

GLENN COUNTY WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Glenn County Department of Agriculture
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MINUTES

Meeting Date: Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Time: 1:30 pm

Place: Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District
344 East Laurel Street
Willows, CA 95988

Water Advisory Committee Members Present:

Rob Vlach	Private Pumper
Bruce Roundy	Resource Conservation District
David Alves	Central River Irrigation Districts
Larry Domenighini	Glenn County Farm Bureau
Mike Alves	TC Canal Authority Districts
Mike Vereschagin	TC Canal Authority Districts
John Amaro	GCID

Water Advisory Committee Members Absent:

Terry Bressler	East County Rec & Irr Districts
Ted Trimble	Western Canal Water District
Ken Sullivan	Orland Water Users Association
Mark Lohse	Private Pumper
Darin Titus	Private Pumper
Del Reimers	Private Pumper

Technical Advisory Committee Members Present:

Ben Pennock	At-Large, Central Area
Lance Boyd	At-Large, South Area
John Brooks	At-Large, North Area
Allan Fulton	UC Cooperative Extension
Anjanette Shadley (1:58)	At-Large, East Area

Others in Attendance:

Lisa Hunter	Glenn Co. Ag Dept.
Bill Ehorn	DWR
Pat Vellines	DWR
Jon Mulder	DWR
Paddy Turnbull	Capay Landowner Association
Chip Meriam	Glenn Co. Assessor's Office
Zac Dickens	GCID
Sharron Ellis	
Dan Gamon	
Marcie Skelton	Glenn Co. Ag Commissioner
Matt Gomes	Glenn Co. PPW
Carol Perkins	
George Pendell	Stony Creek

I. INTRODUCTIONS:

Those in attendance are shown above.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The meeting minutes from December 8, 2015 were approved as presented 5-0 with Mike Vereschagin and John Amaro abstaining.

III. AGENDA ITEMS:

A. Public Comment:

None

B. Discussion and/or Action Items:

1. Reports

- a) **Education/Outreach Committee**—The committee has not met since the last WAC meeting and has nothing to report.
- b) **Legislation Committee**—The committee has not met since the last WAC meeting and has nothing to report.
- c) **TAC**—John Brooks addressed the committee. Lisa Hunter reported the TAC held a joint special meeting with the Board of Supervisors on March 15, 2016 which will be discussed under Item 5. The WAC chairman represented the WAC at this meeting. The Planning and Public Works and Department of Agriculture TAC representatives will be considered at the May 17 Board meeting.

2. DWR update

Pat Vellines provided the Spring Groundwater Conditions presentation. The presentation reviewed water year and presentation indexes, groundwater elevation change maps, hydrographs, recharge plots, as well as future SGMA maps and available resources.

The water year index indicates that the 2015 year was a critical year. The current 8-station index notes that as of May 9, 2016, the Northern Sierra Precipitation is at 120% of normal for this date.

Groundwater elevation change maps were reviewed for average wells (100-450 feet below ground surface), shallow wells (less than 200 feet), and deep wells (greater than 600 feet). The presentation showed average and deep wells change maps comparing Spring 2015 to the Spring 2016, Spring 2011 to Spring 2016, and Spring 2004 to Spring 2016. Shallow wells change map compared Spring 2016 to Spring 2015.

Ms. Vellines then presented hydrographs for several wells throughout the County. Recharge plots showing hydrographs, water year type, and daily precipitation were also introduced. An example of future mapping was shown. The map indicated number of wells per section and the depths of well included in the monitoring grid.

3. Spring 2016 BMO Report

Lisa Hunter reviewed the Spring 2016 groundwater level measurements for the current BMO wells. A summary spreadsheet and map were distributed.

4. BMO revision process

Larry Domenighini provided an update on the activities of the BMO Policy Ad Hoc Committee. Mr. Domenighini reviewed the committee was established in December 2015 to develop policy options for WAC consideration. The committee has met five times. The meeting held January 8 reviewed the BMO stages and response actions and the discussion was continued at the March 1 meeting. The Board of Supervisors met with the TAC March 15. The next ad hoc committee meetings March 25 and April 27 continued reviewing policy options, but also shifted the direction of the conversations to meet the Board of Supervisors requests which will be discussed under Item 5. The committee met earlier today (May 10) to recap progress with Supervisor McDaniel and further discussion.

The committee has no formal request at this time, but is considering a recommendation for WAC consideration to provide to the Board of Supervisors using the current BMO methodology based on historic data and developing a Stage 3 response using an area defined by a three mile radius surrounding Stage 3 BMO wells. A three mile radius would eliminate a coverage gap and create continuity in the stage alert areas. The Board of Supervisors is considering ways to lift the moratorium on part, or all, of the County. One thought would be to use this Stage 3 response area (“pink area”) to continue the moratorium and lift it in the others areas of the County. There could also be a differentiation between ag and domestic wells by depth. This could be considered adaptive management under the current ordinance. There is also some thought to extend the Stage 3

area to the west to the Bulletin 118 boundary. The exact boundary recommendation still needs to be refined.

A question was raised about the wells that are not in a stage alert, but fall within the three mile radius. That is a question that still needs to be further developed in the refinement process. Thoughts were also expressed that well conditions and well construction details are variable throughout the County. It was stressed that these thoughts are preliminary and details are still being worked out.

Lisa Hunter shared she will meet with the Supervisors ad hoc committee, Supervisors McDaniel and Viegas, to provide an update on this committee's progress and to prepare for the Board meeting next week. Discussion ensued regarding the well permit moratorium, depth distinctions, and groundwater conditions.

A motion was made by Mike Alves to send a letter to the Board of Supervisors recommending they lift the well permitting moratorium county-wide. The motion was seconded by David Alves. Concerns were raised that this action would be a Brown Act violation. The motion passed 4-3 by the following roll call vote:

David Alves: Yes
John Amaro: Yes
Larry Domenighini: No
Bruce Roundy: No
Mike Vereschagin: Yes
Mike Alves: Yes
Rob Vlach: No

It was requested that staff follow-up with County Counsel to determine if this action meets the Brown Act requirements.

5. Report on Board of Supervisor Activities

Lisa Hunter provided an update regarding Board of Supervisors activities in the past several months discussing water issues. Only two meetings since early December have not included water items. Discussions have included TAC resignation/appointment, Sites JPA, Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, and the well permit moratorium. Handouts included a packet that was provided to the Board last week as well as Board minute orders from some of the pertinent Board meetings.

Many of the discussion points were already covered previously under Item 4. Discussion ensued regarding well depth restrictions. There was also a question as to whether to WAC has received any abnormal groundwater level reports. Ms. Hunter confirmed that no reports have been received this year.

It was requested to add David Alves to the committee, which was approved by the chair.

6. Sustainable Groundwater Management Act

Lisa Hunter provided an update on the DWR facilitation support services that the County applied for to try to help the eligible agencies have a platform to work through the Groundwater Sustainability Agency notification process and coordination. A public meeting was held March 8. The first working group meeting was held last month. The purpose of the working group meetings are to focus on GSA governance emphasizing coordination between the eligible agencies in each of the three subbasins within the County. Ms. Hunter encouraged all the members of the eligible agencies to participate in the process. The second working group meeting is tentatively scheduled for May 24.

The Counties with Stressed Basins grant application has been approved. Ms. Hunter is working through the agreement process with DWR and getting the scope of work finalized. The grant is \$250,000 and focuses on data management and a hydrogeologic conceptual model for the County.

Dan Gamon shared that the Groundwater Resources Association is holding a SGMA event June 8-9 in Sacramento and encouraged anyone that may be interested to attend. Mike Alves spoke to the importance of data collection and that decisions are supported by the data.

7. Other Topics of Interest

None.

C. Communications:

A California Water Service Notice of Preparation letter was included in the agenda packet.

D. Member Reports:

None.

IV. NEXT MEETINGS:

The next WAC meeting is tentatively scheduled for June 14 and/or July 12, 2016.

The next TAC meeting will be scheduled for late May.

V. ADJOURN:

The meeting was adjourned at 3:08 p.m.