

MEETING MINUTES

Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the Eastern Management Area in the Santa Ynez River Groundwater Basin May 23, 2024

A regular meeting of the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for the Eastern Management Area (EMA) in the Santa Ynez River Groundwater Basin was held on Thursday, May 23, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. at Santa Ynez Community Services District Community Room, 1070 Faraday Street, Santa Ynez, California.

EMA GSA Committee Members Present: Elizabeth Orona, Joan Hartmann, Brad Joos, and Brett Marymee

EMA GSA Alternate Committee Members Present (in-person): Meighan Dietenhofer (Acting) and Steve Jordan

EMA GSA Alternate Committee Members Present (Teleconference): Mike Burchardi

Member Agency Staff Present (in-person): Paeter Garcia, Randy Murphy, and Matt Young

Member Agency Staff Present (Teleconference): Amber Thompson

Others Present (in-person): Jeff Barry, Mary Heyden, Gay Infanti, Mark Infanti, and Lisa Severy

Others Present (remote): Steve Anderson, Doug Circle, Alex Dominguez, Matt Scrudato, Brett Stroud, and Scarlett Tovar (DWR)

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Committee Chair Marymee called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and asked Ms. Thompson to call roll. Three EMA GSA Committee Members and one Acting Alternate Committee Member were present providing a quorum. Two additional Alternate Committee Member were also present.

Alternate Committee Member Dietenhofer participated as Acting Alternate Committee Member for Agenda Items No. 1 through No. 7 and No. 9 through No. 12. Committee Member Hartmann arrived late after Agenda Item No. 4, took the seat at the dais, participated in Agenda Item No. 8, which was moved to earlier on the agenda, left the meeting after Item No. 8, and Alternate Committee Member Dietenhofer returned to the dais seat as Acting Alternate Committee Member for the remainder of the meeting.

2. Additions or Deletions to the Agenda

Committee Chair Marymee announced that a request was received to move Agenda Item No. 8 to earlier in the meeting, after Item No. 4 and before Item No. 5. There was unanimous consensus.

No additions or deletions were made.

3. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

4. Review and Consider Approval of Meeting Minutes of March 28, 2024

The minutes of the EMA GSA Committee meeting on March 28, 2024, were presented for Board consideration. Director Joos requested a correction be made to Item No. 5, remove “of the”. Discussion followed. There was no public comment.

Committee Member Marymee made a MOTION to approve the minutes of the EMA GSA Committee meeting on March 28, 2024, as amended. Committee Member Orona seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Committee Member Hartmann arrived and replaced Acting Alternate Committee Member Diethofer at the dais. Agenda Item No. 8 was addressed at this point in the meeting.

5. Review and Consider Approval of Financial Statements and Warrant List

Ms. Thompson presented the financial reports of FY 2023-24 Periods 7 through 9 (through March 31, 2024) and the Warrant Lists for January, February, and March 2024 for EMA GSA Committee consideration. Discussion followed. There was no public comment.

Committee Member Marymee made a MOTION to approve Warrant Lists for January, February, and March 2024 (Check Nos. 1031-1037) totaling \$4,121.07, as presented. Committee Member Orona seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

6. Receive Update on Spring 2024 Water Level Measurements

Mr. Scudato presented slides and information regarding Eastern Management Area Spring 2024 water level measurements. Discussion followed. Public comment was received. There was no action.

7. Receive update on DWR Sustainable Groundwater Management Implementation Grant

Ms. Thompson reported that GSP Implementation Grant Progress Report and Invoice No. 1 was submitted to DWR before the due date of April 30, 2024, and was approved by DWR for reimbursement, as submitted. SYRWCD is waiting to receive the check. She also reported that SYRWCD staff is preparing the submittal for Progress Report and Invoice No. 2 which is due to the DWR Grant Manager by May 31, 2024.

Discussion followed. There was no public comment and no action.

8. Review and consider endorsing Draft EMA Joint Powers Agreement for Approval by GSA Member Agencies

Agenda Item No. 8 was addressed between Agenda Item No. 4 and Item No. 5.

Mr. Garcia introduced the Draft EMA Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) and summarized the sections. Mr. Young added that after a Draft EMA JPA is endorsed by the EMA GSA Committee, the next step in the process is for each governing body of the Member Agencies consider and approve the EMA JPA. Discussion followed. Public comment was received.

Committee Member Joos made a MOTION to endorse the Draft EMA Joint Powers Agreement with an amendment to Section 14.2.(d) to include \$50,000 as the Member Agency contribution amount. Committee Member Hartmann seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Committee Member Hartmann left the meeting and Acting Alternate Committee Member Diethofer returned to the dais. The meeting continued with Agenda Item No. 5.

9. Discuss Preparations for Governance Transition and Consider Directing Staff to Solicit Qualifications and/or Proposals for the Following:

- a. Executive Director**
- b. General Counsel**
- c. Rate Consultant**
- d. Insurance**

Mr. Garcia reported that once the JPA is finalized, these positions will need to be filled. He recommended that staff research options and solicit proposals now so that the JPA Board will have proposals available to consider at the first JPA Board Meeting once the JPA is established. Discussion followed. Public comments were received.

A consensus of the EMA GSA Committee was given for member agencies staff to pursue options and request proposals for Executive Director, General Counsel, Rate Consultant, and Insurance for the JPA Board to consider once the JPA is established.

Mr. Garcia stated that the administrative functions for the EMA GSA are expected to remain status quo until an Executive Director is hired by the JPA Board.

10. Review and Discuss Meeting Schedule for Next Two Months. All Meetings held at 6:30 PM, Santa Ynez CSD Meeting Room, 1070 Faraday St., Santa Ynez

- a. Next Tentative Special EMA GSA Committee Meeting, Thursday, June 27, 2024**

The EMA GSA Committee has saved June 27, 2024, for a possible Special Meeting.

- b. Tentative Special EMA GSA Committee meeting Thursday, July 25, 2024**

The EMA GSA Committee has saved July 25, 2024, for a possible Special Meeting.

c. Next Regular EMA GSA Committee meeting, Thursday, August 22, 2024


The next Regular meeting of the EMA GSA Committee will be on Thursday, August 22, 2024.

11. EMA GSA Committee Reports and Requests for Future Agenda Items

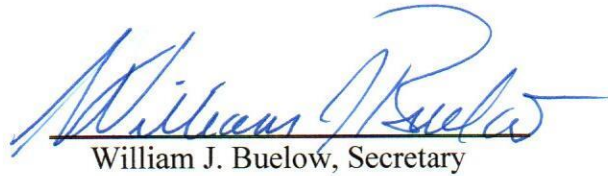
Ms. Thompson reported there may be a Basin-wide Joint-GSAs meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, June 7, 2024, at Buellton City Council Chambers and requested all save the date.

12. Adjournment

Committee Chair Marymee adjourned the meeting at 7:48 p.m.



Brad Joos, Vice-Chairman



William J. Buelow, Secretary

**GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILTY AGENCY FOR THE
EASTERN MANAGEMENT AREA (EMA)
IN THE SANTA YNEZ RIVER VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN**

JANUARY 2024 WARRANT LIST FOR COMMITTEE APPROVAL

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
1031	01/10/24	Santa Ynez CSD	Conference Room Rental (12/14/23 EMA GSA Meeting)	\$ 75.00
MONTH TOTAL				\$ 75.00

FEBRUARY 2024 WARRANT LIST FOR COMMITTEE APPROVAL

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
1032	02/12/24	GSI Water Solutions	December 2023 Review for Well Verifications (paid by Well Owner Deposits)	\$ 55.00
1033	02/12/24	Inklings Printing Co.	SGM Implementation Grant Ceremony check (split 1/3 ea GSA)	\$ 54.83
MONTH TOTAL				\$ 109.83

MARCH 2024 WARRANT LIST FOR COMMITTEE APPROVAL

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
1034	03/12/24	GSI Water Solutions	January 2024 Review for Well Verifications (paid by Well Owner Deposits)	\$ 3,351.90
1035	03/12/24	Brandon & Heidi Liebman	Refund Unexpended Deposit - Well Verification Review	\$ 207.50
1036	03/12/24	Santa Ynez CSD	Conference Room Rental (02/22/24 EMA GSA Meeting)	\$ 76.84
1037	03/12/24	Valley Bookkeeping	2024 1st Quarter Bookkeeping (January, February, March 2024)	\$ 300.00
MONTH TOTAL				\$ 3,936.24

TOTAL CHECKS THIS QUARTER: \$ 4,121.07