

South American Subbasin (SASb)  
Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP)  
**Executive Committee**  
*Meeting Notes*  
October 22, 2024, 3:30-5:00 pm  
Via Zoom

*This is a joint working meeting of representatives for each Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) of the South American Subbasin (SASb). The Committee considers shared GSA management issues related to implementation of the SASb Groundwater Sustainability Plan and as described in their January 26, 2023, Memorandum of Understanding.*

**Attendees:** See page 3

**Decisions/Action items**

| ITEM                                                                                          | OWNER                  | OTHER GUIDANCE                                                                                                 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Confirmed carryover of 2023-2024 budget as a credit to be used for 5-yr, Annual Report Review | Woodling, GSA Managers | Annual invoicing will continue as in previous years.<br>Each GSA to manage as appropriate to their own Boards. |
| Work with consultant team to develop a reduced budget.                                        | Woodling               | Ensure all requirements are still met                                                                          |

**AGENDA**

**ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**1. Welcome and Greetings, Agenda Review**

Introductions: Lisa Beutler (Stantec Facilitation Team) welcomed and invited participants to introduce themselves and provide their affiliations. She then provided an overview of the meeting agenda

**2. Current Year Budget**

John Woodling explained there was a \$32,000 budget credit after payment of all the consultant invoices. Several options for using of the credit were discussed, including allowing it to roll over into next year's budget and applying it toward the 5-year update, using it to build a reserve fund, and setting aside \$20,000 to begin preliminary work. The Committee agreed there should be a deeper dive into specific items in the GSP 5 year review budget (outreach, streamlining and consolidation of multiple data collections, guidance and modeling for interconnected surface waters), and a general consensus emerged to apply the credit toward the 5-year update of the GSP.

Woodling then summarized other current year issues. He mentioned that although some program elements will be shifting, the overall budget should remain essentially the same. Highlights from his summary included:

- The annual report size will be reduced from prior years
- New data from voluntary programs may potentially be included in the data management system
- Sacramento County is taking responsibility for contract administration, accounting, and basin administration.
- A line-item for legal funding will not be included in this budget
- Omoichumne Harnell Water District (OHWD) is managing the website
- Sloughhouse Resource Conservation District (SRCD) is managing the mailing list
- Outreach work will be needed prior to the 5-year update

**SASb Groundwater Sustainability Agencies**

*Northern Delta GSA—Reclamation District 551—Omoichumne-Hartnell Water District  
Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority—Sacramento County  
Sloughhouse Resource Conservation District*

### 3. Approval of Final Budget

Paul Schubert moved to approve the budget and carryover of the \$32,000 credit, with the designation of SCGA to hold the funds. The motion provided that each GSA General Manager would decide where to apply the surplus. That A quick poll of the Managers indicated they favored carrying the surplus over to help fund the 5-year update.

### 4. Preview of GSP Update Scope and Budget

John Woodling gave an overview of the GSP Update Scope and Budget and concluded that the final estimate from the three consultants (Larry Walker and Associates, Woodward and Curran, & GEI Consultants) was approximately \$900,000. Key tasks in the budget included:

- Project management
- Update hydrogeologic conceptual model
- Develop and summarize new information
- CoSANA model updates and scenarios
- Assess monitoring networks
- Evaluate SMC's
- Status of PMA's
- Prepare evaluation reports and GSP amendments
- Outreach, engagement and coordination
- Current and potential locations of stream gauges, funding for more gauges

Several members discussed the need to be frugal when updating the 5-year update, and the importance of assessing if objectives are being met and that the basin is being properly managed. They expressed it was not critical to make extra expenditures outside of the basic requirements due to the South American Subbasin being in compliance with SGMA. It was decided that a more detailed look at the necessary and optional tasks be done at a future meeting, and that it is critical that all the GSA's be comfortable with their cost share.

### 5. Water Year Trends and Next Steps for the Annual Report

Several topics were discussed including:

- The positive impact from having a good water year and a health basin able to quickly recover from dry periods
- The Harvest Water Project being on schedule
- Conjunctive use
- Water bank proposals
- Potential use of the Triangle Rock gravel pit, and the findings of the County feasibility study
- Domestic well monitoring
- Availability of grant funding

### 6. Report from the Domestic Well Advisory Committee (DWAG)

Suzanne Pecci provided an update on the intersection between drought planning and the work of the SASb GSAs and DWAG. She announced a white paper that will be available soon for state legislators to consider that includes seven different recommendations from the DRIP Collaborative. Highlights include:

- Development of a drought dashboard
- Extreme weather events
- Nature based solutions involving land use and infrastructure development
- Domestic well community and monitoring
- Pilot study costs
- Outreach and engagement of the public

Mark Stretars discussed several DWAG and the Domestic Well Voluntary Monitoring effort: Topics included:

- Domestic well monitoring data and locations
- Newsletter with information about monitoring and well protection,
- Outreach to new homeowners about their well, how to find information
- Water quality testing, especially arsenic

Input from the group included the request that all the monitoring data being made available to the public, and that there will be a need to get the community involved.

## 7. Interbasin Coordination Update

Coordination activities with the Solano and Cosumnes Subbasins were briefly discussed.

- Erik Ringleberg of North Delta noted that different levels within the GSA's were doing direct communication with stakeholders.
- Brittany Friedman of Consumnes discussed that the Cosumnes subbasin was also looking into budget considerations, water quality monitoring to improve their models, and finalizing member contributions.
- Austin Miller discussed Solano basin activities which include grant acquisition and well inventory.

## 8. Next Meeting

The group discussed the spring meeting scheduling. Early in the next year was requested with scheduling in January 2025.

## 9. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 5:05 pm.

### Attendees

#### **Executive Committee Members**

Barbara Evoy, Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority (SCGA)  
Bruce Kamilos, SCGA  
Dalia Fadl, SCGA

Erik Ringelberg, North Delta GSA  
Herb Garms, SRCD  
Mark Stretars, OHWD/DWAG  
Paul Schubert, SCGA

#### **Manager Group**

Kerry Schmitz, Sac County DWR  
John Woodling, SCGA  
Michael Wackman, OHWD

Brittany Friedman, Sloughhouse Resource Conservation District (SRCD)  
Chris Hunley, Sac County DWR

#### **Public Attendees, Other GSA Board Members, Agency Staff**

Maurice Washington, Trincherro Family Estates  
Tim Mullins, SCGA

Teresa Flewellyn, Public  
Chelsea Spier, DWR

#### **DWAG**

Austin Miller, Sac County DWR (GSA's Representative)  
Suzanne Pecci, DWAG

Ron Pecci, DWAG  
Lynn Wheat, DWAG  
Todd Eising, City of Folsom/DWAG

#### **Consultants**

Laura Gordon, GEI  
Ali Taghavi, Woodward & Curran  
Brian Van Lienden, Woodard & Curran

Bryan Thoreson, GEI  
Olin Applegate, Larry Walker Associates

#### **Facilitators**

Lisa Beutler, Stantec

Dawn Carlton, Stantec