

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency – October 3, 2022

A regular board meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SCV-GSA) was held in person at 2:30 PM on Monday, October 3, 2022. A copy of the Agenda is inserted in the Minute Book of the SCV-GSA preceding these minutes.

DIRECTORS PRESENT: William C. Cooper, Sami Kabar (Alternate for Russ Bryden), Maria Gutzeit, Gary Martin, Piotr Orzechowski

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Russ Bryden, Jason Gibbs, Gina Natoli

Also present in person: SCV-GSA General Counsel Tom Bunn, SCV-GSA Board Secretary Eunie Kang; SCV Water Assistant General Manager Steve Cole, Principal Water Resource Planner Rick Viergutz, Communications Manager Kathie Martin, Chief Financial and Administrative Officer Rochelle Patterson, and Controller Amy Aguer. Attending virtually were Jeff Barry and John Porcello with GSI Water Solutions, Inc., and various members of the public.

President Gutzeit called the meeting to order at 2:31 PM. A quorum was present.

Item 1.3: There was public comment.

Item 1.4: Upon motion of Director Cooper, seconded by Director Orzechowski and carried, the Agenda was approved by the following roll call votes:

Vice President Bryden	Absent	Director Kabar (Alternate)	Yes
Director Cooper	Yes	Director Martin	Yes
Director Gibbs	Absent	Director Natoli	Absent
President Gutzeit	Yes	Director Orzechowski	Yes

Item 2.1: Upon motion of Director Orzechowski, seconded by Director Martin and carried, SCV Water Chief Financial and Administrative Officer Rochelle Patterson was appointed as new Treasurer by the following roll call votes:

Vice President Bryden	Absent	Director Kabar (Alternate)	Yes
Director Cooper	Yes	Director Martin	Yes
Director Gibbs	Absent	Director Natoli	Absent
President Gutzeit	Yes	Director Orzechowski	Yes

Item 2.2: On September 6, 2022, SCV Water Agency appointed Piotr Orzechowski as Board Director and Jeff Ford as Alternate Board Director to the SCV-GSA Board to replace B.J. Atkins and Jerry Gladbach for the remaining 2021-2023 term.

Item 3: Upon motion of Director Cooper, seconded by Director Martin and carried, the Board approved the Consent Calendar by the following roll call votes:

Vice President Bryden	Absent	Director Kabar (Alternate)	Yes
Director Cooper	Yes	Director Martin	Yes
Director Gibbs	Absent	Director Natoli	Absent

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President Gutzeit	Yes	Director Orzechowski	Yes
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Item 4.1: Upon motion of Director Martin, seconded by Director Cooper and carried, the Board approved that each member agency approaches its leadership for approval of the member agency contribution at \$20,000 for the next five (5) fiscal years starting in fiscal year 2022-2023 by the following roll call votes:

Vice President Bryden	Absent	Director Kabar (Alternate)	Yes
Director Cooper	Yes	Director Martin	Yes
Director Gibbs	Absent	Director Natoli	Absent
President Gutzeit	Yes	Director Orzechowski	Yes

Item 4.2: Upon motion of Director Cooper, seconded by Director Martin and carried, the Board approved Resolution No. GSA 2022-03 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 Sustainable Groundwater Management Grant by the following roll call votes:

Vice President Bryden	Absent	Director Kabar (Alternate)	Yes
Director Cooper	Yes	Director Martin	Yes
Director Gibbs	Absent	Director Natoli	Absent
President Gutzeit	Yes	Director Orzechowski	Yes

RESOLUTION NO. GSA 2022-03

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 SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT GRANT

WHEREAS, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) has issued the Final SGM Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP) for Sustainable Groundwater Management Planning Grants for implementation of GSPs; and

WHEREAS, the SGM application period is anticipated to begin in early October 2022 and close by November 30, 2022; 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

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WHEREAS, prior to SCV Water making the SGM application to the Department of Water Resources it will adopt a resolution affirming it will provide required cost share, and apply for and execute the SGM 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 effectively implementing its adopted GSP including seeking funding to fill data gaps; and

WHEREAS, the minimum grant request under the SGM Grant is \$1,000,000 per the GSA groundwater basin and only one application per basin is allowed; and

WHEREAS, SCV Water is evaluating projects and requested grant amounts and anticipates a minimum grant request of \$5,300,000, but may request more grant funds if other eligible costs are identified; and

WHEREAS, consistent with the Administrative Services Agreement, if a SGM Grant is awarded, grant revenues will be used to offset SCV Water's costs to carry out SGM grant funded work; and

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.

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:

That SCV Water's General Manager, or designee, is authorized to:

- a. Submit an application, on behalf of the SCV GSA, to the California Department of Water Resources to obtain a grant under the 2021 Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Grant Program SGMA Implementation Round 2 Grant pursuant to the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018 (Proposition 68) (Pub. Resource Code, § 80000 et seq.) and the California Budget Act of 2021 (Stats. 2021, ch. 240, § 80);
- b. Enter into an agreement to receive a grant funding for the: Expanded Monitoring in the Upper Santa Clara River Basin GSA; and
- c. Prepare the necessary data, conduct investigations, file such application, and execute a grant agreement and any future amendments (if required), submit invoices, and submit any reporting requirements with the California Department of Water Resources.

Item 4.3: Motion was made by Director Martin to approve staff recommendation on the board memo. But upon further discussion and suggestion made by the Board, Director Martin amended his motion and seconded by Director Cooper and carried, the Board approved staff recommendations (1) To offset the cost of the SCV GSA complying with the Executive Order, charge a \$100 fee for the initial well permit review, and if additional staff and/or consultant time is needed, for example ongoing discussions and analysis between the SCV GSA and its

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consultants is needed (for example running the groundwater flow model and preparing a report) that the applicant reimburse costs through a written agreement with SCVGSA's administering agency, SCV Water. (2) Authorize GSA Staff to communicate its findings required in the Executive Order directly back to local agencies engaged in well permitting, such as Los Angeles County, in the event the evaluation is straightforward and it's clear no impacts from the well are expected. And if needed, to call a special board meeting to discuss any impact of concerns by the following roll call votes:

Vice President Bryden	Absent	Director Kabar (Alternate)	Yes
Director Cooper	Yes	Director Martin	Yes
Director Gibbs	Absent	Director Natoli	Absent
President Gutzeit	Yes	Director Orzechowski	Yes

Item 4.4: Rick Viergutz presented a quarterly status report of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (SGMA) Implementation Activities.

Topic covered:

- Awaiting on DWR to provide comments on GSP
- Addressing data gaps
- GDE Monitoring
- Promoting best water use practices
- Governor's Executive Order regarding well permits
- Coordination with downstream

There was public comment on item 4.4.

Item 4.5: Salt Nutrient Management Plan presentation was postponed to the next SCV-GSA board meeting.


Item 5: No future agenda items requested.

Item 6: The meeting was adjourned at 4:05 PM.

DocuSigned by:


 Eunice Kang, Board Secretary

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:


 Russ Bryden
 President of the Board