



## Corning Sub-basin GSA Committee Meeting Materials

February 23, 2023 | 2:00 p.m.

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

Alternate meeting location:  
1177 Magnolia Ave., Larkspur, CA 93939

### Remote Public Participation Option:

Microsoft Teams meeting

**Join on your computer, mobile app or room device**

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 255 596 260 605

Passcode: YWuACM

[Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#)

**Or call in (audio only)**

[+1 323-676-6164,,744594955#](#) United States, Los Angeles

Phone Conference ID: 744 594 955#

[Find a local number](#) | [Reset PIN](#)

[Learn More](#) | [Meeting options](#)

---

### 1. Call to Order

The Chair will call the meeting to order.

---

### 2. Roll Call

Staff will conduct roll call.

---

### 3. \*Election of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson.

Nominations and selection of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson will take place to serve a term for the 2023 calendar year or until the election of a new Chairperson and/or Vice Chairperson. The newly selected Chairperson will assume responsibility of the meeting. The current Chairperson is John Amaro and the Vice Chairperson is Grant Carmon.

---

#### 4. Meeting Minutes

- a. \*Approval of February 3, 2023 special meeting minutes.

Draft meeting minutes are attached.

Attachments:

- February 3, 2023 special meeting minutes



# Corning Sub-basin GSA Committee Special Meeting Minutes

February 3, 2023 | 9:00 a.m.  
Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District Pump Station  
7854 County Rd 203, Orland, CA 95963

Alternate Meeting Locations:  
720 N. Colusa St., Willows, CA 95988  
1177 Magnolia Ave., Larkspur, CA 93939

Public participation was also offered via teleconference

1. Call to Order

John Amaro called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

2. Roll Call

	Party Representative	Member Agency
X	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
	Julia Violich	Monroeville Water District
	Seth Fiack	Monroeville Water District

Roll call was taken as noted above.

3. Meeting Minutes

- a. \*Approval of December 1, 2022 special meeting minutes.
- b. \*Approval of January 26, 2023 meeting minutes.
- No corrections or comments were made to the draft meeting minutes.

On a motion by Mr. Knight, seconded Mr. Arnold, the December 1, 2022 special meeting minutes and the January 26, 2023 meeting minutes were unanimously approved as presented.

#### 4. Period of Public Comment

- No public comments were heard.

#### 5. \*Approve agreement for professional services with Luhdorff & Scalmanini Consulting Engineers for Corning Sub-basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CSGSA) Operations and GSP Implementation Fee Project and authorize the Chair to execute the agreement in an amount not to exceed \$83,618 without prior approval.

- Mr. Amaro introduced the item. Not questions or comments were raised.

**On a motion by Mr. Arnold, seconded Mr. Knight, it was unanimously ordered to approve the agreement for professional services with Luhdorff & Scalmanini Consulting Engineers for Corning Sub-basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CSGSA) Operations and GSP Implementation Fee Project and authorize the Chair to execute the agreement in an amount not to exceed \$83,618 without prior approval.**

#### 6. \*Dissolve the Funding Mechanisms RFP Ad Hoc Committee.

- Mr. Amaro stated the committee is no longer needed. Mr. Arnold thanked the committee for its work.

**On a motion by Mr. Knight seconded Mr. Arnold, it was unanimously ordered to dissolve the Funding Mechanisms RFP Ad Hoc Committee.**

#### 7. \*Discussion and Authorization to Address Correspondence Received from Member Agencies Regarding Corning Sub-basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Cost Share.

- Mr. Amaro opened the topic for discussion and stated only two of the three agencies are present today. Ms. Hunter stated it would be helpful to have the members provide input on how to best address their respective agency's concerns and suggested a draft letter be prepared to guide the discussion at the next CSGSA meeting. She welcomed any initial input to include in the draft letter.
- Mr. Amaro stated he thinks the CSGSA is moving in the right direction and making progress and agreed a draft letter for discussion would be helpful. Mr. Arnold agreed and suggested sending the draft letter out prior the meeting. Mr. Knight suggested including budget information. Mr. Carmon emphasized the concerns brought up in the letters are also concerns of the Glenn County Board of Supervisors and stated the CSGSA is working as quickly as possible to address the funding needs.
- Direction was provided to staff to bring a draft letter for discussion at the next CSGSA meeting.
- Jaime Lely asked for clarification on the scope of how the funding would be developed between agencies. Mr. Amaro responded the funding process will help to answer that question. Ms. Lely asked if there was consideration of joining with another subbasin. Ms. Hunter clarified, there was a comment made at a prior

CSGSA meeting that one possibility is for the Glenn Groundwater Authority to serve as the GSA for the Glenn County portions of the Colusa and Corning Subbasins. This is an avenue that can be explored, but may not play a major role in the initial funding discussion at this point.

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

- No member reports or comments were heard.

9. Next Meeting

- The next regular meeting is scheduled for February 23, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.

10. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 9:16 a.m.

DRAFT

## 5. Period of Public Comment

Members of the public are encouraged to address the Corning Sub-basin GSA Committee. Public comment will be limited to three minutes. No action will be taken on items under public comment.

---

## 6. Staff Reports

Staff from members of the Corning Sub-basin GSA will provide relevant updates, such as a brief status update of GSP implementation, grant agreements, and project agreements. Reminders and clarifications may be made, and direction may be provided to staff.

---

## 7. Corning Sub-basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CSGSA) Operations and GSP Implementation Fee Project

- a. Receive a presentation from consultant team.
- b. Provide input on the preliminary five-year revenue projection.
- c. Provide input on outreach plan.

At the February 3, 2023 special meeting, the CSGSA approved an agreement with Luhdorff & Scalmanini Consulting Engineers (LSCE) for CSGSA operations and GSP implementation fee project consulting services.

LSCE is working with the CSGSA to develop a long-term funding strategy to achieve GSP implementation and SGMA compliance over the next five-year period.

LSCE will share a presentation with the CSGSA regarding project elements, key milestones, and next steps in the process.

---

## 8. \*Discussion and Authorization to Address Correspondence Received from Member Agencies Regarding Corning Sub-basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Cost Share.

The CSGSA has received letters from GCID and Monroeville Water District dated August 17, 2022 and November 8, 2022 respectively regarding the cost-share of administrative funds for the CSGSA. Additionally, GCID agreed to fund an initial payment of \$20,000 and requested a written response to the considerations listed in the letter prior to payment of the remaining \$20,000.

The letters were discussed briefly at the January 26, 2023 meeting and the February 3, 2023 special meeting and at the direction of the committee, staff has prepared a draft response letter. The CSGSA will continue discuss the contents of the letters, explore potential responses and further considerations, and provide direction to address the correspondence received.

Attachments:

- Letter from Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District
- Letter from Monroeville Water District
- Draft response letter



**GLENN-COLUSA IRRIGATION DISTRICT**

August 17, 2022

Corning Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency  
c/o Lisa Hunter, Glenn County Water Resources Coordinator  
225 N. Tehama St.  
Willows, CA 95988

Subject: GCID Cost Share of Administrative Funds for the Corning Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Dear Ms. Hunter,

While Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District (GCID or District) is committed to its membership in the Corning Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CSGSA or Agency), its stake in the Glenn County portion of the subbasin is relatively minor in comparison to Glenn County and Monroeville Water District. GCID does not serve any land in the subbasin; its only subbasin presence is the land its facilities reside on (e.g. the GCID Pump Station and Main Canal) and the footprint of those facilities.

GCID respects its membership in the CSGSA and recognizes the immediate need for funding from members to support continued operation of the agency until a sustainable funding mechanism is in place. At its August 11, 2022 meeting, the GCID Board considered the CSGSA’s call for funding from member agencies. The GCID Board approved financial support of the CSGSA limited to its one-third share of actual costs up to a maximum of \$40,000 and requests that the Agency consider the following:

- Explore contracting with the Glenn Groundwater Authority (GGA) for all services to reduce redundancy of the CSGSA and GGA.
- Explore a basin boundary adjustment where the CSGSA would be incorporated into the GGA.
- Explore a financial plan to include prioritizing funding alternatives that would shift costs to groundwater users through a per acre-foot or well charge as allowed for based on the adoption of the GSP.
- Base future calls for funding to support the CSGSA on a per acre served/benefit basis and not on a per entity basis.

GCID will provide an initial payment amount of \$20,000. For additional payments up to a maximum of \$20,000, the District requests a 2022/2023 budget for reference and written response to the above considerations.

Sincerely,

Thaddeus Bettner, P.E.  
General Manager

c: John Amaro/GCID  
Peter Knight/GCID  
Tom Arnold/Glenn County  
Grant Carmon/Glenn County

Julia Violich/Monroeville Water District  
Seth Fiack/Monroeville Water District

Protecting agriculture and wildlife in the Sacramento Valley for more than a century



## Monroeville Water District

1030 W. Wood Street  
PO Box 1113  
Willows, CA 95988

November 8, 2022

Corning Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency  
c/o Lisa Hunter, Glenn County Water Resources Coordinator  
225 N. Tehama St.  
Willows, CA 95988

**Subject: Monroeville Cost Share of Administrative Funds for the Corning Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency**

Dear Ms. Hunter,

The Monroeville Water District remains committed to the Corning Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CSGSA) and all the landowners we represent in the Glenn County portion of the subbasin.

Monroeville recognizes the immediate need for funding from member agencies to support continued operations of the CSGSA until a sustainable funding mechanism is in place. At its July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022, meeting, the Monroeville Board considered the CSGSA's call for funding from member agencies. The Monroeville Board approved 4 to 1 to provide financial support of the CSGSA limited to its one-third share of actual costs up to a maximum of \$40,000 and requests that the CSGSA consider the following:

- Continue and enhance a partnership with the Glenn Groundwater Authority (GGA) for all services to reduce redundancy of the CSGSA and GGA.
- Explore a basin boundary adjustment where the CSGSA would be incorporated into the GGA.
- Explore a financial plan to include prioritizing funding alternatives that would shift costs to groundwater users through a per acre-foot or well charge as allowed for based on adoption of the GSP.
- Base future calls for funding to support the CSGSA on per acre served/benefit basis and not on a per entity basis.

Sincerely,



Seth Fiack, Chairman  
Monroeville Water District Board of Directors

## LETTERHEAD

### DATE

Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District  
P.O. Box 150  
Willows, CA 95988

Monroeville Water District  
P.O. Box 1113  
Willows, CA 95988

Glenn County Board of Supervisors  
525 West Sycamore Street, Suite B1  
Willows, CA 95988

Subject: Response to Letters Regarding Member Agency Cost Share for Corning Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Dear Member Agencies,

The Corning Sub-basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CSGSA) has received letters from the Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District (GCID) and Monroeville Water District (MWD) dated August 17, 2022 and November 8, 2022 respectively regarding the cost-share of administrative funds for the CSGSA. Additionally, GCID agreed to fund an initial payment of \$20,000 and requested a written response to the considerations listed in the letter prior to payment of the remaining \$20,000. The letter is being written in response to these letters to address the considerations raised within.

Consideration 1: Continue and enhance a partnership with the Glenn Groundwater Authority (GGA) for all services to reduce redundancy of the CSGSA and GGA.

Response: There is no formal agreement between the GGA and CSGSA; however, because staff participates in both Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs), there are efficiencies gained naturally in inter-basin coordination, planning tasks that each subbasin must undergo, and development of similar materials (agenda items, RFPs, agreements, templates). This topic could further be discussed, and possibly enhanced, when developing the operations plan for the Corning Subbasin. This work is currently underway utilizing facilitation support services provided by Department of Water Resources, at no cost to the subbasin.

Consideration 2: Explore a basin boundary adjustment where the CSGSA would be incorporated into the GGA.

Response: Basin boundary adjustments can only be applied for during an open Basin Boundary Modification period. An initial round of boundary modifications occurred in 2016, followed by the most recent round in 2018. The schedule indicates a Basin Boundary Modification period is not expected before 2022, but does not give any further information. This option could be explored with the GGA,

but cannot be applied for until the Basin Boundary Modification period opens. More information about DWR's Basin Boundary Modification process can be found on their website at:

<https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management/Basin-Boundary-Modifications>

A recent discussion at the CSGSA proposed exploring an option that the GGA could become the GSA for the Glenn County portions of the Corning and Colusa Subbasin. This would not require a basin boundary modification, but would require coordination and agreement with both agencies. The option would need to be fully vetted to better understand any potential efficiencies and cost savings or complications. Similar to the response for consideration 1, this topic could be discussed further when developing the operations plan for the Corning Subbasin.

Consideration 3: Explore a financial plan to include prioritizing funding alternatives that would shift costs to groundwater users through a per acre-foot or well charge as allowed for based on adoption of the GSP.

Response: The CSGSA has recently entered into an agreement with a consultant to initiate a CSGSA Operations and GSP Implementation Fee Project. This project will develop a long-term funding strategy to achieve GSP implementation and SGMA compliance over the next five-year period. The goal is to have a funding mechanism in place by August 2023. If the selected fee is to be placed on the Glenn County tax rolls, initial funding would be received in the first quarter of 2024. There are many options that may be considered during the initial phases of the fee project, which will include the per acre-foot or well charge as suggested in consideration 3.

Consideration 4: Base future calls for funding to support the CSGSA on per acre served/benefit basis and not on a per entity basis.

Response: The CSGSA has initiated a CSGSA Operations and GSP Implementation Fee Project. This project will develop a long-term funding strategy to achieve GSP implementation and SGMA compliance over the next five-year period, with the goal of having a funding mechanism in place by August 2023. Funds will not be received until the first quarter of 2024. The CSGSA is working diligently to utilize the funds authorized/provided by the member agencies as efficiently as possible; however, it is conceivable there could be a call for funding to support a critical task. If a call for funding is necessary, the CSGSA will consider the suggestion to base the call on a per acre served or benefit basis. There should also be consider given to the amount of in-kind services provided by the agencies. The CSGSA is confident there will be a blend of considerations that satisfies the equity desired by each of the member agencies.

The CSGSA thanks each member agency for its commitment and support of the Corning Subbasin GSP planning and implementation processes. We encourage the agencies to continue this collaborative effort and sharing of successes and concerns as they arise. Each agency has two representatives on the CSGSA Committee which has been crucial to the successful completion of the initial Corning Subbasin GSP.

Sincerely,

XX

Chair

## **9. Corning Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan Implementation**

Updates may be provided on activities relating to the Corning Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan Implementation.

---

## **10. Corning Subbasin Advisory Board Report**

The Corning Subbasin Advisory Board (CSAB) last met on October 5, 2022. The outcomes and recommendations from that meeting were reported at the October 10, 2022 CSGSA meeting. The next CSAB meeting is scheduled for March 1, 2023 at 1:30 p.m.

CSAB meeting materials, including presentations, agendas, and meeting summaries are available on the website at: [www.corningsubbasingsp.org](http://www.corningsubbasingsp.org).

Advisory Board members may provide additional updates.

---

## **11. Corning Sub-basin GSA Committee Member Reports and Comments**

Members of the CSGSA Committee are encouraged to share information, reports, comments, and suggest future agenda items. Action cannot be taken on matters brought up under this item.

---

## **12. Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for March 23, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.

---

## **13. Adjourn**

The meeting will be adjourned.

---