

# MINUTES OF THE YUCAIPA SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY

## Workshop - March 24, 2021 - 10:00 a.m. - - Online Meeting - -

On March 4, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom declared a State of Emergency resulting from the threat of COVID-19 and issued Executive Order N-25-20 (3-12-20) and Executive Order N-29-20 (3-17-20) which temporarily suspend portions of the Brown Act relative to conducting public meetings. Subsequent thereto, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-33-20 (3-19- 20) ordering all individuals to stay at home or at their place of residence. Accordingly, it has been determined that all meetings of the Yucaipa Sustainable Groundwater Management Agency will be held via teleconference. There will be no public access to the meeting venue.

- I. Call to Order - Chairman Mark Iverson called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.
- II. Roll Call - The following representatives, as assigned by each Party, attended the meeting:

Purveyors	Present	Primary Representative	Present	Alternative Representative
South Mesa Water Company	✓	David Armstrong	✓	George Jorritsma
South Mountain Water Company	_____	Bob Martin	_____	Rolland Moore
Western Heights Water Company	✓	Mark Iverson	✓	Tim Green
Yucaipa Valley Water District	✓	Joseph Zoba	✓	Jennifer Ares
<b>Municipals</b>				
City of Redlands	✓	Cecilia Griego	_____	Kevin Watson
City of Yucaipa	_____	Ray Casey	✓	Fermin Preciado
<b>Regionals</b>				
San Bernardino Valley MWD	_____	Bob Tincher	✓	Matt Howard
San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency	✓	Lance Eckhart	_____	
<b>Stakeholders</b>				
County of Riverside	_____	Steve Horn	_____	Jeff Johnson
County of San Bernardino	_____	Bob Page	_____	
City of Calimesa	_____	Bonnie Johnson	_____	

A quorum of the Board of Directors was present to start the meeting.

In addition to the Board of Directors identified above, the following members of the public were registered as attending the meeting:

- Madeline Blua - Yucaipa Valley Water District
- Derek Hoffman, Gresham Savage / South Mesa Water Company
- Steve Stuart - Dudek

III. Public Comments

None

IV. Review and Approval of Minutes

A. January 27, 2021 - Board Meeting

Mark Iverson moved to approve the board meeting minutes for January 27, 2021.

Matt Howard seconded the motion.

South Mesa Water Company	Yes
South Mountain Water Company	Absent
Western Heights Water Company	Yes
Yucaipa Valley Water District	Yes
City of Redlands	Yes
City of Yucaipa	Yes
San Bernardino Valley MWD	Yes
San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency	Yes

B. February 24, 2021 - Board Meeting

Matt Howard moved to approve the board meeting minutes for February 24, 2021.

Mark Iverson seconded the motion.

South Mesa Water Company	Yes
South Mountain Water Company	Absent
Western Heights Water Company	Yes
Yucaipa Valley Water District	Yes
City of Redlands	Yes
City of Yucaipa	Yes
San Bernardino Valley MWD	Yes
San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency	Yes

V. Discussion Items

A. COVID-19 Update

Matt Howard provided information about the current status of COVID-19 and the need to continue to conduct online meetings until further notice.

The next public meeting will likely be via teleconference.

B. Status Update on the Activities Related to the Preparation of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan

Steve Stuart reported on the required sustainable management criterion which include:(1) a sustainability goal; (2) undesirable results; (3) minimum thresholds; and (4) measurable objectives.

1. Discussion of the Sustainability Criteria and Projected Conditions for the Western Heights, North Bench, Calimesa, and San Timoteo Management Areas

Steve Stuart discussed the Western Heights Management Area and the proposed criteria for this area of the basin using historical water levels, well casing depths, and a sustainable yield of 1,920 acre feet per year. The USGS numerical model was used to evaluate the proposed criteria using a simulated future baseline (an average increase of 51 feet), a simulated future baseline with a 2030 climate change factor (an average increase of 38 feet), and a simulated future baseline with a 2070 climate change factor (an average increase of 21 feet).

Steve Stuart discussed the North Bench Management Area and the proposed criteria for this area of the basin using historical water levels, well casing depths, and a sustainable yield of 3,405 acre feet per year. The USGS numerical model was used to evaluate the proposed criteria using a simulated future baseline (an average decline of 39 feet), a simulated future baseline with a 2030 climate change factor (an average decline of 61 feet), and a simulated future baseline with a 2070 climate change factor (an average decline of 92 feet).

Steve Stuart discussed the Calimesa Management Area and the proposed criteria for this area of the basin using historical water levels, well casing depths, and a sustainable yield of 4,691 acre feet per year. The USGS numerical model was used to evaluate the proposed criteria using a simulated future baseline (an average decline of 22 feet), a simulated future baseline with a 2030 climate change factor (an average decline of 45 feet), and a simulated future baseline with a 2070 climate change factor (an average decline of 74 feet).

Steve Stuart discussed the San Timoteo Management Area and the proposed sustainability criteria for this area of the basin using historical water levels. Criterion were established to protect the groundwater dependent ecosystems (GDEs) identified adjacent to San Timoteo Creek. The owners of private wells will be contacted to assist with the determination of the sustainable criteria as they related to groundwater production from the principal aquifer.

2. Discussion of the Monitoring Well Network including Private Wells

Steve Stuart discussed the proposed monitoring network to be used throughout the Yucaipa Basin. The proposed monitoring network will provide the spatial and temporal coverage necessary to characterize conditions in the basin and to evaluate whether the basin is managed sustainably.

3. Discussion Regarding Updates to Groundwater Flow Model

Steve Stuart (Dudek), Matt Howard and Adekunle Ojo (SBVMWD) participated in a meeting with the USGS last week. The USGS model has been updated to address concerns and issues raised by Dudek. USGS has begun recalibrating the numerical model.

4. Discussion Regarding Regular Reporting of Pumping to GSA

Groundwater extraction information is required to be reported on an annual basis. For the preparation of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan, monthly information was acquired from the water purveyors to provide a more detailed evaluation of groundwater production trends.

C. Update Status on Chapters 1, 2, and 3 of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan

1. Discussion of Comments Received on Draft Chapter 1 and 2 of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan

Comments have been received from the South Mesa Water Company and the City of Yucaipa. The comments received for Chapters 1 and 2 will be available for review on a SharePoint site administered by Dudek.

2. Discussion and Review of Draft Chapter 3

Steve Stuart mentioned that the Chapter 3 will be available by the end of March 2021.

3. Discussion Regarding Draft Chapter 4 Projects and Management Actions

Chapter 4 will include projects and management actions and Chapter 5 will include project implementation.

D. Status Report on the SGMA Grant and Financial Status

Matt Howard reported on the Proposition 68 Implementation Grant Program. Currently the majority of the grant funding awarded appears to be for stormwater capture and groundwater recharge projects.

The planning activities for the Groundwater Sustainability Agency are currently 97% complete and the Groundwater Sustainability Plan is 67% complete.

Steve Stuart reported that about 67% of the budget expended and at this time the project appears to be on track without anticipated change orders.

E. Discussion Regarding the Scheduling of the First Public Meeting

Following a discussion about the date for the next public meeting, Mark Iverson moved to conduct the next public meeting as a teleconference on Wednesday, April 28, 2021 at 6:00 pm.

David Armstrong seconded the motion.

South Mesa Water Company	Yes
South Mountain Water Company	Absent
Western Heights Water Company	Yes
Yucaipa Valley Water District	Yes
City of Redlands	Yes
City of Yucaipa	Yes
San Bernardino Valley MWD	Yes
San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency	Yes

VI. Topics for Future Meetings - Suggested meeting dates are provided below and will be adjusted based on the progress of each topic.

- Discussion regarding potential projects to be included in the groundwater model and the Groundwater Sustainability Plan
- Discussion regarding the refinement of basin management areas
- Discussion regarding the development of sustainability criteria
- Review of comments from Draft Chapter 1, Draft Chapter 2, and Draft Chapter 3
- Discussion regarding the Groundwater Sustainability Plan implementation and alternative solutions to potential issues.

VII. Comments by the Board of Directors

Board members recognized and thanked Steve Stuart and the Dudek team for the work on the Groundwater Sustainability Plan.

VIII. Announcements

The next scheduled meeting for the Yucaipa Sustainable Groundwater Management Agency will be a board meeting on Wednesday, April 28, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. by teleconference.

A public meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, April 28, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. by teleconference.

IX. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 am.