



Corning Sub-basin GSA Committee Special Meeting Minutes

August 2, 2023 | 9:30 a.m.

Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District Main Pump Station
7854 County Road 203, Orland, CA 95963

Alternate meeting location:
1177 Magnolia Ave., Larkspur, CA 93939

Public participation was also offered via teleconference

1. Call to Order

- Tom Arnold called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m.

2. Roll Call

	Party Representative	Member Agency
X	Tom Arnold (Chairman)	County of Glenn
X	Grant Carmon (Vice Chairman)	County of Glenn
X	John Amaro	Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District
X	Pete Knight	Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District
X	Julia Violich	Monroeville Water District
X	Seth Fiack	Monroeville Water District

Roll call was taken as noted above.

3. Meeting Minutes

- *Approval of May 11, 2023 special meeting minutes.
 - *Approval of June 6, 2023 special meeting minutes.
 - *Approval of June 15, 2023 special meeting minutes.
 - *Approval of July 27, 2023 meeting minutes.
- No corrections or additions were made to the draft meeting minutes.

On a motion by Mr. Amaro, seconded by Mr. Fiack, the May 11, 2023 special meeting minutes, June 6, 2023 special meeting minutes, June 15, 2023 special meeting minutes, and July 27, 2023 meeting minutes were unanimously approved as presented.

4. Period of Public Comment

- Mr. Arnold invited public comments; whereby Patricia Schager read a statement opposing the method of charging fees and the voting process being considered by the CSGSA. She further commented on the benefits of surface water applications and work being done by other monitoring and regulatory groups all charging separate fees.
- Del Reimers commented on the coversheet he received and corrections to acreage and user classification. Discussion ensued on the reclassification process, consultant work to date, and the Proposition 218 process.
- Kevin Donnelley spoke regarding the landowners' lack of knowledge of this program, questioned how the basin boundaries were drawn, and suggested the CSGSA stand up to the State regarding SGMA compliance. Discussion continued on similar State/local programs, basin boundary designations and Groundwater Sustainability Agency jurisdictions, groundwater regulation, and local control.

5. Staff Reports

- Staff had nothing additional to report.

6. Financial Report

- a. *Review and accept financial reports.
- b. *Review and consider approval of claims.

- Lisa Hunter reviewed the financial reports.

On a motion by Mr. Amaro, seconded by Mr. Knight, the financial reports were accepted as presented.

- No discussion was held on Item 6.b.

On a motion by Mr. Amaro, seconded by Mr. Carmon, the claims were unanimously approved as presented.

7. *Consider approval of the Fiscal Year 2023/2024 Corning Sub-basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Budget.

- Ms. Hunter reviewed two draft budget options based on information provided in the CSGSA fee report and noted the budget may need to be revised following the outcomes of the August 8 public hearing to consider the proposed fees.
- Following discussion, it was the consensus of the CSGSA to postpone the approval of the budget until after the public hearing to consider the proposed fees.

8. Corning Sub-basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CSGSA) Operations and GSP Implementation Fee Project

- a. Receive an update on the CSGSA Fee Project, outreach meeting, and timeline.
 - b. Irrigated/Non-Irrigated Long-Term Fee Policy
- Ms. Hunter stated the project is currently in the required 45-day notice period and the public hearing is scheduled for August 8, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at the GCID pump station conference room. The revised coversheet correcting the calculation error in the original coversheet have been mailed out.
 - Del Reimers stated his concerns with the space available for the public hearing. Discussion ensued on accommodations and outreach related to the upcoming public hearing.
 - Responding to a question from Jaime Lely, it was confirmed that all legal owners are required to sign the protest to be valid.
 - Regarding Item 8.b, Ms. Hunter stated Luhdorff & Scalmanini Consulting Engineers (LSCE) has prepared a Draft Irrigated/Non-Irrigated Policy and she encouraged discussion on the policy to ensure the policy is clear and consistent with the direction of the CSGSA.
 - Mr. Carmon commented that he liked the clarifications provided by Valerie Kincaid (CSGSA Counsel); however, the policy is still confusing relating to large parcels with very little domestic use and which user class domestic users would fall under. Considerable discussion took place on options related to user classes, how parcels were classified, size of parcels relating to domestic use and user classes, parcels with more than one use type, consistency in applying the user class definitions to parcels, state intervention, and well permitting requirements.
 - Additional discussion took place on reclassification of parcels and the potential for refunds or reimbursements. Clarification would be requested from Counsel on this topic.
 - The CSGSA agreed to remove the extraction (acre-feet) description included in the non-irrigated user class and define a large parcel as 15 acres or more. A final draft will be considered on August 8, 2023.

9. Corning Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan Implementation

- No updates were provided for Item 9.

10. Corning Sub-basin Advisory Board Report

- a. Receive update on Corning Subbasin Advisory Board activities.
- b. *Consider recommendation to develop a Request for Proposals for a consultant to develop three annual reports (Water Years 2023, 2024 and 2025) combined with

tasks associated with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Round 2 grant program.

- c. *Consider recommendation to continue to split the costs for Corning Subbasin Annual Reports between the Tehama County GSA (two-thirds) and CSGSA (one-third).
- d. Receive an update on Corning Subbasin Advisory Board member terms.
- Ms. Hunter reported the CSAB is scheduled to meet at 1:30 p.m. on August 2, 2023 and the outcomes of the meeting will be shared at a future CSGSA meeting. Recommendations were made by the CSAB at their July meeting to develop a Request for Proposals (RFP) for consultant services to prepare three annual reports and tasks associated with the Sustainable Groundwater Management grant program and to continue a cost-share of one-third (CSGSA)- two-thirds (TCFCWCD) for annual report development.

With regard to Item 10.c, on a motion by Mr. Fiack, seconded by Mr. Amaro, it was unanimously ordered to approve the recommendation to split the costs for Corning Subbasin Annual Reports between the Tehama County GSA (two-thirds) and CSGSA (one-third).

- Regarding Item 10.b, Mr. Carmon discussed the CSAB recommendation to develop an RFP for three years and hope for better pricing with the three-year contract and a competitive process. He suggested approving Item 10.b providing direction to develop the RFP.

On a motion by Mr. Amaro, seconded by Mr. Fiack, the concept of developing an RFP for a consultant to develop three annual reports (Water Years 2023, 2024 and 2025) combined with tasks associated with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Round 2 grant program was unanimously approved.

- Ms. Hunter reviewed the terms of the CSAB members noting that no terms are expiring until March 2024. She suggested the CSGSA begin to think about the CSAB recruitment and appointment process and continue the discussion at a later date. Discussion ensued on the prior process to appoint members, which was informal, and who might be interested in filling any vacancies.

11. Corning Sub-basin GSA Committee Member Reports and Comments

- Mr. Arnold invited CSGSA member reports and comments; whereby no comments were heard.

12. Next Meeting

- A special meeting is scheduled for August 8, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled for August 24, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.

13. Adjourn

- The meeting was adjourned at 11:32 a.m.