

# **Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Standing Advisory Committee (SAC)**

**Meeting Minutes**

**November 30, 2017**

**Cuyama Valley Family Resource Center, 4689 CA-166, New Cuyama, CA 93254**

The Cuyama Basin GSA Standing Advisory Committee met at approximately 3:00pm.

**PRESENT:** Jake Furstenfeld, Joe Haslett, Louise Draucker, Roberta Jaffe, Brad DeBranch, Brenton Kelly, Mike Post, Joe Hughes, and Jim Beck.

**ABSENT:** None.

**1. Call to order**

Executive Director Beck called the Standing Advisory Committee to order at 3:00pm.

**2. Roll call**

Executive Director Beck calls roll of the Committee (shown above).

**3. Pledge of Allegiance**

The pledge of allegiance is led by Executive Director Beck.

**4. Approval of minutes**

Executive Director Beck presents the minutes from the last session. Editorial changes were requested and a revised draft with corrections will be distributed. A motion was made by Brenton Kelly to approve the revised minutes, the motion was seconded by Joe Haslett. Motion passed unanimously.

**5. Report of the General Counsel**

**a. Brown Act**

Legal Counsel Hughes presented an overview of the Brown Act, and will distribute the League of California Cities guide as a reference to the Committee. The Committee is designated in the JPA as a Standing Advisory Committee and therefore subject to the Brown Act. Ad Hoc committees are not subject to the Brown Act and designed to research and advise on a specific task or effort. If a majority on the Committee convenes it is considered a "meeting". Mr. Hughes detailed the problems with workshops and noted that there will need to be extra caution on behalf of the Committee participants. Exceptions to this are attendance at a conference and not discussing the subject of the Committee. Mr. Hughes suggests sitting separately and not communicating with one another. Report out on SAC meetings is permitted. If someone believes there is a violation, Mr. Hughes recommends contacting the Executive Director. There is then an opportunity for the Board to cure the alleged violation. A committee member asked for the purpose behind the Brown Act? Mr. Hughes iterated that the purpose is to encourage public transparency and participation. Mr. Hughes ran through several examples to highlight how the Brown Act works and its intent. Additionally, the Committee should take caution with email to not correspond about the GSA. Additionally, "Serial Meetings" were discussed noting that when multiple members of the Committee speak and discuss matters at different times prohibited Brown Act violation can occur.

It was noted that the posting location for the meetings are at the post office and the Committee would like the information posted at the Cuyama Valley Family Resource Center which will be observed at the next session.

Mr. Hughes then reviewed Closed Sessions are and their exclusion from public participation to protect

private information, among other reasons. It was noted that minutes are not required, but our intent for transparency is to provide an informative summary of the discussion and interaction with the public. Mr. Hughes closed by noting that the Brown Act is a great tool to instill trust in the GSA process.

## **6. Report of the Executive Director**

### **a. Grant update**

Executive Director Beck noted that the grant was submitted on November 10<sup>th</sup> summarizing the total values, and added that we anticipate a response from DWR in late January, early February. There were no comments from the Committee.

### **b. Role, membership, and officers of the SAC**

Executive Director Beck referenced the JPA document that outlines the role of the Standing Advisory Committee. He noted that they will be involved in the SGMA process and development of GSP. There will be opportunities for education assistance to provide advice to the Board and will fall within the purview of the Committee. There be two education processes, one will be through the GSP consultant for outreach and another through technical education. The selection of officers was then addressed. A motion was made by Brenton Kelly to select Roberta Jaffee for SAC Chair, the motion was seconded by Joe Haslett. The motion passed unanimously. A second motion was made by Louise Draucker to select Brenton Kelly as Vice Chair, the motion was seconded by Roberta Jaffee. The motion passed unanimously.

### **c. Draft Board of Directors agenda**

Executive Director Beck provided an overview of the standing agenda items for the Board, reports, and other items as needed. Roberta Jaffe will now report to the Board on key points from the Committee meetings. The process for engaging with the Board will be that the Committee will have an initial review of items for discussion prior to the Board meeting. It is anticipated that the GSP consultant will be working closely in these sessions.

### **d. Teleconferencing**

The Committee requested the GSA provide public listen-only access for future SAC meetings.

## **7. Committee Forum**

The Committee highlighted that there are additional documents available for Committee enrichment and noted that there is an upcoming SGMA best practices meeting in Visalia. It was discussed that the category 1 grant is to fund development of the GSP by January 2020. The category 2 grant is for disadvantaged communities and to cover implementation programs for sustainability. This Committee will review actions and costs associated with GSP consultant and help to determine how best to spend those funds. The upcoming session was discussed and cancelling the December session was considered due to conflicts with the upcoming holiday.

A motion was made by Mike Post to cancel the December SAC session, the motion was seconded by Louise Draucker. The motion passed unanimously. It was noted that scheduling EKI to present the USGS report in at a Special Board Meeting in January will be considered by the Board. The next regular session of the SAC will be held on February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018.

## **8. Public comment for items not on the Agenda**

There were no additional public comments.

## **9. Adjourn**

Executive Director Beck adjourned the session at 5:10pm.

I, Jim Beck, Executive Director to the Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board of Directors, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a fair statement of the proceedings of the meeting held on Wednesday, November 30, 2017, by the Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Standing Advisory Committee.

**Jim Beck**

**Dated:** November 30, 2017