

**Sustainable Groundwater Management Act 2014 (SGMA)
San Pasqual Valley Groundwater Sustainability Plan Basin Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes**

Meeting Date: Thursday June 6, 2019 from 2:00pm to 4:00pm

Meeting Location: San Pasqual Archaeological Center, 16666 San Pasqual Valley Road, Escondido 92027

Purpose: San Pasqual Valley Groundwater Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan Advisory Committee Meeting 1

Attendees:

City of San Diego

- Andrew Funk
- Delaney Sisk
- Karina Danek
- Niki McGinnis
- Sandra Carlson

County of San Diego

- Jim Bennett
- Leanne Crow
- Jamelle McCullough

Advisory Committee

- Carole Burkhard
- David L. Toler Jr.
- Eric Larson
- Frank Konyn
- Lisa Peterson
- Mark Dederian
- Matt Witman
- Rikki Schroeder
- Trish Boaz

Woodard & Curran

- John Ayres
- Micah Eggleton
- Rosalyn Prickett

Public

- Brad Blaes
- Jennifer Turner
- Lisa Skutecki
- Patti Huntley
- Quinton Grounds (Council District 5 Representative)
- Tyson Short

Referenced Documents:

1. Meeting Agenda
 2. Copy of PowerPoint Handout 1
 3. Draft Advisory Committee Bylaws Handout 2
 4. Proposed Advisory Committee (AC) Meetings Handout 3
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ACRONYMS

- AC – Advisory Committee
- CEQA – California Environmental Quality Act
- City – City of San Diego
- Core Team – GSA City and County Staff
- County – County of San Diego
- EIR – Environmental Impact Report
- GSA – Groundwater Sustainability Agency
- GSP – Groundwater Sustainability Plan

- MOU – Memorandum of Understanding
- SGMA – Sustainable Groundwater Management Act
- SPV – San Pasqual Valley

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

Sandra Carlson, as the Project Manager for the GSP, opened the meeting and introduced Niki McGinnis, Interim Deputy Director for the City of San Diego (City) Public Utilities Department who gave opening remarks. Members of the GSA Core Team including Karina Danek, Jim Bennett and Leanne Crow then gave a brief introduction of themselves and provided their own welcoming remarks. Members of the AC and the public were given an opportunity to introduce themselves. Sandra Carlson reviewed the agenda and facilitated most of the meeting.

SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT AND THE GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

A general overview of SGMA and GSP was provided by Sandra Carlson. The main points are as follows:

- SGMA was passed into law in 2014 to manage groundwater resources in specific basins throughout the State including the San Pasqual Valley Basin.
- The City and the County became a GSA in 2016.
- The City and the County signed a MOU in 2017 and will sign a Cost Sharing Agreement for the GSP in 2019.
- The GSP must be submitted to the State of California by January 31, 2022.
- The boundaries of the jurisdiction of the City and the County in SPV were explained using a visual. About 90% of the basin is in City jurisdiction, and 10% of the basin is in County jurisdiction.
- A list of essential GSP components was provided on the PowerPoint and reviewed for clarity.

For the San Pasqual Valley GSP, it was announced that, subject to City Council approval in July 2019, Woodard & Curran will be the consultants preparing the GSP. John Ayres, Micah Eggleton and Rosalynn Prickett were present as members of the public and representatives of Woodard & Curran. John Ayres elaborated on the consultant's previous experience with GSPs and his personal thoughts on why each groundwater basin is unique.

BROWN ACT CONSIDERATION

Niki McGinnis presented a brief overview and highlights to the Brown Act, of which the AC is subject to. The key points are as follows:

- The Brown Act is also known as the Open Meeting Law which allows the public the right to participate in public meetings.

- Public comment at meetings is encouraged, and time will be provided at the end of meetings.
- All action items must be on the agenda. Other topics may be discussed but not acted upon.
- A quorum of the AC must not hold a private meeting where AC business is discussed. Individual contacts are allowed, however, a series of individual contacts (such as email) that leads to discussion, deliberation or action among a majority of AC members is prohibited.

An AC member asked if providing information to the planned GSP consultant is allowed on an individual basis within the Brown Act. Providing information to the GSP consultant is not a violation of the Brown Act. It was noted that an ad hoc committee could also be created if there is a topic where a few AC members are particularly knowledgeable, and that information could be useful to the GSP.

A member of the public also asked if Core Team meetings were subject to the Brown Act. Staff meetings are not required to be open public meetings and that the Brown Act does not apply to local agency staff or employees.

For a more detailed explanation of the Brown Act, attendees were referred to the following link: <https://www.cacities.org/Resources-Documents/Resources-Section/Open-Government/Open-Public-2016.aspx>

ADVISORY COMMITTEE/TECHNICAL PEER REVIEW

Sandra Carlson discussed that the chosen AC members all have a great working knowledge of the SPV to make each member a good resource and provide input to the GSA for the GSP development. Each AC member supplies his/her unique background to provide a diversified AC to represent the SPV.

Sandra Carlson also explained the purpose of the planned Technical Peer Review group, and how it differs from the AC. The purpose of the Technical Peer Review is to ensure the GSA that the GSP is a technically sound document. The Core Team explained this will be accomplished using the consultant's technical experts and two technical reviewers who are outside independents and are not a part of the consultant firm. These two technical reviewers are independent of the GSP development but with expertise to perform the work. Their qualifications will be Professional Geologists in the State of California, a Professional Engineer in the State of California, and/or PhD in Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Geology, or related field with appropriate expertise in hydrogeologic water supply investigations and/or related modeling and research.

The consultant will manage these meetings and this group will be present at all the Technical Peer Review meetings. John Ayres then spoke to why there was to be a Technical Peer Review and the importance of having technical meetings in addition to the AC meetings.

The Technical Peer Review meetings will be scheduled as the same day as the AC, but in the morning and at either City or County offices in Kearny Mesa. These meetings will be scheduled as-needed throughout the GSP development and will cover various required technical topics of the GSP. A member of the public asked why Technical Peer Review meetings were being held at a different location than the AC meetings? Core Team explained it had to do with availability of staff resources. It would be difficult to have Core Team staff be in San Pasqual all day without access to their offices/computers, etc. AC members can, as explained in detail in Article 6 of the draft By-Laws, bring their own qualified expert to the Technical Peer Review meeting should they choose to do so.

It was also noted that the Technical Peer Review meetings are open to the public, and more clarification about the Technical Peer Review meeting would be given at the next AC meeting.

- **Action Item:** Create a formal application form for members of the AC to use should they choose to bring their own independent technical reviewer (a.k.a., expert) to the Technical Peer Review meeting.
- **Action Item:** Explain who will take part in the Technical Peer Review meetings to the AC.

DRAFT ADVISORY COMMITTEE BY-LAWS

Sandra Carlson emphasized important points in the draft By-Laws, which are:

- AC members may not have a proxy at meetings.
- There must be a quorum to hold an AC meeting.
- A professional facilitator hired by the consultant will be running all future meetings.
- The AC meetings will follow Roberts Rules of Order when facilitating a dialogue.

It was clarified that the By-Laws are subject to the approval of the AC, and not the Core Team, within reason. For example, the AC cannot add that they shall receive pay.

- **Action Item:** AC Members to review and comment on the draft By-Laws on or before June 27th, 2019. Comments should be sent to Sandra Carlson at carlsons@sandiego.gov. Submitted comments will be discussed and By-Laws will be finalized by AC at the next meeting.

FUTURE MEETING DATES

The AC held a brief discussion on when to hold future meetings. It was decided that AC meetings will be held quarterly on the second Thursday of the month from 2-4pm starting October 2019. Meetings will be held at the San Pasqual Archaeological Center located at 16666 San Pasqual Valley Road, Escondido 92027.

- The next meeting will occur on October 10, 2019: the rest to follow accordingly. Please see revised calendar.
- Meeting materials will be posted at least 72 hours in advance online. They can be accessed at this web address: www.sandiegocounty.gov/pds/SGMA

PUBLIC COMMENT SUMMARY

There were requests from multiple AC members to use previous reports that have been completed by the City for the SPV to supplement the GSP. These members feel that much of the information that is needed for the GSP will be in the preexisting reports, and that it would simplify the process to use these as background.

It was discussed whether the GSP would require an EIR. The GSP is exempt from CEQA, however the implementation of it is not exempt.

The City of San Diego has received a million-dollar grant to help pay for the costs of developing the GSP.

Questions asked:

1. How will the previous reports and information on the San Pasqual Groundwater Basin (Basin) play into this GSP? The Core Team indicated that the previous reports and information are essential and will be used in development of the GSP.
2. Will the GSP be concerned with water quality in the Basin or overall volume of water? The Core Team indicated that both water quality and volume of water will be evaluated in the GSP.
3. What will be done for the water that is leaving the Basin and how will it be regulated? The Core Team stated that the GSP process will be used to determine how water leaving the basin will be regulated.
4. Will there be anything done about land use projects that border the Basin and could impact the water quality? The County stated that for land use projects outside the Basin, these projects are regulated by the County and have a separate process from SGMA. SGMA gives no additional authority to the area of the watershed outside of the defined Basin boundaries.

Note:



During the question and answer period, this meeting did not follow public comment protocol. Members of the public could comment at any point during the meeting. For all future meetings, public comment will be restricted to the end of the meeting.

MEETING ENDED AT 3:30PM.
