



Vina Groundwater Sustainability Agency

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**VINA GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Regular Meeting
March 11, 2020, 5:30 p.m.

City Council Chamber - 421 Main Street, Chico

1. REGULAR BOARD MEETING

1.1. Call to Order

Called to Order by Chair Schwab at 5:33 p.m.

1.2. Pledge of Allegiance

1.3. Roll Call

Board Members Present:

Evan Tuchinsky
Ann Schwab
Steve Lambert
Jeffrey Rohwer

Absent: Raymond Cooper

Staff Present:

Erik Gustafson (City of Chico Public Works Director), Paul Gosselin (BCDWRC Director), Kelly Peterson (BCDWRC Water Resource Scientist), Kamie Loeser (Durham Irrigation District), Valerie Kincaid (Attorney O'Laughlin & Paris LLP), Linda Herman (City of Chico Park and Natural Resources Manager) and Melissa Beck (City of Chico Administrative Analyst).

1.4. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Board Member Lambert nominated Chair Schwab to remain Chair.

AYES: Member Tuchinsky, Chair Swab, Member Lambert, Member Rohwer.

ABSENT: Member Cooper

NOES: None

Board Member Rohwer nominated Board Member Tuchinsky as Vice Chair.

Motion carried as follows:

AYES: Member Tuchinsky, Chair Schwab, Member Lambert, Member Rohwer.

ABSENT: Member Cooper

NOES: None

2. CONSENT AGENDA - all matters listed under the consent agenda are to be considered routine and enacted by one motion.

2.1. APPROVAL OF 12/12/20 VINA GSA BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Action: Approve minutes of Vina GSA Board meeting held on 12/12/20.

Board Member Lambert motioned to approve the minutes. Seconded by Board Member Tuchinsky.

Motion carried as follows:

AYES: Member Tuchinsky, Chair Schwab, Member Lambert, Member Rohwer.

ABSENT: Member Cooper

NOES: None

*** **Commissioner Cooper arrived at 5:36 p.m.** ***

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

4. **BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR** - NONE

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.

5. **NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS** – NONE

6. **REGULAR AGENDA**

6.1. **ANNUAL BUTTE COUNTY GROUNDWATER STATUS REPORT.**

Staff provided the results of the 2019 Water Year annual report of the groundwater conditions in Butte County (**Report – Kelly Peterson**).

Recommendation: None, this is an informational item only.

Gary Cole addressed the Board requesting information on how to find data for continuous groundwater levels.

6.2. **CONSIDERATION OF A REPORT ON THE VINA GSA STAKEHOLDER ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SHAC) MEETINGS**

The Board will consider a report from the December and February 2020 SHAC meetings in which the following action items were discussed (**Report – Management Committee**):

6.2.1. APPROVAL OF THE CHARTER FOR THE SHAC

The Board members reviewed the SHAC Charter which describes the Committee's decision-making procedures, process agreements, roles, and responsibilities.

Recommendation: Approve the Charter for the Vina GSA Stakeholder Advisory Committee.

Commissioner Tuchinsky questioned why the SHAC does not have a Chair or Vice Chair position and formal voting process. Paul Gosselin responded that although a Brown Act Committee, the meetings are facilitated by an outside independent contractor and that the meeting format is what was described in the Vina GSA Joint Powers Agreement (JPA).

Commissioner Rohwer questioned who makes the final decision if there is not consensus amongst the Committee members as the development of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan progresses and gets trickier. In response Staff said that the SHAC is an advisory committee to the Vina GSA who would make the final decisions, and that a more formal voting and meeting process could be implemented in the further, if needed.

Richard Harriman addressed the Board regarding SHAC membership concerns.

Member Tuchinsky made a motion to approve the Charter for the SHAC with the understanding that the Charter can be changed to allow for a more formal voting process if desired in the future. Seconded by Member Lambert.

AYES: Member Tuchinsky, Member Rohwer, Chair Schwab, Member Lambert, Member Cooper.

ABSENT: None

NOES: None

6.2.2. DRAFT "MONITORING PROTOCOLS FOR DATA COLLECTION & MONITORING" CHAPTER FOR THE VINA GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN (GSP).

The Board reviewed the first draft chapter of the Vina GSA's Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) entitled "Monitoring Protocols for Data Collection & Monitoring".

Recommendation: Provide comments on the draft Monitoring Protocols Chapter of the GSP.

James Brobeck addressed the Board regarding groundwater networks, monitoring and dependent ecosystems.

Mary Kay Benson addressed the Board regarding testing more wells to obtain more data points.

6.2.3. OUT-OF-BASIN TRANSFER/ARTIFICIAL RECHARGE EVALUATION PROCESS

On 10/19/10, the Board directed Staff to draft a rule to regulate out-of-basin water transfers pursuant to its authority under Water Code section 10725(c). The Board reviewed a process to evaluate a potential rule and recommended the scope be broadened to cover the range of legal concerns with artificial recharge programs.

Recommendation: Review and provide comments on the revised evaluation process.

Staff provided an overview of the proposed process regarding the basin transfer and artificial recharge programs, which will be reviewed by a formal legal review team from the local agencies. Board Counsel Kincaid addressed questions from the Board and the public.

James Brobeck addressed the Board regarding legal ramifications and voluntary agreement concerns.

Bruce Smith addressed the Board regarding monitoring well data.

6.3. **DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES (DWR) TECHNICAL SUPPORT SERVICES PROGRAM.**

Staff provided a report on a technical and financial support program offered by DWR to install additional groundwater monitoring wells in Butte County that is being pursued (**Report – Kelly Peterson**).

Recommendation: None this is an informational item only

7. COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

These following items were provided for the Board's information. Although the Board may discuss the items, no action can be taken at this meeting. Should the Board determine that action is required, the item or items may be included for action on a subsequent posted agenda.

7.1 Vina GSA Management Committee Update

7.1.1 Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Update (*Report –Butte County Staff*)

- A. Basin Setting Project (*Verbal Report*)
- B. GSP Completion Project (*Verbal Report*)
- C. GSP Completion Timeline Status (*Written Report*)
- D. Announcement of Airborne Electromagnetic Method (AEM) / Hydrological Conceptual Model (HCM) Public Workshop on April 22, 2020

7.2 Financial Status Report (*Report – Kelly Peterson*)

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m. to the next regular Vina GSA meeting on June 10, 2020 in the Council Chamber of the Chico Municipal Center building located at 421 Main Street, Chico, CA.

Date Approved:

8 / 12 / 20

Prepared by:



Melissa Beck, Administrative Analyst II

10 / 9 / 20

Date