

Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Standing Advisory Committee Meeting

June 25, 2026

Meetings Minutes

PRESENT:

Kelly, Brenton – Chair
Haslett, Joe – Vice Chair
DeBranch, Brad
Gaillard, Jean
Jaffe, Roberta
Lewis, Dave
Caufield, John – *participating as a member of the public*

Bianchi, Grace – Hallmark Group
Blakslee, Taylor – Executive Director, Hallmark Group
Van Lienden, Brian – Woodard & Curran
Metcalf, Nathan – Legal Counsel, Hanson Bridgett

ABSENT:

None

1. Call to Order

Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CBGSA) Standing Advisory Committee (SAC)
Chair Kelly called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Ms. Bianchi called roll of the Committee (shown above).

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Kelly led the pledge of allegiance.

4. Meeting Protocol

Project Coordinator Grace Bianchi provided an overview of the meeting protocols in facilitating a hybrid meeting.

5. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

Chair Kelly opened the floor public comment.

6. Report of the General Counsel

Legal Counsel Nathan Metcalf provided an update on the adjudication.

ACTION ITEMS

7. Approval of April 30, 2026, Minutes

Committee Chair Kelly opened the floor for comments on the April 30, 2026, CBGSA SAC meeting minutes.

MOTION

Committee Member Haslett made a motion to approve April 30, 2026, CBGSA SAC meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Gaillard. A roll call vote was made, and the motion passed.

AYES:	DeBranch, Gaillard, Haslett, Kelly, Lewis, Jaffe
NOES:	None
ABSTAIN:	None
ABSENT:	Caufield

8. Groundwater Sustainability Plan Implementation

a. Increased Water Use Assessment for Areas Outside the Central Management Area

Mr. Blakslee provided a brief update on outreach with the two landowners with significant increased pumping. For the Ozena/Lockwood Valley area, staff contacted landowner, who had a pump company to test the meter, and preliminary results show it is calibrated. For the Salisbury Canyon property (Cannabis), staff have made numerous outreach attempts via phone, email, and contact with the parent company, but have been unsuccessful in connecting. He reported that Staff will recommend the board send a letter informing the landowner of the investigation.

Committee Member Jaffe expressed concern about the lack of response from the landowner in Salisbury Canyon.

Committee Member Haslett noted that while the increase in water use from 2024 to 2025 is significant, the total use is still not significant in terms of basin pumping.

Committee Member Gaillard noted that the Salisbury Canyon landowner has a permit to grow cannabis on 180 acres.

Committee Member Jaffe noted that while the total use in Salisbury Canyon seems insignificant, this is new development and it's important to be in contact with the landowner early.

Stakeholder Kathleen March commented that Northfork Vineyard has significant pumping and requested staff investigate that area.

9. Technical Updates

a. Update on Groundwater Sustainability Plan Activities

Mr. Van Lienden reported that GSP activities update is provided in the SAC packet. He noted that staff submitted a response to DWR's comments on the 5-year GSP evaluation before the July 31, 2026, deadline.

b. April Groundwater Conditions Report

Mr. Van Lienden reviewed the groundwater conditions report for April 2026.

Chair Kelly asked about the selection process for the wells shown in the hydrograph. Mr. Van Lienden provided context on the well selection methodology.

10. Administrative Updates

a. Report of the Executive Director

Nothing to report.

i. Update on Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Schedule and Workplan

Mr. Blakslee reviewed the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 schedule and workplan, which aligns with the approved fiscal year budget. The schedule outlines major milestones including continuing progress toward the 2030 interim sustainability target and the 2038 final sustainability target. He noted that 2030 represents a critical milestone, with the basin on track to achieve sustainability targets.

Committee Member Haslett commented that the budget should maintain reserves for specific projects to ensure flexibility in addressing emerging issues and maintaining operational capacity.

b. Board of Directors Agenda Review

Ms. Bianchi briefly reviewed the July 1, 2026, CBGSA Board Meeting agenda, which is provided in the SAC packet.

11. Items for Upcoming Sessions

Nothing to report.

12. Committee Forum

Nothing to report.

13. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

14. Adjourn

Chair Kelly adjourned the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

STANDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE
CUYAMA BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

Chair Kelly: *Brenton Kelly*
Brenton Kelly (Aug 28, 2026 11:19:15 PDT)

ATTEST:

Vice Chair Haslett: *Haslett*
Joe Haslett (Aug 27, 2026 18:43:44 PDT)