



**Stanislaus County
Water Advisory Committee**

Minutes

March 12, 2014, 6:00 p.m.
Stanislaus County Agricultural Center
Harvest Hall
3800 Cornucopia Way
Modesto, California

Members Present:

Louis Brichetto

Larry Byrd

Francisco Canela

Richard Gemperle

Neil Hudson

Michael Lynch

Jim Mortensen

Tom Orvis

Donald Petersen

Sean Roddy

Cooper M. Rossiter

Robert Santos

Thomas Smith

Walter Ward

Terry Withrow

Wayne Zipser

Bill Zoslocki

Members Absent:

Alfred Bairos

Ray Kablanow

Chris Vierra

Forrest J. White

- I. **Called to Order** at 6:05 p.m.
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. **Public Comment**
(None)
- IV. **Roll Call**
- V. **Approval of February 26, 2014 Meeting Minutes**
Motion: Robert Santos
Second: Donald Petersen
Vote: Unanimous Approval
- VI. **WAC Mission Statement**
Motion: Tom Orvis
Second: Thomas Smith
Vote: Unanimous Approval. Mission Statement was adopted and is on the Stanislaus County website.
- VII. **100 Day Action Plan Strategy**
Walter Ward led the discussion with the opening comments that the report to the BOS in June would generally align with the State Water Resources Control Board "5-Point" plan which includes the elements of (1) thresholds, (2) monitoring, (3)

governance, (4) funding and (5) enforcement. Additional discussion was held regarding the following specific items.

a. Resource Evaluation (data collection; hydrogeologic studies; well mapping; pumpage reports; water level data, etc)

i. Commitment by public resource agencies to be timely in their response or is a formal data sharing agreement needed?

It was agreed that no formal data sharing plan was needed at this time as useful information is being provided from the public agencies in a collaborative effort.

ii. How should "private" information be collected?

It was agreed that this information could perhaps only best be compiled from an "aggregate" or "lumping together" perspective and more work remains to be done in this regard. One suggestion was to collect groundwater level information from the area of concern in eastern Stanislaus County via the state-wide CASGEM program. This idea will be further developed with the TAC. This is a controversial subject and the group did not reach any consensus on a course of action at this time.

b. Centralized Database (existing agency/landowner reports; integrated and coordinated long term planning; maintenance of new information)

i. Should a single, sole-source document and centralized database be created to house and store data?

There was general agreement that all data would be stored in a centralized database.

c. Groundwater Ordinance Revision ("mining" definition)

i. Should this be assigned to the TAC or should a WAC sub-committee be created for this purpose?

It was agreed to assign this task to the TAC.

VIII. Drought Status

Ward provided an overview of the Regional Drought Task Force in Stanislaus County and the involvement of the State Office of Emergency Services. All cities, water districts and units of local government are represented and asked to provide regular updates involving steps their agencies are taking in response to the drought. So far, 29 local governments have made local emergency drought proclamations. Stanislaus County is looking further into this matter for future consideration and possible action by the BOS.

IX. Groundwater Hydrology Presentation – Dr. Thomas Harter, UC Davis

Dr. Harter educated those in attendance on the basics of hydrology in general and specifically in the Central Valley. The presentation materials are available at our website: <http://www.stancounty.com/er/pdf/groundwater/wac/wac-20140312-pres.pdf>.

X. Meeting Adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

PREPARED BY:
ANETTE ARIAS, Administrative Secretary