

**EASTERN SAN JOAQUIN GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**March 9, 2022**

**I. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance & Safety Announcement/Roll Call**

The Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority (GWA) Board Teleconference meeting convened, and Chairman Chuck Winn called the meeting to order, via the online Microsoft Teams Meeting platform, at 10:33 a.m. on March 9, 2022. The meeting was Teleconference only.

Chairman Winn led the agenda.

Mrs. Kristy Smith with San Joaquin County conducted the roll call.

In attendance were Chairman Chuck Winn; Vice Chairman Mel Panizza; Secretary Kris Balaji; Directors Jeremiah Mecham, David Breitenbucher, Dan Wright, Gary Tofanelli, Mike Henry, Tom Flinn, Eric Thorburn, John Herrick, Robert Holmes; Alternate Directors Dante Nomellini, Reid Roberts, Charlie Swimley, Douglas Smith.

**II. Scheduled Items**

**A. Discussion/Action Items:**

**1. Approval of the February 9, 2022 Meeting Minutes**

Chairman Winn called for the approval of minutes of the meeting on February 9, 2022. There were no comments by the GWA Board members and no comments by the public.

**Motion:**

Director John Herrick moved, and Director Dan Wright second, approval of the February 9, 2022 minutes. Roll Call Vote was conducted, the motion passed.  
Director Gary Tofanelli abstained.

**2. Discussion and Possible Action to Adopt Resolution R-22-XX Determining to Conduct Meetings Using Teleconferencing Pursuant to Government Code 54953 as Amended by AB 361**

Chairman Winn asked for a motion to approve the Resolution Determining to Conduct Meetings Using Teleconferencing Pursuant to Government Code 54953 as Amended by AB 361.

**Motion:**

Director John Herrick moved, and Director Eric Thorburn second, adoption of the resolution R-22-XX. Roll Call Vote was conducted, the motion passed unanimously.

**3. Accept the WY 2021 Annual report and Authorize the Secretary to Submit the Document to DWR by the April 1<sup>st</sup> Deadline**

Mr. Matt Zidar of San Joaquin County (SJC) provided the Board an overview of the draft Annual Report highlights, via the Executive Summary, noting the report contains information on groundwater elevation data and extraction information, surface water supply used, or available, total water used, changes in groundwater storage and progress in plan implementation.

Mr. Zidar provided information on the seasonal high and low data for groundwater elevation and the total dissolved solids (TDS) reported. Information on the ESJIWRM Update was provided, noting the model was used to meet related SGMA requirements for information to be included in the WY 2021 annual report. Mr. Zidar reviewed information related to annual groundwater storage and pumping, noting groundwater use by acre foot (AF) and recharge or in-lieu use data. Additionally discussed was the data on surface water deliveries (AF) and total water use (AF). Mr. Zidar provided details on the sustainable management criteria (SMC), noting groundwater levels were within or above the minimum thresholds, there was a decrease in groundwater storage observed, but no water quality data issues or observance of subsidence. Additionally, the Status of Projects and Management Actions section of the annual report was discussed, noting some of the working projects being Lake Grube in-lieu recharge, SEWD surface water expansion, NSJWCD south system, City of Stockton infrastructure project, DREAM project, City of Escalon wastewater, and SSJID pressurization project.

Mr. Zidar noted the the Annual Report document, GSP Annual Report Elements Guide, and the DWR Data Upload Templates were all submitted to DWR by the April 1, 2022 deadline. Staff is recommending acceptance of the Annual Report and seeking authorization to submit the document to DWR. Director Henry asked if the PDF slides shown would be provided, for review with individual Boards and GSA stakeholders. Mr. Zidar will provide to the members.

Chairman Winn noted that he would like to see a section in future reports for the cost of projects, funding mechanisms, and/or funding needed.

**Motion:**

Director Dan Wright moved, Director Jeremiah Mecham second, to acceptance the report and authorize the Secretary to submit the document to DWR by the April 1<sup>st</sup> deadline.

Roll Call Vote was conducted, the motion passed unanimously.

**4. Proposed Resolution to Amend the FY 2021-22 Budget and Authorize Task order No. 6 to Woodard & Curran**

Mr. Zidar provided an overview of the proposed amendment to the 2021-22 approved budget, reviewing the detailed Staff Report provided to the members. Mr. Zidar noted the proposed budget adjustment would move \$100,000.00 from the Water Accounting Framework (WAF) and Funding & Financing line item and put it into the Responses to DWR Comments line. This budget move will allow for the Secretary to issue Task Order No. 6 to be issued to Woodard & Curran for additional work on the DWR Comment Response process. This does not increase the overall budget or require use of reserves. Future funding for the WAF will be included in the FY 22-23 budget.

**Motion:**

Alternate Director Charlie Swimley moved, Director Robert Holmes second, approval of the resolution to amend the FY 2021-22 Budget and authorize task order No. 6 to Woodard & Curran.

Roll Call Vote was conducted, the motion passed unanimously.

Additional discussion occurred on the status of the DWR Comment Responses, noting a need for additional Ad-Hoc Committee and Legal/Policy meetings to discuss items and meetings with DWR as well.

### **5. Budget Discussion, FY 2022-23 Priorities and Planned Activities**

Mr. Zidar provided an overview of the upcoming FY 2022-23 Budget Planning efforts and the discussions needed. Mr. Zidar requested input from the GSAs on planned activity or GWA expectations, to be accounted for while planning the 2022-23 budget.

The group discussed the use of the Mokelumne River Water Right Application and moving that forward to help support project plans using that water right.

Additionally noted, was the need for the group to stay focused on the DWR Comments responses and the need to coordinate the Ad Hoc Committees and keep the process moving.

Director Tom Flinn addressed the funding mechanism and discussion on the amount each GSA will be contributing to the budget. Director Flinn noted that the NSJWCD Board has discussed the Zone 2 Budget covering project costs, and they would like the Zone 2 Budget presented to the GWA Board prior to being approved by the SJC Board of Supervisors.

### **III. Staff and DWR Reports**

#### **A. Staff Report**

None Provided.

#### **B. DWR Report**

Ms. Chelsea Spier with DWR advised that she did not have any updates to her monthly report, included in the agenda package.

#### **IV. Directors' Comments**

None Provided.

#### **V. Public Comment**

None Provided.

#### **VI. Future Agenda Items and Meeting Dates:**

Mr. Zidar noted that future agenda items would include the following:

- FY 2022-23 Budget
- DWR Comment Response Process and Progress

Director Holmes questioned the group's desire to return to in-person meetings. Chairman Winn noted that he did not see any issue with returning to in-person meetings or a hybrid approach.

#### **VII. Adjournment:**

Chairman Winn adjourned the March 9, 2022 meeting at 11:19 a.m.

#### **Next Regular Meeting:**

Wednesday, April 13, 2022  
10:30 am – 12:00 pm  
Location TBD