

**MINUTES OF THE SAN JOAQUIN RIVER EXCHANGE CONTRACTORS
GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY MEETING
HELD FRIDAY, MARCH 4, 2022 AT 8:30 A.M.**

The *San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Groundwater Sustainability Agency (Exchange Contractors GSA)* met on Friday, March 4, 2022 at the *San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Water Authority's* office located at 541 "H" Street, City of Los Banos, County of Merced, State of California. The following persons were present:

The following persons were present:

REPRESENTATIVES:

Central California Irrigation District (CCID): Eric Fontana, Director; Jarrett Martin, Manager

San Luis Canal Company (SLCC): John Wiersma, Manager

Columbia Canal Company (CCC): Randy Houk, Manager

STAFF MEMBERS:

Chris White, Executive Director; Steve Chedester, Director of Policy and Program; Joann White, Director of Finance and Administration; Adam Hoffman, Water Resources Specialist; and Darlene O'Brien, Administrative Assistant

OTHERS:

Andrew McClure, Minasian, Meith, Soares, Sexton & Cooper LLP; Chris Cardella, CCC Director; Cannon Michael, SLCC Director

In accordance with the Governor's Executive Order (N-29-20) and the declared State of Emergency as a result of the threat of COVID-19, the following members of the Exchange Contractors' Board of Directors and staff, and members of the public participated via teleconference:

REPRESENTATIVES:

San Luis Canal Company (SLCC): James Nickel, Director

Firebaugh Canal Water District (FCWD): Jeff Bryant, Manager

Columbia Canal Company (CCC): Kimberly Brown, Vice-Chair

OTHERS:

Dr. Kenneth Schmidt, Consultant; Joe Mastro, Cuttone & Mastro, CPA; Rick Iger, Provost & Pritchard; Lauren Layne, Baker, Manock & Jensen; Mike Henry, Consultant; and Katarina Campbell, Westlands Water District

CALL TO ORDER:

Vice-Chair Brown called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. and asked Executive Director White to lead the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. The Vice-Chair confirmed the changes to the order of the agenda requested by the Executive Director.

REORGANIZATIONAL MEETING:

Director Fontana made a motion to appoint Kimberly Brown as Chair for the Exchange Contractors GSA. The motion was seconded by Director Stearns. Upon a roll call vote, the motion passed by a 4-0 vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The unapproved minutes from the February 4, 2022 Board meeting were presented. A motion was made by Director Fontana and seconded by Director Stearns to approve the minutes as presented. Upon a roll call vote, the motion was passed by a 4-0 vote.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Executive Director White invited those participating by teleconference to introduce themselves. There was no public participation presented.

ANNUAL GROUNDWATER REPORT

Dr. Kenneth Schmidt presented his analysis of the 2021 well pumping program which covered each of the member entities' data separately; conditions in the various sub-areas within the Exchange Contractors' service area; and the current conditions of the area's groundwater aquifers. The report also included management recommendations.

Director Stearns made a motion to approve the draft Annual Groundwater Report as submitted by Dr. Schmidt. The motion was seconded by Director Fontana. Upon a roll call vote, the motion was passed by a 4-0 vote.

STATUS OF GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN (GSP) AND SUBBASIN COORDINATION EFFORTS:

Manager Martin reported that the GSP Annual Report using data from Dr. Schmidt's Annual Groundwater Report and recommendations will be submitted by the April 1 deadline. There were four findings by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) that found our GSP insufficient. After meeting with DWR in February to consult regarding the deficiencies identified, we have been able to resolve two of the four issues. We will continue to work with DWR on the final two matters and respond as needed.

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 2022 EXPENDITURE LIST AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT:

Joann White presented the Expenditure list and provided a summary of the Financial Memo included in the meeting packet for February 2022.

Director Stearns made a motion to approve the February 2022 Expenditure List and Financial Report as presented. The motion was seconded by Director Fontana. Upon a roll call vote, the motion was passed by a 4-0 vote.

The January 31, 2022 Finance Committee minutes were included for informational purposes.

PRESENTATION OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTAL DATA FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2021 AND 2020:

Joe Mastro of Cuttone & Mastro CPA referred to the Exchange Contractors GSA financial statements that were included in the Board packet and provided an overview of the statements for revenue, expenditures, net position and reconciliations balances and explained the required communication's letter.

Following the presentation, Director Stearns made a motion to accept the Financial Statements for Years Ended December 31, 2021 and 2020 as presented. The motion was seconded by Director Fontana. Upon a roll call vote, the motion was passed by a 4-0 vote.

LEGAL COUNSEL:

Legal Counsel Andrew McClure provided a status report on the California Sportsfishing Protection Alliance litigation.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Vice-Chair Brown adjourned the meeting at 9:16 a.m.

KIMBERLY BROWN, CHAIR

Attest a true record of proceedings had
And taken at the foregoing meeting, our
Presence thereat and our consent thereto.

CHRIS WHITE, SECRETARY

ERIC FONTANA, DIRECTOR

JAMES L. NICKEL, DIRECTOR

MIKE STEARNS, DIRECTOR