



**Stanislaus County  
Water Advisory Committee**

**Minutes**

March 30, 2016, 9:00 a.m.  
Alliance's Kirk Lindsey Center  
1020 10<sup>th</sup> St, Suite 102  
Modesto, California

**Members Present:**

Gail Altieri	Ray Kablanow	Cooper Rossiter
Daniel Bays (9:10 am)	Ron Macedo	Thomas Smith
Larry Byrd	Jim Mortensen	Rod Vilas
Francisco Canela	Tom Orvis	Walter Ward
Neil Hudson	Sean Roddy	Terry Withrow
Richard Gemperle		

**Members Absent:**

Louis Brichetto	Ron Macedo	Bill Zoslocki
Vince Dykzeul	Wayne Zipser	

**I. Called to Order at 9:01 a.m.**

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

Upon request of Chairperson Jim Mortensen, the attendees participated in the pledge of allegiance.

**III. Public Comment**

The Chairperson made an appeal to the WAC members that called for the development of a public opinion "message" to be prepared for the WAC as part of a public outreach and educational effort to explain who/what the WAC is doing and trying to accomplish as part of its mission objective.

**IV. Roll Call**

A quorum of voting members was present.

**V. Approval of January 27, 2016, Meeting Minutes**

The minutes of the last meeting were presented by the Chairperson. The members were asked to consider the minutes for approval.

The action was taken as follows:

Motion: Sean Roddy  
Second: Daniel Bays  
Vote: Unanimous

## **VI. 2016 Hydrologic Conditions (Ward)**

Walter Ward, Stanislaus County Water Resources Manager, made a presentation regarding the 2015-2016 Water Year with regards to state-wide and regional rainfall precipitation, snowpack, reservoir storage and forecasted runoff conditions. Whereas the El Nino weather phenomenon brought above normal rain and snow to the northern areas of the state, it did little more than just about normal (and below normal) for the remainder of the state. The drought will continue into a fifth consecutive year for most of the state. The full presentation can be found at the following address:

<http://www.stancounty.com/er/groundwater/wac.shtm>, March 30, 2016, Presentations, 2016 Hydrologic Conditions

## **VII. Proposition 1 Grant Update (Ward)**

Ward provided a summary of the status of the administrative and contractual paperwork that was being completed between Stanislaus County and the State of California concerning the \$250,000 grant funds that the County has been awarded regarding the preparation of a Programmatic Environmental Impact Report for Implementation of the Stanislaus County Groundwater Ordinance. The County will continue to conduct public outreach for this project and solicit input from all interested parties within the County. The local cost-share funding effort is underway, and the County has begun to pool those funds that have been submitted so far. The project start date is tentatively scheduled for June 1, 2016, with a completion date of no later than December 31, 2017. The entire application submitted to the Department of Water Resources Sustainable Groundwater Management Program for Counties with Stressed Basins can be found at:

<http://www.water.ca.gov/irwm/grants/sgwp/archive.cfm>, Stanislaus County

## **VIII. Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Update (Ward)**

### **a. GSP Regulations**

### **b. GSA Formation**

Ward provided a presentation that summarized the draft Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Regulations released by the Department of Water Resources. Comments to DWR are due no later than Friday, April 1, 2016.

Ward also provided a brief status report regarding the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) formation activities that are occurring in the region as they pertain to the Eastern San Joaquin, Modesto, Turlock and Delta-Mendota groundwater subbasins.

The full presentation can be accessed using the following electronic address:

<http://www.stancounty.com/er/groundwater/wac.shtm>, March 30, 2016,  
Presentations, GSP Regulations & GSA Status Summary

**IX. Unimpaired Flow Proposal Update (Ward, All)**

A general discussion was held regarding the State Water Resources Control Board flow proposal to increase the instream flow requirements of the Merced, Tuolumne and Stanislaus rivers during the February-June flow period of each water year. The next revision of the supporting environmental document is due any time between next month and six months from now. All agreed that we needed to engage in the review and comment period regarding the revised document once it is released, in particular, regarding adverse groundwater and economic impacts to the region. It was also announced that Herb Smart, TID Water Resources Analyst, would be providing an overview and status report regarding the flow proposal at the upcoming April 4, 2016, Stanislaus County Agricultural Advisory Board meeting.

**X. Approval to create a place holder for the review and approval of an Op-Ed**

It was suggested that the members consider creating a place holder for the review and approval of a draft Op-Ed or other such Public Relations messages for the Modesto Bee regarding the WAC's mission objective at the next regularly scheduled meeting. A draft of this document will be reviewed and considered at the next scheduled WAC meeting.

The action was taken as follows:

Motion: Tom Orvis  
Second: Cooper Rossiter  
Vote: Unanimous

**XI. Meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.**

**Next Meeting:**

Wednesday, May 25, 2016, at 9:00 a.m.  
Alliance's Kirk Lindsey Center  
1020 10th Street, Suite 102  
Modesto, California

PREPARED BY:  
ANETTE ARIAS, Administrative Secretary