



**Vina Groundwater
Sustainability Agency**
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Vina Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) Board Meeting Agenda

Date: Wednesday, October 14, 2026

Time: 5:00 PM

Location: Chico City Council Chamber, 421 Main Street, Chico CA

Or [Join the Vina GSA Board Meeting via Zoom](#)

Meeting ID: 678 207 7386

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BOARD MEMBERS:

Jeff Rohwer, Chair
Tod Kimmelshue, Vice Chair
Derek Sohnrey
Katie Hawley
Jim Graydon

PUBLIC COMMENT INFORMATION:

Public comment will be accepted in-person at the meeting or may be submitted by email prior to the meeting to VINAGSAPUBLICCOMMENTS@CHICOCA.GOV. If you would like to address the Board at this meeting, you are requested to complete a speaker card and hand it to the Board Clerk prior to the conclusion of the staff presentation for that item. A time limit of three (3) minutes per speaker on all items and an overall time limit of thirty minutes for agenda items has been established. If more than 10 speaker cards are submitted for agenda items, the time limitation may be reduced to one and a half minutes per speaker.

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 (GSA)

BOARD MEETING AGENDA

October 14, 2026

1. Vina Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) Board Meeting

1.1 Call To Order

1.2 Roll Call

2. Business from the Floor

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

3. Consent Agenda:

3.1 *Approval of the 09-09-26 Vina GSA Board Meeting Minutes.

Requested Action: Approve the 09-09-26 Vina GSA Board meetings minutes.

3.2 *Professional Services Agreement No. 2026-04 with Paris Kincaid Wasiewski, LLP for Vina Groundwater Sustainability Agency Legal Services

Paris Kincaid Wasiewski, LLP, currently provides general legal and litigation services to the Vina Groundwater Sustainability Agency under an existing agreement. That agreement is approaching its not-to-exceed amount. Staff recommends approving a new agreement with the firm to continue these services without interruption.

Requested Action: Approve Professional Services Agreement No. 2026-04 with Paris Kincaid Wasiewski, LLP for Vina Groundwater Sustainability Agency Legal Services Approve contract.

3.3 *Consideration of Fiscal Year 2025-26 Annual Operations Budget Adjustment

Vina Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board of Directors adopted the Fiscal Year 2025-26 Annual Operating Budget (Resolution No. 2025-02) on June 11, 2025. The Board also approved an amendment to the budget of \$1,200,000 at the July 8, 2026, special meeting to reflect an increase in DWR SGM Round 2 Grant revenue and associated project expenditures. This request is to authorize a further, final adjustment to the FY 2025-26 budget to align with the actual expenditures from the grant funds in an amount determined by the County Auditor's office. The final adjustment is for accounting purposes and will have no effect on the fee setting budget or the SGMA regulatory fee.

Requested Action: Approve Authorize the Interim GSA Program Manager to determine, in consultation with County Auditor's staff, the final budget adjustment required to balance the Fiscal Year 2025-26 budget Amendment and to report back on that final adjustment amount at the next board meeting. The Board will be asked to adopt a resolution at its next meeting authorizing the final adjustment amount to ensure that it is appropriately documented.

4. Items Removed from Consent – If Any

5. Regular Agenda:

5.1 *Presentation and Discussion of 'Alternative 3' Approach to setting Minimum Thresholds for the Groundwater Level Sustainability Indicator

At the September 9, 2026, Vina GSA Board meeting, staff was directed to bring a presentation of "Alternative 3" by Dr. Todd Greene. Alternative 3 was submitted to the Board as a public comment on

August 3, 2026. It describes an alternative Minimum Threshold (MT) approach that would combine Local Management Levels with raised MTs, setting MTs at 40 feet below the Measurable Objective at each of the 29 Representative Monitoring Sites in the expanded network for the Groundwater Level sustainability indicator. ***(Presentation – Dr. Todd Greene, Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SHAC), Water Scientist Representative)***

Requested Action: Provide direction to staff.

5.2 *Discussion regarding the potential removal of the “non-dry year” language from Sustainable Management Criteria

At the September 9, 2026, Vina GSA Board meeting, staff was directed to bring back an agenda item for the Board to revisit the topic of the “non-dry year” language in the sustainable management criteria. Direction provided by the Vina and Rock Creek Reclamation District GSA Boards on August 12, 2026, resulted in not removing the language in the public review drafts of the Periodic Evaluation and Groundwater Sustainability Plan amendments. The draft documents were released on September 15, 2026. To support Board discussion, the same staff report and slides from the August 12, 2026, Board packet is attached to this agenda. Staff will introduce the topic. ***(Report - Christina Buck, Asst. Director Butte County Water and Resource Conservation)***

Requested Action: Provide direction to staff.

5.3 *Update on Key Dates and Status of Draft Periodic Evaluation and Plan Amendments

Staff will provide an update on the status and anticipated timeline for the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Periodic Evaluation and Plan Amendments, including information regarding the comment period for the draft documents and key decision-making milestones through January 2027. ***(Report – Becky Anderson - Fairbanks, Interim GSA Program Manager)***

Requested Action: Accept as information.

5.4 *Consideration of Professional Services Agreement No. 2026-05 with Davids Engineering for Vina Groundwater Sustainability Agency Ongoing SGMA Implementation Support Services

The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) requires the Vina Groundwater Sustainability Agency to carry out its Groundwater Sustainability Plan year after year, including annual reports to the Department of Water Resources, groundwater monitoring and data management, periodic evaluations, and the day-to-day operations of the agency. For the past several years, much of this work has been supported by DWR grant funding, which is now concluding, so Vina GSA is moving to an agency-funded model. To support that transition, Vina GSA issued RFP #26-01 for ongoing SGMA implementation support services, and following a competitive selection process, Davids Engineering was selected. The proposed agreement is a master contract, with specific work authorized through individual task orders. ***(Report - Christina Buck, Asst. Director Butte County Water and Resource Conservation)***

Requested Action: Approve the Professional Services Agreement with Davids Engineering, authorize the Board Chair to execute the agreement, and authorize the Program Manager to execute task orders that are funded in the Board-adopted annual budget for the applicable fiscal year, including any adopted adjustments and amendments.

5.5 *Discussion and Direction Regarding a Groundwater Sustainability Plan Consistency Determination Process for Project Partners

Staff will provide background on LAFCo Condition 18 and the January 2025 Memorandum of Understanding with Tuscan Water District and Rock Creek Reclamation District Groundwater Sustainability Agency and will ask the Board for general direction on its priorities for a consistency determination process and what it would like staff to bring back. ***(Report – Becky Anderson - Fairbanks, Interim GSA Program Manager)***

Requested Action: Give staff direction on the goals and design of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) consistency determination process, so staff can bring back a draft process for adoption.

6. Communications And Reports

6.1 Program Manager and Management Committee Report (*Information Only*)

7. Board Member Requests for Future Items:

Board Members may propose topics, projects, or issues for inclusion on a future agenda. Proposals will be noted for consideration by the Chair and Program Manager, subject to feasibility and alignment with the Agency's priorities. No discussion or action will be taken on proposed items at this meeting.

8. Adjournment:

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

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 (3) 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 - Ronald R Titus, as Trustee of the 2005 Titus Trust et al vs Vina Groundwater Sustainability Agency

4.2 PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.9(d)(1) - CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION – Butte County Superior Court #22CV00321 - AquAlliance et al vs Vina Groundwater Sustainability Agency et al.

4.3 PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.9(d)(1) - CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION – Butte County Superior Court #24CV04275 - AquAlliance et al vs Vina Groundwater Sustainability Agency et al.

4.4 PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.9(D)(2) AND 54956.9(E)(5), CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXPOSURE TO LITIGATION AGAINST THE AGENCY.

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 Regular Board Meeting on November 4, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. at the Chico City Council Chamber Building at 421 Main Street, Chico, CA and online via Zoom for viewing only.

*Materials included in agenda packet

