

Glenn Groundwater Authority

Groundwater Sustainability Agency

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

Meeting Minutes

Glenn Groundwater Authority Board of Directors

February 14, 2022 | 1:30 p.m.

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)	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
X Gary Enos	Lance Boyd	Princeton-Codora-Glenn Irrigation District/ Provident Irrigation District

Others in attendance:

Lisa Hunter (GGA/Glenn County), Valerie Kincaid (GGA Counsel), Arne Gustafson, Jaime Lely, Todd Bishop, Joe Turner, Ben King, Del Reimers.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Amaro called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken as indicated above.

3. AB 361 OPEN MEETINGS: STATE AND LOCAL AGENCIES: TELECONFERENCES

- a. *Consider approval of Resolution 2022-002 Authorizing Remote Teleconference Meetings in Accordance with Government Code Section 54953 (e)

- Chair Amaro introduced the item. No further discussion was heard.

On motion by Director Roundy, seconded by Director Carmon, it was unanimously approved by members present to adopt Resolution 2022-002 "Authorizing Teleconference Meetings in Accordance with Government Code Section 54953 (e)".

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. * Approval of meeting minutes from January 10, 2022

- Chair Amaro invited comments or revisions on the aforementioned meeting minutes. No comments were heard.

On motion by Director Gary Hansen, seconded by Director Randy Hansen, the meeting minutes of the January 10, 2022 meeting were unanimously approved as presented by members present.

5. PERIOD OF PUBLIC COMMENT

- Ben King announced he has comments related specifically to agenda item 9.

6. STAFF UPDATES

- Glenn Groundwater Authority (GGA) Program Manager, Lisa Hunter, announced staff will be transitioning from the Go-To-Meeting teleconferencing platform to Microsoft Teams as of March 20, 2022, encouraged members to download Microsoft Teams if not already installed and invited requests for assistance if needed.
- Ms. Hunter stated she is working with the Colusa Groundwater Authority (CGA) as they work through their staffing situation and the CGA Chair has asked her to participate in some committee discussions. Ms. Hunter further stated the CGA received a letter from Colusa County stating the County will no longer be providing services via County staff.
- Ms. Hunter reminded Board members to complete and submit a Form 700 before April 1, 2022.
- Ms. Hunter announced there is a tentative joint CGA/GGA Board meeting scheduled for March 10, 2022 where a presentation will be given by the sub-consultant (ERA) through Davids Engineering to recap the funding and financing section of the Colusa Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) and to initiate discussion on future potential funding mechanisms.
- Ms. Hunter stated she has had difficulty making contact with two of the selected participants for the Well Monitoring Pilot Program though four of the participating wells have had instruments installed and are now being monitored; round two of solicitation will include contacting round one applicants not selected to gauge interest in participation.
- Ms. Hunter presented a map and graph detailing groundwater levels for selected sites throughout the Colusa Subbasin.

7. FINANCIAL REPORT

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

No discussion was held on item 7.a.

On motion by Director Carmon, seconded by Director Enos, it was unanimously ordered to accept the Monthly Activities Report as presented by members present.

Director Carmon asked if the claim for the annual audit encompasses the whole audit, whereby Ms. Hunter stated it does not.

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

8. COLUSA SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN (GSP)

- a. Groundwater Sustainability Plan Submittal
- b. Groundwater Sustainability Plan Annual Report

- c. GSP Development Grants (Proposition 1 and Proposition 68) and Project Agreements
- d. Discussion on Groundwater Sustainability Plan implementation and next steps

- Ms. Hunter introduced Item 8.a., stating the GSP was successfully submitted January 28, 2022. The GSP was posted by DWR to the SGMA portal on February 7 which initiated a 75-day public comment period. To date, no comments have been received.
- Ms. Hunter introduced Item 8.b stating the Annual Report is currently being prepared by Davids Engineering and the report is due April 1, 2022.
- Ms. Hunter provided a brief update on item 8.c, stating the CGA Chair, Denise Carter, has been designated the project manager for the grants and the grant agreement amendment is still pending approval.
- Director Carmon began the discussion on item 8.d, stating at the recent Corning Subbasin meeting, it was mentioned that the Orland Unit Water Users could receive diverted water flows to assist with groundwater recharge. Director Nerli suggested the recharge the ad hoc committee(s) discuss this. Discussion ensued. Director Carmon noted the potential environmental requirements and permitting process that would be required and further stated this could be permitted on an annual basis. Director Carmon stated the Orland Unit Water Users would be having a meeting Thursday, February 17, 2022 at 1:00 p.m., and he intends to attend and provide a report back to the Board at the next meeting, which was generally supported by the remaining members.

9. *PROVIDE RESPONSE AND/OR CONSIDERATIONS TO GLENN COUNTY ON DRAFT GLENN COUNTY WATER WELL DRILLING PERMITS AND STANDARDS

- Director Nerli asked if the comments provided by the GGA members have been incorporated yet, whereby Director Carmon stated the Board of Supervisors is still collecting comments and reviewing, so no revisions have been made yet.
- Ms. Hunter clarified that she compiled the comments from the discussion at the last meeting and wanted to ensure she captured everyone's comments before submitting an official response.
- Director Nerli suggested the definition of a livestock well be reevaluated and Director Carmon encouraged her to submit suggested revisions. Director Carmon further stated the June 2022 deadline is a soft deadline and coincides with the expiration of the Ag Well moratorium.
- Chair Amaro stated there are concerns regarding the implementation and noted the importance of these proposed changes. Discussion ensued. Chair Amaro suggested an ad hoc committee be created and volunteered to be on the committee, as did Director Carmon, Director Lohse, Director Enos, and Alternate Director Arnold.
- Ben King provided commentary on the draft ordinance, stating concerns over groundwater salinity, water quality measurements in new wells as well as ensuring proper well location.

10. COMMITTEE UPDATES

- a. Executive Committee
 - i. CGA/GGA Joint Executive Committee
- b. Multi-Benefit Recharge Pilot Project Ad Hoc Committee
- c. Recharge Pilot Project Ad Hoc Committee

d. Technical Advisory Committee

- Chair Amaro stated the CGA/GGA Joint Executive Committee met January 28, 2022 and discussed the CGA staffing situation and discussion ensued regarding funding for staffing and outreach support.
- Chair Amaro stated there are no updates for the Multi-Benefit Recharge Pilot Project Ad Hoc Committee.
- Director Schonauer provided an update for the Recharge Pilot Project Ad Hoc Committee, stating the committee's goal is to have plans and projects already outlined when there are resources available. Director Roundy stated the committee tried not to identify specific sites yet but did identify target areas. Discussion ensued.
- Ben King asked if the Colusa Basin Drainage District has any upcoming meetings, whereby Director Arnold stated there was a recent meeting but he was unable to attend. Mr. King asked if he could contact Ms. Hunter for contact information for the district and she confirmed she would be able to assist. Discussion surrounding funding for projects through the Resource Conservation District (RCD) ensued.
- Director Nerli asked if it is required to identify who is paying for a project when planning for that project, whereby GGA Counsel, Valerie Kincaid, reviewed the process for water rights, transfers and the need to identify the beneficial use. Director Lohse asked if the next funding fee implemented by the GGA will be just administration or include project funding, whereby Ms. Hunter stated the GGA would more fully know their options once the funding presentation is given at the joint CGA/GGA Board meeting in March.
- Director Schonauer asked if the future fee would be weighted, favoring users outside of trouble areas, or if the fee would be universal, whereby discussion ensued surrounding potential extraction fees and fee implementation.
- Ms. Hunter provided an update on the Technical Advisory Committee, stating the GGA TAC member has changed employment and now there is a vacancy. Ms. Hunter encouraged the Board to send her suggestions for potential members.

11. CLOSED SESSION

Gov't Code §54956.9 – Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated or significant exposure to litigation regarding tax refund claims and challenges to previously adopted property related fees.

- No comments were presented or heard.
- The Board adjourned to closed session at 2:58 p.m.

12. REPORT OUT FROM CLOSED SESSION

- The Board returned from closed session at 3:46 p.m.; no reportable action was taken.

13. MEMBER REPORTS AND COMMENTS

- Director Gary Hansen suggested a future agenda item to discuss hiring additional staff to assist Ms. Hunter. Discussion ensued and it was the consensus of the Board to add this discussion to a future agenda.
- Director Carmon stated he met with several Northern California drought representatives and shared a website titled California Water Watch and Ms. Hunter stated she would email the website link to the members (<https://cww.water.ca.gov/>).

14. NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting is scheduled for March 16, 2022 at 1:30 p.m.

15. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 3:52 p.m.