



Regional Water Management Group

LOCATION: Online (ZOOM)

MINUTES

Monday, June 26, 2023, 1:30 pm

1. The meeting was called to order at 1:32 pm, by Bobby Macaulay, chairperson.

Those present included:

Bobby Macaulay – Madera County
Brandon Tomlinson – Chowchilla WD
Carl Janzen – Madera ID
Clyde Wheeler – Indian Lakes
Craig Wagner – Madera County
Don Roberts – Gravelly Ford WD
Emily Garcia – Madera County
Gretchen Heisdorf – Root Creek WD
Jack Rice - MAWA
Jacob Roberson – RWMG Coordinator
Jasmine Rivera - SHE

Jason Rogers – City of Chowchilla
Jenny Nunez-Rodriguez – Madera County
Kayla Rohrbaugh – Coarsegold RCD
Keith Helmuth – City of Madera
Kim Witten – Madera County
Kimberley Sandoval – Madera County
Mary Stalter – North Fork Rancheria
Phil Janzen – Madera WD / MAWA
Ray Gutierrez – Madera County
Sarah Woolf – Water Wise/Triangle T
Stephanie Anagnoson – Madera County

2. Review & Approval - Agenda & Minutes

- A motion to approve the June agenda was made by Gretchen H; Carl J second; all voted; Motion passed unanimously.
- A motion to approve the May minutes was made by Gretchen H; Carl J second; all voted; Motion passed unanimously.

3. Public Comment

- Items of interest were mentioned by Jacob R (for more information, reach out to Jacob):
 - The recording for the virtual Spring 2023 GSA Forum for GSA members and representatives is now available online. The theme for the Spring Forum was Spotlighting Projects and Management Actions and Progress Towards Sustainability. The next event will be held in the Fall this year.
 - The Final Data Reports, AEM data interpretations, and supporting data are now available for the Central San Joaquin Valley groundwater basins and the Northern San Joaquin Valley and Southern Sacramento Valley groundwater basins.
 - Madera County was recently awarded for 3 projects through the DWR's 2022 Urban Community Drought Relief Program:
 - Madera Ranchos Well Rehabilitation Project for \$320,000
 - Hidden Lakes Water Distribution System Replacement Project for \$2 million
 - Hidden Lakes Emergency Tank Replacement Project for \$2.3 million

- The State Water Resources Control Board is currently accepting applications for its Water Recycling Funding Program. Applications are due by 12 pm on June 30th, 2025.
- The Cal OES Hazard Mitigation Assistance Team will be hosting a webinar for Drought Mitigation Project types on Wednesday, June 28th, from 11 am – 12:30 pm.
- The next Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program Stake Holder Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 26th, from 10 am – 1 pm. The meeting will be held both online and in-person.
- Two workshops have been scheduled by the DWR to discuss Resource Management Strategies for the California Water Plan Update 2023. 1st workshop will be on Tuesday, July 11th, and will cover the Agriculture Water Use Efficiency strategy. The 2nd workshops will be on Tuesday, July 25th, and will cover the Recycled Water strategy.
- Cal OES is currently accepting Notice of Interest forms for its Building Resilience Infrastructure and Communities and Flood Mitigation Assistance program cycles through August 18th.

4. Discussion & Action - Financial Report/Warrant Approvals

- June 2023 Financial Report
 - Carl J reported that we began the month with \$37,039.50 with no income for the month. We spent \$2,362 on Jacob's position and \$99 on the website, for a total of \$2,461. This leaves us with \$34,578.50 at the end of the month.
 - A motion to approve the June financial statement was made by Carl J; Gretchen H second; all voted; Motion passed unanimously.

5. Discussion – Madera RWMG Vice-Chair

- Jacob R commented that last month, Kristi R announced that she is stepping down from Water Wise/CMZ and is the representative for the Triangle T WD, and also the Vice-Chair for the Madera RWMG. We will need to nominate and vote on a new Vice-Chair to replace Kristi R.
 - Bobby M asked if Triangle T WD would be sending a new representative to our monthly meetings in place of Kristi, and Jacob mentioned that he has not been told about a specific individual that will be attending the monthly meetings to represent Triangle T WD.
- Mary S asked what are the duties and responsibilities for the Vice-Chair, and Jacob mentioned it is covering for the Chairperson if they cannot make it. That includes running the meeting, going over the agenda, calling for voting as needed for different agenda items, and working with Jacob on getting the agenda and minutes together for each meeting.
- Phil J nominated himself to be the Vice-Chair. The Madera RWMG will vote on this during July's meeting to make it official. Phil will be representing the Madera WD as the Vice-Chair.

6. Discussion – Madera RWMG Accounting Functions

- Bobby M reported that he spoke with Madera County staff about taking over the accounting functions for the group. They would like to have a meeting with Bobby, Jacob R, and staff from Madera ID who have been doing the accounting functions for the group for the past 10+ years. They are looking to understand what the duties would be. Carl J mentioned that Jennifer F with Madera ID would be the one to meet with to go over everything.
 - Bobby asked Jacob to setup a meeting with Jennifer from Madera ID and some Madera County staff to discuss the roles and duties done from month to month. Bobby will send Jacob the contact information for the Madera County staff.

7. Discussion – Draft Bylaw Updates

- Jacob R reported that the City of Madera provided an update that they will not be able to provide an answer until the July meeting. Root Creek WD, Gravelly Ford WD, MAWA, Madera WD, and Madera ID are all OK with the draft bylaws.
 - Madera County, Chowchilla WD, City of Chowchilla, SEMCU, Triangle T WD, Indian Lakes, Fairmead Community & Friends (Jacob has not been able to get ahold of them, nor have they attended any RWMG meetings since 2020), Madera Valley Water Company, North Fork Rancheria of Mono Indians, and SHE have not gotten back to Jacob about the draft bylaws yet. Jacob will send out reminders.
 - Bobby M added that on the Madera County side, they are currently under review on the draft bylaws with Counsel. They are giving some pushback on the verbiage around the Brown Act. Hopeful to have an update during the July RWMG meeting.
 - Mary S asked how many DAC members sit on the board for the group, and Jacob mentioned five.
- Phil J added that Madera WD is OK with the draft bylaws too.

8. Discussion – Proposition 1 Disadvantaged Community Involvement Funding

- San Joaquin Valley
 - Self-Help Enterprises – Projects 12 and 13
 - Nothing new to report.
 - Chowchilla Nitrate Control Program / Chowchilla Management Zone – Projects 12 and 13
 - Jacob R reported that this grant has been extended to December 31, 2023, with a request to extend it to June 30, 2024.
 - Sarah W reported that they are continuing to extend their outreach to get more domestic well testing done. They have increased the frequency of USPS mailers to homes to twice per month. They have seen an increase in test requests due to this.
 - Mary S asked if any testing has been done in the North Fork area yet, and Sarah mentioned they have not had any requests for that area yet. Mary asked what the testing is for, and Sarah mentioned water quality for constituents that are commonly tested for in domestic wells used for drinking water. They schedule the testing to be done for homeowners

and also get the results sent when available. Mary added that they have a lot of citizens who would like to have their wells tested. Sarah provided the website link to Mary for the online application to get on the list for domestic well testing. Jacob will also send out the advertisement flyer for this.

9. Discussion – Proposition 1 IRWM Implementation Funding

- Mountain Counties and San Joaquin Valley Counties
 - Indian Lakes and Parkwood
 - Craig W reported that the consultant that is going to be doing the installation is still waiting for all the parts to be received. Projects for Indian Lakes and Parkwood will start simultaneously. Hoping to complete both projects by the end of this Summer.
 - City of Madera
 - Keith H reported that the first project was put out to bid at the beginning of March this year. They are still on schedule to award a bid for the smaller meter project by the end of the year.
 - City of Chowchilla
 - Jason R reported that they're still waiting on the SWRCB to review what they submitted. After the SWRCB completes the review, the City of Chowchilla will be able to get their invitation to bid opened.

10. Discussion – SGMA Implementation Grant

- Gretchen H reported that the end of the quarter is coming up which they will be creating the quarterly report for. The final GSP related deliverable has been sent to DWR. The only thing left on this project is the final grant draft and report that needs to be developed. Project 3 (Madera WD) has sent things out for review to various environmental agencies. Project 4 (Root Creek WD) is progressing. They had a DWR site visit last week. The rep came down, walked the site, and drove the rest of it with Root Creek WD and a couple other areas within Root Creek WD's boundaries just to get a better idea of how their system works. Project 5 (Madera Pipeline) has not progressed yet. Looking to progress in the next week or so. Pay request 3 was paid by DWR and Root Creek WD will be sending out checks to various parties involved in these projects.

11. Discussion – Drought Working Group

- Jenny N reported that they are currently working on the final revisions for the Madera County Drought Plan. The plan will be taken to the Board for adoption on July 18th.

12. Discussion – IRWM Round 2 Application

- Bobby M reported that the 2 projects submitted for Indian Lakes were deemed not suitable by DWR. We instead got funding for Sierra Highland's Water Treatment Project. Jacob R added that DWR deemed the projects for Indian Lakes not suitable since the 2 projects are not "shovel ready". Jacob is not sure what DWR's definition of "shovel ready" is. Jacob thinks some of the studies need to be done for the projects. The 2 projects were updated on the IRWM Project List to include both the studies and installation work.

- For the Sierra Highlands Water Treatment Project, Craig W added that they have submitted all of the documentation to DWR and have accepted the award. Madera County is waiting for DWR to review the documents submitted. They are hoping to have the agreement executed with DWR by the end of the year.
- Bobby asked about funding through IRWM for the valley, and Jacob mentioned that both the Senate and Assembly are voting on funding amounts for IRWM, other than that, nothing that Jacob is aware of.

13. Report – Sustainable Groundwater Management – SGMA

- Stephanie A reported that a State Board meeting was held last week where the State Board staff proposed a schedule for the subbasins where they're going to intervene. The Chowchilla Subbasin and Delta-Mendota Subbasin are at the bottom of the list. They're not considered as high of a priority as the subbasins down south. The State Board has tentative hearing months for all 6. In the Madera Subbasin, the 4 GSPs are posted for public review and have received 3 comments so far.

14. New/Suggested Members for the Madera RWMG

- Jacob R mentioned that he was contacted last month by the Yosemite Lakes community to meet with them sometime in July and give them a background on what the group is and what we do. They were a member at the beginning of the formation of the group but dropped out pretty quickly. Bobby M asked if they were considered a DAC, and they are not.
- Jacob has also reached out to Aliso GSA and New Stone GSA previously. Bobby asked for Jacob to send the contact information to him for those 2 GSAs so he can follow up with them about joining the group. Picayune Tribe is another group Jacob has reached out to. Mary S will follow up with them about attending the meetings.

15. Future Agenda Items

- No future agenda items suggested.

16. Next Meeting

- Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 24, 2023, at 1:30 pm on Zoom.

17. The meeting was adjourned at 2:09 pm.