Monday, July 12, 2021 at 2:30 p.m.

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Please Provide Public Comment by 12:00 pm the day of the meeting* by either email or mail.

E-mail comments to:
ekang@scvwa.org

- Or -

Mail comments to:

Eunie Kang
Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency
27234 Bouquet Canyon Road
Santa Clarita, CA 91350

*All written comments received after 12:00 pm the day of the meeting will be posted to **scvgsa.org** the next day. Disclaimer: Pursuant to the Executive Order N-08-21 Issued by Gov. Newsom, public may not attend meetings in person. Public may use the above methods to attend and participate in the public board meetings.

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NOTICE AND AGENDA OF SPECIAL BOARD MEETING OF SANTA CLARITA VALLEY GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY BOARD

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

WEB AND TELECONFERENCE ONLY
NO PHYSICAL LOCATION FOR MEETING

Monday, July 12, 2021, at 2:30 PM

WEB AND TELECONFERENCING NOTICE

Pursuant to the provisions of Executive Order N-08-21 issued by Governor Gavin Newsom on June 11, 2021, any Director may call into an Agency Board meeting using the Agency's **Call-In Number 1 (833) 568 8864, Webinar ID: 160 015 3225 or Zoom by clicking on the link https://scvwa.zoomgov.com/j/1600153225** without otherwise complying with the Brown Act's teleconferencing requirements.

Pursuant to the above Executive Order, the public may not attend the meeting in person. Any member of the public may listen to the meeting or make comments to the Board using the call-in number or GoToMeeting link above. Please see the notice below if you have a disability and require an accommodation in order to participate in the meeting.

We request that the public submit any comments in writing if practicable, which can be sent to ekang@scvwa.org or mailed to Eunie Kang, Board Secretary, Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency, 27234 Bouquet Canyon Road, Santa Clarita, CA 91350. All written comments received before 12:00 PM the day of the meeting will be distributed to the Board members and posted on the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency website prior to the start of the meeting. Anything received after 12:00 PM the day of the meeting will be posted on the SCV-GSA website the following day.

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 within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Agency that are 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 at the time each item is considered. (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.

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			PAGE
2.1	*	Approve Minutes of the April 5, 2021, Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency Regular Board of Directors Meeting	1
2.2	*	Approval of Rotational Schedule to Appoint SCV-GSA Board President and Vice President	7

3. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION AGENDA ITEMS

ITEMS			PAGE
3.1	*	Adopt Fiscal Year 2021/22 Budget	9
3.2	*	Overview of SCV-GSA Groundwater Sustainability Plan – Projects and Management Actions Public Workshop held on June 2, 2021	27
3.3		Presentation on Status of Groundwater Model Peer Review	
3.4	*	Status Update of Sustainable Groundwater Management Plan (SGMA) Implementation Activities	29
3.5	*	Recommendation of Postponement of the SCV-GSA Regular Board Meeting on October 4, 2021	33

4. CLOSED SESSION – SEPARATE DIAL-IN TELECONFERENCE LOGIN INFORMATION WILL BE PROVIDED TO THE BOARD AND APPROPRIATE STAFF

4.1 Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation
Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) or (3) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9: one case

OPEN SESSION CONTINUES WITH THE ZOOM WEBINAR LOGIN INFORMATION LISTED ON THE FIRST PAGE OF THIS AGENDA

5. CLOSED SESSION ANNOUNCEMENTS

6. DIRECTOR REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

7. ADJOURMENT

*** 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 Eunie Kang, Secretary to the Board of Directors, at (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 July 7, 2021

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DRAFT

ITEM NO. 2.1

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency – April 5, 2021

A regular board meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SCV-GSA) was held via web and teleconference at 2:30 PM on Monday, April 5, 2021. A copy of the Agenda is inserted in the Minute Book of the SCV-GSA preceding these minutes.

DIRECTORS PRESENT: B.J. Atkins, Russ Bryden, William C. Cooper, Maria Gutzeit, Gary Martin, Gina Natoli, Jason Gibbs

DIRECTORS ABSENT: None

Also present via web and teleconference: SCV-GSA General Counsel Tom Bunn, SCV-GSA Board Secretary Eunie Kang, SCV Water; Assistant General Manager Steve Cole, Director of Water Resources Dirk Marks, Principal Water Resource Planner Rick Viergutz, Communications Manager Kathie Martin; and various members of the public.

President Atkins called the meeting to order at 2:30 PM. A quorum was present.

Item 1.3: There was no public comment.

Item 1.4: Upon motion of Director Martin, seconded by Vice President Natoli and carried, the Agenda was approved by the following roll call votes:

President Atkins	Yes	Director Gutzeit	Yes
Director Bryden	Yes	Director Martin	Yes
Director Cooper	Yes	Vice President Natoli	Yes
Director Gibbs	Yes		

Item 2: Upon motion of Director Cooper, seconded by Director Gutzeit and carried, the Board approved the Consent Calendar by the following roll call votes:

President Atkins	Yes	Director Gutzeit	Yes
Director Bryden	Yes	Director Martin	Yes
Director Cooper	Yes	Vice President Natoli	Yes
Director Gibbs	Yes		

Item 3.1: Steve Cole introduced for Board consideration on the proposed rotation schedule for filing the SCV-GSA Board President and Board Vice-President positions.

After discussion, the Board agreed on the recommended schematic for the 2021 Board President and Board Vice-President positions which the Board will appoint at agenda item 4. Further, the Board tabled the approval of the rotating schedule to appoint future Board President and Board Vice President positions and asked that the GSA staff redesign the schematic and bring back to the Board for consideration at the next regular SCV-GSA board meeting.

There was public comment on item 3.1.

Item 3.2: Upon motion of Director Cooper, seconded by Director Martin and carried, the Board approved the SCV-GSA Resolution No. GSA 2021-01 Revising Norms and Expectations for the Stakeholder Advisory Committee with the last six words “or include it in campaign materials” omitted from the fifth (5) bullet point relevant clause of the Resolution and the Agreement to Abide by the Norms and Expectations for the Stakeholder Advisory Committee by the following roll call votes:

President Atkins	Yes	Director Gutzeit	Yes
Director Bryden	Yes	Director Martin	Yes
Director Cooper	Yes	Vice President Natoli	Yes
Director Gibbs	Yes		

There was public comment on item 3.2.

RESOLUTION NO. GSA 2021-01

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEYGROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY REVISING NORMS AND EXPECTATIONS FOR THE STAKEHOLDER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, in Resolution No. GSA 2019-05, the Board of Directors, seeking significant outreach and public process, established the Stakeholder Advisory Committee and established Norms and Expectations for the committee; and

WHEREAS, the Resolution provided that the Board of Directors could dismiss and appoint replacement committee members consistent with the guidelines in Resolution No. GSA 2019-06; and

WHEREAS, the Resolution required committee members to adhere to the Norms and Expectations; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors wishes to revise the Norms and Expectations to add a provision regarding ballot designations for elective office;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Norms and Expectations are revised to read as follows:

- Demonstrate good manners, courtesy, and consideration.
- Respect your fellow advisory committee members and elected officials.
- Conduct yourself in a professional way in meetings and in the public.
- Members may never use the position to solicit for personal gain.
- Members may not use their position on the committee as a basis for a ballot designation, profession, or occupation for elective office.
- During meetings, stay on task in accordance with the presented agenda.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, members must agree in writing to abide by the Norms and

Expectations as a condition of being appointed to or remaining on the committee.

SANTA CLARITA GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

STAKEHOLDER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

AGREEMENT TO ABIDE BY NORMS AND EXPECTATIONS

I, _____, agree to abide by the Norms and Expectations for the Stakeholder Advisory Committee established by the Board of Directors, as follows. I understand that I must agree to the Norms and Expectations as a condition of being appointed to or remaining on the committee.

- I agree to demonstrate good manners, courtesy, and consideration.
- I agree to respect my fellow advisory committee members and elected officials.
- I agree to conduct myself in a professional way in meetings and in the public.
- I agree never to use the position to solicit for personal gain.
- I agree it is improper to use my position on the committee as a basis for a ballot designation, profession, or occupation for elective office, and I agree not to do so.
- During meetings, I agree to stay on task in accordance with the presented agenda.

Dated: _____ _____

Item 3.3: Rick Viergutz presented a status update of the Sustainable Groundwater Plan (SGMA) Implementation Activities.
Topics covered:

- SCV-GSA SAC Meeting and Public Workshops
- Development of GSP Monitoring Program
- Development of Projects and Management Actions

Item 3.4: Upon motion of Vice President Natoli, seconded by Director Martin and carried, the Board approved the use of contingency funds for the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Outreach Consultant CV Strategies by the following roll call votes:

President Atkins	Yes	Director Gutzeit	Yes

Director Bryden	Yes	Director Martin	Yes
Director Cooper	Yes	Vice President Natoli	Yes
Director Gibbs	Yes		

Item 3.5: Rick Viergutz provided a status update of the IRWM and Measure W
Topics covered:

- Draft and Final Grant Agreement
- Future Round 2 Funding
- Safe Clean Water Program
- Arundo Removal
- Stormwater Recharge Projects

There was public comment on item 3.5.

Item 3.6: Steve Cole gave a verbal update on the status of the Bouquet Canyon Creek. The GSA staff and LA County Department of Public Works interim is working on solutions and improvements. Recently, SCV Water approved a grant funded project to pursue a pipeline improvement along Bouquet Canyon towards Vasquez and LARC Ranch location.

Item 3.7: Upon motion of Director Gibbs, seconded by Vice President Natoli and carried, the Board approved the Postponement of the Regular Board Meeting on Monday, July 5, 2021, to Monday, July 12, 2021, by the following roll call votes:

President Atkins	Yes	Director Gutzeit	Yes
Director Bryden	Yes	Director Martin	Yes
Director Cooper	Yes	Vice President Natoli	Yes
Director Gibbs	Yes		

Item 4: Upon motion of Director Marin, seconded by Director Cooper and carried, Vice President Natoli was elected to the position of Board President and Director Gutzeit was elected to position of Board Vice President by the following roll call votes:

President Atkins	Yes	Director Gutzeit	Yes
Director Bryden	Yes	Director Martin	Yes
Director Cooper	Yes	Vice President Natoli	Yes
Director Gibbs	Yes		

President Natoli officiated the remainder of the meeting.

Item 5: Director Atkins requested a periodic update on the status of the Bouquet Canyon Creek.

Item 6: The meeting was adjourned at 4:23 PM.

Eunie Kang, Board Secretary

ATTEST:

President of the Board

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ITEM NO. 2.2

Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board Memorandum

DATE: July 12, 2021

TO: SCV-GSA Board of Directors

FROM: SCV-GSA Staff

SUBJECT: Approval of Rotational Schedule to Appoint the SCV-GSA Board President and Vice President

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SUMMARY:

This item provides clarification on the rotation schedule for filling the GSA Board leadership positions through 2025, based on input from the board at the last meeting.

DISCUSSION:

Comments on the last proposed schedule asked to add names to the chart.

This chart reflects the GSA board members as of July 2021. Should changes in representation occur, it is anticipated that the board leadership position would go to the current representative for the designated agency at the time of the GSA board leadership selection. An agency representative may decline the leadership position assigned to them.

It was also mentioned that SCVWA seats should be intermixed with non-SCVWA member seats. For clarification, while the four SCVWA seats are listed consecutively, in all cases except 2019, the two leadership positions are made up of one from SCVWA and one from another member agency.

SEAT	2017/18	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
SCVWA 1 - Cooper	Pres	Pres						VP
SCVWA 2 - Martin						VP	Pres	
SCVWA 3 - Atkins		VP	Pres					
SCVWA 4 - Gutzeit				VP	Pres			
LAWW - Bryden					VP	Pres		
City of SC -Gibbs	VP (Kellar)						VP	Pres
LACDRP - Natoli			VP	Pres				

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

None.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Directors approve the rotational schedule to appoint the SCV-GSA Board President and Vice President.

ITEM NO. 3.1

Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board Memorandum

DATE: July 12, 2021

TO: SCV-GSA Board of Directors

FROM: SCV Water

SUBJECT: Adopt Fiscal Year 2021/22 Budget

SUMMARY:

The SCV-GSA Joint Powers Agreement provides for the SCV-GSA adopting a fiscal year (FY) budget, or alternatively automatically renewing the previous year's budget. Staff recommends adoption of the FY 21/22 budget described in this memorandum and summarized in Tables 1 through 3.

The $1,194,888 budget reflects a change in timing of previously approved budget expenditures from the FY 20/21 budget and new expenditures including substantial refinements of GSP implementation costs informed by GSP development. Work needed to complete the GSP and initiate GSP implementation work is described in the body of this memorandum. Consistent with past practice, staff has included in the attached budget tables estimates of previous fiscal year actuals and an estimate for the next fiscal year.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

This Board Memorandum follows the same narrative and table structure presented to your Board at its May 5, 2020, Board meeting.

Key changes from the previous estimated budgets are summarized below:

Table 1: "Estimated SCV Water Staff Costs + Ad Buys"

No budget changes proposed from last year's 21/22 budget estimate.

Table 2 "Estimated Consultant Costs"

Due to the pandemic and delays in site access agreements and other factors, field work (including piezometers and infiltration tests) was substantially delayed within the GSP Technical Consultant category (GDE Monitoring) and within the separate Infiltration Testing and Pilot Studies category. The work is still considered valuable and the costs are carried forward to FY 21/22 and FY 22/23. Additional scope was also added to the Infiltration Testing and Pilot studies work (approved by your Board in October).

The Pre GSP Adoption Rate Study estimate of $50,000 was eliminated, and the Post GSP Adoption Rate Study estimate of $75,000 was moved from FY 20/21 to FY 21/22.

Consultant cost estimates for Post GSP Adoption Activities (AKA GSP Implementation) are now significantly more detailed as informed by the GSP development process. Additional refinement of GSP Implementation costs are expected following the completion of the GSP later this calendar year.

Table 3 “Budget Summary”

Additional revenue required for 21/22 is increased over the previous year’s budget estimate, due to incurring deferred work and some other scope increases. We plan to maximize the amount of reimbursement available from the Round 2 and Round 3 grants in FY 21/22. As a result, the FY 21/22 budget recommendation is $1,194,888, an increase of $587,648 over last year’s budget projection.

Also included in this year’s budget tables is a preliminary estimate of expenditures for FY 22/23. This is provided for information only and is not part of the action being requested of your board under this memorandum.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

Expenditure Categories

The proposed FY 21/22 Budget along with estimates for FY 22/23 budgets are shown on the following Tables:

- Table 1. Estimated SCV Water Costs + Ad Buys
- Table 2. Estimated Consultant Costs
- Table 3. Budget Summary

Table 1. Estimated SCV Water Costs + Ad Buys

This expenditure category includes administrative, consultant management and technical services, public outreach support, and ad buys. Administrative expenditures include preparation of Board packets and minutes, financial statements, annual audits, and grant administration. The consultant management services category includes all phases of consultant contract administration, management and technical review of GSP work products. Though staff hours for GSP development will decline this calendar year with completion of the GSP, the team will transition to GSP implementation in 21/22 and 22/23. The Public outreach category includes coordination with the GSP consultant as necessary for stakeholder engagement and advertisement purchases.

No changes are proposed to last year’s budget projection of $114,000 for FY 21/22. The newly added 22/23 budget year estimate is $103,000, which is similar to the previous year’s estimates but reflects a transition from GSP development to GSP implementation.

Table 2. Estimated Consultant Costs

Consultant Cost Estimate for GSP Development
Work under this category includes key technical tasks for GSP development, including groundwater modeling, analysis related to evaluating groundwater dependent ecosystems, incorporation of existing information into a data management system, data incorporation into the hydrogeologic conceptual model, piezometer installation for understanding groundwater surface water interactions and GDE evaluation, and completion of the draft and final GSP.

Site access constraints and the pandemic put a hold on field work (primarily monitoring well installation and temperature probe installation) under the GSP Technical Consultant and Infiltration and Pilot Studies categories, and expected costs were not incurred in 20/21. These work efforts have been deferred and costs now included in FY 21/22. Due to deferral, there is some overlap of GSP Development with GSP

implementation such as with well surveying and inputting data into the data management system. Further, the budget proposal reflects additional scope was added to the R3 Infiltration Testing and Pilot Studies category (as approved by your Board in October 2020).

Recent budget reviews for implementing drilling work for GDE monitoring and equipment installation were undertaken and with the passage of time costs have risen some and are putting pressure on this budget category. Though we do not have a site access agreement with the property owner downstream of I-5 the property owner has indicated plans to install several piezometers consistent with the proposed GSP monitoring approach and working with the SCV-GSA to evaluate data. Potential effects to the GSAs budget for another party installing monitoring wells are being evaluated.

As a result, the FY 21/22 budget recommendation is $702,688, an increase of $255,648 over last year's budget projection (Table 2A). This increase is primarily related to deferred work now included in FY 21/22 and an increase in the Infiltration Testing and Pilot study contract.

The newly added 22/23 budget year estimate is $50,000 reflecting completion of infiltration testing and pilot studies. The net change between FY 18/19 and 22/23 for this category is $47,574 (Table 2A).

Consultant Cost Estimate for Contingency Funded Items

Since the previous budget adoption in May 2020 your Board authorized use of contingency funds for the technical consultant and stakeholder engagement consultant. The authorized contingency funds have been moved from these rows into the consultant contract rows. $34,497 contingency remains for the GSP technical consultant.

The newly added 22/23 budget year estimate is $0 since the associated contracts for GSP development will be completed.

Consultant Cost Estimate for Administration

This budget category includes funds for grant applications, rate studies, insurance, legal, and annual audit costs.

The earlier budgeted FY 20/21 expenses for budget category Pre GSP Rate Study for Fee Collection ($50,000) were set to zero since this work was ultimately not necessary ahead of GSP completion because the JPA fully funded development of the GSP. The earlier budgeted FY 20/21 expenses for budget category Rate Study for Post GSP Adoption Fee Collection ($75,000) are now transferred to FY 21/22. The funds for a rate study would be utilized if your Board determines that an additional source of revenue is required to meet implementation objectives.

As a result, the FY 21/22 budget recommendation is $96,200, an increase of $75,000 over last year's budget projection (Table 2B).

The newly added 22/23 budget year estimate is $27,500 for insurance, legal, and annual audit costs. The net change between FY 18/19 and 22/23 for this category is (22,500) (Table 2B).

Consultant Costs Estimate for Post GSP Adoption Activities

Since the previous budget adoption, the GSP team has considered stakeholder input and SGMA requirements and prepared the draft GSP chapter on Projects and Management Actions. This draft chapter

reflects a more complete understanding of the potential GSP implementation steps and as such we have revised and or inserted new budget categories for consultant services.

The first budget category relates to *Addressing Data Gaps*. This includes field surveying of well heads, the river thalweg near GDE monitoring wells, LA County benchmarks (for subsidence monitoring), GDE evaluations if needed, and management of the Data Management System. This fee includes $20,000 for water quality analyses from ten private wells in FY 21/22. Consultant costs are estimated at $64,000 in FY 21/22. SCV Water staff would provide key support in surveying and water quality sampling.

The second, third, and fourth categories are for *Monitoring, Reporting, and Outreach.*

- Consultant services include monitoring, drafting an annual report on the monitoring effort, surveying of benchmark elevations, developing an outreach plan for extraction reporting, and management of the Data Management System. This fee also includes $20,000 for water quality analyses from ten private wells in FY 22/23. Consultant costs are estimated at $62,000 in FY 21/22 and $93,000 in FY 22/23. SCV Water would provide key support in surveying and water quality sampling.
- Consultant services include support for promoting best management practices for private well operators, such as for water conservation and would include assistance with outreach and meetings if needed. Services would also include database management. Consultant costs are estimated at $11,000 each year. SCV Water would provide key support in using its existing water conservation programs and experience to coordinate water conservation communication and any programs with private well owners.
- Consultant services for the basin wide monitoring evaluation and preparation of an annual report, along with database maintenance are necessary for compiling and evaluating the GSP monitoring plan annually, evaluating alternatives to respond to any GDE triggers, use of the groundwater flowmodel, and preparation of the required annual report. This also includes $20,000 for GDE evaluation if needed in FY 22/23. SCV Water would provide key support with this work as needed. Consultant costs are estimated at $70,000 in FY 21/22 and $90,000 in 22/23.

The fifth budget category includes consultant support for responding to Department of Water Resources Comments on the Draft GSP at $50,000 in FY 22/23.

The sixth budget category reflects evaluation of optional projects considered with Projects and Management Actions, (potentially including evaluation of a water line connection along Placerita Canyon Road to provide excess water to upland trees upstream of the Placerita Nature Center). Consultant costs are estimated at $75,000 in FY 21/22 and $50,000 in FY 22/23. Earlier budget values were $25,000 each FY.

As a result, the FY 21/22 budget recommendation is $282,000, an increase of $257,000 over last year's budget projection (Table 2C).

The newly added 22/23 budget year estimate is $294,000 for ongoing implementation activities. The net change between FY 18/19 and 22/23 for this category is $576,000 (Table 2C).

<u>Summary for all Task 2 Items above</u>
As a result, the FY 21/22 budget recommendation is $1,080,888, which is $587,648 higher than last year's budget estimate. This increase is primarily made up of deferred field work costs being incurred in 21/22, and the more fully informed scope and costs for Draft Projects and Management Actions. The newly added 22/23 budget year estimate is $371,500 for estimated consultant costs.

Table 3. Budget Summary Including Anticipated Revenue

Anticipated Revenue
Expenditures under this category recognize the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) provides several opportunities to raise revenue and grants broad authority to GSAs to carry out the objectives of SGMA.

Chapter 8 of SGMA is applicable to GSP development and operation of the GSA after the GSP is completed. Chapter 8 provides that a GSA may, prior to adoption of a GSP, impose fees, including but not limited to permit fees and fees on groundwater extraction to fund the costs of a groundwater sustainability program, including but not limited to preparation, adoption, and amendment of a GSP and investigations, inspections, compliance assistance, enforcement and program administration including a prudent reserve.

At this time, three revenue sources exist to support the SCV-GSA through the completion of the GSP in FY 2021/22. These are grant reimbursements from the R2 grant, R3 grant, and member contributions. Annual member contributions of $20,000 are provided by the County of Los Angeles, City of Santa Clarita, Los Angeles County Waterworks District 36, Val Verde, and Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency consistent with the Joint Powers Agreement. The balance of revenue is anticipated to be provided by SCV Water under the terms of the Administrative Services Agreement and is shown on Table 3, Budget Summary, as Additional Revenue Required. The source for the additional contributions is the general fund/operating budget and fund balance of SCV Water.

The Round 2 and 3 Grant Agreements provide up to $1,307,159 in grant revenue. Under the Administrative Services Agreement, SCV Water will use R2 and R3 grant reimbursement to offset its expenditures under the Additional Revenue Required category.

The recommended 21/22 budget and estimated 22/23 budget reflect changes in Budget Categories 1 and 2, completing the draw on R2 and R3 grant revenue in FY 21/22, and transition of staff time and consultant contracts to GSP implementation. Additional revenue required in FY 21/22 is estimated at $561,981. Additional revenue required for FY 22/23 is estimated at $394,500.

CONCLUSION:

Development of the GSP is anticipated to be completed by the end of calendar year 2021. Budget narratives above provide an overview of the work in each budget category, highlighting proposed revisions since your Board adopted a budget in May 2020.

Today's report recommends no changes to last year's 21/22 budget estimates for Table 1 Estimated SCV Water Staff Costs + Ad Buys, but recommends increases in Table 2 Estimated Consultant Costs which stem from incurring previously deferred field work costs in 21/22, as well as new scope informed by the GSP development process. There have been changes in the approach to install wells downstream from I-5 Bridge and potential budget changes are being evaluated. Table 3 Additional Revenue Required is higher in FY 21/22 than the previous estimate due to these same factors.

The largest consultant cost estimate increases result from new scope informed by the development of the GSP's Draft Projects and Management Actions. These revised costs are $282,000 in FY 21/22 and a new estimated cost for 22/23 of $294,000. This in part driven by deferring establishment of additional groundwater monitoring base data to GSP implementation.

Much of the work for preparation of the GSP is accomplished through the Administrative Services Agreement with SCV Water. Accordingly Exhibit A of that agreement will need to be updated to reflect the FY 21/22 Budget and the newly-added budget estimates for FY 22/23.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the SCV-GSA Board:

1) Adopt the proposed FY 21/22 budget detailed in the attached Tables 1, 2, and 3.
2) Replace the Administrative Service's Agreement's Exhibit A with Tables 1, 2, and 3.

Attachments:

Table 1. Estimated SCV Water Staff Costs Through GSP Development
Table 2. Estimated Consultant Costs
Table 2A. Update to Consultant Cost Estimates for GSP Development
Table 2B. Update to Consultant Cost Estimates for Administration
Table 2C. Update of Consultant Cost Estimates for Post GSP Adoption (GSP Implementation)
Table 3. Budget Summary
May 5, 2020, Adopted Budget

Table 1. Estimated SCV Water Staff Costs + Ad Buy

	FY 18/19	FY 19/20	FY 20/21	FY 21/22	FY 22/23	Total
SCV Water Administrative Support	$6,000	$12,000	$15,000	$15,000	$15,000	$63,000
SCV Water Consultant Management and Technical Services	$78,000	$75,000	$80,000	$80,000	$80,000	$393,000
SCV Water Support with Public Outreach	$2,000	$5,000	$9,000	$9,000	$5,000	$30,000
Ad Buys for Outreach	$3,000	$4,000	$10,000	$10,000	$3,000	$30,000
Total SCV Water Staff Cost	**$89,000**	**$96,000**	**$114,000**	**$114,000**	**$103,000**	**$516,000**

Table 2. Estimated Consultant Costs

	FY 18/19	FY 19/20	FY 20/21	FY 21/22	FY 22/23	Total
Consultant Cost Estimate for GSP Development						
Groundwater Model Readiness-Additional Calibration of Modflow USG	$35,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$35,000
RFP Development- Status of Groundwater Model Memo	$5,800	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$5,800
RFP Development - Consultant Assistance in Drafting RFPs and Reviewing Proposals	$20,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$20,000
GSP Technical Consultant	$37,883	$516,121	$570,000	$448,942	$ -	$1,572,946
R3 Grant Application Tech Support for Meetings	$ -	$ -	GSP Tech	GSP Tech	$ -	$ -
R3 Grant Application GSP Tech Consultant Install of Pressure Transducers, Data Loggers, Temperature Data Loggers	$ -		GSP Tech	GSP Tech	$ -	$ -
GSP Stakeholder Engagement Consultant	$5,976	$66,365	$70,000	$30,159	$ -	$172,500
GSP Grant Administration Consultant	$2,625	$2,500	$10,000	$13,682	$ -	$28,807
Peer Review Group to evaluate Modflow USG for suitability.	$ -	$ -	$80,000	$20,000	$ -	$100,000
R3 Grant Application Incremental Cost for GW Flowmodel Peer Review	$ -	$ -	GSP Tech	GSP Tech	$ -	$ -
R3 Grant Application Infiltration Testing and Pilot Studies	$ -	$57,696	$50,000	$155,408	$50,000	$313,104
Subtotal	**$107,284**	**$642,682**	**$780,000**	**$668,191**	**$50,000**	**$2,248,157**
Consultant Cost Estimate for Contingency Fund	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -

15% Contingency for Stakeholder Engagement Consultant	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
15% Contingency for GSP Technical Consultant	$ -	$ -	$ -	$34,497	$ -	$34,497
Subtotal	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$34,497**	**$ -**	**$34,497**
Total Consultant Cost Estimate for Technical Development	**$107,284**	**$642,682**	**$780,000**	**$702,688**	**$50,000**	**$2,282,654**

Table 2A. Update to Consultant Cost Estimates for GSP Development

	FY 18/19	FY 19/20	FY 20/21	FY 21/22	FY 22/23	Total
SCV-GSA Adopted 20/21 budget table (May 2020)	$113,863	$658,275	$1,015,902	$447,040	$ -	$2,235,080
Proposed 21/22 budget (July 2021)	$107,284	$642,682	$780,000	$702,688	$50,000	$2,282,654
Change (new minus old budget)	**$ (6,579)**	**$ (15,593)**	**$ (235,902)**	**$255,648**	**$50,000**	**$47,574**

Table 2. Estimated Consultant Costs (continued)

Consultant Cost Estimate for Administration	**FY 18/19**	**FY 19/20**	**FY 20/21**	**FY 21/22**	**FY 22/23**	**Total**
Grant Application Cost	$ -	$33,504	$ -	$ -	$ -	$33,504
Pre GSP Adoption Rate Study for Fee Collection	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Rate Study for Post GSP Adoption Fee Collection	$ -	$ -	$ -	$75,000	$ -	$75,000
Agency Insurance through JPIA	$2,500	$2,500	$2,500	$2,500	$2,500	$12,500
Legal	$15,000	$15,000	$15,000	$15,000	$15,000	$75,000
Annual Audit Costs	$3,288	$3,353	$3,420	$3,700	$10,000	$23,761
Subtotal	**$20,788**	**$54,357**	**$20,920**	**$96,200**	**$27,500**	**$219,765**

Table 2B. Update to Consultant Cost Estimates for Administration

	FY 18/19	FY 19/20	FY 20/21	FY 21/22	FY 22/23	Total
SCV-GSA Adopted 20/21 budget table (May 2020)	$20,788	$54,357	$145,920	$21,200		$242,265
Proposed 21/22 budget (July 2021)	$20,788	$54,357	$20,920	$96,200	$27,500	$219,765
Change (new minus old budget)	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ (125,000)**	**$75,000**	**$27,500**	**$ (22,500)**

Table 2. Estimated Consultant Costs (continued)						
Consultant Cost Estimate for Post GSP Adoption Activities	**FY 18/19**	**FY 19/20**	**FY 20/21**	**FY 21/22**	**FY 22/23**	**Total**
Addressing Data Gaps: Elevation survey's (wells and thalweg), domestic well sampling, subsidence benchmark elevation monitoring, GDE evaluations. Database maintenance	$ -	$ -	$ -	$64,000	$ -	$64,000
Monitoring, Reporting, Outreach: Monitoring, Drafting Report, Surveying bench marks, outreach plan, Database Maintenance	$ -	$ -	$ -	$62,000	$93,000	$155,000
Monitoring, Reporting, Outreach: Promoting Best Management Practices for private well operators. Database maintenance	$ -	$ -	$ -	$11,000	$11,000	$22,000
Monitoring, Reporting, Outreach: Basin-wide Monitoring Evaluation and Annual Report. GDE Evaluation. Database maintenance	$ -	$ -	$ -	$70,000	$90,000	$160,000
Response to DWR Comments on submitted GSP	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$50,000	$50,000
Project Development (Feasibility Studies, CEQA, design, construction, O&M)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$75,000	$50,000	$125,000
Subtotal	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$282,000**	**$294,000**	**$576,000**
Total Consultant Cost Estimate All Categories	**$128,072**	**$697,039**	**$800,920**	**$1,080,888**	**$371,500**	**$3,078,419**

Table 2C. Update of Consultant Cost Estimates for Post GSP Adoption (GSP Implementation)						
	FY 18/19	**FY 19/20**	**FY 20/21**	**FY 21/22**	**FY 22/23**	**Total**
SCV-GSA Adopted 20/21 budget table (May 2020)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$25,000		
Proposed 21/22 budget (July 2021)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$282,000	$294,000	$576,000
Change (new minus old budget)	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$257,000**	**$294,000**	**$576,000**

Table 3. Budget Summary

Budget Summary	FY 18/19	FY 19/20	FY 20/21	FY 21/22	FY 22/23	Total
Table 1. Total Estimated SCV Water Staff	**$89,000**	**$96,000**	**$114,000**	**$114,000**	**$103,000**	**$516,000**
Table 2. Total Estimated Consultant Services*	**$128,072**	**$697,039**	**$800,920**	**$1,080,888**	**$371,500**	**$3,078,419**
Total Estimated Staff and Consultant	**$217,072**	**$793,039**	**$914,920**	**$1,194,888**	**$474,500**	**$3,594,419**
Anticipated Revenue						
Estimated R2 Grant Reimbursement	$ -	$134,423	$172,783	$108,900	$ -	$416,106
Estimated R3 Grant Reimbursement	$ -	$ -	$447,152	$444,007	$ -	$891,159
Member Agency Contributions	$80,000	$80,000	$80,000	$80,000	$80,000	$400,000
Subtotal	$80,000	$214,423	$699,935	$632,907	$80,000	$1,707,265
Additional Revenue Required*	$137,072	$578,616	$214,985	$561,981	$394,500	$1,887,154
Total Revenue for GSP Development and Implementation	**$217,072**	**$793,039**	**$914,920**	**$1,194,888**	**$474,500**	**$3,594,419**
Balance	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**

*SCV Water may, in its discretion, advance these funds, or provide a voluntary non-reimbursable Member contribution

Santa Clarita Valley
Groundwater Sustainability Agency
Board Memorandum

DATE: May 5, 2020

TO: SCV-GSA Board of Directors

FROM: SCV Water

SUBJECT: Adopt Fiscal Year 2021/22 Budget

SUMMARY

On May 12, 2020, the SCV-GSA Board adopted the fiscal year 20/21 budget and reviewed budget projections from FY 18/19 through FY 21/22. The SCV-GSA Joint Powers Agreement identifies the SCV-GSA should adopt a FY budget by June of each year, and this Board letter presents the proposed FY 21/22 budget, and updates budget projections through FY 22/23. This budget is being considered in July to track with the regular Board meeting schedule.

The proposed budget reflects a number of changes more fully described below. Changes include timing of previously approved budget expenditures.

With approval of the budget: FY 21/22 projected expenditures are increased by $407,159 to $1,014,400. These increased 21/22 expenditures result largely from deferred field work expenses from the previous fiscal years, and to a lesser degree an increase in scope for the infiltration testing and pilot studies related to addition of a new site and additional mobilization.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

This Board Memorandum follows the same narrative and table structure presented to your Board at its May 5, 2020, Board meeting.

Key changes from the previous estimated budgets are summarized below:

Costs in Table 1 “Estimated SCV Water Staff Costs + Ad Buys” have been significantly reduced because earlier staff cost estimates assumed 50% more meetings, and other factors. As a result, the FY 20/21 budget has been reduced by $172,320 over last year’s 20/21 budget projection. The net cost reduction in this category through FY 21/22 has been reduced by $572,345.

Costs in Table 2 “Estimated Consultant Costs” have been revised to reflect:

- Additional scope related to the need for additional meetings with the GSP Technical Consultant and additional technical study, made part of the Round 3 Sustainable Groundwater Management Planning (R3) grant application:
  - Consultant technical support for meetings
  - Installation of water level and temperature data loggers
  - Additional funding for Groundwater Flowmodel Peer review

        - Infiltration Testing and Pilot Studies. Importantly, this study is applicable to GSP development, costs are already authorized and being incurred by SCV Water, and costs were included in the R3 grant application to facilitate reimbursement

    - Lower cost for preparing the Round 3 Sustainable Groundwater Management Planning (R3) grant application

    - Moving costs for the Pre GSP Adoption Rate Study from FY 19/20 to FY 20/21.

As a result, the FY 20/21 budget has been increased by $417,682 over last year's 20/21 budget projection. The net cost increase in this category through FY 21/22 is $365,955.

Costs in Table 3 "Anticipated Revenue" have been revised to reflect:

- Changes in Table 1 and 2 described above
- $891,159 new grant revenue, and some timing changes in R2 grant reimbursement.

As a result, through FY 21/22, there is a net cost reduction of $206,390. Further, revisions in timing of grant revenue and the new Round 3 Draft Grant Agreement results in a very significant reduction of $1.098 million in Additional Revenue Required.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Expenditure Categories

The proposed FY 20/21 Budget along with estimates for FY 21/22 budgets are shown on the following Tables:

- Table 1. Estimated SCV Water Costs + Ad Buys
- Table 2. Estimated Consultant Costs
- Table 3. Budget Summary

Table 1. Estimated SCV Water Costs + Ad Buys

The SCV Water staff support expenditure category includes administrative, consultant management and technical services, and public outreach support. Administrative expenditures include preparation of Board packets and minutes, financial statements, annual audits, and grant administration. Consultant management services include all phases of consultant contract administration, management and technical review of GSP work products. Public outreach expenditures include coordination with the GSP consultant as necessary for stakeholder engagement and advertisement purchases.

Significant reductions in anticipated staff costs are proposed. Earlier staff cost estimates assumed approximately 50% more SCV-GSA Board meetings and associated report writing, support for a Technical Advisory Group, and additional staff involvement. A Technical Advisory Group was not formed and is not anticipated at the level previously imagined.

As a result, the FY 20/21 budget has been reduced by $172,320 over last year's 20/21 budget projection. The net cost reduction in this category through FY 21/22 has been reduced by $572,345.

Table 2. Estimated Consultant Costs

Consultant Cost Estimate for GSP Development
Work under this category includes groundwater modeling analysis related to evaluating groundwater dependent ecosystems, and incorporation of much of The Nature Conservancy's Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem guidance document, incorporation of existing information into: a data management system and that data incorporation into the hydrogeologic conceptual model, and incorporation into the groundwater flowmodel (if necessary).

All increased costs in this category are included in the R3 grant application and draft grant agreement allowing for 75% reimbursement of costs by the State. Significant changes here include additional consultant costs related to technical support for meetings. This funding will support what we now see as a slightly higher consultant workload to support technical meetings and the Stakeholder Advisory Committee. New costs also include installation of numerous data loggers for groundwater elevation and water temperature. The earlier scope of work anticipated measuring water elevations and water temperature manually monthly or quarterly but given additional research by the GSP Technical Consultant on the importance of measuring small changes in water levels and temperature over 24-hour periods additional funding is proposed. A modest amount of additional funding: $25,000 has been added to the previously approved $100,000 for groundwater model peer review to reflect a more current estimate. Finally, increased costs are included for work already under way commenced by SCV Water for Infiltration Testing and Pilot Studies. The results of this study are fully anticipated to inform the GSP chapter on Projects and Management Actions and as such are recommended to be included in the SCV GSA budget to allow for reimbursement of this important work.

As a result of shifting some costs to different FYs, and new costs, the FY 20/21 budget has been increased $366,748 over last year's 20/21 budget projection. The net cost increase in this category through FY 21/22 has been increased by $433,690.

Consultant Cost Estimate for Contingency Funded Items
Consultant proposals provide necessary components to complete the GSP; however, the consultant's scope and budget are focused, and therefore not structured to adapt to significant scope change. The biggest risk to scope change at this time relates to increases in scope for additional ("ad hoc") technical analyses and additional meetings with consultants. We anticipate scope change may result from referral of stakeholder concerns (captured as part of the required public process) to consultants for more detailed follow up outside of their scope.

A similar possibility for increases in scope relates to the role of a Technical Advisory Group (TAG). These groups can be assembled for a range of focused to broad purposes. The most focused purpose is assembly of a TAG at the request of the Work Group or Consultant to include others with specialized knowledge or skill for a limited and focused purpose. The GSP Technical Consultant's proposal includes a budget for four TAG meetings for this focused purpose.

No changes are recommended to the funding values.

Consultant Cost Estimate for Administration through Fiscal Year 21/22
This budget category includes funds for grant applications, rate studies, insurance, legal and annual audit costs.

Key changes in this category include lower consultant costs for the Round 3 Sustainable Groundwater Management Planning (R3) grant application. The application cost estimate was budgeted at $75,000 but

completed for $33,504. The earlier budget estimate for Annual Audit Costs was revised downward to reflect actual costs. Also, $50,000 for a GSP rate study was moved from FY 19/20 to FY 20/21.

As a result of lower than anticipated costs and shifting the cost from the GSP rate study from FY 19/20 to FY 20/21, the FY 20/21 budget has been increased $43,420. The net cost decrease in this category through FY 21/22 has been decreased by $67,735 to a new cost of $242,265.

Consultant Costs Estimate for Post GSP Adoption starting in Fiscal Year 21/22
This budget category includes annual fees for database maintenance, data entry, and development of the DWR-required annual report.

No changes are proposed in this expenditure category.

Summary for all Task 2 Items above
As a result, the FY 20/21 budget has been increased by $417,682 over last year's 20/21 budget projection. The net cost increase in this category through FY 21/22 is $365,955.

Table 3. Budget Summary Including Anticipated Revenue

Anticipated Revenue
Expenditures under this category recognize the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) provides several opportunities to raise revenue and grants broad authority to GSAs to carry out the objectives of SGMA. Chapter 8 of SGMA is applicable to GSP development and operation of the GSA after the GSP is completed. Chapter 8 provides that a GSA may, prior to adoption of a GSP, impose fees, including but not limited to permit fees and fees on groundwater extraction to fund the costs of a groundwater sustainability program, including but not limited to preparation, adoption, and amendment of a GSP and investigations, inspections, compliance assistance, enforcement and program administration including a prudent reserve. At this time, three revenue sources exist to support the SCV-GSA through the preparation of the GSP in FY 2021/22. These are grant reimbursements from the R2 and R3 grants, and member contributions.

The County of Los Angeles, the City of Santa Clarita, Los Angeles County Waterworks District 36, Val Verde, and Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency will each contribute a non-reimbursable $20,000 per year for their share of administrative and GSP costs. The balance of revenue is anticipated to be provided by SCV Water under the terms of the Administrative Services Agreement and is shown on Table 3, Budget Summary, as Additional Revenue Required. The source for the additional contributions is the general fund/operating budget and fund balance of SCV Water.

The Round 2 Grant Agreement provides up to $416,106 in grant revenue. The Round 3 Grant Agreement provides up to $891,159 in grant revenue.

Through FY 21/22, there is a net cost reduction of $206,390 due to changes in Tables 1 and 2. Further, revisions in timing of grant revenue and the new Round 3 Draft Grant Agreement results in a very significant reduction of $1.098 million in Additional Revenue Required. On behalf of the SCV-GSA, SCV Water entered into the Round 2 Grant Agreement, and intends to execute the Round 3 Grant Agreement by May 15, 2020. Under the Administrative Services Agreement, SCV Water will use R2 and R3 grant reimbursement to offset its expenditures under the Additional Revenue Required category.

The proposed FY 20/21 Budget and revised budget projection through FY 21/22 reflect a revision to the timing of revenue reflected under the Estimated Grant Reimbursement category, and revision to the

Additional Revenue Required category. As a result, the Additional Revenue Required category has been reduced by $1.098 million. Additional revenue required is now $1.288 million.

CONCLUSION

Development of the GSP will take approximately one and a half more year. Budget narratives above provide an overview of the work in each budget category, highlighting proposed revisions since your Board last considered this in June 2019. Significant reductions in budget in Table 1 Estimated SCV Water Costs + Ad Buys are proposed. Budget increases are proposed for Table 2 Estimated Consultant Costs. A significant reduction in Table 3 Additional Revenue Required is proposed.

Proposed revisions decrease the overall estimated cost through FY 21/22 to $2.915 million. Much of the work for preparation of the GSP is accomplished through the Administrative Services Agreement with SCV Water. Accordingly Exhibit A of that agreement will need to be updated to reflect the FY 20/21 Budget and the budget estimates for FY 21/22.

RECOMMENDATION

That the SCV-GSA Board:

1) Adopt the proposed FY 20/21 budget detailed in the attached Tables 1, 2, and 3.
2) Replace the Administrative Service's Agreement's Exhibit A with Tables 1, 2, and 3.

Attachments:

Table 1. Estimated SCV Water Staff Costs Through GSP Development
Table 2. Estimated Consultant Costs
Table 3. Budget Summary

Table 1. Estimated SCV Water Staff Costs + Ad Buy

	FY 18/19	FY 19/20	FY 20/21	FY 21/22	TOTAL
SCV Water Administrative Support	$6,000	$12,000	$15,000	$15,000	$48,000
SCV Water Consultant Management & Technical Services	$78,000	$75,000	$80,000	$80,000	$313,000
SCV Water Support with Public Outreach	$2,000	$5,000	$9,000	$9,000	$25,000
Ad Buys for Outreach	$3,000	$4,000	$10,000	$10,000	$27,000
Total SCV Water Staff Cost	**$89,000**	**$96,000**	**$114,000**	**$114,000**	**$413,000**

Table 2. Estimated Consultant Costs

	FY 18/19	FY 19/20	FY 20/21	FY 21/22	TOTAL
Consultant Cost Estimate for GSP Development					
Groundwater Model Readiness - Additional Calibration of Modflow USG	$35,000				$35,000
RFP Development - Status of Groundwater Model Memo	$5,800				$5,800
RFP Development – Consultant Assistance in Drafting RFP's and Reviewing Proposals	$20,000				$20,000
GSP Technical Consultant	$37,883	$400,000	$528,667	$285,000	$1,251,550
R3 Grant Application Tech Support for Meetings			$15,000	$14,980	$29,980
R3 Grant Application GSP Tech Consultant Install of Data Loggers			$132,160		$132,160
GSP Stakeholder Engagement Consultant	$5,976.00	$50,000	$50,000	$44,024	$150,000
GSP Grant Administration Consultant	$2,625	$2,500	$10,000	$13,682	$28,807
Peer Review Group to Evaluate Modflow USG for Suitability		$15,000	$45,000	$40,000	$100,000
R3 Grant Application Incremental Cost for GW Flowmodel Peer Review			$25,000		$25,000
R3 Grant Application Infiltration Testing and Pilot Studies		$123,275	$123,275		$246,550
Subtotal	**$107,284**	**$590,775**	**$929,102**	**$397,686**	**$2,024,847**
Consultant Cost Estimate for Contingency Fund					
15% Contingency for Stakeholder Engagement Consultant	$896	$7,500	$7,500	$6,604	$22,500
15% Contingency for GSP Technical Consultant	$5,682	$60,000	$79,300	$42,750	$187,733
Subtotal	**$6,579**	**$67,500**	**$86,800**	**$49,354**	**$210,233**
Total Consultant Cost Estimate for Technical Development	**$113,863**	**$658,275**	**$1,015,902**	**$447,040**	**$2,235,080**
Consultant Cost Estimate for Administration					
Grant Application Cost		$33,504			$33,504
Pre GSP Adoption Rate Study for Fee Collection			$50,000		$50,000
Rate Study for Post GSP Adoption Fee Collection			$75,000		$75,000
Agency Insurance through JPIA	$2,500	$2,500	$2,500	$2,500	$10,000
Legal	$15,000	$15,000	$15,000	$15,000	$60,000
Annual Audit Costs	$3,288	$3,353	$3,420	$3,700	$13,761
Subtotal	**$20,788**	**$54,357**	**$145,920**	**$21,200**	**$242,265**
Consultant Cost Estimate for Post GSP Adoption Activities					
Required Annual Report, Monitoring, Reporting, Database Maintenance				$25,000	$25,000

Project Development (CEQA, Design, Construction, O&M)					
Subtotal				**$25,000**	**$25,000**
Total Consultant Cost Estimate All Categories	**$134,651**	**$712,632**	**$1,161,822**	**$493,240**	**$2,502,345**

Table 3. Budget Summary

Budget Summary	**FY 18/19**	**FY 19/20**	**FY 20/21**	**FY 21/22**	**TOTAL**
Table 1. Total Estimated SCV Water Staff	**$89,000**	**$96,000**	**$114,000**	**$114,000**	**$413,000**
Table 2. Total Estimated Consultant Services*	**$134,651**	**$712,632**	**$1,161,822**	**$493,240**	**$2,502,345**
Total Estimated Staff and Consultant	**$223,651**	**$808,632**	**$1,275,822**	**$607,240**	**$2,915,345**
Anticipated Revenue					
Estimated R2 Grant Reimbursement	$10,000	$150,000	$150,000	$106,000	$416,000
Estimated R3 Grant Reimbursement			$445,580	$445,580	$891,159
Member Agency Contributions	$80,000	$80,000	$80,000	$80,000	$320,000
Additional Revenue Required*	$133,651	$578,632	$600,243	$(24,340)	$1,288,186
Total Revenue for GSP Development	**$223,651**	**$808,632**	**$1,275,822**	**$607,240**	**$2,915,345**
Balance					

*SCV Water may, in its discretion, advance these funds, or provide a voluntary non-reimbursable Member contribution

ITEM NO. 3.2

Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board Memorandum

DATE: July 12, 2021

TO: SCV-GSA Board of Directors

FROM: SCV-GSA Staff

SUBJECT Overview of SCV-GSA Groundwater Sustainability Plan - Projects and Management Actions Public Workshop held on June 2, 2021

SUMMARY:

The public Groundwater Sustainability Workshop on Projects and Management Actions was held virtually on June 2, 2021, with 34 participants. The event generated two questions/feedback and zero feedback forms from attendees. In general, the workshop presentation was well received, and staff addressed the two plan comments.

At the SAC debrief meeting on June 9, members reviewed feedback on the presentation and the draft technical memos.

DISCUSSION:

Stakeholder Advisory Committee Meeting Feedback
The SAC had minimal feedback at their pre-workshop meeting on May 19, 2021.

Outreach
Extensive outreach was made prior to the workshop to draw attendance.

OUTLET	Impressions/ Engagement/Details
Facebook promo w/The Signal	56,000
Facebook (agency profile)	93 reach/10 engagements
Instagram	208 impressions/2 engagements
Twitter	230 impressions/4 engagements
Constant Contact email	Twice to GSA list (308 contacts)
GSA Website views (6/1-6/16)	143 users / 557 page views
*Press Release published:	The Signal
	SCV News
	KHTS
Print ad in The Signal	12,000 print /300,000 digital readership
Digital ad on The Signal daily e-blast	250,000 impressions

*The press release was sent to a distribution list of about 40 names, including local and regional media, SCV Chamber, VIA, water industry publications and more.

Public Workshop
Workshop Feedback

At the recommendation of the SAC, all SAC members and SCV Water staff were identified in the public meeting virtual platform by adding their affiliation after their name.

The following questions were submitted by attendees during the Public Workshop: Projects and Management Actions:

- How does water input at the old Castaic school in the north constitute adding water on the east side?

General Groundwater Sustainability Plan Feedback
These were the comments received on the Groundwater Sustainability Plan:

- So, I continue to raise the flag that I think that the threshold levels are too low. How quickly can you make that change? If you are going down the road where everything is just copacetic? And then all of a sudden we hit the trigger? How quickly can you make that change?

Next Steps
The staff and consultant team will review the submitted questions and identify those which should be added to the Frequently Asked Questions on the website. All questions are being archived for the record and will include a link to the location in the meeting when it was answered.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

None.

RECOMMENDATION:

None.

ITEM NO. 3.4

Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board Memorandum

DATE: July 12, 2021

TO: SCV-GSA Board of Directors

FROM: SCV-GSA Staff

SUBJECT: Status Update of Sustainable Groundwater Management Plan (SGMA) Implementation Activities

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OVERVIEW:

Under its contract with the SCV-GSA, SCV Water Staff has continued to coordinate and manage technical analysis as well as the robust stakeholder engagement in the development of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan. The GSP development schedule plans for Board consideration of the Final GSP in December 2021.

This board memo provides additional detail and context for key work undertaken by the SCV-GSA's Stakeholder Communication and Engagement Consultant (CV Strategies), and the SCV-GSA's Technical Consultant (GSI Water Solutions, Inc.).

This memo provides updated information since our April 2021 Status Update. It provides details on recent key accomplishments, descriptions of essential consultant work, and a six month look ahead.

Current Status and Recent Key Accomplishments

Technical:

- The Stakeholder Advisory Committee held a special meeting to consider proposed Sustainable Management Criteria and voted to support it as proposed by the GSP team. One dissenting vote was cast.
- The Monitoring Program Draft Technical Memorandum was completed.
- The Projects and Management Actions Draft Technical Memorandum was completed.
- The Groundwater flowmodel peer review efforts were substantially completed.
- We obtained the County of Los Angeles Site Access Agreement.
- Public input on all previously provided Draft Technical Memoranda was considered and, where appropriate, clarifications and corrections made to memoranda.
- An early internal draft GSP was completed and reviewed by the team. This draft includes all required GSP sections, as informed where necessary by the earlier technical memoranda. For reference, earlier technical memoranda are included in the draft's appendices.

- The following draft technical memoranda have been shared with stakeholders:
    - Groundwater Surface Water Interactions
    - Potential Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems
    - Hydrogeologic Conceptual Model
    - Groundwater Budget
    - Sustainable Management Criteria
    - Monitoring Program
    - Projects and Management Actions

Outreach:

- Completion of the Sustainable Management Criteria workshop activities, including the pre-workshop Stakeholder Advisory Committee meeting (SAC), the public workshop, and the SAC debrief afterwards. This incorporated input from three initial discussions with the SAC on this topic, as well as a GSA Board discussion.
- Continued updating of the public outreach and workshop sections of the GSA website to make accessible all workshop resources, including videos, handouts, and recordings of meetings. https://scvgsa.org/public-input/#public-workshops
- Continued extensive outreach through social media, digital ads, partnerships with local media and email newsletters to encourage participation in the GSP development process.

Fiscal and Grants:

- Staff prepared quarterly reports and invoices pursuant to the Round 2 and Round 3 grant agreements that ultimately may provide reimbursement up to $416,000 and $891,159 reimbursement, respectively. To date, the grants have provided a total reimbursement of $754,340.

Six Month Look Ahead (June-December 2021)

Early Admin Draft GSP provided to Stakeholder Advisory Committee.	Fri	07/16/21
Stakeholder Advisory Committee Meeting to provide input on the Early Admin Draft GSP. (Following input, the technical team will prepare the Public Draft GSP)	Tues	08/03/21
Public Draft GSP released	Mon	08/16/21
Workshop 8 on the Draft GSP will be held. Public input will be considered.	Wed	08/25/21
90-Day Notice of Public Hearing provided to City and County per SGMA regulations.	Tue	08/31/21
Last Scheduled Stakeholder Advisory Committee Meeting - debrief Workshop 8. (Following input, the technical team will prepare a summary of changes and/or potential changes)	Wed	09/08/21
60-day public review period ends.	Fri	10/15/21
Tentative Special SCV-GSA Board Workshop. (Staff presents Draft GSP, and describes summary of changes and/or potential changes and seeks BoD direction)	Wed	10/20/2021 2 p.m.

Final GSP Released (Will include a summary of changes)	Mon	11/22/21
Special Public Hearing Outreach Begins	Wed	12/01/21
Tentative Special SCV-GSA Board Meeting when Board of Directors considers approval of GSP	Wed	12/15/2021 6 p.m.
Submit to DWR	Wed	12/22/21

Outreach:

Completion of Workshop Cycle 8 on the Draft GSP.

This will include delivery of the draft GSP to the SAC and one SAC discussions prior to the public workshop scheduled for August 25, 2021. A post-workshop SAC meeting will be held to debrief and provide input on the final outreach report for the topic.

Initial Work for release of the Final GSP.

This will include outreach for the 60-day public comment period for the Draft GSP, and outreach for the public hearing where the GSP will be considered for adoption.

Public Workshop Cycle:

- Advertising (e-news; press release; social media; video)
- Workshop preparation (handouts; survey/comment cards; displays; presentations)
- Stakeholder Advisory Committee – pre-workshop meeting to review above)
- Public Workshop (August 25, 2021)
- Stakeholder Advisory Committee – post-workshop debriefs
- Public input assessment report

Notable Discussion at Previous Stakeholder Advisory Committee

There was ongoing discussion about minimum thresholds and GDE trigger levels. The SAC previously voted to support the approach, with one member dissenting. Recall that the minimum alluvial GDE trigger levels are set at historic low groundwater levels experienced in the 2012-2016 drought because these levels are considered protective because they did not lead to a permanent loss of riparian habitat. A special interim action trigger, two feet above the historic low groundwater elevation, was developed for the aquatic habitat at the I-5 bridge where unarmored three spine stickle back habitat exists to provide additional protection for this special habitat. If triggers are reached, a GDE evaluation process will take place and if undesirable results are anticipated, management actions per the GSP would be implemented to avoid undesirable results.

One member of the SAC objected to the thresholds as being too low to be protective of the resources, noting concerns about possible die-off of habitat. Another SAC member noted that the thresholds and triggers are based on modeling and technical analysis. Raising them without supporting data could be seen as arbitrary. The member also noted that the physical, financial and environmental costs of higher thresholds must also be factored in. For example, reducing groundwater extractions earlier than necessary would lead to greater financial costs of imported water, as well as the related environmental costs in the delta that are associated with exporting water.

There was another discussion following the presentation from Jacobs Engineering on their Groundwater Flowmodel Peer Review process. SAC members asked questions ranging from model consideration of past and future water elevations, if the peer review process resulted in changes to the model that result in changes to the materials presented to the SAC, and if the SAC would be advised of any critical changes made to the GSP resulting from peer review.

There was also a discussion about state of knowledge regarding land surface elevations in the basin, that tectonics plays a role in land surfaces moving up and down, and SGMA requires GSAs avoid permanent (inelastic) land subsidence caused by groundwater extraction. The discussion also covered how monitoring would be conducted moving forward.

CHALLENGES/OPPORTUNITIES:

Longstanding delays with City and County approval of site access agreements have been overcome. We still do not have a site access agreement with the property owner downstream of I-5 and resolution of any site access agreement is undetermined. However, the downstream property owner has indicated plans to install several piezometers consistent with the proposed GSP monitoring approach and then working with the SCV-GSA to evaluate data. There are clear benefits with this approach if implemented. Benefits include working cooperatively with the land owner to evaluate data, time savings for the SCV-GSA, potentially cost savings. Without this voluntary work from the land owner, data gaps will exist and still need to be filled.

In the longer term the SGMA process contemplates an adaptive management process where ongoing data collection and operational experience will be incorporated to achieve sustainability within twenty years. Such lessons learned will be incorporated into GSP updated that are required every five years.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

Consultant contracts for the GSP technical consultant, and Stakeholder Engagement Consultant are on track. Recent budget reviews for implementing drilling work and equipment installation were undertaken and with the passage of time costs have risen some and are putting pressure on this budget category.

CONCLUSIONS:

Significant progress has taken place this last quarter. Several meetings with the Stakeholder Advisory Committee have taken place regarding the Monitoring Program, and Projects and Management Actions. Future monitoring with new instrumentation is still desired and will be completed to the maximum extent. The next six months include release of the draft GSP, and Board consideration of the final GSP. We will continue the robust Stakeholder Advisory Committee process, public workshops, and briefings with the Board.

ITEM NO. 3.5

Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board Memorandum

DATE: July 12, 2021

TO: SCV-GSA Board of Directors

FROM: SCV-GSA Staff

SUBJECT: Recommendation of Postponement of the SCV-GSA Regular Board Meeting on October 4, 2021

SUMMARY/DISCUSSION:

The public comment period for the draft GSP will conclude on October 15, 2021. Following that we would like to present the draft GSP to the Board, describe public input and how it has been considered, and then obtain the Board's input and direction on the draft GSP.

Holding the Board meeting before the public comment period ends will not provide the Board with the most complete picture of public comment, and staff recommends changing the date of the SCV-GSA Regular Board meeting on Monday, October 4 at 2:30 p.m. to Wednesday, October 20 at 2:00 p.m.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

None at this time.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Directors approve the postponement of the Regular Board meeting on Monday, October 4, 2021, at 2:30 p.m., to Wednesday, October 20, 2021, at 2:00 p.m.