

Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA)

Final Board of Directors Meetings Minutes

June 30, 2017

Cuyama Elementary School, 2300 CA-166, New Cuyama, CA 93254

The Cuyama Basin GSA Board of Directors met in regular session at approx. 10:20 AM.

PRESENT: Directors: Paul Chounet, Tom Bracken, Jane Wooster, Derek Yurosek, George Cappello, Byron Albano, Lynn Compton, Das Williams, Cory Bantilan, Glenn Shephard

Alt. Directors: Ryan Schultz

ABSENT: Directors: David Couch (Alternate appeared as substitute for a Director due to absence)

1. Call to order

Chair Pro Tem Director Williams calls the meeting to order at approx. 10:30 AM.

2. Roll call

Chair Pro Tem Director Williams calls roll of the Board (shown above).

3. Pledge of allegiance

The pledge of allegiance is led by Chair Pro Tem Director Williams.

4. Election of officers

a. Chair

Chair Pro Tem Director Williams: opens the floor to nominations.

Directors: Director Chounet moves to nominate Director Williams as Chair, with a second from Director Shephard. Discussion ensues about potential for Director Yurosek to take position of Chair, and Director Williams defers to Director Yurosek's willingness to serve in that capacity. Director Yurosek is willing to take on role. Initial motion to nominate Director Williams as Chair is withdrawn.

Motion by: Director Compton moves to nominate Director Yurosek as Chair.

Second by: Director Cappello.

Motion passes unanimously.

b. Vice-Chair

Chair Yurosek: opens the floor to nominations.

Directors: Two motions were made, with a vote in favor of both nominations after:

1st Motion by: Director Chounet moves to nominate Director Williams as Vice-Chair.

Second by: Director Shephard.

2nd Motion by: Director Cappello moves to nominate Director Compton as Vice-Chair.

Second by: Director Yurosek.

Directors Chounet, Williams, and Shephard in favor of Williams as Vice-Chair, and Directors Yurosek, Compton, Bracken, Wooster, Cappello, Albano, Bantilan, and Alternate Director Schultz in favor of Compton as Vice-Chair. Motion passes to appoint Director as Vice-Chair.

5. Appointment of other officers**a. Secretary**

Chair Yurosek: opens the floor to nominations and/or volunteers.

Directors: No Directors volunteer to take on role. Discussion of future staffing and interim temporary staffing needs.

Motion by: Director Compton moves to nominate County of SLO Staff Carolyn Berg as Secretary.

Second by: Director Williams.

Motion passes unanimously.

6. Public comment

Chair Yurosek: opens the floor to public comment without response.

7. Consider a proposed conflict of interest code and starting a 45-day comment period

Ernest Conant (Cuyama Basin Water District Staff): Provides an overview of the Conflict of Interest Code. The staff recommendation is to state the intention to adopt the Conflict of Interest Code in 45 days, then it returns for final approval of the GSA Board and later send to the Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC).

Directors: Director Williams reminds all Directors and Alternates to file Form 700 within 30 days of initial meeting (by July 30th) for this first year. Staff notes that permanent Secretary is hired, forms will be submitted to the FPPC.

Motion by: Director Cappello moves to adopt the Conflict of Interest Code.

Second by: Director Compton.

Motion passes unanimously.

8. Adopt a regular meeting schedule by resolution and schedule next meeting

Chair Yurosek: opens the floor to discussion.

Directors: Director Chounet notes that the elementary school may not be the best location for regular meetings during the school year. Discussion ensues about other possible locations, dates, and times. Director Williams suggests that controversial items be scheduled at the end, and that public comment be held at the end.

Public Comment – Lynn Carlisle: speaks.

Motion by: Director Cappello moves to adopt Resolution No. 2017-01, establishing that regular meetings will occur on the 1st Wednesday of each month, will start at 4:00 PM, and will be held at the Cuyama Valley Family Resource Center, 4689 CA-166, New Cuyama, CA 93254.

Second by: Director Chounet.

Motion passes unanimously.

9. Discuss the process for retaining the following and consider approval of a request for qualifications/proposal for some:

- a. Executive Director/ staffing
- b. Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) consultant
- c. Legal services
- d. Consultant to prepare application for grant application(s)

Ernest Conant (Cuyama Basin Water District Staff) & Matt Young (Santa Barbara County Water Agency Staff): Mr. Conant provides an overview of the Request for Qualifications (RFQs) developed collectively by staff, and notes that this will take lead time to bring back results of solicitations for Statements of Qualifications (SOQs). Mr. Young offers for the Santa Barbara County Water Agency to serve as the lead, and work with staff of partner agencies. Staff will provide for Board input on all SOQs prior to proceeding to a Request for Proposals process if necessary. Staff noted that the grant application solicitation could be expedited, as this work is time-sensitive.

Directors: Director Williams notes how critical the grant application services are, with Proposition 1 allowing the basin to compete for up to \$1.5-million. Director Albano notes that the proposed schedule may be too fast for soliciting services for Executive Director/ staffing, legal services, and GSP consultant.

Motion by: Director Chounet moves to approve RFQs as recommended, prioritizing the consulting services to prepare grant applications.

Second by: Director Williams.

Motion passes unanimously.

10. Consider temporary staffing needs

Chair Yurosek: opens the floor to discussion.

Directors: Director Shephard notes that the Executive Director role is key and needs to be filled as soon as possible.

Motion by: Director Williams moves to use a blend of staff, continuing to leverage existing staff of member agencies as temporary staff until the Executive Director/staffing roles are filled, unless efforts become too much.

Second by: Director Compton.

Motion passes unanimously.

11. Consider process for establishing an Advisory Committee

Chair Yurosek: opens the floor to discussion.

Directors: Director Williams discusses GSA Board and procedures associated with the Brown Act.

Public Comment – Brenton Kelley, Lynn Carlisle, Roberta Jackie: speaks.

Matt Young (Santa Barbara County Water Agency Staff): Briefly overviews the JPA and advisory committee(s). The Board needs to decide the advisory committee composition and number of seats, how appointments will be made, and how GSA staff will interact/ support advisory committee(s). He notes that under the Brown Act, the committee meetings will be noticed, open and discussions between committee members will be constrained outside of the agenda meetings. The advisory committee(s) will serve to help meet the DWR guidelines for stakeholder outreach and engagement during GSP development. Mr. Young offers to return with a discussion on the rules of the Brown Act/advisory committee rules at the next meeting.

Directors: Discussion ensues regarding full time and part time residents, economics of the valley, "broad" representation, and whether seats should be limited and specifically appointed, or open like Kern GSA. Discussion ensues regarding openness/ transparency of committees. Discussion ensues regarding a potential for aiming to have at least a majority of the committee(s) comprised of part- or full-time residents, recognizing that a majority of the GSA Directors are not; however, other opinions are stated regarding leaving out non-resident stakeholders with significant interest in the basin. Questions

arise regarding definition of part-time/ full-time residents, and stakeholder. Discussion ensues about technical basis of the GSP when considering the water balance (water in versus water out), requirements of the GSP Regulations, and consideration of the stakeholders/ those impacted. One Board member questions what advice the GSA Board will be asking of the committee(s). Reference is made to past outreach efforts conducted by Dudek, and letter/survey provided by Cuyama Valley Community Association.

Motion by: Director Williams moves to establish an ad hoc committee of the GSA Board, consisting of Director William, Director Chounet, and Director Cappello, to consider the make-up of the advisory committee and report back for the GSA Board's consideration.

Second by: Director Chounet.

Motion passes unanimously.

12. Consider preparation of a budget and funding

Matt Young (Santa Barbara County Water Agency Staff): He notes the importance of developing a budget, and considering various options for funding.

Directors: Director Williams encourages voluntary contributions by members. Chair Yurosek suggests formation of an ad hoc committee.

Motion by: Director Compton moves to establish an ad hoc committee of the GSA Board, consisting of Director Compton, Director Bracken, Director Chounet, and Director Bantilan, to prepare a recommended budget and funding plan, and return for the GSA Board's consideration.

Second by: Director Bracken.

Motion passes unanimously.

13. Consider and provide direction on future agenda items

a. Bylaws

b. Insurance

Ernest Conant (Cuyama Basin Water District Staff): Notes that the JPA allows for adoption of Bylaws, but that the JPA as written is already quite specific.

Directors: Director Compton notes that it is critical to procure insurance right away. Discussion ensues regarding options. Cuyama Basin Water District staff offers to return with an analysis of options.

Public Comment – Alternate Director Debbie Arnold: speaks.

14. Adjourn

Chair Yurosek adjourns the Cuyama Basin GSA Board of Directors meeting at approximately 12:00.

I, Carolyn Berg, temporary Secretary to the Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board of Directors, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a fair statement of the proceedings of the meeting held on Friday, June 30, 2017, by the Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board of Directors.

CAROLYN BERG

Dated: August 2, 2017