

Glenn Groundwater Authority

Groundwater Sustainability Agency

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

Meeting Minutes

Glenn Groundwater Authority Board of Directors

August 9, 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	X 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 (teleconference)	Glide Water District
X John Amaro (Chair)	Thad Bettner	Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District
X Charles Schonauer	Emil Cavagnolo	Orland-Artois Water District
X Randy Hansen	Wade Danley	Kanawha Water District
	Michael Alves (2 nd)	Kanawha Water District
Mark Lohse	Seth Fiack	Monroeville Water District
X Gary Enos	Lance Boyd	Princeton-Codora-Glenn Irrigation District/ Provident Irrigation District

Others in attendance:

Lisa Hunter, GGA/Glenn County; Brooke Davis, Glenn County; Valerie Kincaid, GGA Counsel; Donald Rust, Glenn County, Planning Director; Holly Dawley, GCID; Leland Meibeyer; Ryan Soden; Ashlee Veneman, Glenn County; Jamie Lely, landowner; Holly Reimers; Mary Fahey, CGA/Colusa County; Hilary Reinhard; Pat Vellines, DWR; Jenny Scheer; Marc F.; Lisa Humphreys, Glenn County Farm Bureau

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Amaro called the meeting to order at 1:32 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken as indicated above.

3. ELECTION OF OFFICERS TO TAKE EFFECT IMMEDIATELY AND SERVE THROUGH JUNE 30, 2022

- a. *Election of Chairperson
- b. *Election of Vice-Chairperson
- c. *Election of Secretary
- d. *Confirm appointment of Treasurer as County of Glenn

- Director Gary Hansen nominated John Amaro to serve as Chair, which was seconded by Director Roundy. Director Enos nominated Gary Hansen to serve as Vice Chair, which was seconded by Director Randy Hansen. Director Enos nominated Lisa Hunter to serve as Secretary, which was seconded by Director Roundy. Director Carmon nominated the County of Glenn to continue serving as the Treasurer, which was seconded by Director Roundy. No other nominations were made.

It was unanimously ordered by members present to elect John Amaro as Chairperson, Gary Hansen as Vice Chairperson, Lisa Hunter as Secretary, and the County of Glenn as Treasurer.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. *Approval of meeting minutes from July 12, 2021.

On motion by Director Gary Hansen, seconded by Director Randy Hansen, the meeting minutes of July 12, 2021 were approved as presented by members present.

5. PERIOD OF PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments were presented or heard.

6. STAFF UPDATES

- Glenn Groundwater Authority (GGA) Program Manager, Lisa Hunter, stated the property related fee files were received from Provost & Pritchard and would be submitted to the Glenn County Department of Finance by August 10, 2021. The file includes 5,596 records for a total of \$419,771.34.
- Ms. Hunter reviewed the workshop regarding the Multi-Benefit Flood-MAR Incentive program she attended July 15, 2021, stating the meeting was well attended and great questions were presented.
- Director Roundy asked if there is funding available to increase staffing for the GGA, and discussion ensued. The prior staffing arrangement was reviewed, with the Water Resources Department formerly housed at the Agriculture Department, as well as the current staffing arrangement, with a new part time assistant at the Planning Department. Member consensus was additional staff is needed, as workload is expected to increase, and members encouraged researching solutions to gain additional staffing services.

7. FINANCIAL REPORT

- a. *Review and accept Monthly Activities Report.
- b. *Review and consider approval of claims.
- No monthly activity report was provided and no discussion was held regarding item 7.b.

On motion by Director Gary Hansen, seconded by Director Carmon, it was ordered to approve the claims as presented by members present.

8. COLUSA SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

- a. Receive update on Plan development, activities, and outreach.
- b. Receive update on GSP Development Grants (Proposition 1 and Proposition 68).
- c. Receive update on Project Agreements.
- d. Discussion on GSP adoption process and schedule.
- Ms. Hunter reviewed **GSP development, activities, and outreach** including the June and July GSP development status update memos provided by Davids Engineering. Ms. Hunter also provided an update on the Well Monitoring Pilot Program, stating instrumentation for four of the six wells have been installed and that two wells remain that are awaiting agreement signature.
- Ms. Hunter stated there was agreement between CGA and GGA to include the Inter-Basin Coordination Report as an appendix to the GSP and the consultants will be updating the language within the text of the GSP accordingly.

- Ms. Hunter announced draft chapters five and six are out for review and comment, though no additional comments have been received to report. She highlighted the ten projects and management action submittals received. She also reported on the two public meetings held in July, stating both the in person and virtual meetings were well attended and allowed flexibility for additional attendance. Ms. Hunter noted that the review schedule has been updated to accommodate additional time to address public comment. Chapters seven and eight will be released for comments in mid-September 2021 as part of the complete draft GSP, with the comment period closing October 31, 2021. The month of November will allow for the consultants to review and address those comments, with the final GSP being released December 1, 2021.
- Ms. Hunter reviewed the status of the invoices to DWR relating to the **GSP Development Grants (Proposition 1 and Proposition 68)**. She continued stating the amount currently encumbered in project agreements is \$1,715,000, with \$284,600 still needing to be allocated to project agreements. Director Roundy stated the City of Orland has concerns about minimum thresholds for groundwater levels and land subsidence and noted their Council is considering a well moratorium and asked if there is any funding available for a long-term program. Chair Amaro stated a solution may be found in leveraging the winter allotment of surface water that often goes unused for groundwater recharge, and discussion ensued about possible funding, re-distribution of surface water allotments and concerns over minimum thresholds for water wells. Director Gary Hansen reviewed past and present water well information for the City of Willows.
- Ms. Hunter stated the **Project agreements** amendment is still in review.
- Chair Amaro asked if the next public meetings could be a combination of virtual and in person to have one meeting versus two meetings; whereby, Ms. Hunter replied this could present some difficulty in coordination and impact the quality of the meeting, though it will be considered.
- Ms. Hunter reviewed the **GSP Adoption Schedule**, and encouraged members to consult with their respective agencies to ensure there is time to properly address any concerns. GGA Counsel, Valerie Kincaid, reviewed the plan adoption process, stating the plan would be adopted by the GGA after a public hearing is conducted. Ms. Kincaid further stated the public hearing cannot be before 90 days after providing notice to the cities and counties with an opportunity to engage. The public hearing could be noticed in the local newspaper and once the public hearing is conducted, the plan can be adopted. The process will commence as soon as the notification is sent to the cities and counties. Chair Amaro asked if each respective board or agency should be formally voting on these chapters; whereby Ms. Kincaid stated this is not a requirement. Director Enos asked if the draft GSP will be voted on at the September GGA meeting; whereby, Ms. Kincaid stated no. It was clarified that it would be appropriate for GGA staff to send the 90-day notice to cities and counties without Board approval. Director Gary Hansen asked if private pumpers and water districts need to be noticed as well; whereby, Ms. Kincaid stated no, SGMA only requires noticing to the cities and counties. Ms. Hunter offered to provide presentations to each of the respective boards and cities if needed, and that December 14, 2021 is the planned date for the GSP Public Hearing.

9. COMMITTEE UPDATES

- a. 2021/2022 Budget Ad Hoc Committee
- b. Executive Committee
 - i. CGA/GGA Joint Executive Committee

- c. Multi-Benefit Recharge Pilot Project Ad Hoc Committee
 - d. Stakeholder Engagement Committee
 - e. Technical Advisory Committee
- No updates were provided for the **Budget Ad Hoc Committee, Executive Committee, Multi-Benefit Recharge Pilot Project Ad Hoc Committee or Stakeholder Engagement Committee.**
 - The next **Technical Advisory Committee** meeting will be held August 13, 2021.

10. REVIEW COMMITTEES AND CONSIDER ANY NECESSARY CHANGES

- a. *Confirm staff recommendation to dissolve the 2021/2022 Budget Ad Hoc Committee as discussed July 12, 2021.
 - b. *Confirm staff recommendation to make no changes to the Executive Committee as discussed July 12, 2021.
 - c. *Confirm staff recommendation to make no changes to the Multi-Benefit Recharge Pilot Project Ad Hoc Committee as discussed July 12, 2021.
 - d. *Confirm staff recommendation to dissolve the Stakeholder Engagement Committee as discussed July 12, 2021.
 - e. Receive update on potential changes to the Technical Advisory Committee as discussed July 12, 2021.
- Chair Amaro introduced the item and public member Jamie Lely requested the Board wait to dissolve the Budget Ad Hoc committee in light of current events; whereby, Director Gary Hansen stated the purpose of the Committee is to work on the annual operating budget and per-parcel fee, which has been completed.

On motion by Director Gary Hansen, seconded by Director Enos, it was ordered to dissolve the 2021/2022 Budget Ad Hoc Committee by members present.

- Board consensus confirmed no changes to the **Executive Committee** or the **Multi-Benefit Recharge Pilot Project Ad Hoc Committee.**

On motion by Director Roundy, seconded by Director Randy Hansen, it was ordered to dissolve the Stakeholder Engagement Committee by members present.

- Ms. Hunter stated she communicated with Michael Alves and confirmed he would like to be removed from the **Technical Advisory Committee**, and Director Leslie Nerli has offered to serve if the Board so desires. She clarified this item will be brought to the next board meeting as an action item.

11. MEMBER REPORTS AND COMMENTS

- Director Carmon stated the County extended the agricultural water well moratorium for ten months and fifteen days at the August 3, 2021 Board of Supervisors meeting, though if weather conditions change the moratorium may not last that long. Director Carmon announced the next Drought Task Force meeting would be August 12, 2021 at 3:00 pm in Orland at the Success Square Conference Center and that the Glenn County Farm Bureau would be providing a presentation.
- Director Schonauer asked what metrics are used to measure and monitor wells in each of the subbasins; whereby, Ms. Hunter stated the Colusa Subbasin has been using Thiessen polygons to evaluate representativeness of monitoring wells to develop minimum thresholds. Tehama County is considering

using hexagons and the Butte Subbasin is also using Thiessen polygons. Discussion ensued surrounding the monitoring wells and what they measure.

- Director Schonauer mentioned the estimated cost listed in the draft chapters for the Orland-Artois Water District annexation project was shocking to some and may create some challenges for implementation.

12. NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting is scheduled for September 14, 2021 at 1:30 pm.

13. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 2:55 pm.