2,789,105</b>
<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>\$2,789,105</b>

**VINA GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2024-02**

**RESOLUTION SETTING THE 2024-25 VINA GSA OPERATIONS FEE AND  
REQUEST OF COUNTY TO COLLECT THE FEE ON THE 2025 TAX ROLL**

**WHEREAS** on July 26, 2023, the Vina Groundwater Sustainability Agency (Vina GSA) adopted Resolution No. 03-23 titled “Resolution Certifying the Results of a Proposition 218 Majority Protest Proceeding and Basis for Setting the Vina GSA Operations Fee.”; and

**WHEREAS**, also on July 26, 2023 the Vina GSA Board of Directors (“Board”) adopted Resolution No. 05-23 setting the maximum operations fee to be charged at \$3.09 per acre; and.

**WHEREAS**, by Resolution No. 2024-01 the Vina GSA Board of Directors adopted the 2024/25 FY annual budget on June 26, 2024.; and

**WHEREAS**, based on the 2024-25 annual budget, the Vina GSA intends to set the 2024/25 FY Vina GSA Operations Fee at \$2.53 per acre;

**WHEREAS** the Vina GSA requests Butte County (County) to collect on the County tax rolls the fee validly adopted pursuant to this Resolution and in order to be placed on the Butte County Tax Roll for fiscal year 2024/2025, the direct charge packet must be submitted to the Butte County Auditor-Controller by August 10, 2024; and,

**WHEREAS** the County has required as a condition of the collection of said charges that the Authority warrant the legality of said fees and defend and indemnify the County from any challenge to the legality thereof.

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE VINA GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY** does hereby resolve, declare and order as follows:

1. The Vina GSA requests the Auditor-Controller of the County collect the property-related fees of \$2.53 per acre on the County tax rolls.
2. The Vina GSA warrants and certifies the fees imposed by the Vina GSA, which are requested to be collected by the County on the 2024/25 Secured Property Tax bill, comply with all requirements of state law, including but not limited to the requirements of Proposition 218 including Articles XIII C and XIII D of the California Constitution.
3. The Vina GSA agrees to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the County, the Board of Supervisors, the Director of Finance, its officers, agents and employees (the “Indemnified Parties”) from any and all claims, demands, liabilities, costs and expenses, damages, causes of action, and judgments, in any manner arising out whether the requirements of Proposition 218 and other state laws were met with respect to the imposition of fees by the Vina GSA.
4. The Vina GSA authorizes its agent to attest to the direct charge levies after verification and approval. The Vina GSA agrees to the cost of direct charges and to the statutory and procedural terms for collection on the tax.

**PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of Directors of the VINA GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY this 26th day of June 2024.

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

**CERTIFICATE OF RESOLUTION**

We, the undersigned, hereby certify as follows:

1. That we are the Board Chair and Secretary of the VINA GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY; and
2. That the foregoing resolution, consisting of 2 pages, including this page, is a true and correct copy of a resolution of the Board of Directors of the Vina Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency, passed at the meeting of the Board of Directors held on June 26, 2024, at the City of Chico City Council Chambers, 421 Main Street, Chico, CA 95928.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have signed this certificate this 26th day of June 2024, at Chico, California.

\_\_\_\_\_ Evan Tuchinsky, Chair of the Board of Directors

\_\_\_\_\_ Linda Herman, Secretary



**Vina  
Groundwater Sustainability Agency  
Agenda Transmittal**

**Agenda Item: 4.5**

**Subject:** Consideration of a Resolution Setting the 2024-25 Vina GSA Operations Fee and Request of County to Collect Fee on the 2025 Tax Roll

**Contact:** Dillon Raney

**Phone:** (530) 552-3589

**Meeting Date:** June 26, 2024

**Special Agenda**

**Department Summary:**

On July 26, 2023, the Vina Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) adopted Resolution No. 03-23, titled "Resolution Certifying the Results of a Proposition 218 Majority Protest Proceeding and Basis for Setting the Vina GSA Operations Fee."

This resolution established a property-based fee to fund the Vina GSA's ongoing administration, Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) implementation, and compliance with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). The maximum fee was set at \$3.09 per acre per year. However, the Board is committed to cost efficiency and aims to set the fee below this maximum to minimize costs for landowners whenever feasible.

For the fiscal year 2024-25, the proposed fee is \$2.53 per acre per year, which is based off of the proposed 24/25 fiscal year budget. This fee aligns with the approved 2023 Fee Study and addresses updated revenue needs, ensuring efficient operation of the Vina GSA. The Vina GSA evaluates and updates these fees annually, informed by ongoing GSA operations, GSP implementation, and acquired grants. These fees offer immediate SGMA compliance benefits and local representation, providing a cost-effective alternative to potential oversight and higher fees from the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB). This approach provides significant benefits to landowners while maintaining SGMA compliance at the lowest possible cost.

The Vina GSA will request Butte County to collect the fee on the 2025 tax roll. To be placed on the Butte County Tax Roll for fiscal year 2024-25, the direct charge packet must be submitted to the Butte County Auditor-Controller by August 10, 2024. The Vina GSA agrees to the cost of direct charges and to the statutory and procedural terms for collection on the tax roll.

**Staff Recommendations:** That the Vina GSA Board approve Resolution No. 2024-02 Setting the 2024-25 Vina GSA Operations Fee and Request of Butte County to Collect the Fee on the 2025 Tax Roll.

**VINA GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2024-02**

**RESOLUTION SETTING THE 2024-25 VINA GSA OPERATIONS FEE AND  
REQUEST OF COUNTY TO COLLECT THE FEE ON THE 2025 TAX ROLL**

**WHEREAS** on July 26, 2023, the Vina Groundwater Sustainability Agency (Vina GSA) adopted Resolution No. 03-23 titled “Resolution Certifying the Results of a Proposition 218 Majority Protest Proceeding and Basis for Setting the Vina GSA Operations Fee.”; and

**WHEREAS**, also on July 26, 2023 the Vina GSA Board of Directors (“Board”) adopted Resolution No. 05-23 setting the maximum operations fee to be charged at \$3.09 per acre; and.

**WHEREAS**, by Resolution No. 2024-01 the Vina GSA Board of Directors adopted the 2024/25 FY annual budget on June 26, 2024.; and

**WHEREAS**, based on the 2024-25 annual budget, the Vina GSA intends to set the 2024/25 FY Vina GSA Operations Fee at \$2.53 per acre;

**WHEREAS** the Vina GSA requests Butte County (County) to collect on the County tax rolls the fee validly adopted pursuant to this Resolution and in order to be placed on the Butte County Tax Roll for fiscal year 2024/2025, the direct charge packet must be submitted to the Butte County Auditor-Controller by August 10, 2024; and,

**WHEREAS** the County has required as a condition of the collection of said charges that the Authority warrant the legality of said fees and defend and indemnify the County from any challenge to the legality thereof.

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE VINA GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY** does hereby resolve, declare and order as follows:

1. The Vina GSA requests the Auditor-Controller of the County collect the property-related fees of \$2.53 per acre on the County tax rolls.
2. The Vina GSA warrants and certifies the fees imposed by the Vina GSA, which are requested to be collected by the County on the 2024/25 Secured Property Tax bill, comply with all requirements of state law, including but not limited to the requirements of Proposition 218 including Articles XIII C and XIII D of the California Constitution.
3. The Vina GSA agrees to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the County, the Board of Supervisors, the Director of Finance, its officers, agents and employees (the “Indemnified Parties”) from any and all claims, demands, liabilities, costs and expenses, damages, causes of action, and judgments, in any manner arising out whether the requirements of Proposition 218 and other state laws were met with respect to the imposition of fees by the Vina GSA.
4. The Vina GSA authorizes its agent to attest to the direct charge levies after verification and approval. The Vina GSA agrees to the cost of direct charges and to the statutory and procedural terms for collection on the tax.

**PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of Directors of the VINA GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY this 26th day of June 2024.

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

**CERTIFICATE OF RESOLUTION**

We, the undersigned, hereby certify as follows:

1. That we are the Board Chair and Secretary of the VINA GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY; and
2. That the foregoing resolution, consisting of 2 pages, including this page, is a true and correct copy of a resolution of the Board of Directors of the Vina Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency, passed at the meeting of the Board of Directors held on June 26, 2024, at the City of Chico City Council Chambers, 421 Main Street, Chico, CA 95928.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have signed this certificate this 26th day of June 2024, at Chico, California.

\_\_\_\_\_ Evan Tuchinsky, Chair of the Board of Directors

\_\_\_\_\_ Linda Herman, Secretary