

Glenn Groundwater Authority

Groundwater Sustainability Agency

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

Meeting Minutes

Glenn Groundwater Authority Board of Directors

November 14, 2022 | 1:30 p.m.

LOCATION: 225 North Tehama Street, Willows, CA 95988

Public participation was also offered via teleconference; accessible via telephone, computer, smartphone or tablet.

Director Members Present:	Alternate/2 nd Alternate Directors	Agency Representing:
Grant Carmon	X 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)	R Evan Markey (1:58)	City of Willows
X Matt Deadmond	Leslie Nerli	Glide Water District
X John Amaro (Chair)	R Thad Bettner (1:40)	Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District
X Charles Schonauer	X Emil Cavagnolo	Orland-Artois Water District
X Randy Hansen	Wade Danley	Kanawha Water District
X Mark Lohse	Seth Fiack	Monroeville Water District
X Gary Enos	R Lance Boyd	Princeton-Codora-Glenn Irrigation District/ Provident Irrigation District

Directors attending remotely are designated with "R" and are not counted toward a quorum, do not vote, and are considered members of the public.

Others in attendance:

Lisa Hunter (GGA/Glenn County), Valerie Kincaid (GGA Counsel), Kaitlyn Murray (Glenn County), Jenny Scheer (Water and Land Solutions), Del Reimers, Jaime Lely (landowner), Ryan Fulton (Larry Walker Associates), Joe Turner (Geosyntec), Don Bills (GGA TAC), Jacques DeBra (LSCE), Jim Brobeck, Lisa Porta (Montgomery & Associates).

1. CALL TO ORDER

- Chair John Amaro called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. and the pledge of allegiance was recited.

2. ROLL CALL

- Roll call was taken as indicated above.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- * Approval of meeting minutes from September 13, 2022
- * Approval of meeting minutes from October 21, 2022
- * Approval of CGA/GGA Joint Board special meeting minutes from October 31, 2022

- Chair Amaro invited comments or revisions on the aforementioned meeting minutes. No comments were heard.

On motion by Director Gary Hansen, seconded by Director Enos, the meeting minutes of the September 13, 2022 meeting were unanimously approved as presented.

On motion by Director Schonauer and seconded by Director Randy Hansen, the meeting minutes of the October 21, 2022 meeting were unanimously approved as presented.

On motion by Director Roundy, seconded by Director Enos, the October 31, 2022 CGA/GGA Joint Board special meeting minutes were unanimously approved as presented.

4. PERIOD OF PUBLIC COMMENT

- No public comments were heard.

5. STAFF UPDATES

- Glenn Groundwater Authority (GGA) Program Manager, Lisa Hunter welcomed Kaitlyn Murray to Glenn County Water Resources to help with administrative duties, which will include tasks for the GGA.
- Ms. Hunter stated in regards to Executive Order N-7-22 (Well Permit Acknowledgement Forms), six forms were received since September 20, 2022 and permits were able to be processed.
- Ms. Hunter stated she had recently had a discussion with Jeff Sutton, Tehama Colusa Canal Authority, regarding water transfers as they relate to SGMA and she expects this will be a future agenda topic.
- Ms. Hunter further stated the Colusa Groundwater Authority met November 8, 2022 and approved all action items to keep grant tasks moving forward, which concurred with the actions GGA took on October 31, 2022.

6. FINANCIAL REPORT

- a. *Review and accept Monthly Activities Report.
 - b. *Review and consider approval of claims.
- No monthly activities report was presented.
 - No discussion was held on Item 6.b.

On motion by Director Arnold, seconded by Director Schonauer, it was unanimously ordered to approve the claims as presented.

7. GOLDEN STATE RISK MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION

- a. *Consider nominating the Glenn Groundwater Authority as a candidate district for the election to serve on the Golden State Risk Management Authority Board of Directors for a two-year term beginning July 1, 2023.
 - b. *Authorize the Program Manager to submit nomination notification to the Golden State Risk Management Authority.
- Ms. Hunter shared the letter received from Golden State Risk Management Authority (GSRMA) announcing a vacancy on the GSRMA Board and explained the nomination process.
 - After little discussion, it was determined there was no interest in a candidate nomination and no action was taken on this item.

8. COLUSA SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

- a. GSP Development Grants (Proposition 1 and Proposition 68) and Project Agreements
- b. Groundwater Sustainability Plan Implementation
- c. Discussion on Colusa Subbasin GSP Administrator

- Relating to Item 8.a, Ms. Hunter stated that because there is enough funding available, the GSAs may be able to recoup some administrative costs relating to the grant administration. She will continue to work through that process with the Colusa Groundwater Authority (CGA).
- In relation to Item 8.b, Ms. Hunter stated the application deadline for the Sustainable Groundwater Management Round 2 grant has been extended to December 16, 2022. She stated she is working with the grant writing team (Luhdorff and Scalmanini Consulting Engineers) and the CGA to gain a better understanding of each project that is being developed for the grant application. Ms. Hunter further stated the Request for Proposals for the Colusa Subbasin Water Year 2022 annual reports closes November 14, 2022 and several proposals have been received.
- Regarding Item 8.c, Director Bettner stated in the last meeting he proposed hiring an Implementation Program Manager to handle and coordinate some of the administrative duties between the two GSAs. Duties could include implementing a 5-year plan, creating a timeline, developing tasks, collecting contact points, bringing issues to the Board, supporting Ad Hoc Committees, interviewing land owners and member agencies and responding to DWR's evaluation of the GSP. Director Gary Hansen agreed with the concept of hiring an Implementation Manager and questioned if the expenses would be split between the GGA and CGA? Director Bettner confirmed the funding would be split. Director Roundy also agreed on hiring a manager and turned to Ms. Hunter for her thoughts. Ms. Hunter stated she agreed in concept, but wanted to make sure the position details are identified to ensure both agencies are getting what they need out of said position. Director Enos questioned if this would be an individual or a contracted position? Director Bettner stated regardless of whom, a local presence is crucial. Director Amaro noted it should be looked into with more detail and added to the January agenda. Director Bettner offered to coordinate with GGA and CGA Program Managers to move forward with the details for the Implementation Manager.

9. GROUNDWATER RECHARGE PILOT PROJECT

- a. Receive update on Groundwater Recharge Pilot Project
- b. *Consider appointing a Groundwater Recharge Pilot Project Ad Hoc Committee to coordinate with and provide guidance to the consultant team
- c. *Approve Task Order 5 Grant Support for Site Evaluation and Design Colusa Groundwater Subbasin, Glenn County, California for an amount not to exceed \$5,000 and authorize Program Manager to issue a notice to proceed

- Relating to Item 9.a, Ms. Hunter stated since the last meeting, the GGA staff and Groundwater Recharge Ad Hoc Committee met and spoke about the long term versus short term tasks. Discussion then focused on identifying potential sites for the short-term project. She also stated they will meet with Orland Unit Water Users in the near future.
- In relation to Item 9.b, Ms. Hunter stated the current committee has exceeded their assigned tasks; therefore, she recommends dissolving the current committee and form a new ad hoc committee to continue working with the consultant team on this project. The new ad hoc committee could then represent the GGA during

the meeting with Orland Unit Water Users and others as needed and report back to the Board. Director Enos stated he recommends keeping the same individuals on the committee and continue to move forward.

On motion by Director Gary Hansen, seconded by Director Arnold, it was unanimously ordered to appoint Director Enos, Schonauer, Roundy, Deadmond, and Cavagnolo to the Groundwater Recharge Pilot Project Ad Hoc Committee and to authorize the committee to coordinate with and provide guidance to the consultant team.

- Regarding item 9.c, Ms. Hunter stated this item stems from the approved project list for the grant application. The GGA Board felt it was important to include the GGA Recharge Project in the grant application. Ms. Hunter recommended the Geosyntec and Water and Land Solutions team be the lead for preparing materials for this section of the grant application as they are most familiar with the project.

On motion by Director Roundy, seconded by Director Enos, it was unanimously ordered to approve Task Order 5 Grant Support for Site Evaluation and Design Colusa Groundwater Subbasin, Glenn County, California for an amount not to exceed \$5,000 and authorize Program Manager to issue a notice to proceed.

10. NORTHERN SACRAMENTO VALLEY INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT

- a. Receive update on Colusa Subbasin GSP Project Submittals
 - b. *Approve Letter of Support for the Northern Sacramento Valley Integrated Regional Water Management Plan
- Ms. Hunter stated at the August 8, 2022 meeting, the GGA authorized staff to coordinate with the CGA to submit some of the GSP projects for consideration to be added to the Northern Sacramento Valley (NSV) Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) plan. Being included in the IRWM plan opens another potential funding source for projects. Two projects were submitted and approved to be included in the NSV IRWM plan. The projects were not selected for funding for this round; however, the projects will remain on the project list for future consideration. She further stated that one project within the Colusa Subbasin, a recharge project near Arbuckle, was selected to be included in the upcoming funding application, which will benefit the basin. A letter of support for the IRWM plan is required for projects to be included.
 - Director Enos asked about the project that was recommended for funding, and Ms. Hunter responded that the project a good fit for that particular funding application and should provide some immediate benefits, including increasing groundwater levels and minimizing subsidence in the Arbuckle area.
 - No discussion was held on Item 10.b.

On motion by Director Roundy, seconded by Director Gary Hansen, it was unanimously ordered to approve the Letter of Support for the Northern Sacramento Valley Integrated Regional Water Management Plan.

11. DISCUSSION ON URBAN DROUGHT RELIEF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

- Ryan Fulton from Larry Walker Associates (LWA) conducted a presentation on the 2022 Urban Community Drought Relief Grant Program. Mr. Fulton provided an overview of the program guidelines and the Dunnigan and Arbuckle Area Groundwater Recharge Demonstration and Pilot Projects. Mr. Fulton highlighted that a unique aspect of this grant is the ability to pay for water, which is not typical. Discussion ensued. It was clarified this could be an opportunity for the GGA in partnership with other agencies in the basin/region where one application could be submitted with multiple projects. More details of how this opportunity could apply to the GGA would need to be developed. There was general support for continuing to evaluate this funding

opportunity and Director Amaro requested the item be brought back as an action item after more details are developed.

12. *APPROVE 2023 MEETING SCHEDULE

- There was no discussion held on Item 12.

On Motion by Director Gary Hansen, seconded by Director Randy Hansen it was unanimously ordered to approve the 2023 meeting schedule as presented.

13. COMMITTEE UPDATES

- Audit Services Ad Hoc Committee
- Annual Report Ad Hoc Committee
- Executive Committee
 - CGA/GGA Joint Executive Committee
- Funding Ad Hoc Committee
- Multi-Benefit Recharge Pilot Project Ad Hoc Committee
- Recharge Pilot Project Ad Hoc Committee
- Technical Advisory Committee
- Water Well Drilling Permits and Standards Ad Hoc Committee

- Director Amaro noted in the next item, several of these committees may be dissolved. He reviewed updates provided in the meeting packet and which committees were being considered to be dissolved.
- Ms. Hunter reported that the Technical Advisory Committee last met in mid-October and discussion focused on the project prioritization process for the grant application. The Joint TAC provided direction to staff to further refine the list based on certain criteria and that project list was brought to the October 31, 2022 meeting. The TAC plans to reconvene after the start of the New Year.
- Director Amaro spoke about the Water Well Drilling Permits and Standards Ad Hoc Committee that was being recommended to be dissolved and asked if the County was still working through the permit update process. Mr. Schonauer responded that his recollection is that the County was waiting for the State to finalize their procedures before moving forward. Ms. Hunter further responded that it seemed the committee and process were a bit stale and could be brought back when needed since there is little to no action at this time. The GGA did provide comments to the County that were recommended by the committee several months ago.

14. REVIEW COMMITTEES AND REVISE AS NEEDED

- *Assign new committees, update membership, and/or dissolve committees as needed.
- Director Amaro questioned if anyone had any concerns about dissolving the above committees; no concerns were stated.

On motion by Director Schonauer, seconded by Director Roundy it was unanimously ordered to dissolve following committees: Audit Services Ad Hoc Committee, Funding Ad Hoc Committee, Multi-Benefit Recharge Pilot Project Ad Hoc Committee, Recharge Pilot Project Ad Hoc Committee, and Water Well Drilling Permits and Standards Ad Hoc Committee.

- Director Amaro asked if any committees would need to be formed in the near future. Ms. Hunter responded that a new committee (Groundwater Recharge Pilot Project Ad Hoc Committee) was appointed earlier in the meeting. Other committees could be considered as the need arises.

- Director Roundy spoke of the desire to have a TAC representative be assigned to provide the report-out to the GGA Board, as what had been done in the past.

15. CLOSED SESSION

Gov't Code 54956.9 – Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated or significant exposure to litigation regarding tax refund claims and challenges to previously adopted property related fees.

16. CLOSED SESSION

Gov't Code 54956.9 – Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation
Aqualliance, California Water Impact Network, and California Sportfishing Alliance vs. Colusa Groundwater Authority, Glenn Groundwater Authority
Colusa County Superior Court – Case Number CV24584

- No public comments were presented or heard for Items 15 or 16.
- The Board adjourned to closed session at 2:34 p.m.

17. REPORT OUT FROM CLOSED SESSION

- The Board returned from closed session at 2:55 p.m. In regards to Items 15 and 16, the Board received an update from Counsel and gave direction.

18. MEMBER REPORTS AND COMMENTS

- Director Gary Hansen reported that Ms. Hunter and Director Schonauer were recognized for their hard work and dedication at the Glenn County Annual Farm Bureau meeting.

19. NEXT MEETING

- The next regular meeting is scheduled for December 13, 2022 at 1:30 p.m.

20. ADJOURN

- The meeting was adjourned at 2:56 p.m.