



**SANTA CLARITA VALLEY
GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
BOARD MEETING AGENDA**

**Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency – Board Room
Rio Vista Treatment Plant Facility
27234 Bouquet Canyon Road
Santa Clarita, CA 91350**

Monday, October 7, 2019 at 2:30 P.M.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**PRESIDENT
WILLIAM C. COOPER**

**VICE PRESIDENT
B.J. ATKINS**

ADAM ARIKI
MARIA GUTZEIT
BOB KELLAR
GARY MARTIN

GINA NATOLI
ALTERNATE BOARD
E.G. "JERRY" GLADBACH
R.J. KELLY
MATT STONE

**GENERAL COUNSEL
THOMAS BUNN III**

**SECRETARY
EUNIE KANG**

1. REGULAR PROCEDURES

- 1.1 Call to Order
- 1.2 Pledge of Allegiance
- 1.3 Public Comments – Members of the public may comment as to items not on the Agenda at this time. Members of the public wishing to comment on items covered in this agenda may do so now or prior to each item as they arise. Please complete and return a comment request form to the Board Secretary. (Comments may, at the discretion of the Board’s presiding officer, be limited to three minutes for each speaker.) Members of the public wishing to comment on items covered in Closed Session before they are considered by the Board must request to make comment at the commencement of the meeting at 2:30 P.M.
- 1.4 Approval of Agenda

2. CONSENT CALENDAR

All matters listed under the Consent Calendar are considered to be routine and non-controversial and will be acted upon by the Board by one motion. There will be no separate discussion on these items prior to the time the Board votes unless any Board member, staff or the public, requests specific items be discussed and/or removed from the Consent Calendar for separate action.

ITEMS

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- 2.1 * Approve Minutes of June 10, 2019 Special Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency 1

3. *QUARTERLY UPDATE ON GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN (GSP) DEVELOPMENT

4. GENERAL AGENDA ITEMS

<u>ITEMS</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
4.1 * Approve Resolution No. GSA 2019-03 Authorizing the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency to Apply for and Execute a Grant Agreement on Behalf of the SCV-GSA with the California Department of Water Resources for a Proposition 68 Round 3 Planning Grant	7
4.2 * Approve Resolution No. GSA 2019-04 Supporting the Upper Santa Clara River Integrated Regional Water Management Region's Application for a Department of Water Resource's Proposition 1 Round 1 Integrated Regional Water Management Implementation Grant	11
4.3 * Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC): (1) Status of SAC Activities (2) Approve Resolution No. GSA 2019-05 Establishing Principles, Goals and Objectives and Code of Conduct for Effective Operation of the SAC	17

5. CONSIDERATION OF POSSIBLE FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

6. ADJOURNMENT

- * Indicates attachment
- ◆ To be distributed

NOTICES:

Any person may make a request for a disability-related modification or accommodation needed for that person to be able to participate in the public meeting by telephoning (661) 297-1600, or writing to Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency at 27234 Bouquet Canyon Road, Santa Clarita, CA 91350. Requests must specify the nature of the disability and the type of accommodation requested. A telephone number or other contact information should be included so that Agency staff may discuss appropriate arrangements. Persons requesting a disability-related accommodation should make the request with adequate time before the meeting for the Agency to provide the requested accommodation.

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.5, non-exempt public records that relate to open session agenda items and are distributed to a majority of the Board less than seventy-two (72) hours prior to the meeting will be available for public inspection at the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency, located at 27234 Bouquet Canyon Road, Santa Clarita, California 91350, during regular business hours. When practical, these public records will also be made available on the Agency's Internet Website, accessible at <http://www.scvgsa.org>.

Posted on: October 1, 2019



Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency – June 10, 2019

A special meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SCV-GSA) was held at the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency, 27234 Bouquet Canyon Road, Santa Clarita, California 91350 in the Board Room at 2:30 PM on Monday, June 10, 2019. A copy of the Agenda is inserted in the Minute Book of the Agency preceding these minutes.

DIRECTORS PRESENT: B.J. Atkins, William C. Cooper, Maria Gutzeit, Bob Kellar, Gary Martin, Gina Natoli

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Adam Ariki

Also present: Steve Cole, Assistant General Manager, SCV Water; Tom Bunn, SCV-GSA General Counsel; Eunie Kang, SCV-GSA Board Secretary, Dirk Marks, Director of Water Resources, SCV Water; Rick Viergutz, Principal Water Resource Planner, SCV Water; Kathie Martin, Public Information Officer, SCV Water; Amy Aguer, Controller, SCV Water; Keith Abercrombie, Chief Operating Officer, SCV Water; Tara Bravo, CV Strategies; and various members of the public.

President Cooper called the meeting to order at 2:34 PM. A quorum was present.

There was public comment.

Item 1.4: Upon motion of Director Martin, seconded by Director Kellar and carried, the Agenda was approved by the following voice votes:

Director Ariki	Absent	Director Kellar	Yes
Vice President Atkins	Yes	Director Martin	Yes
President Cooper	Yes	Director Natoli	Yes
Director Gutzeit	Yes		

Item 2.1: Upon motion of Director Natoli seconded by Director Kellar and carried, the Board approved the Consent Calendar by the following voice votes:

Director Ariki	Absent	Director Kellar	Yes
Vice President Atkins	Yes	Director Martin	Yes
President Cooper	Yes	Director Natoli	Yes
Director Gutzeit	Abstain		

Item 3.1: (1) One written public comment was received. And in response to the written public comment General Counsel, Tom Bunn stated that a sub-consultant would not fall under the same designated position as a consultant and therefore, exempt from filing a Form 700 statement of economic interests.

(2) Upon motion of Director Kellar, seconded by Director Natoli and carried, the Board approved and adopted Resolution No. GSA 2019-02 Adopting A Conflict Of Interest Code by the following voice votes:

Director Ariki	Absent	Director Kellar	Yes
Vice President Atkins	Yes	Director Martin	Yes
President Cooper	Yes	Director Natoli	Yes
Director Gutzeit	Yes		

RESOLUTION NO. GSA 2019-02

RESOLUTION OF THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY ADOPTING A CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE

WHEREAS, the Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency (Agency) intends to adopt a Conflict of Interest Code pursuant to Government Code Section 87300 and 87306 pursuant to Government Codes Section 87302; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency Joint Powers Authority (Agency) was established on September 27, 2018; and

WHEREAS, on April 1, 2019, the Agency approved and adopted the Notice of Intention to adopt a Conflict of Interest Code and set a 45-day comment period; and

WHEREAS, during the 45-day comment period, the Board Secretary received one written comment in regards to the Agency’s Conflict of Interest Code.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency does hereby:

1. Adopt the attached Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency Conflict of Interest Code.
2. Authorize the Filing Officer to forward a copy of this Resolution to the Fair Political Practices Commission for review and approval as required by California Government Code Section 87303 and 2 California Code Regulations, 18750.1.

Item 3.2: Rick Viergutz gave a presentation on the Fiscal Year 2019/20 Budget. Upon motion of Director Gutzeit, seconded by Director Martin and carried, the Fiscal Year 2019/20 Budget was approved by the following voice votes:

Director Ariki	Absent	Director Kellar	Yes
Vice President Atkins	Yes	Director Martin	Yes
President Cooper	Yes	Director Natoli	Yes
Director Gutzeit	Yes		

Item 3.3: Kathie Martin and Tara Bravo gave a presentation on the formation plan for the SCV-GSA Stakeholder Advisory Committee. The Board discussed the selection process of the committee members/chairs and gave unanimous support to staff’s recommendation. President Cooper requested an amendment to the proposed committee member eligibility criteria to add: The following would be considered ineligible; any elected officials, SCV Water employee and any consultants currently hired and/or under contract with SCV Water.

There was public comment on item 3.3.

Upon motion of Director Martin and seconded by Director Kellar and carried, the Board approved the formation plan for the SCV-GSA Stakeholder Advisory Committee with the amendment by the following voice votes:

Director Ariki	Absent	Director Kellar	Yes
Vice President Atkins	Yes	Director Martin	Yes
President Cooper	Yes	Director Natoli	Yes
Director Gutzeit	Yes		

Item 4: There were no request for future agenda items.

Item 5: Upon motion of Vice President Atkins, seconded by Director Gutzeit and carried, the meeting was adjourned at 3:33 PM by the following voice votes:

Director Ariki	Absent	Director Kellar	Yes
Vice President Atkins	Yes	Director Martin	Yes
President Cooper	Yes	Director Natoli	Yes
Director Gutzeit	Yes		

Eunie Kang, Board Secretary

ATTEST:

President of the Board

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Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board Memorandum

DATE: October 1, 2019
TO: SCV-GSA Board of Directors
FROM: GSA Formation Work Group
SUBJECT: Quarterly Update on Groundwater Sustainability Plan Development

SUMMARY

During the last quarter significant progress was made with implementing the Stakeholder Advisory Committee application process. Other significant progress has been made by the technical consultant on compilation of data, work plan development for field work, and review of information regarding groundwater dependent ecosystems. In addition to consultant and grant management for the existing grant, staff efforts also include initiating development of a second grant application for the State's Sustainable Groundwater Management Program grant.

DISCUSSION

This memo describes key Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) development tasks that have taken place during July through September 2019, and describes key task that will take place during the next quarter.

July through September

The Stakeholder Advisory Committee application process was implemented. This process included development of guidance documents that lay out the overall approach and membership criteria for the committee. Efforts also included posting of materials on the SCV-GSA's website, outreach and advertising including a press release and electronic outreach.

Technical development focused primarily on Task 2, Data Review and Assessment, and Task 4, Groundwater/Surface Water Interconnection and Sustainability Criteria for GDEs. Early Task 2 work regarding compilation of existing data, and review of available well log data is substantially complete. This effort included review and organization of thousands of existing and recently obtained records relating to well locations, well logs, water elevations, water quality, and spatial data. Effort commenced, and will continue into the next quarter on development of a basic data management system required by the GSP regulations.

Task 4 work includes review of the Nature Conservancy's guidance on evaluation of groundwater dependent ecosystems (GDEs), and early application of that guidance document criteria to this groundwater basin to identify potential GDEs. Significant work will continue in this regard as the analysis is refined. Further, the understanding of groundwater surface water interactions will require installation of up to six shallow piezometers (temporary water level observation wells) and 40 temperature probes. Locating these measuring devices is guided by a

number of factors, such as general locations of groundwater dependent ecosystems and site availability. A work plan to execute field work is under development. The process to review and select existing geologic cross sections for the GSP is under way. Key effort is focused on using the significant existing data and work done in the past by Richard Slade, and adding limited data and clarifications as necessary.

We have initiated development of a grant application for the State's Sustainable Groundwater Management Program grant. Eligible work tasks have been identified, and where necessary new scopes, schedules, and budgets for components are under development. Consistent with the state requirements for the grant application, SCV Water adopted a resolution affirming its interest in applying for this grant, identifying matching funds, and executing a grant agreement. A similar resolution for this grant was prepared for the October 7, 2019 SCV-GSA Board meeting. The current estimated grant request is approximately \$500,000, and the final request may be larger. The grant application is due November 1, 2019.

October through December

Key work will include seating the Stakeholder Advisory Committee and beginning those meetings. This effort will include facilitation by our outreach consultant.

Technical work will include final development of the data management system, completing the identification and cataloging of groundwater dependent ecosystems, and installation of piezometers and temperature probes. Our goal is to begin monitoring piezometers and temperature probes near the end of this quarter.

The grant application will be submitted.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

There are no schedule concerns at this time. Work is within the adopted SCV-GSA budget. We anticipate utilizing contingency funds in FY 21/22 to cover an additional meeting and presentation from the technical consultant.



Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board Memorandum

DATE: October 1, 2019

TO: SCV-GSA Board of Directors

FROM: GSA Formation Work Group

SUBJECT: Approve a Resolution Authorizing SCV Water Agency to Apply for and Execute a Grant Agreement on Behalf of the SCV-GSA with the California Department of Water Resources for a Proposition 68 Round 3 Planning Grant

SUMMARY

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) has issued the Final Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP) for Planning Grants for the development or implementation of Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs). This is Round 3 of the DWR Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Planning Grant Program. The grant application period closes November 1, 2019.

DISCUSSION

In 2017, as authorized by the SCV-GSA Board, and SCV Water Board, staff applied for a Round 2 Sustainable Groundwater Management Planning Grant. The Round 2 application included work that was understood early in the process to be required, such as updating the groundwater model, studying groundwater surface water interactions, developing a water budget and data management system, and stakeholder engagement. SCV Water was awarded \$416,000 by DWR. This revenue directly offsets GSP development costs.

A public workshop was then held in June 2018 to present to stakeholders the anticipated GSP development process and timeline and get their input. Following that, the more comprehensive scope of consultant services for GSP development was developed. Three consultants were selected for multi-year contracts for GSP development totaling approximately \$1.43M. Total GSP cost for this effort, including other consultant work and staff time, is estimated at \$3.1M through Fiscal Year 2021/22.

Additional effort has since been identified to support GSP development. The SCV-GSA anticipates that one of project and management actions evaluated in the GSP will relate to groundwater recharge. The concept of augmenting groundwater recharge locally has been considered for some time. For example, the 2015 Urban Water Management Plan for the Santa Clarita Valley identifies that groundwater recharge through injection of imported water, or recharge with recycled water should continue to be evaluated with further study. Further study is described below, and will now be of specific use to the SCV-GSA in its GSP development.

SCV Water commenced work to conduct pilot studies in the basin to evaluate soil infiltration capacity for future groundwater recharge projects. Early reconnaissance and desk-top work has begun with field work anticipated to begin in November 2019. This field work will provide data and groundwater modeling to inform GSA member agency and stakeholder understanding of opportunities for groundwater recharge. Data and conclusions from this pilot study are relevant to GSP development and will be included in the GSP's Projects and Management Actions section.

The proposed Round 3 application provides opportunity to apply for additional funding in support of this more comprehensive work plan and to further offset GSP development costs. The PSP requires that the applicant provide a cost share of at least 25% of the total project cost (specific to the grant application). While the cost share provided under the Round 2 grant award cannot be counted in Round 3, sufficient expenditures will exist to meet local cost sharing.

Eligible tasks for funding under this opportunity have been identified, such as purchase and installation of pressure transducers with data loggers, separate data loggers for recording shallow groundwater temperature, peer review of the groundwater flow model, development of the hydrogeologic conceptual model, GSP document preparation, infiltration testing and pilot studies, evaluating projects and management actions, and staff time. Staff is working to refine eligible tasks and associated costs.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

DWR has indicated a preference for awarding funds to applicants that did not receive Round 2 funding, however, staff anticipates that the proposed grant application will score well be competitive.

The cost to prepare the grant application is estimated to be \$50,000 and application costs are included in the SCV-GSA FY 19/20 budget. Staff estimates a minimum grant request of \$500,000. If awarded, grant revenues will be used to offset SCV Water's costs to develop the GSP consistent with the Administrative Services Agreement.

RECOMMENDATION

The GSA Formation Work Group recommends that the Board of Directors adopt the attached resolution authorizing SCV Water's General Manager to apply for a Proposition 68 Round 3 Sustainable Groundwater Management Program Grant on behalf of the SCV-GSA identifying SCV Water as the Agency responsible for local cost share, and to execute an agreement with the State of California for a 2019 Sustainable Groundwater Management Planning Grant.

Attachment

RESOLUTION NO. GSA 2019-03

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
SANTA CLARITA VALLEY GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
AUTHORIZING THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY TO APPLY FOR AND
EXECUTE A GRANT AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE SCV-GSA WITH THE
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES FOR A PROPOSITION 68 ROUND 3
PLANNING GRANT**

WHEREAS, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) is administering the Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant Program using funds authorized by Proposition 68 and Proposition 1 to encourage sustainable management of groundwater resources that support the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA); and

WHEREAS, DWR has issued the Final Round 3 Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP) for Sustainable Groundwater Management Planning Grants related to development or implementation of GSPs; and

WHEREAS, the application period closes November 1, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency (SCV Water) is a member agency of the Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SCV-GSA); and

WHEREAS, on October 4, 2018, SCV Water and SCV-GSA entered into an Administrative Services Agreement requiring the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency (SCV Water) to administer the SCV-GSA and provide the majority of funding to develop the state-required Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP); and

WHEREAS, on September 3, 2019, SCV Water adopted Resolution SCV-120 affirming it would provide required cost share, apply for and execute the Round 3 grant agreement on behalf of the SCV-GSA if the SCV-GSA requests SCV Water perform this task; and

WHEREAS, the SCV-GSA is committed to completing, adopting, and then submitting the GSP to DWR by January 31, 2022.

WHEREAS, SCV Water is evaluating projects and requested grant amounts and anticipates a minimum grant request of \$500,000, but may request more grant funds as other eligible costs are identified; and

WHEREAS, consistent with the Administrative Services Agreement, if a Round 3 Grant is awarded, grant revenues will be used to offset SCV Water's costs to develop the GSP.

WHEREAS, the application process includes a requirement that the SCV-GSA adopt a resolution affirming it desires SCV Water to submit a grant application on its behalf; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors, the governing body of the Santa Clarita Valley Water Groundwater Sustainability Agency, resolves and orders as follows:

- (1) It desires SCV Water's General Manager to:
 - a. Apply for a Round 3 Sustainable Groundwater Management Program Grant on behalf of the SCV-GSA, identifying SCV Water as the agency responsible for the local cost share, and
 - b. Execute an agreement with the State of California for a 2019 Sustainable Groundwater Management Planning Grant.

President

I, the undersigned, hereby certify: That I am the Secretary of the Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency, and that at a regular meeting of the Board of Directors of said Agency held on October 7, 2019, the foregoing Resolution No. GSA 2019-03 was duly and regularly adopted by said Board, and that said resolution has not been rescinded or amended since the date of its adoption, and that it is now in full force and effect.

DATED: October 7, 2019

Secretary



Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board Memorandum

DATE: October 1, 2019

TO: SCV-GSA Board of Directors

FROM: GSA Formation Work Group

SUBJECT: Approve a Resolution Supporting the Upper Santa Clara River Integrated Regional Water Management Region's Application for a Department of Water Resource's Proposition 1 Round 1 Integrated Regional Water Management Implementation Grant

SUMMARY

The Upper Santa Clara River Integrated Regional Water Management region (USCR IRWM) seeks a resolution in support of the subject grant application. The six projects proposed under the grant application help improve regional self-reliance, groundwater sustainability, and the region's adaptation to climate change.

DISCUSSION

The Upper Santa Clara River Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (Plan) is a document developed by stakeholders and local agency representatives that serves to integrate regional water management in the watershed. Though these plans are not required by State regulation, they serve to provide a local structure to encourage stakeholders and local agency representatives to discuss water related needs of the region. Without such a Plan, state grant funds may not be pursued. Further, the Plan adheres to State guidance documents for identification of a region's critical needs. The Plan includes approximately 70 project ideas submitted by stakeholders and local agency representatives. Each project, if fully developed, will benefit integrated regional water management in one or more ways.

From time to time, the state makes grant funding available to the IRWM regions for projects included in each region's plan. A process then takes place to select a subset of the plan's projects for a grant application. That process was completed by the USCR IRWM and has resulted in the selection of six projects.

The state is offering approximately \$37M for the Los Angeles-Ventura Funding Area. Within this funding area, the USCR IRWM is competing for grant funding with the Watershed's Coalition of Ventura County region (WCVC) and the Greater Los Angeles region (GLA).

Following a pre-grant application workshop with the DWR, USCR IRWM is considering DWR's feedback on proposed projects and making clarifications in anticipation of submitting its final grant application. At this stage, we believe all six projects will be included in the December 2019 grant application.

Following is a brief description of the six projects and their benefits.

1. Construction of all or part of the South End Recycled Water Project (Phase 2C). The project will allow for distribution of approximately 670 acre feet per year (AFY) of recycled water by 2030. Use of recycled water provides for a locally reliable resource. The current project cost estimate is \$15.7M, and the current grant request is \$3M.
2. Construction of the Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Groundwater Treatment Project. This project will install a treatment system to remove PFAS from raw groundwater, allowing ongoing utilization of the local groundwater resources. If local groundwater production were taken offline due to PFAS contamination, additional SWP water may need to be imported. The PFAS project would reduce reliance on imported water and reduce greenhouse gas emissions embedded in water importation. The current project cost estimate is \$5M, and the current grant request is \$500,000.
3. Construction of the Valencia Water Reclamation Plant Advanced Water Treatment Facility. This project constructs a high efficiency reverse osmosis system at the water reclamation plant to reduce chloride discharge to the Santa Clara River. Reducing chloride discharged into the Santa Clara River improves water quality and benefits downstream beneficial uses. Climate change and longer drought periods can allow for increases in salt concentration in local groundwater and imported water (which is then discharged to the water reclamation plant). This project will help reduce the increased salt loads from climate variability. The current project cost estimate is \$112M, and the current grant request is \$3M.
4. Construction of the Los Angeles County Hasley Canyon Park Stormwater Capture Project. This project will construct an infiltration basin under the playing fields at Hasley Canyon Park, allowing for up to 38 AFY of stormwater capture and groundwater recharge. By capturing and infiltrating urban runoff, including capture and disposal of trash and pollutants, the project will improve water quality. The project will also decrease stream discharge rates that can lead to streambank erosion in Castaic Creek. The current project cost estimate is \$5.1M, and the current grant request is \$1M.
5. The City of Santa Clarita/Santa Clara River Conservancy Mapping and Managing Invasive Weeds in the Santa Clara Watershed is a three phase project that a) processes remote sensing data to evaluate location and density of invasive plant species along with ground confirmation, b) assesses sites with invasive species to determine probability for successful invasive species removal and habitat restoration, and c) implements removal, follow-up surveys and retreatment. Though this project is being spearheaded locally, the USCR IRWM is coordinating with downstream users and we expect the approach may be developed into a larger watershed approach in future years. Invasive plant species consume significant amounts of groundwater and can pose a fire risk. Invasive species removal allows more groundwater to remain in the system and reduces fire risk and associated fire related water quality issues. The current project cost estimate is \$860,000, and the current grant request is \$245,000.
6. Construction of the City of Santa Clarita Newhall Memorial Park Stormwater Retrofit Project. This project will construct an infiltration basin under the playing fields at Newhall Memorial Park which will infiltrate up to 147 AFY of stormwater per year into the alluvial aquifer and reduce stormwater bacteria and nitrate discharges to the Santa Clara River. SCV Water is also in discussions with the City to use this facility for groundwater

recharge with treated SWP water when excess capacity is available. The project will recharge the alluvial aquifer and can increase the resiliency of the SWP system. The current project cost estimate is \$21M, and the current grant request is \$3M.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The SCV-GSA budget does not include funding for these projects, and the USCR IRWM is not seeking SCV-GSA funding.

CONCLUSION

The USCR IRWM anticipates the above described projects will be included in its December 2019 grant application. Some clarifications to the projects are being made. Each project provides benefits for regional self-reliance, groundwater sustainability, and helps with the region's adaptation to climate change. The USCR IRWM is seeking a resolution in support of these projects.

RECOMMENDATION

The GSA Formation Work Group recommends that the Board of Directors adopt the attached resolution in support of the Upper Santa Clara River Integrated Regional Water Management Region's Application for a Department of Water Resources Proposition 1 Round 1 Integrated Regional Water Management Implementation Grant.

Attachment

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RESOLUTION NO. GSA 2019-04

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
SANTA CLARITA VALLEY GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
SUPPORTING THE UPPER SANTA CLARA RIVER INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER
MANAGEMENT REGION'S APPLICATION FOR A DEPARTMENT OF WATER
RESOURCE'S PROPOSITION 1 ROUND 1 INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER
MANAGEMENT IMPLEMENTATION GRANT**

WHEREAS, the Upper Santa Clara River Integrated Regional Water Management (USCR IRWM) Region's members and stakeholders have undergone a process to identify six projects for the Proposition 1 Round 1 Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Implementation Grant; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) grant eligibility checklist requires that projects in IRWM grant applications affecting groundwater should have the support of the local Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA); and

WHEREAS, at a well-attended September 10, 2019, public workshop with the Department of Water Resources, the USCR IRWM presented the following six projects that positively affect groundwater:

- Project 1 - Construction of all or part of the South End Recycled Water Project (Phase 2C)
- Project 2 - PFAS Groundwater Treatment Project
- Project 3 - Valencia Water Reclamation Plant Advanced Water Treatment Facility
- Project 4 - Los Angeles County Hasley Canyon Park Stormwater Capture Project
- Project 5 - City of Santa Clarita/Santa Clara River Conservancy Mapping and Managing Invasive Weeds in the SCR Watershed
- Project 6 - City of Santa Clarita Newhall Memorial Park Stormwater Retrofit Project; and

WHEREAS, the USCR IRWM is incorporating feedback from the DWR provided on these proposed projects; and

WHEREAS, all projects help the region adapt to climate change, improve regional self-reliance, and provide benefit to groundwater sustainability in various ways; and

WHEREAS, the USCR IRWM will formally submit the grant application in December 2019.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors, the governing body of the Santa Clarita Valley Water Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SCV-GSA), resolves and orders as follows:

The SCV-GSA supports each of the USCR IRWM projects because they serve to help the region adapt to climate change, improve regional self-reliance, and benefit groundwater sustainability.

President

I, the undersigned, hereby certify: That I am the Secretary of the Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency, and that at a regular meeting of the Board of Directors of said Agency held on October 7, 2019, the foregoing Resolution No. GSA 2019-04 was duly and regularly adopted by said Board, and that said resolution has not been rescinded or amended since the date of its adoption, and that it is now in full force and effect.

DATED: October 7, 2019

Secretary



Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board Memorandum

DATE: October 1, 2019

TO: SCV-GSA Board of Directors

FROM: GSA Formation Work Group

SUBJECT: Status of Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC) Activities and Approve a Resolution Establishing Principles, Goals and Objectives and Code of Conduct for Effective Operation of the SAC

SUMMARY

Significant effort has taken place in setting up the Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC) since the June 10, 2019 SCV-GSA meeting. Initial SAC setup activities were completed, additional time is being provided for representative selection, and Board adoption of a resolution to establish principles for the effective operation of the Stakeholder Advisory Committee is proposed today.

DISCUSSION

During the June 10, 2019 Board meeting, the Board directed staff to initiate creation of the SAC. The SAC will, through a consensus based process, provide insight, support and expertise on various social, cultural, and economic issues for the Board's consideration. The SAC role is strictly advisory and, as such, will not vote on Board items.

At the June SCV-GSA Board meeting, the Board adopted a SAC frame work that identified constituent groups, qualifications, terms, and selection criteria. It further approved an outreach effort to seek applicants for the SAC constituent group representatives. The six constituent groups are:

- Environmental
- Large Pumper
- Medium Pumper
- Small Pumper
- Business Community
- Members-At-Large (2 Representatives)

The Workgroup formally opened the Stakeholder Advisory Committee application process on September 5, 2019. It included Guidelines and Eligibility Criteria as part of the application packet. These criteria include roles and responsibilities, information about the application and selection, composition of the committee, meeting/attendance requirements, decision-making, a proposed Code of Conduct, as well as information on the Brown Act.

A total of 18 people completed applications before the initial deadline on September 20, 2019. Outreach included application solicitations through local media, social media and email to the established stakeholder list. The initial applications have been reviewed to ensure each met the eligibility requirements of the requested class.

Because the small pumpers stakeholder group had zero applicants, and the low number of applicants for several of the classes the Workgroup decided to extend the deadline for all applications through October 18, 2019.

Staff is engaging in an additional outreach effort through direct mail to the areas within the basin that are likely to include a high proportion of private well owners. Additionally, another email, press release and social media series have been completed, or are under way.

Next steps for the SAC after the application deadline closes are described below. A single meeting will be held for each applicant group, at which candidates will vote for a single representative for the Stakeholder Advisory Committee. For the Members-at-Large category, two candidates will be self-selected. These candidates will represent the general public and not be affiliated with any of the classes already represented on the committee.

We propose holding a Special SCV-GSA Board meeting in early November 2019 to formally seat the Stakeholder Advisory Committee and assign its first topic. The first topic is expected to be a review of the essential elements of the Sustainable Groundwater Management act and GSP regulations.

Upon final applicant selection and approval of the Stakeholder Advisory Committee, all members will review the operating principals established by SCV-GSA which are discussed below. Members will also need to complete all ethical training and requirements to be in compliance with the Brown Act in advance of the first scheduled meeting in February 2020. The Stakeholder Advisory Committee will also need to create a calendar for an estimated 15-20 meetings and six public workshops through December 2021.

ESTABLISHING PRINCIPLES FOR EFFECTIVE OPERATION OF SAC

Effective operation of a Stakeholder Advisory Committee is critical to the SCV-GSA's interest in providing a reasonable process for stakeholder input. A clear set of operating principles, goals and objectives, and code of conduct will create and uphold constructive dialogue and opportunities for stakeholder input.

Proposed Overarching Principals – An overarching set of SCV-GSA principles are critical to creating a transparent and efficient stakeholder process. The proposed principles follow:

1. **Transparency:** The Committee system is transparent and consultative, and all members have the opportunity to provide meaningful input into development of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan.
2. **Efficiency:** Committee time is used in ways to make efficient and effective use of time to discuss and deliberate on significant issues and areas of focus assigned by the SCV-GSA. Effective contribution of committee members requires they be appropriately informed and prepared before a meeting.

3. **Accountability:** The committee will be held to the highest standards of accountability as representatives of the community, as stated in the Stakeholder Advisory Group Guidelines, and will be subject to the Brown Act.

Proposed Committee Goals & Objectives - Clear goals and objectives are needed to guide the SAC as it works towards providing input for GSP development and are proposed below:

1. Help to guide the Stakeholder discussion regarding groundwater sustainability for the Santa Clara River Valley East Subbasin
2. Represent the community in a meaningful fashion and provide input to the SCV-GSA Board of Directors and/or the Committee facilitator
3. Strive to balance the needs of local residents, pumpers, businesses and environment, while identifying solutions for groundwater basin stewardship
4. Balance stakeholder input and scientific focus on technical matters

Proposed Code of Conduct - The SAC process is designed to encourage the committee to reach consensus. Representatives may be passionate about particular issues, and discussion may include agreement, disagreement, and deliberation. In this environment the following code of conduct is proposed:

1. Attend all meetings consistent with the Stakeholder Advisory Committee Guidelines;
2. Listen respectfully and do not talk over others;
3. Consider all viewpoints;
4. Participate in decision-making;
5. Ask questions to improve understanding;
6. Negotiate in good faith; and
7. Represent interests of and report back to respective stakeholders.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Work relating to the formation and facilitation of the SAC is included in the FY 19/20 through FY 21/22 budget.

RECOMMENDATION

The GSA Workgroup recommends Board approve the attached resolution identifying the Principles for Effective Operation of the Stakeholder Advisory Committee.

Attachment

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RESOLUTION NO. GSA 2019-05

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY ESTABLISHING PRINCIPLES, GOALS AND OBJECTIVES AND CODE OF CONDUCT FOR EFFECTIVE OPERATION OF THE STAKEHOLDER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, the Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SCV-GSA) has determined a Stakeholder Advisory Committee is beneficial and necessary to provide input and expertise to Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) development; and

WHEREAS, the effectiveness of a Stakeholder Advisory Committee is increased when business is conducted consistent with certain overarching principles and; through identification and communication of key principles; and

WHEREAS, the Board has considered the following Overarching Principles:

1. **Transparency:** The Committee system is transparent and consultative, and all members have the opportunity to provide meaningful input into development of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan.
2. **Efficiency:** Committee time is used in ways to make efficient and effective use of time to discuss and deliberate on significant issues and areas of focus assigned by the SCV-GSA. Effective contribution of committee members requires they be appropriately informed and prepared before a meeting.
3. **Accountability:** The committee will be held to the highest standards of accountability as representatives of the community, as stated in the Stakeholder Advisory Group Guidelines, and will be subject to the Brown Act.

WHEREAS, the effectiveness of a Stakeholder Advisory Committee will be enhanced by business being conducted with clear Goals and Objectives; and

WHEREAS, the Board has considered the following Goals and Objectives:

1. Help to guide the Stakeholder discussion regarding groundwater sustainability for the Santa Clara River Valley East Subbasin
2. Represent the community in a meaningful fashion and provide input to the SCV-GSA Board of Directors and/or the Committee facilitator
3. Strive to balance the needs of local residents, pumpers, businesses and environment, while identifying solutions for groundwater basin stewardship
4. Balance stakeholder input and scientific focus on technical matters

WHEREAS, the Stakeholder Advisory Committee effectiveness will be enhanced when business is conducted within the parameters of a defined Code of Conduct to maintain an environment for constructive dialogue; and

WHEREAS, the Board has reviewed the following Committee Code of Conduct:

1. Attend all meetings consistent with the Stakeholder Advisory Committee Guidelines;
2. Listen respectfully and do not talk over others;
3. Consider all viewpoints;
4. Participate in decision-making;
5. Ask questions to improve understanding;
6. Negotiate in good faith; and
7. Represent interests of and report back to respective stakeholders.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency does hereby: finds that the Establishing Principles for Effective Operation of the Stakeholder Advisory Committee is necessary to allow for a reasonable process to allow the Stakeholder Advisory Committee to provide input on Groundwater Sustainability Plan development; and hereby establishes the above Overarching Principles, Goals and Objectives and Code of Conduct for effective operation of the Stakeholder Advisory Committee.

President

I, the undersigned, hereby certify: That I am the Secretary of the Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency, and that at a regular meeting of the Board of Directors of said Agency held on October 7, 2019, the foregoing Resolution No. GSA 2019-05 was duly and regularly adopted by said Board, and that said resolution has not been rescinded or amended since the date of its adoption, and that it is now in full force and effect.

DATED: October 7, 2019

Secretary