



**Stanislaus County
Water Advisory Committee**

Minutes

June 26, 2022 9:01 a.m.
Stanislaus Farm Bureau
And Hybrid
Zoom Video Conference

Members Present:

Joe Alamo
Rachelle Antinetti
Daniel Bays
Louis Brichetto
Erika Durrer
Vince Dykzeul

Richard Gemperle
Cooper Rossiter
Jim Mortensen
Tom Orvis
Sean Roddy

Tim Sanders
Rod Vilas
Rob Kostlivy
Christy McKinnon
Terry Withrow
Wayne Zipser

Members Absent:

Larry Byrd

Francisco Canela

- 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. **Swearing in of Edward Tobias, District 1**
- V. **Roll Call, Introducing Rob Kostlivy, Director of Environmental Resources**
A quorum of voting members was present.
- 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: Tim Sanders
Second: Jim Mortensen
Vote: Unaminious

**VII. Self Help Enterprises – Presented by Christina Garcia, Project Manager
Water Well Program**

Water well emergency assistance program update for Stanislaus County. April 3 new systems, May 3 new systems and June 2022. New applications have been received this quarter. Nine have been requested and only received 5.

VIII. Update Well Guidelines Walkthrough – Rob Kostlivy

Update from the Department Director and Committee discussion of the “Stanislaus County Groundwater Well Siting and Construction Guidelines,” the lawsuit against the County and the Supreme County ruling which caused a backlog of wells not being processed due to the expense and complication of the CEQA process. Most counties are using similar methodology that Stanislaus County used prior to the lawsuit. Mike Tietze and Rob explained that the new guidelines were developed to remove discretion from the well permitting process by prescribing protective controls for well siting and construction to be verified prior to permit issuance. Overview of the new worksheet and database used by the Department of Environmental Resources and well contractors to navigate and verify compliance for the new requirements for wells.

IX. Impact to Agriculture and Farming and Agriculture and Farmer Support Services – Kamal Bagri, Stanislaus County Ag Commissioner

Pursuant to the Drought Order, Farm Services Agency loans are available for the growers who are impacted by the drought and a separate declaration is completed in July by the Agricultural Department. After receiving letters regarding the grass clippings insurance claims can be processed. The Ag Department has not received any concerns from growers about their crops being impacted by the well permitting process and since August, there have been only indirect impacts such as planting different crop types than normal associated with the drought.

X. Drought Update – Rob Kostlivy and input from the Governor’s Office

All 58 Counties have declared a Drought Emergency.

XI. Amended GSP’s – Christy McKinnon

The Delta-Mendota and the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Plans have been amended and are pending adoption by each Groundwater Sustainability Agency withing the Delta-Mendota and Eastern San Joaquin Subbasin including Stanislaus County which participates as a member agency. The Amended

Groundwater Sustainability Plans are required to be submitted to Department of Water Resources by July 20, 2022 and July 27, 2022, for the Delta Mendota and Eastern San Joaquin Subbasins, respectively. All of the plans within the greater San Joaquin Subbasin have been submitted to the DWR but none have been approved to date.

XII. Governor's Order and AB 2201 – Rob Kostlivy

https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB2201

XIII. Committee California Conference of Directors of Environmental Health (CCDEH) – New Land-use and Water Committee Statewide Policy Chair – Rob Kostlivy

AB 2201 supports greater more permanent control and restrictions associated with the management of groundwater and well permitting processes across the state and mirrors the recent Governor's Drought Order. Committee Members following RCRC Rual Counties <https://www.rcrcnet.org/> and CSAC California State Association of Counties <https://www.counties.org/>, gave notice that an opposition letter was issued Friday, June 24, 2022, objecting to the bill. Supervisor Withrow confirmed that Stanislaus County also issued an opposition letter which has already been sent by the Board of Supervisors.

XIV. Sustainable Groundwater Management Act – Updates from the East Turlock Groundwater Agency – Julianne Phillips

The Turlock Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability plan was submitted to DWR in January. In accordance with the GSP, the first subbasin annual report was submitted early this year. The East Turlock Groundwater Sustainability Agency's budget has been passed for FY 22/23, and the Agency is now focusing on working with various water districts on potential project collaborations including looking at recharge areas that are within TID service and infrastructure areas which is viable plan for the successful implementation of projects.

XV. Meeting adjourned at 10:52 a.m.

Scheduling of Next Meeting:

Wednesday, July 27, 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