



COUNTY OF COLUSA

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
GROUNDWATER COMMISSION
100 Sunrise Boulevard Suite F
Colusa, CA 95932

JOSEPH J. DAMIANO
Agricultural Commissioner
Sealer of Weights & Measures

REGULAR MEETING NOTICE OF THE COLUSA COUNTY WATER USERS GROUP (WUG)

TCCA Area: Dan Ruiz, Tom Charter; Non Organized Areas: Peter Bradford, Richard Selover (**Vice Chair**), Ben Carter (Alternate)
Cities & PUDs: Jesse Cain (Colusa), Greg White (Williams), Jim Scheimer (Arbuckle PUD)
Sacramento River Settlement Contract Area: Sandy Denn (**Chair**), Doug McGeoghegan; RD 108: Bryan Busch

Location: Colusa Industrial Properties Conference Room
100 Sunrise Boulevard, Colusa, CA 95932

Date: August 25, 2015

Time: 10:00 a.m.-noon

Meeting Agenda

1. CALL TO ORDER (*action item)

- a. Introductions
- b. Roll Call
- c. *Acceptance of Agenda
- d. *Acceptance of Minutes from May
- e. Period of Public Comment

Any person wishing to address the WUG on any item not on today's Agenda may do so at this time. Comments are limited to 3 minutes. The WUG will not be making a decision or determination on items brought up during Public Comment.

2. STANDING AGENDA ITEMS

- a. Staff Report

3. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS (*action item)

- a. Discussion – Groundwater Conditions
 - i. Fall Groundwater Measurements
 - ii. NASA Subsidence Report
 - iii. WUG Member Comments on Groundwater Conditions in Their Areas
- b. Discussion – Colusa County Temporary Well Permit Moratorium
- c. Discussion – Proposed Reforms to Adjudication Process, *Chair Denn*
- d. Member Reports – WUG members are encouraged to discuss items that may be of interest to the group
- e. Set Next Meeting of the WUG

4. ADJOURNMENT



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TO THOSE WHO PARTICIPATE IN COMMISSION PROCEEDINGS: California Government Code Section 84308 requires you to disclose campaign contributions to Groundwater Management Commissioners if they amount to \$250 or more and were made within the last twelve months. Please announce your applicable campaign contributions when you speak. Any disabled person needing special accommodation to participate in the Commission proceeding is requested to contact the Colusa County Agriculture Department prior to meeting and arrangements will be made to accommodate you.



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Colusa Industrial Properties Conference Room
100 Sunrise Boulevard, Colusa, CA 95932

May 19, 2015 | 10:00 a.m.-noon

Meeting Minutes

5. CALL TO ORDER (*action item) Called to order by

a. **Introductions**

Public in attendance: Suzie Dawley, CCEH, Mary Fahey, Water Resources (staff), Elly Guttierrez CC AG (staff)

b. **Roll Call:**

Wug members present: Bradford, Carter, White, Scheimer, Denn, McGeoghegan, Busch, Cain

WUG members absent: Ruiz, Charter, Selover

c. ***Acceptance of Agenda**

Moved: Doug McGeoghegan; 2nd: Jim Scheimer

Vote: Unanimous, approved

d. ***Acceptance of Minutes from November 13, 2014, January 13, 2015, March 17, 2015**

Moved: Doug McGeoghegan; 2nd: Bryan Busch

Vote: Unanimous, Approved

e. **Period of Public Comment:** There were no comments.

6. STANDING AGENDA ITEMS

a. **Staff Report**

Mary Fahey reported: **Ground Water Commission** has not met since the last meeting. Their next meeting is June 11th. Commissioner Morris' term expired and applications were received. Matt LaGrande was appointed by the Board of Supervisors as new Commissioner.

Ground Water Ordinance At their March 12, 2015 meeting, the Groundwater Commission approved recommended changes to the County Groundwater Management Ordinance and voted to forward those recommendations to the Board of Supervisors. The recommended changes were reviewed by County Council and outside Council. An updated version of the Ordinance was presented



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to the Board of Supervisors as a discussion item at their May 12, 2015 meeting. The Board of Supervisors approved of the changes with a few minor adjustments, and directed staff and County Council to move forward to get the document prepared for a public hearing at a future BOS meeting. The Board recognized all of the hard work that went into updating the Ordinance. The three main items that were suggested: Admin review of in – county transfers, conditions for permit approval, and drought circumstances. The drought language was slightly changed to include language to include tougher standards on permits during drought conditions.

Sandy Denn voiced a question about trucking water out of the county. She would like to be sure that this permit process would cover water being trucked as a conveyance facility.

Mary will follow up with that.

Technical Support Team: Staff continues to work with the TST to update the groundwater level monitoring network. This is a work in progress. We are still waiting on DWR's 2014 Land and Water Use report for Colusa County, which will help us to estimate groundwater and surface water use in the County. Public Works has recently completed several GIS maps for the Water Resources Department that will be a foundation for future work to help with our water use estimates and monitoring efforts.

GW Legislation:

Meetings with GSA-eligible agencies: The purpose of these meetings was to get an idea of the different agencies' thoughts and ideas regarding formation of the GSA/GSAs for the two groundwater basins we will need to manage. The meetings were productive, and although some water agencies are electing to be their own GSAs, there is still a good spirit of collaboration among the groups. We will follow up with future meetings, possibly utilizing a meeting facilitator, to determine a path forward.

Public outreach meeting was held last Tuesday to inform the public on groundwater issues. It was a good meeting. About 120 people attended. There weren't many questions from the audience. We will be doing more of those going forward.

Mr. McGeoghan: Stresses the importance of notifying public on land subsidence in our area.

Mrs. Fahey : Roy Hull has reported on land subsidence and has shared that in some of the meetings. They are planning on doing more studies in the whole Sacramento Valley in the next year. Mary asked if there are people in the community with information they would like to come forward with. Mr. McGeoghan: He will talk with people about sharing their information.

Ms. Fahey asks if anyone knows people who have land subsidence information encourage them to contact the Water Resources Department.

WUG is made up of representatives of many different areas of the county. It's a really good forum for that type of outreach.

7. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS (*action item)

a. Discussion – Groundwater Conditions



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- i. Review spring gw level maps
- ii. Review gw level trends
- iii. How to address problem areas

Ms. Fahey gave a presentation on groundwater level trends over time and the wells that we currently have in our monitoring network. She shows where the data gaps are. They are looking at wells to monitor in those areas.

Ben Carter asks what type of well is being looked for in that area, production wells or monitoring wells?

Ms. Fahey: A mix of wells in all four areas.

Bryan Bush from RD 108 states that there is funding coming out for drought plan. They may be able to do some monitoring in the data gap areas with that funding.

Ms. Fahey states the county will also be looking into getting some other monitoring wells put in when the funding becomes available.

b. Discussion – SGMA Outreach Efforts

Ms. Fahey asks how many WUG members would like to get involved in outreach for legislation? She asks for thoughts on coordinating a forum at the WUG where people can get information on legislation.

DWR has some funding for facilitation.

D. McGeoghan asked if the water foundation is getting funds through this legislation?

Ms. Fahey will research.

With regard to outreach if the water foundation is getting paid for it through legislation is there a pool out there that will provide funding to another group? DWR has funding from Prop 1 for facilitation services.

- c. ***Set 2015 meeting dates:** August 25th tentative next meeting. 10:00 am.
- d. **Member Reports** – WUG members are encouraged to discuss items that may be of interest to the group:
It was mentioned that past WUG member, Darrin Williams went to the commission and we have not replaced him on WUG.
- e. Next Meeting of the WUG: tentatively set for August 25.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at : 11:20am.



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Water Users Group, regular meeting
August 25, 2015, 10:00 a.m. – noon @ Colusa Industrial Properties

STAFF REPORT

Groundwater Commission

The next Commission Meeting is September 10, 2015. Agenda will include a DWR presentation on recent fall groundwater measurements, updated Goals and Objectives for the year, and a discussion on the county well permit moratorium with a look at the status of current well permits and well installations over the past couple of years.

Technical Support Team

Staff, along with the Ag Commissioner and TST members, has worked with Grant Davids Engineering, Inc. on a scope of work to complete a county-wide study of groundwater conditions. The SOW will go to the Board of Supervisors for approval at their September 8 meeting. The work will include an assessment to describe the hydrogeologic and hydrologic characteristics and historical groundwater conditions in the Colusa County portion of the Colusa Subbasin. In addition, a more detailed study will be completed in the area of the county that is demonstrating overdraft: south of Hahn Road and west of the Colusa Basin Drain.

GIS software has been installed and staff is able to work on mapping. Staff has begun mapping all wells in the county, broken out in five year increments so we will be able to clearly see county-wide well development from 1970 to present. This is going to be a long-term, extremely time consuming project. We will have part time help from Department of Agriculture staff beginning in early September.

Groundwater Levels

Fall groundwater measurements were taken by DWR the first week of August. We will discuss during agenda item 3.a.

Well Outages

We have received reports this year of approximately 20 domestic well outages and one public supply well outage. I have also heard of a few agricultural wells with decreased production. Unfortunately not everyone reports well outages so we don't have an accurate count. We know there are many unreported outages. The majority of domestic well outages are happening in the Arbuckle area, and the College City area. As far as we know, all residents have worked out a solution. Solutions have varied. I have heard of deepening wells, filling up an above ground pool with neighbor's ag water for non-potable use, purchasing bottled water, and receiving water from the Arbuckle PUD to fill a tank.



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Temporary Urgency Ordinance

On June 30, 2015, Colusa County passed a temporary urgency ordinance restricting new well permits for six months, through January 31, 2016. During this six month period, Water Resources staff is working on coordinating a groundwater study that will supplement local knowledge of groundwater conditions in relation to drought, land use changes, changes in irrigation practices and other factors (see above – Grant Davids Engineering, Inc.). At the end of the six month period, the urgency ordinance can either be dropped or, with a public hearing, extended for another six months. We will discuss during agenda item 3.b.

SGMA

Facilitation Services

DWR will be providing third party facilitation services for development of GSAs and GSP(s). We will start up a series of meetings with other GSA-eligible agencies in Colusa County to work to determine an agreeable governance structure for our area. We will also utilize the facilitation services to coordinate public outreach meetings.

The following local districts in Colusa County have elected to be, or plan to be, GSAs:

County of Colusa has filed

Provident and Princeton-Codora-Glenn Irrigation Districts have filed as a joint GSA

Colusa County Water District has filed

RD 1004 has filed

GCID; public hearing August 20

RD 108 is planning

Outreach

A new Water Resources Update newsletter went out two weeks ago. Staff plans to send an update either monthly or bi-monthly to keep the public, as well as our partners, informed on local water-related happenings.