

Southeast Sacramento County Agricultural Water Authority
Board Meeting Minutes
October 10, 2023

Opening:

1. The SSCAWA meeting was called to order by Chairman VanWarmerdam at 9:45 a.m. at the Herald Firehouse, Herald, California.
2. Members present were Leo VanWarmerdam, John Mulrooney, Pat Kirby, Gary Silva Jr. and Mark Stretars. Also present were Pat Hume, Tony Merola, Mike Wackman, Stephen Julian, Wendy Sparrowk, Teresa Flewellyn, Tish Espinosa, Jay Schneider, Herald Fire Chief James and Dennis Johnson.
3. Public Comment - Nothing to report.

Consent Items:

1. The agenda for the meeting was reviewed. The minutes for the 7/11/23 meeting were reviewed. The Treasurer's Report and bills since the last meeting were reviewed. **A motion was made by Director Silva to approve the Agenda, Minutes, TR, and bills; motion second by Director Stretars; motion approved 5/0/4.**

Information /Action Items:

1. Discussion with Supervisor Pat Hume – Groundwater Sustainability concerns with Urban (residential) and Agriculture in near future – There was lengthy discussion with Supervisor Hume on topics including water for agriculture, urban development and recharge. He discussed the need for modeling in the Basin to find out where recharge water goes and the need for recharge/storage projects so water doesn't leave Basin in wet years. There was discussion about Folsom South Canal water and levee repair. Supervisor Hume shared that he will keep South County Ag in his sights but will not pit Ag and Urban usage against each other because people need food, water and shelter. He feels Urban growth should be in appropriate areas and permitting seems to be streamlined to accommodate the growth. Herald Fire Chief James shared his concern for local wells going dry and the fire risk without a good well. He brought to the Board's attention a letter from Sacramento County following the Governors Drought Order to restrict any new well water usage.
2. Sustainable Groundwater Management Act -
 - a. Cosumnes Basin update – Mike Wackman discussed some SCI fee structures, City of Galt water usage, parcel taxes and possible increased Irrigated Land assessments for next year.
 - b. Cosumnes Basin Monitoring – Monitoring was completed by CGA last week.
3. Watershed Coordinator Quarterly Report - Stephen Julian reviewed the DWR based field tour of the OHWD recharge and dry well projects. Work is being done on both sides of the Cosumnes River. He discussed the Cosumnes River Flood group which may have grant funds available. He discussed the grant received to hire a water efficiency staff member.
4. Director Comments – It was reported that Director Rick Wohle passed away recently and his son Eric will fill his Director seat.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:33 a.m.

Leo VanWarmerdam, Chairman _____