

Southeast Sacramento County Agricultural Water Authority  
Board Meeting Minutes  
July 11, 2023

**Opening:**

1. The SSCAWA meeting was called to order by Chairman VanWarmerdam at 9:43 a.m. at the Herald Firehouse, Herald, California.
2. Members present were Leo VanWarmerdam, John Mulrooney, Tony Merola, Gary Silva Jr, Ken Mitchell and Mark Stretars. Also present were Mike Wackman, Stephen Julian, Wendy Sparrowk, Teresa Flewellyn, Tish Espinosa and Dennis Johnson.
3. Public Comment - Nothing to report.

**Consent Items:**

1. The agenda for the meeting was reviewed. The minutes for the 4/11/23 meeting were reviewed. The Treasurer's Report and bills since the last meeting were reviewed. **A motion was made by Director Mulrooney to approve the Agenda, Minutes, TR, and bills; motion second by Director Mitchell; motion approved 6/0/3.**

**Information /Action Items:**

1. Audit Review – The 5 year audit report was distributed to the Board members. **Motion was made by Director Mulrooney to approve the audit; motion second by Director Stretars; motion approved 6/0/3.**
2. Sustainable Groundwater Management Act -
  - a. Cosumnes Basin update – Mike Wackman reported that our basin did not receive grant funds but the North American basin received a grant which includes the 3 bordering sub-basins so some of their work will include our basin. The Cosumnes South American North American(CoSaNa) modeling was discussed in depth. This model is based on DWR framework across Sac County and produces a 3D model with all of the influences added together for each area. It is possible to separate each area to observe that area's model which makes it a valuable resource with the high accuracy of the modeling.
  - b. Cosumnes Basin Monitoring – Monitoring is complete and waiting on DWR review/approval of the levels. All measurable levels have been reset so good for next 2 years.
3. Watershed Coordinator Quarterly Report - Stephen Julian will be meeting with Supervisor Pat Hume and a group along the Cosumnes flood area. The County has approved \$300,000 for projects along this flood area. The levee system was discussed. Grant funding ideas for project funds were discussed. Stephen is meeting with Hydrofocus to discuss shallow water level studies in Amador County.
4. Expiration of SSCAWA MOU with CGA – The contract between SSCAWA and CGA expired

so Stephen Julian will only be doing DOC grant work. Chairman VanWarmerdam discussed SAFCA funds in depth. SAFCA funds were presented one time as a funding possibility and were never included in a final CGA budget. This misconception compromised the integrity of SSCAWA and Chairman VanWarmerdam distributed handouts showing that SAFCA funds were not on a budget. Mike Wackman reviewed the \$25,000 that SAFCA contributed to SSCAWA to establish a watershed coordinator position until CGA was established.

5. DOC Grant – An updated work plan for July 2023-April 2024 was distributed.
6. Director Comments – Chairman VanWarmerdam led discussion about the public opinion that nothing has been done in the basin and encouraged discussion on how the process could have worked differently. There was encouragement to work personally with the local ag community and not just spend funds on administration. There was a lengthy discussion about the timelines for data used for the GSP. It was reminded that the baseline year for data is 2015 and the current GSP data is 2019. Director Stretars stated that there has been work to get the public involved and the first farmer survey only yielded 13 returned surveys. There was discussion on how assessment rates are determined and answered that each GSA sets rates to meet SGMA parameters and the GSA's have to meet these parameters so need funding to accomplish this.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:07 a.m.

Leo VanWarmerdam, Chairman

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