



Corning Sub-basin GSA Committee Meeting Minutes

August 18, 2022 | 2:00 p.m.

Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District Pump Station
7854 County Rd 203, Orland, CA 95963

Public participation was also offered via teleconference

1. Call to Order

John Amaro called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

2. Roll Call

	Party Representative	Member Agency
	Tom Arnold	County of Glenn
X	Grant Carmon	County of Glenn
X	John Amaro	Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District
X	Pete Knight	Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District
X	Julia Violich	Monroeville Water District
	Seth Fiack	Monroeville Water District

Lisa Hunter conducted roll call as noted above.

3. Meeting Minutes

a. *Approval of July 13, 2022 meeting minutes

- No corrections or comments were made on the draft minutes.

On a motion by Mr. Carmon, seconded by Mr. Knight, the meeting minutes of July 13, 2022 were unanimously approved as presented.

4. Period of Public Comment

- A member of the public discussed local water allocations, weather forecasting, and the need to have more local control over surface water and Black Butte Reservoir. Mr. Amaro shared the Glenn Groundwater Authority is working with the Orland Unit Water Users Association (OUWUA) to explore recharge projects and the challenges with gaining local control of the reservoir. He further suggested reaching out to the OUWUA manager.

- A member of the public shared concerns about declining groundwater levels and dry wells and asked questions about available resources whereby, the committee shared information about groundwater levels, well construction, Glenn County's well permit moratorium, and places to find additional resources including Glenn County's Drought Task Force and available monitoring information.

5. Staff Reports

- Ms. Hunter reported the agreement for legal counsel has been sent to Paris Kincaid Wasiewski for signature.
- Ms. Hunter stated in regards to the Executive Order N-7-22 compliance, the well permit acknowledgement form has been finalized and sent to Glenn County Environmental Health. She plans to meet with Environmental Health staff in the next week to finalize the coordination process.
- Ms. Hunter reported there is an opportunity to add projects to the Northern Sacramento Valley Integrated Regional Water Management (NSV IRWM) Plan, which would open up additional funding opportunities. There is a new online submittal form and an ongoing submittal process; however, the deadline to submit a project is September 2 in order to be considered for the funding application that is due in February 2023. Some Groundwater Sustainability Plan projects may be a good fit for this opportunity.
- Mr. Carmon inquired if the RFP had been issued for the development of a funding mechanism. Ms. Hunter responded the RFP had been issued and the submittal deadline is September 2. Questions had been received by the deadline for clarifications and an addendum has been issued. No proposals have been received yet.

6. Corning Sub-basin GSA 2022/2023 Budget

- a. Report on status of Agency contribution request.
 - b. *Approve Glenn County as the fund administrator for the CSGSA pending concurrence with the County.
- Ms. Hunter stated the materials are included in the meeting packet. Additionally, she is preparing a 2022/2023 budget or workplan to clarify which categories the funds are allocated. She noted the funds requested from the agencies are less than the critical tasks identified in prior meetings. The budget will become clearer after the proposals are received for the rate consultant work.
 - Mr. Amaro reported GCID submitted a letter regarding the funding contribution request. Ms. Dawley summarized that GCID Board understands there is a budget need and given the small footprint, there was a desire to understand the request in more detail. The Board recognized the call for funding and approved the funding up to the \$40,000 request; however, requested additional information

and considerations that are outlined in the letter. The Board approved \$20,000 and requested the additional information be provided in order to release the remainder of the funding. Mr. Knight provided additional comments on understanding the funding needs in greater detail moving forward.

- Ms. Violich reported that Monroeville Water District had similar conversations and echoed the concerns relating to the small footprint in relation to the acreage within the basin. The request was approved, but there is some concern around the amount requested compared to the District's acreage.
- Mr. Carmon reported Glenn County had also approved the request. Similar to the other conversations, the County hopes the GSA will have a funding mechanism in place soon to cover these costs.
- Discussion ensued on exploring options to coordinate resources, efficiencies, and future processes.

On a motion by Mr. Knight, seconded by Ms. Violich, it was unanimously ordered to approve Glenn County as the fund administrator for the CSGSA pending concurrence with the County.

7. Corning Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan

a. Water Year 2022 Annual Report

- Ms. Hunter referenced the meeting packet and stated the Water Year 2022 Annual Report is due April 1, 2023 and she has coordinated with the Tehama County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (TCFCWCD) on potential approaches to accomplish the task. Ms. Hunter further stated it may be most efficient to have TCFCWCD administer the Request for Proposals (RFP) and the agreement with the selected consultant. In this manner, the Corning Subbasin report would be one task within the larger Tehama County Subbasins Annual Reports project which would provide consistency in the reporting for the Tehama County basins while allowing the CSGSA to participate in the process of developing the Corning Subbasin Report.
- Responding to a question, Ms. Hunter stated that portions of the report could be prepared by staff; however, much of the technical requirements are better suited to a technical consultant at this time.
- Mr. Carmon asked about how the GSAs plan to split the costs; whereby, Ms. Hunter responded more information will be available following the next Corning Subbasin Advisory Board (CSAB) meeting. Cost-sharing is a planned topic.
- Ms. Hunter reported that an application will be prepared for Facilitation Support Services and that facilitation may be available to help navigate some of these topics, such as cost-sharing, any necessary updates to the agreement between the GSAs, and similar topics.

- No opposition was heard regarding the approach to completing the Water Year 2022 Annual Report.

8. Corning Subbasin Advisory Board Report

- Mr. Amaro stated the CSAB discussed splitting Corning Subbasin shared costs and funding mechanisms. More discussion will take place at the next meeting.
- Ms. Hunter indicated more detailed materials should streamline the discussion in order for the CSAB to provide a recommendation on cost-share. She also mentioned the CSAB will begin reviewing Projects and Management Actions (PMAs) included in the Groundwater Sustainability Plan in order to prioritize PMAs to recommend for potential inclusion in the upcoming grant application.

9. Sustainable Groundwater Management Grant

a. *Approve grant writing services approach

- Ms. Hunter provided an overview of the upcoming Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Grant Program and schedule, which is expected to open in October 2022 with agreements being executed in September-November 2023.
- Ms. Hunter stated she has discussed approached with TCFCWCD staff regarding coordination on the grant application. Similar to the Annual Report coordination, it seems most efficient to have TCFCWCD include Corning Subbasin grant writing services as a task in the larger Tehama County Subbasin grant writing services consultant agreement. It may be possible to partner with the Tehama County Resource Conservation District (RCD) for grant writing services at a lower cost. If the RCD is unable to provide this support, a sole source agreement or RFP process will be necessary depending on the contract amount and Tehama County processes. She further explained the work in which the grant writer would perform.
- Ms. Violich asked how long the solicitation process is open. Brandon Davison, DWR, replied the minimum period is usually 45 days and further clarified that the October 2022 opening date is confirmed and should be considered the target.
- Mr. Amaro inquired about the projects eligible for the grants. Ms. Hunter confirmed the Annual Report and preparing for the five-year update can be included. She noted there is a cap on length of the project time of about three years which must also be considered. General administration is not allowable. Grant administration is allowable. Water purchases are not allowable; however, developing recharge projects are eligible.
- Mr. Carmon asked if the grant writer work could be reimbursed in the grant. Ms. Hunter and Ms. Dawley stated they did not think that was an eligible cost. There was additional discussion on the amount of grant funding available.

On a motion by Mr. Carmon, seconded by Mr. Knight, the grant writing services approach was unanimously approved as presented to explore further and bring back to the CSGSA prior to selection of a consultant.

10. Corning Sub-basin GSA Committee Member Reports and Comments

- Mr. Carmon reported Glenn County held its Drought Task Force meeting August 11, 2022. He further reported on the Orland water expansion project, Orland well levels, and water conservation requirements. At the Drought Task Force meeting, a DWR representative reporting there are concerns with the lack of water in the Anderson Cottonwood Irrigation District in Shasta County and the impacts to wells. He also noted there is a new Glenn County map with a sliding function to show the changes in dry well conditions over time. The North Valley Community Foundation project is completely full and they are looking at extending the program for an additional year and expanding that program to include more individuals.

11. Next Meeting

The next CSGSA is scheduled for September 15, 2022 at 2:00 p.m.

12. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m.