

Glenn Groundwater Authority

Groundwater Sustainability Agency

225 N. Tehama Street, Willows, CA 95988 | 530.934.6540

Meeting Minutes

Glenn Groundwater Authority Board of Directors

September 14, 2021 | 1:30 pm

LOCATION: 225 N. Tehama Street, Willows, CA. 95988

The meeting was also conducted via teleconference; accessible via telephone, computer, smartphone or tablet.

Director Members Present:	Alternate/2 nd Alternate Directors	Agency Representing:
X Grant Carmon	Tom Arnold	County of Glenn
X Bruce Roundy	Pete Carr	City of Orland
	Ed Vonasek (2 nd)	City of Orland
X Gary Hansen (Vice Chair)	X Evan Markey	City of Willows
George Nerli	X Leslie Nerli	Glide Water District
X John Amaro (Chair)	X Thad Bettner	Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District
X Charles Schonauer	X Emil Cavagnolo	Orland-Artois Water District
X Randy Hansen	Wade Danley	Kanawha Water District
	Michael Alves (2 nd)	Kanawha Water District
X Mark Lohse	Seth Fiack	Monroeville Water District
Gary Enos	Lance Boyd	Princeton-Codora-Glenn Irrigation District/ Provident Irrigation District

Others in attendance:

Lisa Hunter (GGA/Glenn County), Brooke Davis (GGA/Glenn County), Valerie Kincaid (GGA Counsel), Donald Rust (Glenn County, Planning Director), Holly Dawley (GCID), Ashlee Veneman (Glenn County), Arne Gustafson, Donald J. Bills (GGA TAC), David Kehn (Cal Water/GGA TAC), Holly Reimers, Mary Fahey (CGA/Colusa County), Michael Bolzowski (Cal Water) Tavis Beynon, Jenny Scheer (Water & Land Solutions), A. Clark, Del Reimers, Gwynn Turnbull-Weaver

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Amaro called the meeting to order at 1:34 pm and the pledge of allegiance was recited.

2. ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken as indicated above.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. *Approval of meeting minutes from August 9, 2021.

On motion by Director Schonauer, seconded by Director Carmon, the meeting minutes of August 9, 2021 were unanimously approved as presented.

4. PERIOD OF PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments were presented or heard.

5. STAFF UPDATES

- Glenn Groundwater Authority (GGA) Program Manager, Lisa Hunter, stated the property related fee files were submitted to the Glenn County Department of Finance August 9, 2021. The file includes 5,596 records for a total of \$419,771.34. The records have been accepted by the Department of Finance.

6. FINANCIAL REPORT

- a. *Review and accept Monthly Activities Report.
- b. *Review and consider approval of claims.

No discussion was held on item 6.a.

On motion by Director Gary Hansen, seconded by Director Randy Hansen, it was unanimously ordered to approve the Monthly Activities Report as presented by members present.

Ms. Hunter stated she has contacted Davids Engineering to clarify certain charges and the final amount will not exceed the invoice total.

On motion by Director Schonauer, seconded by Director Lohse, it was unanimously ordered to approve the claims as presented by members present.

7. *DISCUSSION AND CONSIDER PROVIDING SUPPORT FOR EPHEMERAL STREAM TRICKLE RECHARGE PILOT PROJECT

- Jenny Scheer, of Water & Land Solutions, proposed a potential project and partnership between California Olive Ranch, the GGA and the Orland-Artois Water District. The project fits within the Tehama-Colusa Canal Trickle Flow to Ephemeral Streams project described in the draft GSP. The proposed project, titled Sheep Corral Creek-In Stream Recharge Project, would involve obtaining a temporary 180-day diversion permit from the State Water Resources Control Board to divert excess flows from the Sacramento River through the Tehama-Colusa Canal to an Orland-Artois Water District turnout and into Sheep Corral Creek.
- Director Nerli asked if any excess water flow would be taken from growers, whereby Ms. Scheer and Director Cavagnolo confirmed this would not interfere with landowners receiving water. Director Nerli further asked how much the permit would cost, whereby Ms. Scheer stated depending on the amount of water needed, it would cost approximately twenty to thirty thousand dollars (\$20,000-30,000). Discussion ensued regarding other possible sites and the potential public benefits.
- Director Schonauer asked if there are any concerns of flooding in that area due to the merger with Wilson Creek, whereby GGA Counsel, Valerie Kincaid, stated these types of projects allow for quick diversion of flood water and this would only be conducted in high flow years. Discussion ensued surrounding the permitting process and procedures.
- Director Nerli asked what the expected volume of water would be, whereby Director Cavagnolo stated engineering would determine the volume and a test run would be conducted and the permittee would choose the years they participated.
- Director Roundy stated the City of Orland is interested in recharge programs and recommends going forward; discussion ensued regarding Board consensus with the project.
- GGA Staff, Brooke Davis, read a public comment into the record from Donald J. Bills "For this type of recharge, to do the most good for all, you need to do the recharge as high up in the basin as possible, i.e. Walker Creek or as many creeks as you have access to".
- Discussion continued to ensue regarding the viability of the project for the current year.
- Ms. Davis read a public comment into the record from Holly Reimers, "you would need to get rid of the bamboo in Stony Creek before you could even think recharge".

- Ms. Davis read another public comment into the record from Donald J. Bills, “is uncontracted funding available to look into for this? When Stony Creek is full it is recharging. It would recharge more.”
- Director Schonauer asked if this item could remain on the agenda for further discussion, whereby Ms. Hunter stated it could and Director Cavagnolo stated the District could do some testing of infiltration rates in partnership which would assist in the permit application at a future date.
- Ms. Hunter asked how long the permit application process is whereby Ms. Kincaid stated it depends on what further information is requested but that the process is fairly streamlined compared to other permits and could take between 30-60 days.

8. COLUSA SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

- Receive update on Plan development, activities, and outreach.
 - Receive update on GSP Development Grants (Proposition 1 and Proposition 68).
 - Receive update on Project Agreements.
- Ms. Hunter congratulated the Board on the milestone of releasing the **Draft Colusa Subbasin GSP** for public review which was released September 13, 2021. A printed public review copy is available at the office. A notice was emailed to the Interested Parties List and posted on the website.
 - Ms. Hunter noted the 90-day notice to cities and counties was mailed August 27, 2021 to the six entities within the Colusa Subbasin.
 - Ms. Hunter pointed the attendees to the Davids Engineering report summarizing activities for August 2021 and noted most of the effort has been on reviewing comments on the initial draft chapters, addressing comments, and completing the draft GSP.
 - Ms. Hunter also provided an update on the Well Monitoring Pilot Program, stating two agreements are awaiting signature. Ms. Hunter stated there is a tentative CGA/GGA meeting scheduled for October 7, 2021 at 1:00 pm and will be conducted virtually. The purpose of the meeting is to provide a demonstration of the software that illustrates how the well data from the Pilot Program will be collected and viewed. Ms. Hunter also offered the meeting will be recorded and she can make the recording available to those who cannot attend the meeting.
 - Ms. Hunter drew attention to the Administrative Record included in the meeting packet and the link in which an up-to-date spreadsheet is kept.
 - Ms. Hunter reminded the Board to review the draft GSP with each of their respective agencies. The public comment period ends October 31, 2021 which will then allow the consultants time to review the comments and update the draft as needed in November. The final GSP will be completed in early December with a target public hearing date of December 14, 2021 (GGA Board meeting).
 - Ms. Hunter reviewed the amounts currently available through the **GSP Development Grants (Proposition 1 and Proposition 68)**. She continued stating the amount remaining in the Proposition 1 Grant is approximately \$68,000 and about \$834,000 in the Proposition 68 Grant. The amount left to be contracted (to specific tasks) will be discussed in a later agenda item. Director Nerli asked if the unallocated funds are split between the CGA and the GGA, whereby Ms. Hunter confirmed the grant funding is for the entire Colusa Subbasin.

- Ms. Hunter provided an update on the **Project agreements**, stating Davids Engineering has approximately \$477,000 left in the budget for GSP development, and that the amendment is finalized and is awaiting one signature.
- Ms. Davis read a comment from Holly Reimers who asked where the final chapters of the GSP can be found, whereby Ms. Hunter stated that the chapters and all relevant material are available on the GGA website: (<https://www.countyofglenn.net/dept/planning-community-development-services/water-resources/glenn-groundwater-authority>).
- Andrea Jones asked if USDA funding is available for projects, for example the proposed project discussed in Item 7, whereby discussion ensued surrounding possible funding sources.

9. *POTENTIAL ALLOCATION OF UNCONTRACTED GRANT FUNDING

- Ms. Hunter reviewed the funding available and the three recommendations issued by the CGA/GGA Joint Technical Advisory Committee, including expanding the Well Monitoring Pilot Program, developing and submitting the Annual Report for the GSP (priority 1), and subsidence benchmark installation under the Hydrogeologic Investigation task. The grant funds must be spent by April 30, 2022.
- Chair Amaro inquired about expanding the Well Monitoring Pilot Program, whereby Ms. Hunter stated there would likely be interest as there were more applicants than funding available. Discussion ensued. There was general agreement with the Joint TAC recommendations and priority. Some felt there should be more weight given to the Well Monitoring Pilot Program compared to the subsidence benchmark installation.
- Ms. Davis read a comment from Donald J. Bills who stated “Well Monitoring Map and Gaps Chapter 4 Fig. 4-1; subsidence map is fig. 4-4”.
- Ms. Davis read a comment from Mary Fahey who stated “Subsidence benchmarks approx. \$5k-\$10K per site”.

On motion by Director Nerli, seconded by Director Gary Hansen, it was unanimously ordered to allocate the grant funding per the recommendations of the Technical Advisory Committee, in the order of priority, and direct staff to bring back a map of the pilot program sites to identify any gaps.

10. TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER APPOINTMENTS

- *Acknowledge resignation of Michael Alves from the Technical Advisory Committee
- *Appoint Leslie Nerli to the Technical Advisory Committee

On motion by Director Randy Hansen, seconded by Director Carmon, it was unanimously ordered to accept the resignation of Michael Alves from the Technical Advisory Committee.

On motion by Director Gary Hansen, seconded by Director Roundy, it was unanimously ordered to appoint Leslie Nerli to the Technical Advisory Committee.

11. COMMITTEE UPDATES

- Executive Committee
 - CGA/GGA Joint Executive Committee
 - Multi-Benefit Recharge Pilot Project Ad Hoc Committee
 - Technical Advisory Committee
- The next Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for September 22, 2021.

- Director Roundy suggested the **Multi-Benefit Recharge Pilot Project Ad Hoc committee** meet to discuss recharge projects, whereby Ms. Hunter stated a meeting could be set but this committee is more specific to the Nature Conservancy project.
- Director Nerli provided an update from the August 13, 2021 **Technical Advisory Committee** and encouraged members to listen to the audio recording. The next meeting is scheduled for October 8, 2021.

12. MEMBER REPORTS AND COMMENTS

- Director Carmon stated the City of Orland was awarded an \$8 million grant through the Department of Water Resources (DWR) to expand the water system to some County residents, allow the City to drill a new well and install two reservoir holding tanks. Director Carmon further stated that the County applied for a grant with the North Valley Community Foundation and DWR for \$1.8 million to assist with tank and water distribution/delivery. The County is also providing shower vouchers for interested parties with dry wells through the Pilot fuel station.
- Ms. Kincaid stated the State Water Board has turned in comments to DWR and noted the trend about addressing drinking water.

13. NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting is scheduled for October 11, 2021 at 1:30 pm.

14. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm.