

**MINUTES OF THE SAN JOAQUIN RIVER EXCHANGE CONTRACTORS
GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY MEETING
HELD FRIDAY, MARCH 3, 2023 AT 8:30 A.M.**

The *San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Groundwater Sustainability Agency (Exchange Contractors GSA)* met on Friday, March 3, 2023 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:

Central California Irrigation District (CCID):

Eric Fontana, Director

San Luis Canal Company (SLCC):

James Nickel, Director

Firebaugh Canal Water District (FCWD):

Mike Stearns, Director; Jeff Bryant, General Manager

Columbia Canal Company (CCC):

Kimberly Brown, Chair; Randy Houk, General Manager

STAFF MEMBERS:

Chris White, Executive Director; Steve Chedester, Director of Policy & Programs; Joann White, Director of Finance and Administration; and, Adam Hoffman, Water Resources Specialist

PRESENT:

Andrew McClure, Minasian, Meith, Soares, Sexton & Cooper LLP; Chris Cardella, CCC Director; Kenneth D. Schmidt, Kenneth D. Schmidt & Associates; and David Cory, Consultant (arrived at 8:54 a.m.)

The following person(s) participated via Conference Call:

Rick Iger, Provost & Pritchard; Calvin Monreal, Provost & Pritchard; Kity Campbell, Westlands Water District, Lauren Layne, Baker, Manock & Jensen; and Andrew Garcia, Valley Water District

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Kimberly Brown called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. and asked Randy Houk to lead the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The unapproved minutes from the November 2, 2022 Exchange Contractors GSA meeting were presented. A motion was made by Director Fontana and seconded by Director Nickel to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was unanimously carried.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

There were no public comments presented.

BOARD TO APPROVE NOVEMBER – DECEMBER 2022 AND JANUARY – FEBRUARY 2023 EXPENDITURES AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT:

Joann White presented the Expenditures for the last two months of 2022, in addition to January through February, 2023. She then provided a summary of the Financial Memo outlining the Budget Summaries and Cash Activity Reports for November through December, 2022, and January through February 2023.

Following the review, Director Fontana made a motion to approve the Expenditures and Financial Report covering the months of November - December, 2022 and January - February 2023. The motion was seconded by Director Nickel, and unanimously carried.

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 2023-01:

Executive Director White presented Resolution No 2023-01 to Adopt the Annual Statement of Investment Policy and Guidelines for 2023.

Director Stearns made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2023-01, Adopt Annual Statement of Investment Policy and Guidelines. The motion was seconded by Director Fontana, and unanimously carried.

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

DRAFT ANNUAL GROUNDWATER REPORT

Kenneth Schmidt presented his analysis of the 2022 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.

A motion was made by Director Nickel and seconded by Director Fontana to approve the Draft Annual Groundwater Report as submitted by Dr. Schmidt. The motion was unanimously carried.

**STATUS OF GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN AND SUBBASIN
COORDINATION EFFORTS:**

Chris White referred to the update included in the meeting packet outlining the data submitted for the Annual Report to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR). He then reported on DWR’s Notice of Determination that was released on March 2nd that the six Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSP) for the Delta-Mendota Subbasin, which the San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors GSA is a part of, was deemed inadequate. He provided the next steps that will be required and stated that they will be working with their partners and continue to keep the entities informed throughout this process.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:09 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 NICKEL, DIRECTOR

MIKE STEARNS, DIRECTOR