



Stanislaus and Tuolumne Rivers Groundwater Basin Association
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Stanislaus and Tuolumne Rivers Groundwater Basin Association

January 9, 2014

MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order on January 9, 2014 at 1.30 p.m.

Introductions

The following members of the Committee were present:

City of Modesto:	Glenn Prasad, Jack Bond
Modesto Irrigation District:	John Davids
Oakdale Irrigation District:	Eric Thorburn
City of Oakdale:	Michael Renfrow, Thom Clark
City of Riverbank:	Michael Riddell
Stanislaus County:	(absent)

Also in attendance:

Department of Water Resources (DWR): Jason Preece

Public Comment

There was no business from Public; Glenn Prasad requested a specific itemization of a Public Comment period in the next and all following STRGBA agendas. All agreed.

Association Administration

John Davids was appointed as the STRGBA's Chairman and Coordinator, whereas Mr. Prasad was appointed as the Vice Chairman. All were in favor.

Committee members from each member agency were verified and Mr. Prasad was requested to post the revised contact list to STRGBA's website.

Work Plan for 2014 Calendar Year

Jack Bond led the discussion by presenting the Draft Work Plan and requesting member agencies to provide their comments by the next STRGBA meeting. The individual project goals were also discussed. Mr. Bond pointed out that in order to provide a timely Draft Work Plan, budget amounts had been estimated based on prior projects similar in nature. These numbers will have to be refined, once the Committee agrees on the specific tasks within each project.

- City of Modesto • City of Oakdale • City of Riverbank •
- Modesto Irrigation District • Oakdale Irrigation District • Stanislaus County •

In general, the Committee members agreed that (continued) Development of the Transient Groundwater Flow Model with USGS (item 1 on the Draft Work Plan) was amongst the top and more urgent projects concerning STRGBA. The Committee also agreed that an update of the 2005 Integrated Regional Groundwater Management Plan will be needed at some point in light of the Groundwater Ordinance, and potential changes in groundwater Basin Management Objectives (BMOs).

Steve Phillips highlighted the various studies done by USGS (through the NAQWA and GAMA programs) that can be helpful if the STRGBA decided to pursue a Water Quality Study.

DWR Updates

Jason Preece pointed out that the Local Groundwater Assistance (LGA) Program, which has funded two phases of the Well Field Optimization Project, may have come to an end; future assistance to local groundwater projects may be provided through the Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) program. Mr. Prasad indicated that this may be a concern to STRGBA, since other than the City of Modesto, no other member of STRGBA has adopted an Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP), making them ineligible for this type of funding. Mr. Bond mentioned that Jim Alves (City of Modesto) is leading the East Stanislaus Regional Water Management Partnership (ESRWMP), which is IRWM group encompassing STRGBA's management area.

Mr. Preece mentioned that the DWR will be holding the CASGEM Groundwater Prioritization Workshops, to discuss the status and next phase of implementation of the CASGEM program.

USGS Updates

Mr. Phillips provided an overview of his findings and then indicated that the Draft Scientific Investigation Report (Draft SIR) pertaining to his work with the STRGBA will be sent to various reviewers within USGS. Since STRGBA is a stakeholder that has made financial contributions to this work, a Draft SIR will be available to its members, along with a draft copy of the model, if needed. Mr. Phillips requested comments to the Draft SIR, and cautioned that the Draft SIR and model should not be used for any actual work until they are finalized in September 2014. Mr. Davids strongly urged that the work needs to be completed by September, 2014, since this is when the agreement between MID and USGS work expires. The Committee agreed to continue to hold periodic conference calls with Mr. Phillips until the completion of this work.

Next Meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for February 6, 2014 at 1.30 p.m. in the MID Conference Room 3A. (Later, the meeting was rescheduled to February 13, 2014)

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3.00 p.m.