



**Stanislaus County
Water Advisory Committee**

Minutes

May 25, 2022 9:01 a.m.
Via Zoom Video Conference

Members Present:

Joe Alamo
Rachelle Antinetti
Daniel Bays
Louis Brichetto
Erika Durrer

Richard Gemperle
Cooper Rossiter
Jim Mortensen
Tom Orvis
Sean Roddy

Tim Sanders
Rod Vilas
Christy McKinnon
Terry Withrow
Wayne Zipser

Members Absent:

Larry Byrd

Francisco Canela

Vince Dykzeul

I. **Called to Order at 9:04 a.m.** (The entire meeting can be viewed at <https://www.stancounty.com/er/groundwater/wac.shtm> and by selecting the video option for the May 25, 2022 Water Advisory Committee meeting)

II. **Pledge of Allegiance**

Upon request of Chairperson Daniel Bays, the attendees participated in the pledge of allegiance.

III. **Public Comment**

No public comment

IV. **Roll Call**

A quorum of voting members was present.

V. **AB 361 Remote Teleconference Resolution 2022 – 2**

Executive Order N-29-20 Assembly Bill 361
On Going COVID-19 Meetings Held Via Conference

The action was taken as follows:

Motion: Tom Orvis

Second: Tim Sanders

Vote: Unanimous – with the discussion of monthly meetings to be conducted in person at the Stanislaus Farm Bureau

VI. Approval of January 26, 2022, Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the January 26, 2022, meeting were presented by the Chairperson. The members were asked to consider the minutes for approval.

The action was taken as follows:

Motion: Cooper Rossiter
Second: Jim Mortensen
Vote: No response Alamo and Vilas

VII. National Weather Service Weather Forecast – Courtney Carpenter, NOAA Federal Email - courtney.carpenter@noaa.gov

<https://www.stancounty.com/er/groundwater/pdf/wac/nationalweatherservice.pdf>

VIII. California Drought Update – Christy McKinnon, Groundwater Water Resources Manager

January – March 2022 were the driest on record. Statewide reservoir storage is 76% of average at this time of year. Water use reductions by 15 percent over 2020 levels are necessary to protect water reserves and lessen drought associated impacts to fish and wildlife. Grants are available for drought resilience and response and include opportunities for water recycling and groundwater cleanup, drought relief projects for urban water districts and smaller community water suppliers, and to support agricultural water conservation practices.

<https://www.stancounty.com/er/groundwater/pdf/wac/icadroughtupdate.pdf>

IX. Self Help Enterprises – Presented by Tami McVay

Tami was not available to present today, but did provide some important information about the Self Help Enterprises which can be viewed at the link below:

<https://www.stancounty.com/er/groundwater/pdf/wac/SWRCBstatewidedrought.pdf>

X. Valley Water Collaborative – Presented by Eva Dwyer

Valley Water Collaborative provides free well water quality testing for all domestic wells located in the Modesto or Turlock Groundwater Basins. The program is available to all residents and not income based. Residents who have dry wells or

water contaminant exceedances are referred to Self Help Enterprises for additional assistance.

www.valleywaterc.org, (209) 750-3867

<https://www.stancounty.com/er/groundwater/pdf/wac/xi-water-advisory-council.pdf>

XI. OES, State and Regional Support, County OES Aaron Wilson, Stanislaus County

Initial emergency response and preparedness programs for residents begins with the local OES which is a Division of the Sheriff's Office. Mutual aid resources are coordinated regionally for assistance for disaster response and recovery when necessary. In addition, the State OES provides assistance to local governments. Aaron Wilson, Stanislaus County OES, awilson@stanoes.com, (209) 552-3600

<https://www.stanemergency.com/naturalDisasters/drought.shtm>

XII. Overview of Section 9 of Executive Order N-7-22 and Stanislaus County Well Permitting Process – Christy McKinnon, Groundwater Water Resource Manager

Effective March 28, 2022, the order was issued to protect public health, safety and the environment during the current drought emergency. A new inhouse screening procedure is being developed to identify necessary minimum setback screening distance to nearby wells and critical infrastructure where future subsidence may be likely. Applies to all projects that require a well permit (new, replacement, repair, reconstruction projects.) The screening procedure can expedite the review process where and lessen the cost and burden to the applicant where possible.

XIII. Development of Well Siting and Construction Guidelines – Christy McKinnon, Groundwater Resource Manager

Guidelines were adopted by the Board of Supervisors April 5, 2022 for implementation of minimum well permitting and construction standards process. Stanislaus County Code Chapter 9.36 is the Water Well Ordinance which protects the groundwater quality, while the Groundwater Ordinance, County Code Chapter 9.37 protects the groundwater quantity by prohibiting unsustainable extraction. These guidelines include minimum separation distances to potential pollution sources, annular seal depth and construction requirements, and construction requirements for wells located within flood zones.

XIV. Sustainable Groundwater Management Act – Updates from the East Turlock Groundwater Sustainability Agency – Mike Tietze

The East Turlock Groundwater Sustainability Agency has been facilitating several workshops in effort to adopt the new fiscal year budget while looking to the forecasted next 5 years. The Agency is robustly working to identify additional projects needed to balance groundwater deficits identified in the subbasin.

XV. Sustainable Groundwater Management Act – Updates from the Modesto Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency – Eric Thorburn

The Stanislaus Tuolumne Regional Groundwater Basin Agency, (STRGBA) manages the groundwater in the Modesto subbasin and was formed in 2017 with the enactment of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, (SGMA). The STRGBA GSA has identified a number of recharge projects which are projected to allow the subbasin to be managed within sustainable levels. The GSA is anticipating funding opportunities which would be available around September 2022 to provide additional support for these projects.

XVI. Sustainable Groundwater Management Act – Updates from the West Turlock Groundwater Sustainability Agency – Michael Cooke

The West Turlock Subbasin has implemented several projects, including recharge projects in accordance with the recently adopted Groundwater Sustainability Plan that will greatly promote efforts towards maintaining sustainability for the subbasin.

XVII. Turlock Irrigation District – Additional Important Updates – Michael Cooke

Brief overview of events happening within TID.

XVIII. Commitment to Promoting Water Conversation – Christy McKinnon, Groundwater Water Resource Manager

www.saveourwater.com

XIX. Meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Scheduling of Next Meeting:

Wednesday, June 29, 2022, at 9:00 a.m.
Meeting location: Stanislaus Farm Bureau,
1201 L St., Modesto

PREPARED BY:
Fay Tamez, Accountant II
Christy McKinnon, Groundwater Resources Manager