

Stanislaus and Tuolumne Rivers Groundwater Basin Association

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MEETING MINUTES

October 2, 2014 (1.30 P.M. – 3.00 P.M.)

MID CONFERENCE ROOM 3A

The meeting was called to order at 1.30 p.m.

1. Welcome and Introductions

The following members of the Committee were present:

Modesto Irrigation District (MID): John Davids

City of Modesto: Glenn Prasad, Jack Bond

City of Riverbank: Michael Riddell
City of Oakdale: Michael Renfrow

Stanislaus County: Walt Ward
Oakdale Irrigation District (OID): Eric Thorburn

Also in Attendance:

Tuolumne River Trust: Peter Drekmeier
Department of Water Resources: Tom Lutterman
The Valley Citizen: Eric Caine

Member of the public: Vance Kennedy

2. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

3. Approve 09/04/2014 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Riddell raised a motion to approve the 09/04/14 Meeting Minutes. Mr. Renfrow, seconded, and all Committee members were in favor.

4. Legislation Update/ Stanislaus County Groundwater Planning Activities

Mr. Davids provided an updated version of the Legislation Timeline and Deadlines, which was issued earlier by the Department of Water Resources (DWR). The letter from the Stanislaus County Water Advisory Committee (WAC), dated September 19 2014, and titled *Notice of Opportunity to Participate in the Groundwater Legislation Implementation Discussions*, was handed out. Mr. Davids encouraged all members to respond. The Stanislaus County Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) was requested by the WAC to establish five governance structure options for the formation of a possible Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA).

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Mr. Ward mentioned that on the November 8, 2014 Stanislaus County Board of Supervisor's Meeting, he plans on presenting (1) the updated 100 Day Action Plan, (2) recommendations on future steps for the WAC, (3) recommendations on possible groundwater extraction moratorium, and (4) recommendation to proceed with the development of a well database related to the eastern portion of the Modesto Subbasin. Mr. Ward will be requesting funds from the Board to hire consultant for the database development. He expressed his desire to get support from landowners within the study area to complete the work. The database will only pertain to private wells, so there was no request for data made to the STRGBA members.

5. Groundwater Management Plan Update

The Committee members agreed that the update of the Groundwater Management Plan should be delayed in light of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, which was signed in September 2014. DWR's requirements to implement this Act will be better understood in the coming months, at which time, proper action regarding the update can be taken. Mr. Ward mentioned that the development of a Groundwater Sustainability plan should not be delayed.

6. USGS Groundwater Model Update

Mr. Steve Phillips was not present at the STRGBA meeting, so Mr. Davids provided a brief update on his behalf. Mr. Kennedy inquired about model validation, and Mr. Ward assured that USGS had conducted the necessary model calibration and validation efforts as part of their work with STRGBA.

Mr. Prasad mentioned that timely availability of the USGS model was necessary for the Groundwater Characterization and Recharge Project, which is being funded by DWR's Local Groundwater Assistance Program. Mr. Lutterman indicated that as a general guideline to all grantees, DWR will not provide any time extensions. However, he requested Mr. Prasad to keep DWR's designated Project Manager for the grant notified of any delays obtaining the USGS model.

7. Next Meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for December 4, 2014 at 1.30 p.m. in the MID Conference Room 3A.

8. Items too late for the Agenda

There were no items too late for the agenda. The meeting was adjourned.

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