

Glenn Groundwater Authority

Groundwater Sustainability Agency

225 N. Tehama Street, Willows, CA 95988 | 530.934.6540

Meeting Minutes

Glenn Groundwater Authority Board of Directors

June 16, 2021 | 1:30 pm

LOCATION: Teleconference

Pursuant to Governor Newsom's Executive Orders N-29-20 this meeting was conducted by teleconference. The meeting was accessible via telephone, computer, smartphone or tablet.

Director Members Present:	Alternate/2 nd Alternate Directors	Agency Representing:
X Grant Carmon	Tom Arnold	County of Glenn
X Bruce Roundy	Pete Carr	City of Orland
	Ed Vonasek (2 nd)	City of Orland
X Gary Hansen (Vice Chair)	Evan Markey	City of Willows
George Nerli	X Leslie Nerli	Glide Water District
X John Amaro (Chair)	X Thad Bettner	Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District
Charles Schonauer	X Emil Cavagnolo	Orland-Artois Water District
	X Andrea Jones (2 nd)	Orland-Artois Water District
X Randy Hansen	Wade Danley	Kanawha Water District
	Michael Alves (2 nd)	Kanawha Water District
X Mark Lohse	Seth Fiack	Monroeville Water District
X Gary Enos	Lance Boyd	Princeton-Codora-Glenn Irrigation District/ Provident Irrigation District

Others in attendance:

Lisa Hunter, GGA/Glenn County; Valerie Kincaid, GGA Counsel; Brandon Davison, DWR; Donald Rust, Glenn County, Planning Director; Mary Fahey, CGA; Arne Gustafson; Holly Dawley, GCID; Ashlee Veneman, Glenn County PCDSA; Grant Davids; Holly Reimers; Leland Meibeyer; Lisa Humphreys, Glenn County Farm Bureau; George Pendell; Del Reimers; Gina Nicholls, Nossaman LLP.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Amaro called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken as indicated above.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. *Approval of meeting minutes from May 10, 2021

On motion by Director Gary Hansen, seconded by Director Roundy, the meeting minutes of May 10, 2021 were approved as presented by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Carmon, Roundy, G. Hansen, Amaro, R. Hansen, Lohse, Enos, L. Nerli, Cavagnolo

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

4. PERIOD OF PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments were presented or heard.

5. STAFF UPDATES

- Glenn Groundwater Authority (GGA) Program Manager, Lisa Hunter, stated a notice from the Colusa Groundwater Authority (CGA) had been received noting minor adjustments to the Colusa Subbasin boundary.
- Ms. Hunter pointed members to the Golden State Management Authority trainings and the updates to Assembly Bill 754 relating to the possible extension of the January 2022 Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) deadline contained in the Program Manger Report.
- Ms. Hunter further stated she attended the Northern California Water Association Groundwater Taskforce meeting and the Glenn County Drought Task Force Ad Hoc Committee meeting at the invitation of the County on behalf of GGA, and encouraged board members to contact her if interested in participating in future meetings.
- Ms. Hunter announced the next Board meeting will likely be in-person and she will reach out to Board members for coordination.
- Ms. Hunter stated a part time employee, Brooke Davis, has been hired to assist the County's Water Resources Division, who may also in turn be assisting the GGA.

6. FINANCIAL REPORT

- a. *Review and accept Monthly Activities Report.
 - b. *Review and consider approval of claims.
- No comments or questions were heard for either item referenced above.

On motion by Director Enos, seconded by Director Roundy, it was ordered to accept the Monthly Activities report as presented by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Carmon, Roundy, G. Hansen, Amaro, R. Hansen, Lohse, Enos, L. Nerli, Cavagnolo
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

On motion by Director Carmon, seconded by Director Gary Hansen, it was ordered to approve the claims as presented by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Carmon, Roundy, G. Hansen, Amaro, R. Hansen, Lohse, Enos, L. Nerli, Cavagnolo
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

7. BUDGET AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORT

- a. Receive report and recommendations from Budget Ad Hoc Committee

- Director Gary Hansen stated the committee met June 2, 2021 and noted the proposed budget reduced amounts for legal services and professional services, and the committee is recommending leaving the operations fee at \$1.50 per acre since the reserve budget account is healthy. Director Carmon stated the committee may not be able to keep the same fee next year, but every effort was made as a gesture of good faith to keep costs as low as possible for landowners. Director Leslie Nerli stated a new fee study would be needed once the GSP is implemented and agreed with Director G. Hansen and Director Carmon's comments.

8. GLENN GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY OPERATIONS FEE

- *Adopt the Glenn Groundwater Authority Operations Fee per acre for Fiscal Year 2021/2022.
 - *Adopt Resolution 2021-001 Authorizing the County to Collect Property-Related Fees on the County Tax Roll and Indemnification of the Collecting Agency.
 - *Authorize the Program Manger to complete or direct the completion of all tasks necessary for the completion of the submittal packet to the Glenn County Department of Finance.
- Chair Amaro introduced the item. Gina Nicholls spoke on behalf of western Glenn County residents that she represents who oppose the Glenn Groundwater Authority Operations Fee per Acre, stating it is excessive, against the California Constitution, and opposed the structure of the fee being based on a per acre basis as unfair. Ms. Nicholls further stated these concerns have been presented for more than a year and requested the Board vote not to approve the fee. No further comments were heard.

On motion by Director Gary Hansen, seconded by Director Randy Hansen, it was ordered to **adopt the Glenn Groundwater Authority Operations Fee of \$1.50 per acre** for Fiscal Year 2021/2022 by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Carmon, Roundy, G. Hansen, Amaro, R. Hansen, Lohse, Enos, L. Nerli, Cavagnolo

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

On motion by Director Enos, seconded by Director Cavagnolo, it was ordered to **adopt Resolution 2021-001 Authorizing the County to Collect Property – Related Fees on the County Tax Roll and Indemnification of the Collecting Agency** by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Carmon, Roundy, G. Hansen, Amaro, R. Hansen, Lohse, Enos, L. Nerli, Cavagnolo

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

On motion by Director Carmon, seconded by Director Leslie Nerli, it was ordered to **authorize the Program Manager to complete or direct the completion of all tasks necessary for the completion of the submittal packet to the Glenn County Department of Finance** by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Carmon, Roundy, G. Hansen, Amaro, R. Hansen, Lohse, Enos, L. Nerli, Cavagnolo

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

9. FISCAL YEAR 2020/2021 BUDGET

- a. *Consider approval of the Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Glenn Groundwater Authority Budget
 - No comments or questions were heard for this item.

On motion by Director Leslie Nerli, seconded by Director Enos, it was ordered to approve the Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Glenn Groundwater Authority Budget as presented by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Carmon, Roundy, G. Hansen, Amaro, R. Hansen, Lohse, Enos, L. Nerli, Cavagnolo

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

10. FISCAL YEAR 2019/2020 ANNUAL AUDIT

- a. *Consider approval of the CliftonLarsonAllen LLP Engagement Letter to provide services to complete the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Annual Audit following Counsel review and authorize the Program Manager or Chairman to execute the agreement.
 - Ms. Hunter stated CliftonLarsonAllen (CLA) conducted the GGA's first audit and this would be the third year thereafter and, though another vendor may be chosen, staff recommends continuing to work with the current vendor for consistency purposes. Director Roundy asked what the metric was for the \$500 increase for services from last year, whereby Ms. Hunter stated the fee for service was provided in the initial proposal and the engagement letter is consistent with the proposal.

On motion by Director Gary Hansen, seconded by Director Roundy, it was ordered to approve the CliftonLarsonAllen LLP Engagement Letter following Counsel review and authorize the Program Manager or Chairman to execute the agreement by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Carmon, Roundy, G. Hansen, Amaro, R. Hansen, Lohse, Enos, L. Nerli, Cavagnolo

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

11. COLUSA SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

- a. Receive update on Plan development, activities, and outreach.
- b. Receive update on GSP Development Grants (Proposition 1 and Proposition 68).
- c. Receive update on Project Agreements.
- d. *Consider CGA/GGA Joint TAC recommendations on Sustainable Management Criteria for Groundwater Levels
- e. *Consider CGA/GGA Joint TAC recommendations on Sustainable Management Criteria for Water Quality
- f. *Consider CGA/GGA Joint TAC recommendations on Sustainable Management Criteria for Depletions of Interconnected Surface Waters
- g. Discussion on Management Areas
 - Ms. Hunter directed members to the GSP Development Status Update memo provided by Davids Engineering and the Administrative Record spreadsheet with comments relating to GSP development (no new general comments) and GSP chapter review.

- Ms. Hunter stated draft chapters 5 and 6 of the Groundwater Sustainability **Plan** will be released July 16, 2021 and a public workshop will be hosted in late July or early August. This will likely be an in-person workshop and staff is researching possible venues.
- Ms. Hunter encouraged continued communication with member agencies to facilitate the GSP adoption process late this year.
- Ms. Hunter reviewed the funds expended and funds remaining for the **GSP Development Grants (Proposition 1 and Proposition 68)**
- Ms. Hunter provided updates on the **Project agreements**, stating a contract amendment will be required in the Davids Engineering agreement to correct an error and to adjust the task budgets to more adequately represent where the funds are needed.
- Ms. Hunter announced six sites for the **Well Monitoring Pilot Program** have been selected, three of which are in the GGA area. The technical team is conducting site analysis to ensure each well is appropriate for the program; five have been inspected and are moving forward with one final inspection pending.
- Ms. Hunter reviewed the **Projects and Management Actions** solicitation deadlines and submittal process moving forward.
- Chair Amaro introduced Item 11-d. Ms. Hunter and Ms. Kincaid thanked the TAC members and consultant team for all of their efforts and engagement. Chair Amaro encouraged the Board to review as many TAC meetings as possible.

A motion was made by Director Leslie Nerli to adopt **Sustainable Management Criteria for Groundwater Levels** as recommended by the CGA/GGA TAC as presented. The motion was seconded by Director Randy Hansen and passed by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Carmon, Roundy, G. Hansen, Amaro, R. Hansen, Lohse, Enos, L. Nerli, Cavagnolo

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

- Chair Amaro introduced Item 11-e.

A motion was made by Director Enos to adopt the **Sustainable Management Criteria for Water Quality** as recommended by the CGA/GGA TAC as presented. The motion was seconded by Director Gary Hansen and passed by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Carmon, Roundy, G. Hansen, Amaro, R. Hansen, Lohse, Enos, L. Nerli, Cavagnolo

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

- Chair Amaro introduced the Item 11-f. Director Nerli spoke in appreciation of the TAC and the amount of time and level of engagement.

A motion was made by Director Randy Hansen to adopt the **Sustainable Management Criteria for Depletions of Interconnected Surface Waters** as recommended by the CGA/GGA TAC as presented. The motion was seconded by Director Enos and passed by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Carmon, Roundy, G. Hansen, Amaro, R. Hansen, Lohse, Enos, L. Nerli, Cavagnolo

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

- Ms. Hunter stated there are no new updates for **Item 11.g Management Areas** and recommended removing this topic as a standing agenda item. Directors Nerli, Carmon, Enos, Roundy and Gary Hansen spoke in favor of removing this item from future agendas.

12. INTER-BASIN COORDINATION

- a. Receive an update and provide input on Inter-basin Coordination effort in the Northern Sacramento Valley
- Ms. Hunter shared a presentation and stated the importance of inter-basin coordination as certain issues in one basin may affect others and that there may be joint projects of shared interest such as new wells and monitoring networks. Ms. Hunter reviewed the eleven subbasins that are part of the Northern Sacramento Valley coordination effort and what the coordination efforts have been to date. She further stated that long term efforts are being strategized to assist in the GSP implementation process, and reviewed the draft coordination framework pillars/options.
 - Director Randy Hansen asked if the GGA has to have agreements in place before plan submission to DWR, whereby Ms. Hunter stated an official coordination agreement is not required since the GGA is working on a single GSP for the Colusa Subbasin with the CGA, which Valerie Kincaid clarified and also discussed.
 - Directors Carmon, Roundy and Gary Hansen spoke complimentarily of the inter-basin coordination efforts to date.

13. COMMITTEE UPDATES

- a. 2021/2022 Budget Ad Hoc Committee
 - b. Executive Committee
 - i. CGA/GGA Joint Executive Committee
 - c. Multi-Benefit Recharge Pilot Project Ad Hoc Committee
 - d. Stakeholder Engagement Committee
 - e. Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
- The Budget Ad Hoc Committee provided their report during Item 7 and no further information was shared.
 - Chair Amaro stated the Executive Committee, Multi-Benefit Recharge Pilot Project Ad Hoc Committee and the Stakeholder Engagement Committee have not met and have no reportable updates.
 - Director Cavagnolo reviewed the forethought and decision criteria used by the TAC and how this year has impacted the decision making. He also thanked the consultant team for their hard work and recommendations.

14. MEMBER REPORTS AND COMMENTS

- Director Roundy stated the City of Orland has received reports of wells running dry within the City's limits and sphere of influence, and is now offering water to affected residents (\$10 per 1,000 gallons). Director Gary Hansen stated he submitted an agenda item for the next Willows City Council meeting for the Council to consider a similar plan of action.
- Director Carmon spoke in appreciation of the City of Orland's water distribution efforts and stated the County Office of Emergency Services is working with the State to try to find solutions such as tanks as well as find revenue streams to assist residents with the drought impacts. Director Carmon also noted that the Glenn County Board of Supervisors will be conducting a special meeting on June 22, 2021 to consider a well moratorium and encouraged attendance. Director L. Nerli asked if the GGA could contribute a letter of support or similar favor in support of the moratorium, whereby discussion ensued among members and GGA Counsel.

15. NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting is scheduled for July 12, 2021 at 1:30 pm.

16. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 3:11 p.m.