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VINA GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY (GSA) AND ROCK CREEK RECLAMATION DISTRICT (RCRD) GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY (GSA) JOINT BOARD MEETING

Regular Board Meeting

MINUTES

August 12, 2026

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

1.1. The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Tod Kimmelshue at 3:33 PM.

1.2. Roll Call

Board Members Present

Jim Graydon
Katie Hawley
Steven Koehnen (alternate)
Derek Sohnrey
Tod Kimmelshue

Staff Present

Dillon McGregor, GSA Program Manager
Becky Fairbanks, SGM Grant Project Manager
David Kehn, City of Chico
Stina Cooley, City of Chico
Kamie Loeser, County of Butte
Christina Buck, County of Butte

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

2.1. The meeting was called to order by Chair Rice at 3:33 PM

2.2. Roll Call

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Elvin Bentz
Hal Crain
Jon Lavy
James Strong
Bruce McGowan – Treasurer
Darren Rice – Chair

Board member Dan Paiva was absent

3. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Members of the public addressing the Board on this item were David Steindorf, Susan Schrader, and Blake Ellis.

4. JOINT VINA GSA/RCRD GSA BOARD MEETING AGENDA

4.1. Periodic Evaluation and Plan Amendments Timeline Update – Information Only

Staff provided an update on the status and anticipated timeline for the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Periodic Evaluation and Plan Amendments, including key decision-making milestones through January 2027. The presentation highlighted newly available supporting documents and technical resources prepared as part of the Periodic Evaluation process, along with an update on the status of the remaining sustainable groundwater management (SGM) Grant projects.

Members of the public speaking on this item were Richard Perrelli and Marin Hambley.

4.2. Consideration of topics related to the Vina Periodic Evaluation and Potential Amendments to the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP).

Staff presented an overview of each topic based on the information provided in the transmittals.

4.2.1 Consideration of draft response to water quality related Recommended Corrective Action for inclusion in the Periodic Evaluation

Staff presented an overview of the topic, including feedback provided by the Vina Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SHAC) at their July 22, 2026, meeting.

Members of the public addressing the Board on this item were Patrizia Hironimus and Kenneth Scheer.

Action:

A motion to direct staff to respond to RCA 1 with the draft language presented was made by Board Member Koehnen. The motion was seconded by Board Member Sohnrey. Board Member Hawley proposed a friendly amendment to utilize updated maps to incorporate current plume data. The amendment was accepted.

The motion passed with the following vote:

Ayes: Graydon, Hawley, Koehnen, Sohnrey, & Kimmelshue
Noes: NONE
Abstain: NONE
Absent: NONE

4.2.2 Consideration of potential new Projects and Management Actions (PMAs) for inclusion in the Periodic Evaluation

Staff presented an overview of the topic, including feedback provided by the Vina Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SHAC) at their July 22, 2026, meeting. Staff presented potential new projects and responded to questions.

Feedback was requested on whether the concepts are best characterized as projects or management actions and, for the project concepts, whether they would be part of the GSAs' active implementation strategy or more appropriately categorized as Other Projects. Board feedback directs how the potential new projects are included in the public review draft of the Periodic Evaluation. The potential PMAs will be presented to the SHAC for formal recommendation before being presented to the Vina GSA and Rock Creek Reclamation District GSA Boards for formal consideration, as warranted.

Members of the public addressing the Board on this item were Kenneth Scheer, Patrizia Hironimus, and Aurelia Gonzalez.

Action:

A motion to direct staff to include all six of the newly proposed Projects and Management Actions as ‘Other Projects’ in the public review draft of the Vina Periodic Evaluation was made by Board Member Sohnrey. The motion was seconded by Board Member Hawley.

The motion passed with the following vote:

Ayes: Graydon, Hawley, Koehnen, Sohnrey, & Kimmelshue
Noes: NONE
Abstain: NONE
Absent: NONE

4.2.3 Consideration of plan amendments and Periodic Evaluation content for Sustainable Management Criteria (SMC), including removal of “non-dry year” language and the Groundwater Level SMC

The Board considered the following:

- a) Response to Recommended Corrective Actions (RCAs) 3 and 4 related to “non-dry year” language in the SMC. The Boards considered a potential Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) amendment to remove the “non-dry year” language from the SMC.
- b) Potential changes to the Groundwater Level SMC in the Periodic Evaluation or through plan amendments, including consideration of an expanded Representative Monitoring Site (RMS) network and Alternatives for the Minimum Threshold.

Staff presented an overview of the topic, including feedback and recommendations provided by the SHAC on these topics.

Action was requested on items a), b), and c) for this agenda item:

- a) How to respond to RCA 3 and 4 in the public review draft of the Periodic Evaluation and whether or not to amend the GSP to remove the non-dry year language in the SMC.

Alternative 1 - Amending the GSP to remove reference to non-dry year water year types would include changes to the SMC for Groundwater Levels, Groundwater Storage, Water Quality, and Interconnected Surface Water sustainability indicators (as shown in the staff memo).

Alternative 2 - Not removing the non-dry year language would require “discussing how extractions and recharge will be managed as necessary to ensure that reductions in groundwater levels or storage during dry years are offset by increases in groundwater levels or storage during other years within the sustainable management criteria for the chronic lowering of groundwater levels” in the Periodic Evaluation.

- b) Whether expansion of the RMS network to 29 wells should be included as an amendment to the GSP or simply described in the Periodic Evaluation
- c) What approach to use to assign Minimum Thresholds (MTs) to the RMS wells:

Alternative 1: Same or comparable 2022 GSP MTs, with addition of Local Management Levels on 14 out of 29 RMS wells

Alternative 2: Change MTs based on 20 feet below the historical low, or 5% of domestic wells at risk, whichever is deeper; no Local Management Levels

Other direction as specified by the Boards

Program Manager McGregor reported that 124 comment letters had been received on this agenda item and read into the record the names of those who submitted comments. An additional 15

comment letters were received after the meeting list was finalized. The names of all individuals who submitted electronic comments are listed in Attachment A.

The Boards recessed for a 10-minute break at 5:33 pm. The Boards reconvened at 5:43 pm with all Board Members present.

Members of the public commenting on this item were Tovey Giezentanner, Pat Dobson, Anne Dawson, Patrizia Hironimus, Bridget Estrada, Lily, Wolfy Rougle, Cheetah Tchudi, Susan Schrader, Margo Lund, Blake Ellis, Michael Nalin, Alexandra Bern, Billy Musselman, Dave Steindorf, Rich McGowan, and Aurelia Gonzalez.

Action on a):

A motion to direct staff to amend the GSP to remove the reference to non-dry year water year types and include changes to the SMC for Groundwater Levels, Groundwater Storage, Water Quality, and Interconnected Surface Water sustainability indicators (as shown in the staff memo) was made by Board Member Hawley and seconded by Board Member Graydon.

The motion failed (2-3,) with the following vote:

**Ayes: Graydon & Hawley
Noes: Koehnen, Sohnrey, & Kimmelshue
Abstain: NONE
Absent: NONE**

A Motion to direct staff to keep the non-dry year language, requiring “discussions on how extractions and recharge will be managed as necessary to ensure that reductions in groundwater levels or storage during dry years are offset by increases in groundwater levels or storage during other years within the sustainable management criteria for the chronic lowering of groundwater levels” in the Periodic Evaluation was made by Board Member Koehnen and seconded by Board Member Sohnrey.

The motion passed (3-2) with the following vote:

**Ayes: Koehnen, Sohnrey, & Kimmelshue
Noes: Graydon & Hawley
Abstain: NONE
Absent: NONE**

Action on b):

A motion to direct staff to include the expansion of the RMS network to 29 wells and 26 polygons as an amendment to the GSP was made by Board Member Graydon and seconded by Board Member Hawley.

The motion passed (5-0) with the following vote:

**Ayes: Graydon, Hawley, Koehnen, Sohnrey, & Kimmelshue
Noes: NONE
Abstain: NONE
Absent: NONE**

Action on c):

A motion to direct staff to assign minimum thresholds utilizing Alternative 1 methodology with LMLs 20 feet below the MOs instead of 15 feet was made by Board Member Koehnen and seconded by Board Member Sohnrey.

Vice Chair Kimmelshue proposed a friendly amendment to include direction to staff to provide more prescriptive language to the LMLs, meaning very strong language as to what would happen if we hit the LMLs and what action would be taken if that happened. This language would be added to the draft.

The amendment was accepted.

The motion passed (3-2) with the following vote:

Ayes: Koehnen, Sohnrey, & Kimmelshue
Noes: Graydon & Hawley,
Abstain: NONE
Absent: NONE

4.3 Drought Resilience Plan Update - Information Only

Staff provided an update on the Drought Resilience Plan.

The Butte County Department of Water and Resource Conservation released a Draft Drought Resilience Plan for public review and comment through August 28, 2026.

5.0 ADJOURNMENT

The Vina GSA/Rock Creek Reclamation District GSA Joint Board meeting adjourned at 7:26 PM to the Vina GSA Meeting.

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

1.0 VINA GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY (GSA) BOARD MEETING

1.1. **Call To Order** - The Meeting was called to order at 7:31 PM.

1.2. **Roll Call** – All Members were present

2.0 BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR - None

3.0 CONSENT AGENDA

3.1. **Approval of the 07-08-26 Vina GSA Board Meeting Minutes.**

3.2. **Approval of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for Financial Services Between the Vina Groundwater Sustainability Agency and the Butte County Auditor-Controller**

Action:

A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Board Member Hawley and seconded by Board Member Sohnrey.

The motion passed (5-0) with the following vote:

Ayes: Graydon, Hawley, Koehnen, Sohnrey, & Kimmelshue
Noes: NONE
Abstain: NONE
Absent: NONE

4.0 ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA – None

5.0 REGULAR AGENDA

5.1 Ongoing SGMA Implementation Support Services Request for Proposal (RFP) Update

Staff provided an update on the RFP process for Ongoing SGMA Implementation Support Services.

Board Member Graydon recused himself from item 5.1 due to a conflict.

Vice Chair Kimmelshue was designated to participate in the interview process.

5.2 Board Meeting Start Time

At the July board meeting, the Board asked staff to bring back an item to reconsider the current meeting time of 3:30 PM.

Action:

A motion to change the meeting start time to 5:00 PM until the end of the year was made by Board Member Hawley and seconded by Board member Graydon.

Additional direction to staff to investigate moving the meetings permanently to the Butte County Association of Governments building was provided.

The motion passed (4-1) with the following vote:

**Ayes: Graydon, Hawley, Koehnen, & Kimmelshue
Noes: Sohnrey
Abstain: NONE
Absent: NONE**

6.0 COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS – *Information only*

6.1 Program Manager Report (Information Only - Dillon McGregor, GSA Program Manager)

7. BOARD MEMBER REQUESTS FOR FUTURE ITEMS

Board Member Graydon requested to agendaize a discussion to have staff provide periodic updates on the California Water Plan.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The Vina GSA Board meeting adjourned to Closed Session at 7:46 PM.

Attachment A

Vina GSA Board Meeting, Public Comment Tracker

August 12, 2026 Vina GSA / RCRD Joint Board Meeting

Fill in the yellow cells for each comment received. See the Legend tab for agenda item options and instructions.

No.	Date Received	Submitter Name
2		
3	8/3/2026	Todd J Greene
4	8/6/2026	Gabrielle Broche
5	8/6/2026	Kelly Milton
6	8/6/2026	Sara Haskell
7	8/6/2026	Emma Jewett
8	8/6/2026	Tristan Seils Ranch
9	8/7/2026	Rose Lynch
10	8/7/2026	Patricia Schaefer
11	8/7/2026	Jill E Kornwise
12	8/7/2026	Kristi south
13	8/7/2026	Stephen Galloway
14	8/7/2026	Liam Radecke
15	8/7/2026	Baylee Martin
16	8/7/2026	Katie Del Pero
17	8/8/2026	Christina Svec
18	8/8/2026	EM Junghardt
19	8/8/2026	Greg Sohnrey
20	8/8/2026	Diana Willow Dejesus
21	8/8/2026	Shannon Hester
22	8/8/2026	Diana Willow Dejesus and Ronald Dejesus
23	8/8/2026	Diana Willow Dejesus
24	8/8/2026	Brian Hester
25	8/8/2026	Lena Lange-Kram
26	8/8/2026	Shannon Shocknesse
27	8/8/2026	Heather Sousa
28	8/8/2026	Grace Harrison
29	8/8/2026	Adele Pfister
30	8/8/2026	Patricia Dobson
31	8/8/2026	Alodie Spires
32	8/8/2026	Sue McGuire
33	8/8/2026	Susan Walz
34	8/8/2026	Everett Straus
35	8/9/2026	Bonnie Smith
36	8/9/2026	Carrie Hauskens
37	8/9/2026	Kelsey Simmen

38	8/9/2026	Aaron Fetty
39	8/9/2026	Stephanie Elliott
40	8/9/2026	Casandra Heartstrong
41	8/10/2026	Amanda Avila
42	8/10/2026	Ann-Chi Chen Rudick
43	8/10/2026	Eli Rowe
44	8/10/2026	Casey Miller
45	8/10/2026	Tyler Ford
46	8/10/2026	Tatiana Ganz
47	8/10/2026	Danielle Johnson
48	8/10/2026	Wendy Smith
49	8/10/2026	Rebecca S. Gilgert
50	8/10/2026	Christina Moua
51	8/10/2026	Nathan McKeever
52	8/10/2026	Jonah Schill
53	8/10/2026	Kaia Gordon
54	8/10/2026	Jennifer Crane
55	8/10/2026	Jonah La bar
56	8/10/2026	Susan Baldwin
57	8/10/2026	Sami Abdelatif
58	8/10/2026	Darin Frank
59	8/10/2026	Lindsay Slater
60	8/10/2026	Kristin Cooper
61	8/10/2026	Elizabeth Weissbart Wasik
62	8/10/2026	Andrew Morgan-Hernandez
63	8/10/2026	Keani
64	8/10/2026	Laura Askim
65	8/10/2026	Deborah Schweninger
66	8/10/2026	Alexandra Bern
67	8/10/2026	Emily Alma
68	8/10/2026	Daniel Kirk
69	8/10/2026	Kelly McKeon
70	8/10/2026	Sammy Pulgarin
71	8/10/2026	Lydia Cooley
72	8/10/2026	Colin Pryor
73	8/11/2026	Susan Bledsoe
74	8/11/2026	Kathryn Jackson
75	8/11/2026	Perla Jimenez
76	8/11/2026	Gabrielle Delorey
77	8/11/2026	Kevin Killion
78	8/11/2026	Grant Morgan Sautner
79	8/11/2026	Jacklynn Rodriguez
80	8/11/2026	Diane Puckett
81	8/11/2026	Vita Segalla

82	8/11/2026	Emily McCabe
83	8/11/2026	Valeria Cisneros
84	8/11/2026	Kyle Mason
85	8/11/2026	Kimberlee Michl
86	8/11/2026	Sarah Elizabeth Van Ert
87	8/11/2026	Evan
88	8/11/2026	Alison Macdougall
89	8/11/2026	Isabella Marinescu
90	8/11/2026	Amanda Barron
91	8/11/2026	Blake Ellis
92	8/11/2026	Lynn Haskell
93	8/11/2026	Kyle Forrest Burns
94	8/11/2026	Anita Wolfson
95	8/11/2026	Jared Brown
96	8/11/2026	William T Haley
97	8/11/2026	Melinda Teves
98	8/11/2026	Sierra Hall
99	8/11/2026	Phil McCracken
100	8/11/2026	Jeanette R. Alosi
101	8/11/2026	Carol E Ruth
102	8/11/2026	Pam Stoesser
103	8/11/2026	Steve Young
104	8/11/2026	Marissa Sena
105	8/11/2026	Darren Lampe
106	8/11/2026	Alexander Stanton
107	8/11/2026	Dylan Miller
108	8/11/2026	Sean Peeler
109	8/11/2026	Darcy Cooper
110	8/11/2026	Geoffrey Quinsey
111	8/11/2026	Bryce Goldstein
112	8/9/2026	Greg Brislian
113	8/12/2026	Molly Fuller
114	8/12/2026	Jeri Luce
115	8/12/2026	Ed Luce
116	8/12/2026	Jared Geiser
117	8/12/2026	AGUBC
118	8/12/2026	Jeffrey Hull
119	8/12/2026	Michael Bone
120	8/12/2026	Joey Haney
121	8/12/2026	Michael Nalin
122	8/12/2026	Fawn black
123	8/12/2026	Marin Mogan Hambley
124	8/12/2026	Lindsay Amundson
125	8/12/2026	Bridget Blair