

# Joint Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board of Directors and Standing Advisory Committee Meeting

February 7, 2018

## Meetings Minutes

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

### **PRESENT:**

#### Board of Directors:

Yurosek, Derek – Chair  
Compton, Lynn – Vice Chair  
Albano, Byron  
Bantilan, Cory  
Bracken, Tom  
Cappello, George  
Chounet, Paul  
Couch, David  
Shephard, Glenn  
Williams, Das  
Wooster, Jane  
Beck, James M. – Executive Director  
Hughes, Joe – Legal Counsel

#### Standing Advisory Committee:

Kelly, Brenton – Vice Chair  
DeBranch, Brad  
Draucker, Louise  
Furstenfeld, Jake  
Post, Mike

### **ABSENT:**

#### Board of Directors:

Couch, David

#### Standing Advisory Committee:

Jaffe, Roberta – Chair  
Haslett, Joe

### **1. Call to order**

Chair Yurosek calls the meeting to order at approximately 4:02 pm. Mr. Yurosek announced that Agenda item No. 4 (EKI's presentation) will be moved to the end to accommodate Board business discussions. He also let the Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CBGSA) Board of Directors (Board) know that he will need to leave early and will ask a Board member to over the meeting as the acting Chair.

### **2. Roll call**

Chair Yurosek calls roll of the Board (shown above).

**3. Pledge of Allegiance**

The pledge of allegiance was led by Chair Yurosek.

**4. EKI Presentation**

This item was deferred to later in the agenda by earlier Board direction.

**5. Approval of Minutes**

Chair Yurosek opened the floor for comments on the meeting minutes. Editorial changes were suggested and a motion was by Director Cappello, and second by Director Chounet to approve the minutes. Vice Chair Compton abstained from the vote since she was not present at the January 10, 2018 Board meeting. The motion passed and the minutes were adopted.

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*Board Directors Williams and Albano arrived at approximately 4:10 pm.*  
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**6. Report of the Standing Advisory Committee and referral of matters to the SAC (Kelly)**

Standing Advisory Committee (SAC) Vice Chair Brenton Kelly provided an update on the SAC effort to add additional representation to the SAC. He also reported that the SAC has requested assistance in structuring the SAC regarding attendance and responsibilities.

**a. Standing Committee Membership**

Executive Director Jim Beck read written statements from SAC Chair Jaffe, Blue Sky Center CEO Philip Jankoski and COO Emily Johnson, and Cuyama Elementary School Principal Rachel Leyland outlining support for adding Hispanic representation to the SAC to further its goals of providing community input, representative of the whole Cuyama Valley, in helping to solve water management issues in the Cuyama Valley.

Director Cappello asked if we needed to open the process up to the prior candidates that weren't select, and expressed concern with "me too" additions. Legal Counsel Joe Hughes let the Board know it is up to them to add additional seats to the SAC. Jim Beck recommended a more incremental approach to the process in addressing the current issue of Hispanic representation on the SAC. Chairman Yurosek recommended that any potential additions to the SAC follow the same process previously used. Family Resource Center Executive Director Lynn Carlisle gave the Board an overview of how the process started with several members of the Hispanic community becoming educated about water issues with the Promotora Group, and developed a deeper understanding of the implications of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA).

Director Albano asked if we should also address the issue of SAC structure, bylaws, etc. Mr. Beck replied that we can work with the SAC on administrative conduct issues and bring it back to the Board for consideration. A Board ad hoc consisting of Directors Cappello, Chounet and Williams was tasked with reviewing Hispanic applicants to the SAC and providing a final recommendation to the Board.

**7. Report of the Executive Director (Beck)**

Jim Beck provided an update on the near-term schedule for the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP), and noted that USGS is scheduled to present at the March 2018 Board meeting. Mr. Beck let the Board

know there is a need for an educational workshop in March 2018, and we can either: (1) have the workshop during a joint meeting with the Board and SAC on March 7, 2018; or (2) schedule a separate meeting for the workshop. The Board recommended starting earlier for a special joint meeting on March 7, 2018 at 2 pm to include the workshop on the same day.

Mr. Beck continued his presentation with an overview of accomplishments in the past month, and an outline of next steps.

**8. Financial Report (Beck)**

A motion was made by Director Cappello and seconded by Vice Chair Compton to adopt the Fiscal Year 2017-18 budget and it passed with an 88.89% weighted-vote of the Board (Director David Couch was not in attendance). A supermajority vote was needed to pass the annual budget, and that 75% threshold was met by the Director vote.

A motion was made by Director Cappello and seconded by Director Albano to adopt the cost allocation and it passed with an 88.89% weighted-vote of the Board (Director David Couch was not in attendance).

A motion was made by Director Albano and seconded by Director Chounet to authorize invoicing of CBGSA participants for their share of roughly \$500,000, and this passed with an 88.89% weighted-vote of the Board (Director David Couch was not in attendance).

The Board elected to defer payment of outstanding bills and adopting the draft Fiscal Policy and Internal Controls guidelines to a later meeting.

County of San Luis Obispo (SLO) Senior Water Resources Engineer Carolyn Berg informed the Board that SLO will need a funding agreement, and Mr. Hughes let her know we are working on that.

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*Lynn Compton left the meeting at 5:17 pm.*  
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**9. Report of the General Counsel (Hughes)**

Nothing to report.

**10. GSP update**

Woodard & Curran Senior Water Resources Engineer GSP consultant Lyndel Melton provided an overview of SGMA and the GSP process.

Director Albano inquired if the well information from the State Water Resources Control Board was data we could utilize, but it was made known that that data is strictly related to water quality, not groundwater levels.

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*Chairman Yurosek left the meeting at 5:33 pm and appointed George Cappello as acting Chairman for the remainder of the meeting.*  
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Catalyst Group outreach consultant Charles Gardiner presented an overview of the stakeholder

outreach process, and gave an update on the things learned from their interviews with Cuyama Valley residents and stakeholders.

**11. EKI Update**

EKI Vice President Anona Dutton and Senior Hydrogeologist Chris Heppner (participated via phone) presented an overview of their findings related to the characterization of the Cuyama Basin. Director Chounet asked if EKI used the other USGS reports in their review of their work, and Ms. Dutton confirmed that they had. Director Albano asked what constitutes a water management area, and Ms. Dutton relayed that it can be jurisdictional or based on hydrologic factors. Director Wooster asked if anyone had taken the temperature of the water to see if they are connected in various parts of the basin. Ms. Dutton replied that she had not seen evidence of that, but that approach is often done. Mr. Heppner said that USGS did take temperature profiles alongside other geophysical data sets. Director Wooster asked if all the wells tested were included in the USGS study. Mr. Heppner said he was not sure, but would look into it.

**12. Reports of the Ad Hoc Committees**

Nothing to report.

**13. Directors' Forum**

Nothing to report.

**14. Public comment for items not on the Agenda.**

No public comment.

**15. Adjourn**

Acting Chairman George Cappello adjourned the CBGSA Board meeting at 6:33 PM.

I, James M. 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 Thursday, February 7, 2018, by the Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board of Directors.

**James M. Beck**  
Dated: March 7, 2018