

### STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

### **AGENDA**

Wednesday, August 12, 2020 8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Teleconference Meeting Only

Teleconference Meeting Only Call-In Information Provided

### **NOTICE: Coronavirus COVID-19**

See Attached Notice Regarding COVID-19, Closure of Board Chambers to the Public During the Steering Committee Meeting.

- Call to Order/Roll Call (\*Please remember to keep your phone line muted and unmute when announcing yourself for attendance or speaking)
- II. Scheduled Items Presentation materials to be posted on ESJGroundwater.org and emailed prior to the meeting.
  - A. Discussion / Action Items:
    - 1. Approval of the July 8, 2020 Meeting Minutes (Attachment)
    - 2. Board and Steering Committee Schedule (Staff report attached)
    - 3. TAC configuration and membership
    - 4. Review and develop recommendation on Woodard Curran Master Services Agreement (Staff Report, Draft Resolution, Draft Task Order No 2)
    - 5. Review and develop recommendation on Watershed Coordinator grant proposal (Staff report, draft resolution attached)
    - 6. DWR's draft grant proposal solicitation package (PSP) for projects that implement groundwater sustainability plans

### **III. Staff Reports**

- 1. Monitoring well development (TSS, Prop 1 Grant)
- 2. News clippings (Attached)
- IV. Public Comment (non-agendized items)
- V. Director's Comments
- VI. Future Agenda Items
- VII. Adjournment

## EASTERN SAN JOAQUIN GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY Steering Committee Meeting AGENDA

(Continued)

### **NOTICE: Coronavirus COVID-19**

See Attached Notice Regarding COVID 19, Closure of Board Chambers to the Public During the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority Steering Committee Meeting and Teleconference Information

## Important Notice Regarding COVID 19 and Closure of Board Chambers to the Public During Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority Steering Committee Meeting

On March 18, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom issued Executive Order N-29-20 recognizing that COVID 19 continues to spread throughout our community resulting in serious and ongoing economic harm. Governor Newsom has therefore waived certain requirements of the Ralph M. Brown Act relating to public participation and attendance at public meetings.

Based on guidance from the California Department of Public Health and the California Governor's Officer, *effective immediately* and while social distancing measures are imposed, Board chambers will be closed to the public during the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Steering Committee Meetings.

In order to minimize the spread of the COVID 19 virus, the following options are available to members of the public to listen to these meetings and provide comments to the Committee Members before and during the meeting:

1. You are strongly encouraged to listen to the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority Steering Committee meetings by attending the teleconference:

### Join Microsoft Teams Meeting

<u>+1 209-645-4071</u> United States, Stockton (Toll)
Conference ID: 867 947 049#

Local numbers | Reset PIN | Learn more about Teams | Meeting options

## EASTERN SAN JOAQUIN GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY Steering Committee Meeting AGENDA

(Continued)

\*If you are connecting to Microsoft Teams for the first time, you will need to download the program to you PC. You can also download the Microsoft Teams App to you Apple or Android device by visiting the App Stores.\*

### Once connected, we request you kindly mute your phone.

2. If you wish to make a comment on a specific agenda item, please submit your comment via email by 5:00 p.m. on the Tuesday prior to the meeting. Please submit your comment to the Secretary of the Board at <a href="mailto:ksmith@sigov.org">ksmith@sigov.org</a>. Your comment will be shared with the Board members and placed into the record at the meeting. Every effort will be made to read comments received during the meeting into the record but some comments may not be read due to time limitations. Comments received after an agenda item will be made part of the record if received prior to the end of the meeting.

**Next Scheduled Meeting** 

Wednesday, September 9, 2020 8:30 am to 10:00 am Location TBD

### **ESJGWA Steering Committee Meeting Minutes**

### Wednesday, July 8, 2020

Meeting called to order: at 8:35 am

The meeting was conducted via teleconference using WebEx.

### I. Roll Call taken:

Roll call taken of members only. In attendance were Chair Winn, Directors Mike Henry; Robert Holmes and Tom Flinn and Alternate Directors Mel Lytle; Walter Ward and Andrew Watkins. Others in attendance were logged via their sign in to WebEx.

### II. <u>Discussion / Action Items:</u>

1. Approval of the June 10, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Motion: Alternate Director Walt Ward. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Director Tom Flinn. Roll call vote taken. Minutes approved unanimously.

- 2. Proposition 68 Grant Component 3 Discussion of Work Plan
  - a. Current approaches to GSA funding and finance

Matt Zidar of San Joaquin County spoke about potential **costs, funding and finance**. This included GWA and GSA costs. GWA costs include:

- a. Management, staff support and coordination of GWA and committees
- b. oversight on basin water use and water budget (modeling)
- c. groundwater levels and quality
- d. Annual reporting, other SGMA compliance costs
- e. Represent GWA to DWR, SWRCB
- f. Documentation of other basin characteristics
- g. Grant writing
- h. Legal Services
- i. Public outreach and affairs
- j. What else? (e.g.; litigation)

### GSA Costs include;

- 1. Project planning, engineering and environmental compliance
- 2. Grant writing for projects
- 3. Portion of GWA costs
- 4. GW level data collection
- 5. Prop 218 and other assessment strategies
- 6. What other SGMA related costs?

Chairman Winn asked for questions or comments from the Steering Committee members.

Director Flinn spoke about public outreach and the need to get the public educated. Would like to see more effort in this area and increase in public education. The public just doesn't understand water. Would like to see a group message and then GSA's can educate further.

Matt Zidar- spoke about **revenue sources** available to the GSAs, GWA and individual members. Providing brief details on specific types of fees and charges. Revenue sources generally include:

- SW Charges
- 2. GW Charges
- 3. Land Based Assessment
- 4. Ad Valorem
- 5. Water Sales/transfers/banking fees
- 6. Impact Fees
- 7. "Scrounging" for dollars,
- 8. Grants (State, federal, NGO)
- 9. Sales Tax. General funds

Matt made the point regarding the 218 type assessments and fees charged to a water user, noting that they must be proportional to the cost of service to the individual property, and only reflect the services delivered to that property. That said, there are court decisions (Pajaro) where these charges can be applied in an 'integrated basin', and the cost of purveying water or projects are a water service benefiting the basin even if a property is not directly receiving the water, and that things like paying for recycled water and stormwater recharge are all beneficial in the entire basin and relevant and no matter where you are in the basin.

Chairman Winn asked for questions or comments from the Steering Committee members. He also noted that the idea of using a sales tax, as previously discussed with the SC and GWA Board, have issues of timing and feasibility, and the ability to move forward has been impacted by Covid and the prevailing impacts to local economies. There are basin wide and county wide consideration. All GSAs would need to collaborate and share revenues to meet critical needs and distribute revenues. Sales tax increase for water has been taken off the table for now, but could be brought back in the future. We would need a unified front and a clear message when bringing back the sale tax measure in 2 years, need to educate the public on why it is necessary.

Director Flinn spoke of drought in 80's that drove public away from surface water use.

Alternate Director Ward reminded that the counties overlap, eastside GSA overlaps with Stanislaus County. Need to consider this when planning funding, etc. Eastside GSA is looking into funding sources for support of administration costs. When it comes to projects, need to be more cautious rather than visionary when presenting to the public and committing. Need to agreement on what is most beneficial to group.

Mary Elizabeth of the Sierra Group made several points regarding:

- Keep water in the basin, not reward or enable folks who are not using their water responsibly.
- Would like to know how SJC is funding their GSA requirements

Believes there needs to be a lot more discussion regarding the potential tax measure.

### Discussion of teleconferencing tools

Alternate Director Ward advised that communications have really broken down and these phone meetings are not effective. Asked if the group could resume to in person meetings. Monica Streeter of Neumiller & Beardslee advised as a governmental agency (essential workers), you are able to exceed the 10 person limit, but she recommends that we not as it does not send an appropriate message. She stated that the 7 SC members plus County facilitating staff could meet at 10 and everyone else could join by teleconference. Director Henry stated he agreed with comments on Webex and a need for a different method. Chairman Winn stated the group could look into in person options and will speak to PH officer to hopefully meet face to face.

Matt Zidar discussed how water is valued, and the practicality and principles of water price.

- 1. Timing- yearly and daily
- 2. Wet year/dry year
- 3. SW vs GW. Conjunctive Use. The value of storage.....
- 4. Water and elevation; water and power nexus
- 5. Water Rights and seniority. Reliability has value.....
- 6. Tiered pricing.
- 7. Transport/Wheeling
- 8. Cost of Service
- 9. Treated/untreated

Chairman Winn asked for questions or comments from the Steering Committee members. There was none.



Mary Elizabeth with the Sierra Group, spoke about a time when basin wide benefit was discussed through stakeholder meetings and all that stopped. Agrees with Walt that there needs to prioritization of projects, back a project together to show that other projects will also get done.

Matt Zidar asked Mary Elizabeth to clarify the stakeholder group. Mary Elizabeth explained further the Stakeholder Group and how they met to provide input on GWA discussed topics. Meetings were ran by Woodard & Curran.

Director Flinn stated he has been involved in many groups that brought in outside persons to facilitate, need that to bring the ideas together and move forward.

Matt Zidar discussed the **economic principals**. These included discussion of:

- 1. Beneficiary pays Am I paying for my impacts or for benefits derived
- 2. Spatial variability
- 3. Water is not the same commodity on an acre foot basis (urban vs ag; treated vs untreated)
- 4. Equity
- 5. Free riders
- 6. Ability to pay & willingness to pay

7. Externalities- examples? WQ, Fishery, subsidence......

Chairman Winn asked for questions or comments from the Steering Committee members. None provided.

b. Work Plan for Prop 68 Grant Component 3- Funding and Financing

Matt Zidar discussed the work plan which will what GSAs are currently doing, identify funding and financing alternatives, and help the SC and GWA Board choose a path forward.

Alternate Director Walt made an observation regarding public outreach and education, noting that the public won't care until they feel a threat or perceive a tangible benefit... it is all about money and costs. We need to plan and be well prepared on what is presented to the public. They will want to understand what they are getting for what they will have to pay.

Alternate Director Lytle stated he would like to see the GWA provide outreach materials to the GSA's to present to their public.

Public comment from Mary Elizabeth with the Sierra Group, stating that outreach does not contain enough background information to understand the entire situation, recommend an outside person to assist. Not enough outreach within the municipal water groups.

City of Stockton water monitoring needs to be looked at, as not all residents receive the same benefit.

c. Workshops and Oversight

Not discussed in depth.

3. Opportunities: Partnerships and Agreements

Matt Zidar put out for general discussion of partnerships and agreements. There was not discussion.

4. Project Progress Reports

Matt Zidar stated the item could be held off, but would like to give everyone the opportunity to provide details or seek support on their projects.

Director Henry asked for a follow up on the support letters NSJWCD has received. Director Flinn stated that Jennifer Spaletta has been receiving the letters so he has no details on quantity, but does thank everyone for the support.

- III. Public Comment: No further comments
- IV. Director's Comments: None

### **Future Agenda Items:**

Matt Zidar recommend there be further discussion on outreach. Chairman Winn stated in regards to outreach, he agrees.

**<u>Adjournment:</u>** Meeting was adjourned at 10:08 am by Chairman Winn.

# Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority Steering Committee Meeting Sign-In

July 8, 2020

8:30 AM

Minute Approval Vote

Chuck Winn C	San Joaquin County	209-953-1160	cwinn@sigov.org
Mel Lytle A	City of Stockton	209-937-5614	rnel.lvtle@spokton al.gov
Mike Henry D	Lockeford Community Services District	209-712-4014	rnidor@att.re
Walter Ward A	Eastside San Joaquin GSA	209-525-6710	v/ward(Jenvies.org
Robert Holmes D Y	South San Joaquin GSA	209-484-7678	rnolme: @ss c.con
Andrew Watkins A	Stockton East Water District	209-948-0333	v/atkins and to v@verizon net
Tom Flinn D	North San Joaquin Water Conservation District	209-663-8760	tomfl m2@me.cor

# Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority Steering Committee Meeting Sign-In

July 8, 2020

8:30 AM

Roll Call + Sign-In

Chuck Winn C	San Joaquin County	209-953-1160	cwinn@sjgo .org
Mel Lytle A	City of Stockton	209-937-5614	rnel.lvtle@s ocktor oc.gov
Mike Henry D	Lockeford Community Services District	209-712-4014	rnidor@ att.r e
Walter Ward A •	Eastside San Joaquin GSA	209-525-6710	v/ward(Penv &s.or
Robert Holmes D .	South San Joaquin GSA	209-484-7678	rnolme: @ss c.con
Andrew Watkins A .	Stockton East Water District	209-948-0333	<u>v/atkins.and e v@v ा izon तल</u> t
Tom Flinn D	North San Joaquin Water Conservation District	209-663-8760	tomfi 1.12@ 1cor
Kris Balaji 🌘	San Joaquin County	468-3100	kbalani@sigov.org
Fritz Buchman 🌘	San Joaquin County	468-3034	fouchman@ j.ov.c ş
Matt Zidar •	San Joaquin County	953-7460	razida (Osigov org
Brandon Nakagawa *	South San Joaquin GSA - Alternate	209-249-4613	<u>t naka gawa (48 sjid. 02 n</u>

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		Newmiller	Monica Streeter
		SSUID	Brandon Nakagawa
			Joey Giordano
			Chelse a Spier
		Sierra Group	MaryElizabeth
			Renee Neal
		San Joaquin County	Krish Smith



### Memo

To: Steering Committee and Board for August 12, 2020 Discussion

From: Matt Zidar, Water Resources Manager

RE: Proposed GWA Steering Committee and Board Meeting Schedule

**Date**: August 6, 2020

**QUESTION FOR CONSIDERATION:** Is the proposed meeting schedule sufficient and acceptable to the Committee and Board Members to complete 2020?

### INTRODUCTION:

A definitive GWA Board and Steering Committee Meeting Schedule needs to be discussed for the remainder of 2020. The meeting schedule below is proposed by San Joaquin County Water Resources Staff.

Meeting	Date	Notes
GWA Steering Committee	August 12 <sup>th</sup>	
	September 9 <sup>th</sup>	
	October 14 <sup>th</sup>	
	November 11 <sup>th</sup>	*this is a holiday, so an alternate date needs to be selected*
	December 9 <sup>th</sup>	
GWA Board of Directors	August 12 <sup>th</sup>	
	October 14 <sup>th</sup>	
TAC	TBD	Need to revisit configuration, composition

### **RECOMMENDATION**

It is the recommendation of San Joaquin County Water Resources Staff that the proposed schedule be discussed and considered.



### Memo

To: Steering Committee and Board for August 12, 2020 Discussion/Action

From: Matt Zidar, Water Resources Manager

**RE:** Amendment to Woodard Curran Agreement Number A-20-1 for Consulting Services for the

Implementation of the East San Joaquin Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan

**Date**: August 6, 2020

**Summary**: This Board action will assign work via Task Order to Woodard Curran under the Agreement for Consulting Services, dated February 12, 2020. Work to be included in the Task Order is to undertake tasks funded by the DWR agreement using monies Proposition 68 Grant funds awarded to the GWA.

**Details**: In February 2020, the Board entered into an Agreement for Consulting Services with Woodard Curran (WC) to support implementation of the ESJ GSP. The agreement allowed for issuance of Task Orders to revise the scope, schedule and assign Task Orders to the consultants. The intent was to expedite assignment of work to the contractor that is included in Board approved budgets; and to allow the board to reduce the number of Board meetings from monthly to quarterly, letting the steering committee and Executive Secretary authorize. The term of the agreement is two years (Ending February 12, 2022) with an additional one year option. The Not-to-Exceed amount specified was \$162,000, an amount less than the approved budget. Staff's recommendation at the time, and continues to be, to allow Task Orders to be issued so long as the tasks remain within the annual adopted budget.

The Board adopted the FY20-21 Budget in June 2020. The budget included \$350,000 of Proposition 68 Grant revenues awarded to the GWA by DWR<sup>1</sup>. DWR Agreement Number 4600012686, the original Proposition 1 agreement for development of the GSP, was amended to include the Proposition 68 revenues and the tasks to begin implementing the GSP. Component No. 3 of the amended DWR agreement included \$100,000 for (a) Planning activities consisting two task, 1) to implement the Data Management System (\$50,000) and b) to evaluate funding and financing options (\$50,000); and b) monitoring and assessment (\$225,000) to drill an additional monitoring well for a total of \$325,000.

Today's action will include authorization of Woodard Curran Task Order No. 2 under Agreement A-20-1 to undertake the work for Component No. 3 of the Amended DWR Agreement. The attached Task Order details the scope, budget and anticipated schedule for Task Order No. 2. The total budget for Task Order No 2 is \$XXX,XXX for a) Implement the DMS, and for b) monitoring to construct a monitoring well.

Not included in the task order is Grant Component No. 3 a) to evaluate funding and financing alternatives. Staff is reviewing this scope of work and will come back to the board at a future date with recommendations as to how to proceed.

In February when the Board approved the Woodard Curran Contract it authorized Task Order No. 1 in the amount of \$162,000, which expended all funds authorized pursuant to the Agreement. Staff is also asking the Board to amend the Contract with Woodard and Curran to amend to contract not to exceed amount to \$437,000, to reflect the funds received pursuant to the DWR Prop 68 Agreement.

### TASK ORDER NO 2. TO AGREEMENT NUMBER A-20-1 WITH WOODARD CURRAN

This is an amendment to Agreement A-20-1 (hereinafter "AGREEMENT") to issue Task Order NO. 2 to Exhibit A and to increases the Contract Not-to-Exceed amount of \$162,000 by \$275,000 to a total of \$437,000.

AGREEMENT A-20-1 is hereby amended as follows:

- A. The PARTIES agree that the provisions of AGREEMENT shall continue in effect except as amended below:
- All references to GWA designated representative refers to the San Joaquin County Director of Public Works, or Interim San Joaquin County Director of Public Works, or designee;
- 2. REPLACE the not-to-exceed amount in III COMPENSATION from One Hundred Sixty-Two Thousand Dollars (\$162,000) to Four Hundred and Thirty-Seven Thousand Dollars (\$437,000).
- 3. ADD to Exhibit A of the Agreement, Task Order No. 2 (attached) which includes the scope, schedule and budget.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, GWA and CONSULTANT have executed this AMENDMENT ONE on the day and year first written above.

By	Ву	
EASTERN SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY	WOODARD & CURRAN, INC.	
GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY "GWA"	CHRISTY KENNEDY, P.E., C.HG.	
Representative	Project Manager	
FRITZ BUCHMAN, P.E.	"CONSULTANT"	
Interim Secretary of "GWA"		
APPROVED AS TO FORM		
Ву:		
MONICA STREETER		
General Counsel		

### BEFORE THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE EASTERN SAN JOAQUIN GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

### **RESOLUTION R-20-xx**

RESOLUTION APPROVING FIRST AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT NUMBER A-20-1 WITH WOODARD CURRAN, INC., FOR CONSULTING SERVICES FOR THE IMPLEMENTAITON OF THE EASTERN SAN JOAQUIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN, AND AUTHORIZE THE GWA'S DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVE OR DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE ALL DOCUMENTSS RELATED TO THE AMENDMENT, INCLUDING TASK ORDER #2

WHEREAS, On October 17, 2019, the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority (GWA) adopted Resolution R-19-02 authorizing submittal of a Proposition 68 grant application for an amount of \$575,000 to the DWR; and

WHEREAS, DWR notified the GWA of the award of Proposition 68 grant fund; DWR and GWA executed Amendment #2 to Grant Agreement Number 4600012686 by \$325,000, increasing the grant budget from \$1,500,000 to \$1,825,000 to include the Proposition 68 funds; and

WHEREAS, Amendment #2 adds Component 3: Round 3 Eastern San Joaquin GSP Development, to the Proposition 68 Grant Work Plan, which includes Category (a) Planning Actives (Financing Plan, \$50,000, Database Management (DMS) System Refinements, \$50,000), and Category (b) Monitoring/ Assessment (\$225,000); and

WHERAS, The GWA Board in June 2020 adopted the FY 20-21 Budget to include \$350,000 in revenue from Proposition 68; and

WHEREAS, Woodard Curran/GWA Agreement Number A-20-1 adopted by the Board in February 2020 is a service agreement that can be amended by approved Task Orders for budgeted work;

WHEREAS, staff negotiated with Woodard Curran for Task Order No. 2 on August 3, and staff has reviewed the submitted proposal to ensure it conforms with the requirements of the Grant Agreement; and

WHEREAS, is anticipated that the work will be completed within the terms of the agreement with Woodard Curran for a not-to-exceed amount of \$275,000 (\$50,000 for DMS Refinements, and \$225,000 for Monitoring/ Assessment); and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this Board of Directors of the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority hereby;

- Approves Task Order No. 2 as an amendment to Exhibit A of Agreement Number A-20-1 with Woodard Curran, Inc., including the scope, schedule and budget for consulting services for work associated with the Proposition 68 Grant funding;
- 2. Increases the Not-to-Exceed amount of Agreement A-20-1 by \$275,000 to a new Not-to-Exceed amount of \$437,000 for the Work in Task Order No. 2; and
- 3. Authorizes the GWA's Executive Secretary, acting as the designated representative, to execute all documents related to implementation of Task Order #2 and make administrative changes to Task Order # 2 as deemed necessary to implement the

provisions of this Resolution.

PASSED and ADOPTED this 12<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2020 by the following vote of the Board of Directors of the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority, to wit:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

ATTEST: FRITZ BUCHMAN, P.E. Interim Secretary of the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority

CHUCK WINN, Chairman Board of Directors of the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority



### Memo

To: Steering Committee and Board for August 12, 2020 Discussion/Action

From: Matt Zidar, Water Resources Manager

RE: 2020 Sustainable Groundwater Management Watershed Coordinator Grant Program Application

**Date**: August 6, 2020

This staff report is to support discussion and action by the GWA Board to submit a Grant to the Department of Conservation Watershed Coordinator Grant Program for \$300,000 to be used over 3 years to support implementation of the East San Joaquin Groundwater Sustainability Plan. The attached resolution authorizes the Board Secretary to prepare and submit the grant. It further authorizes the chair to sign the grant agreement should the funds be awarded. There is no matching funds requirement.

The grant program is being managed by the Department of Conservation. Funds are intended to support implementation of projects and management actions contained in the GSP. This includes outreach; planning, environmental review and design of projects; evaluation of management actions; project formulation; and improvements to monitoring. Priority is for critically overdrafted and high priority basins that have submitted their GSP to DWR for review. Briefings regarding the grant have previously been provided to the Steering Committee and Board in May 2020. The GWA is an eligible applicant. Proposals are due September 15, 2020. The purpose for the grant is to:

- a. Work with local groundwater sustainability agencies, landowners, and local governments to identify and implement projects to help develop landowner driven solutions to increase groundwater sustainability and meet broader statewide goals of biodiversity and climate resiliency.
- b. Facilitate watershed-scale collaborations, promote integrated watershed management efforts, and support local implementation activities focusing on areas significantly impacted by SGMA implementation
- c. Program emphasizes that collaboration between diverse entities at the regional scale is critical to efficiently meet the state's goals and address variations in water management conditions throughout California

We will solicit letters of support from each of the GSA as funding partners in the grant. We are also seeking partners to support the work. This will include the local RCD, NRCS, Cooperative Extension, Farm Bureau, and others.

### Before the Board of Directors of the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority

### Resolution R-2-##

RESOLUTION APPROVING SUBMITTAL OF A GRANT APPLICATION FOR AN AMOUNT OF \$300,000 TO THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION UNDER THE 2020 SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT WATERSHED COORDINATOR GRANT PROGRAM (PROGRAM) TO SUPPORT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EASTERN SAN JOAQUIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

WHEREAS, The Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority (ESJ GWA) is a high priority, critically overdrafted groundwater basin pursuant to the California Department of Water Resources pursuant to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014 (SGMA); and,

WHEREAS, the ESJ GWA is a California Joint Powers Authority consisting of 16 member Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) acting in a collaborative partnership and have prepared, adopted and submitted the East San Joaquin Groundwater Sustainability Plan (ESJ GSP) to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) pursuant to SGMA; and,

WHEREAS, one of the purposes of the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority is to provide for coordination among the Members to develop and Implement a GSP; and,

WHEREAS, The California Department of Conservation Program provides funding from the Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Act of 2002 (Proposition 50). The Budget Act of 2019 (AB 74, Ch. 23, Stat. 2019) is providing competitive grants to fund watershed coordinator positions and programs to support GSAs to implement their adopted GSPs; and,

WHEREAS, the Grant Proposal Solicitation package required the ESJ GWA, acting as the sponsor for the proposed project, determines the Grant Application is not a "project" pursuant to section 15378 of the CEQA guidelines; and,

WHEREAS, the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority is eligible to apply for funding under the Program and is proposing a project titles "East San Joaquin Groundwater Sustainability Plan Watershed Coordinator Project (Project)".

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority hereby approves that application be made to the California Department of Conservation to obtain a grant under 2020 Sustainable Groundwater Management Watershed Coordinator Grant Program, and directs the Executive Secretary to prepare and submit the grant application to the Department of Conservation; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the ESJ GWA finds and determines that the Project is not a project subject to CEQA since it is for planning, stakeholder outreach, and support to implementation projects identified in the ESJ GSP that would be subject to environmental review by the individual GSAs acting in partnership or individually, and makes a finding that the Project does not involve any actions which would have any significant effects on the environment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Board of Directors of the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority hereby certify that the Board, acting as the applicant, understands the assurances and certification in the application; accepts the contract template terms and conditions, if the project is awarded funding; and if such grant funding is awarded, authorizes the Secretary to act as its agent and accept the award of grant funding on behalf of the ESJGWA.

The foregoing Resolution was introduced at a special meeting of the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority on the 12th day of August 2020. A motion was made and seconded to adopt the foregoing on. Motion carried and the on was adopted.

PASSED and ADOPTED this 12th day of August, 2020 by the following vote of the Board of Directors of the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority, to wit:

MOTION:	
AYES:	
ABSTAIN:	
ATTEST: FRITZ BUCHMAN, P.E. Secretary of the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority	CHUCK WINN, Chairman Board of Directors of the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority



#### Memo

To: Steering Committee and Board for August 12, 2020 Discussion/Action

From: Matt Zidar, Water Resources Manager

RE: 2020 Sustainable Groundwater Management DRAFT Proposal Solicitation Package

**Date**: August 6, 2020

Public comment is open for the draft Proposal Solicitation Package for the Department of Water Resources' (DWR) <u>Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Grant Program</u>.

### 1. Funding.

- a. First round of funding, \$26M will be available for critically overdrafted basins. \$5M set aside for Projects that solely benefit Underrepresented Communities within a COD basin, address the needs of those communities as outlined the 2020 DACI Needs Assessment Report, .
- b. Second round of funding will be available beginning in 2022 and will have approximately \$62 million available for projects for high- and medium-priority basins.
- c. Minimum Grant Amount \$2M per basin. Maximum Grant Amount \$5M per basin
- d. Minimum 25% cost share required
  - i. Incurred after January 31, 2020 under Round 1
  - ii. May be waived or reduced for projects benefiting SDACs, DACs, EDAs
    - 1. 0% Local Cost Share The Project is located within an URC and solely benefits the URC
    - 2. 5% Local Cost Share The Project is not located within an URC, but solely benefits the URC
    - 3. 15% Local Cost Share The Project is not located within an URC, but a minimum of 50% of the project benefits the URC
    - 4. 25% Local Cost Share The Project is not located within an URC and does not benefit an URC
- 2. Public Webinar Meeting, September 3, 2020, 10 a.m. to Noon. Need to register.
- 3. For your use, below is a summary of key information from the draft PSP:
- 4. Only one application will be accepted per basin/subbasin
- 5. Eligible applicants
  - a. Round 1 GSAs or member agencies of GSAs
  - b. Round 2 GSAs, member agencies of GSAs, or member agencies with an approved Alternative within a medium or high priority basin(s), including critically overdrafted (COD) basins; Must have an adopted GSP that has been submitted to DWR for review and has been deemed complete by DWR
- 6. Underrepresented Community (URC) is defined as: A DAC, SDAC, and EDA (as defined in the 2019 Guidelines); Tribal Lands/Tribes (As defined in the 2019 Guidelines); California Communities Environmental Health Screening Tool (CalEnviroScreen 3.0) Classified DACs (Environmentally Disadvantaged Communities or EnvDACs); and Fringe Communities.

### 7. Eligible project types:

- a. Include activities and/or tasks that consist of the development of groundwater recharge projects with surface water, stormwater, recycled water, and other conjunctive use projects; and/or projects that prevent or clean up contamination of groundwater that serves as a source of drinking water.
- b. Other eligible project types are projects and programs that support water supply reliability, water conservation, and water use efficiency and water banking, exchange, and reclamation.
- c. Include those activities associated with the implementation of an adopted GSP or approved alternative and must also be listed within an adopted GSP or approved Alternative.
- d. Must contain a minimum of two multiple benefits and should meet benefits of multiple planning documents (e.g. SWRP, IRWMPs, Draft Water Resiliency Portfolio, etc.) in addition to meeting the sustainability goals within the adopted GSP or approved Alternative.
- e. All projects that include stormwater or dry weather runoff capture must be included in a SWRP or Functionally Equivalent SWRP, both of which must be incorporated into an adopted IRWMP.
- f. Multiple benefits is listed on page 11 of the PDF (Page 10 on the document footer)
- g. Schedule

TABLE 2 - SCHEDULE FOR SGM IMPLEMENTATION - ROUNDS 1 AND 2 GRANT SOLICITATION

Milestone or Activity	Tentative Schedule 2
Round 1 Schedule	remative senedate
Final 2020 PSP posted to public	December 2020
Round 1 Grant Solicitation Opens	December 2020
Application Workshop	January 2021
Round 1 Grant Solicitation Closes	January 2021
Public Review of Draft Funding List	March 2021
Final Awards	May 2021
Round 2 Schedule	
Round 2 Grant Solicitation Opens	Spring 2022
Public Review of Draft Funding List	Summer 2022
Final Awards	Fall 2022

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Dates are subject to change and will be determined based on number of comments received for the draft document, number of applications received, amount of funds requested, and number of grant awards given.

**Steering Committee** 

August 12, 2020

**Agenda Item III.2 News Clippings** 

New winery wastewater regulations could cost small and midsize wineries thousands every year. "The California state water board is working on an update to the winery general order to provide a permitting process with water discharge requirements (WDR) that make sure wineries are in compliance with water quality regulation and allows them a pathway to compliance. The new order will affect over 2,000 wineries that discharge winery waste to land for the purpose of disposal or reuse for irrigation and soil amendment. "Unfortunately, it is a very, very extensive permit with an incredibly long list of monitoring requirements and reporting requirements for all wineries that are subject to the order ..." Read more from Wine Industry Advisor here: New winery wastewater regulations could cost small and midsize wineries thousands every year

7/28/20. Governor Gavin Newsom has released the final version of California's <u>Water Resilience</u>

<u>Portfolio</u>. It includes 142 actions to help build a climate-resilient water system in the face of climate change. The portfolio provides California with a guide to cope with extreme droughts and floods, over-reliance on groundwater, and other challenges. The actions cover efforts to provide safe drinking water, groundwater sustainability, and water-use efficiency. Details are available in this <u>news release</u>.

7/21/2020 SACRAMENTO - SAN JOAQUIN DELTA DIAZINON AND CHLORPYRIFOS TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOAD ATTAINMENT ASSESSMENT FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN PHASE II AREA, DATED 29 APRIL 2020

On 29 April 2020, the County of San Joaquin submitted the Sacramento - San Joaquin Delta Diazinon and Chlorpyrifos Total Maximum Daily Load Attainment Assessment (Assessment) for the County of San Joaquin Phase II Area. The Assessment meets the requirements of Attachment G of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System General Permit for Waste Discharge Requirements for Storm Water Discharges from Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems, Water Quality Order 2013-0001-DWQ and is hereby approved.

River agreements stall amid focus on Delta litigation: "With state and federal administrations fighting in court about delta water operations—and with a pandemic and election year both underway—work has slowed on voluntary agreements meant to avoid severe cuts to northern San Joaquin Valley water supplies. At issue is the first phase of a State Water Resources Control Board plan for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. Adopted in 2018, the regulatory regime would require water users in San Joaquin River tributaries to leave 30% to 50% of unimpaired flows in the Stanislaus, Tuolumne and Merced rivers to benefit protected fish. Water users have pressed the state to pursue voluntary agreements that could achieve the same fisheries goals without the significant water-supply impacts. California agency leaders say conversations on voluntary agreements continue, though slowly. ..." Read more from Ag Alert here: River agreements stall amid focus on Delta litigation

**Report:** California groundwater sustainability plans are inadequate: "Though California has allocated billions of dollars in taxpayer-funded bonds to clean up its drinking water and make it more available, one report says it is not working. Even with implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) under way, upwards of 12,000 drinking wells may go dry by 2040, causing over 120,000 people to lose their primary source of water. The grim report by the Water Foundation, a charitable organization based in California that is focused on clean, reliable water for people and nature, predicts the groundwater

sustainability plans written by the various districts in the San Joaquin Valley will not achieve what SGMA purports to do – that is, sustainably manage groundwater resources. ... " Read more from the Western Farm Press here: Report: California groundwater sustainability plans are inadequate

Colusa County landowners sought for groundwater recharge program: "The Nature Conservancy, in partnership with the Colusa Groundwater Authority, is now accepting applications for an on-farm Multi-Benefit Groundwater Recharge Incentive Program scheduled to take place this fall. According to a release issued by the Nature Conservancy, the program provides an opportunity for growers to receive financial compensation for recharging groundwater during the course of normal farming operations on a variety of crops while also providing critical wetland habitat for waterbirds migrating along the Pacific Flyway. ...

"Read more from the Colusa Sun-Herald here: Colusa County landowners sought for groundwater recharge program

From <a href="https://mavensnotebook.com/2020/07/22/daily-digest-7-22-river-agreements-stall-amid-focus-on-delta-litigation-ca-settles-fight-over-hoarded-dam-water-u-s-states-take-on-trump-epa-for-water-rule-rollback-epa-must-focus-on-environment/">https://mavensnotebook.com/2020/07/22/daily-digest-7-22-river-agreements-stall-amid-focus-on-delta-litigation-ca-settles-fight-over-hoarded-dam-water-u-s-states-take-on-trump-epa-for-water-rule-rollback-epa-must-focus-on-environment/</a>