

Board Meeting

Petaluma Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Meeting Minutes

Date: October 24, 2019

Time: 4:00 p.m.

Location: Petaluma Community Center
320 N McDowell Blvd, Petaluma

<http://www.petalumavalleygroundwater.org>

Agenda

1. Call to Order by Bruce and Roll Call. Quorum present.

Vice-Chairman Bruce Abelli-Amen

Director Carolyn Wasem

Director Mike Healy

Chairman David Rabbitt- absent

Director Susan Gorin- absent

2. Consent Calendar

- a. Approve Minutes of August 22, 2019
- b. Approve Year-to-Date Financial Report
- c. Approve Year-to-Date Member Agency Contributions

Moved by Director Healy, second by Director Wasem. Motion approved.

3. Directors/Subcommittee Report

Thank you from the Petaluma City Manager for support letter on tertiary expansion project grant.

4. Advisory Committee Report

An informational report included in packet. The Advisory Committee met in September and reviewed and discussed the basin setting subsection of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan. The Advisory Committee meets again on November 13, 2019.

5. Information items:

- a. **Groundwater Sustainability Plan Update:** An informational item presented by Plan Manager Jay Jasperse on GSP development and Sustainable Management Criteria.

The GSP is due in January 2022, and we're on track to complete it within the remaining timeframe. We are still waiting for final US Geological Service report, which is expected by

The end of the year. There is a lot of work to do in defining the Sustainable Management Criteria (SMC). Looking ahead to fall 2021 or early 2022 for full public review.

Question: Are the critically over-drafted basins due now?

Response: The GSPs for the critically over-drafted basins are due in January 2020. Some are being released now, and we are taking notes. One thing notable on these plans is that they are not perfect. There are lots of unknowns and there is an adaptive component in SGMA. Every 5 years we report and can make adjustments.

Question: What projects and actions are being proposed?

Response: In Borrego, they are looking at retiring agricultural land. There are significant environmental concerns that retiring ag land will create “dust bowls”. They are also looking at conservation and conjunctive land management. Our Water Budget will use future projections for climate change and land use. Land use projections will need information/data from city and county Permit Sonoma.

Question: In the SMC – what is the “goal” if there is a minimum threshold?

Response: The threshold provides a buffer and room for adjustments.

It’s a huge challenge to foresee 50 years into the future: What do we think is reasonable? What will land use look like? What growth will ag and rural residential have or even the urban growth boundary? There is the housing crunch to consider. We want to make sure our assumptions include the city and county.

Public Comment:

Acknowledge Jay Jasperse and team’s work. It is good to see the draft work come out. Continue to work with ag in all basins to help understand the GSA/GSP role and the clear requirements from the SGMA. The ag community is very interested in water use and activities, soil moisture sensors, healthy soil, looking at summer ponds.

6. Action Items

a. **Proposition 68 Grant:** Consider support of a grant application from the GSA for funding through Proposition 68 Sustainable Groundwater Management Grant Program

Moved by Director Healy, seconded by Director Wasem. Motion approved.

b. **Contracts:** Authorize Administrator to execute the following contracts:

i. Three-year contract extension with Sonoma Water for administrative service

Moved by Director Healy, seconded by Director Wasem. Motion approved.

ii. Three-year contract extension with Kronick, Moskowitz, Tiedemann & Girard for legal service

Moved by Director Healy, seconded by Director Wasem. Motion approved.

- c. **Advisory Committee Opening:** Consider appointing Rebecca Ng to fill the at-large community representative seat on the Advisory Committee
Moved by Director Healy, seconded by Director Wasem. Motion approved.

7. **Legal Counsel, Plan Manager and Administrator Report**

8. **Public comment on matters not listed on the agenda but within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board**

None

9. **Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned 5:15pm.