



Corning Sub-basin GSA Committee
Special Meeting Minutes
December 1, 2022 | 2:30 p.m.
Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District Pump Station
7854 County Rd 203, Orland, CA 95963
Public participation was also offered via teleconference

1. Call to Order

John Amaro called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

2. Roll Call

| | Party Representative | Member Agency |
|---|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| X | Tom Arnold | County of Glenn |
| X | Grant Carmon | County of Glenn |
| X | John Amaro | Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District |
| X | Pete Knight | Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District |
| X | Julia Violich | Monroeville Water District |
| | Seth Fiack | Monroeville Water District |

Lisa Hunter conducted roll call as noted above.

3. Meeting Minutes

a. *Approval of October 20, 2022 meeting minutes

- No corrections or comments were made on the draft October 20, 2022 meeting minutes.

On a motion by Mr. Arnold, seconded by Mr. Knight, the meeting minutes of October 20, 2022 were unanimously approved as presented.

4. Period of Public Comment

- No public comments were heard.

5. Staff Reports

- Ms. Hunter introduced Kaitlyn Murray, Glenn County staff, who will be helping with CSGSA tasks.

- Ms. Hunter further reported the closeout letter from Department of Water Resources (DWR) had been received for the Proposition 1 Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Development grant and stated the grant closeout process is complete except for receiving the retention payment from DWR.
- Ms. Hunter stated in regards to the Executive Order N-7-22 compliance, zero well permit acknowledgement forms have been received since the last meeting.

6. *Approve Revised 2022 Meeting Schedule

- Ms. Hunter suggested cancelling the regular meeting scheduled for December 15 because of the timing of the December 1 meeting, the grant application deadline, and upcoming holidays. A special meeting could be scheduled if an urgent need arose.

On a motion by Mr. Carmon, seconded by Mr. Knight, it was unanimously ordered to cancel the December 15, 2022 meeting.

7. *Approve 2023 Meeting Schedule

- There was a brief discussion on the meeting dates.

On a motion by Mr. Arnold, seconded by Ms. Violich, it was unanimously ordered to approve the 2023 Meeting Schedule as presented.

8. Receive Update on Corning Subbasin Facilitation Support Services

- Ms. Hunter reported the Implementation Service Plan (ISP) was approved, which provides facilitation support for the Corning Subbasin at no cost to the Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs). DWR provides the funding and contracts with Stantec (facilitator) to coordinate with GSAs in the Corning Subbasin.
- Ms. Hunter provided a brief overview of the four tasks which include task 1 inter- and intra-basin coordination, which includes a Corning Subbasin Operations Plan, task 2 Communication and Engagement Plan Update, task 3 Public Meetings and Information Materials, and task 4 Contract Management (Stantec only).
- Mr. Carmon asked if the public meetings and information task could include support for the funding mechanisms outreach. Ms. Hunter responded that may be a possibility, but the tasks are generally basin-wide since this project is for the entire Corning Subbasin. This can be explored further with Stantec.

9. Funding Mechanisms for GSP Implementation

- a. Receive update on the Funding Mechanisms RFP Ad Hoc Committee activities.
- b. *Approve recommendation of the Funding Mechanisms RFP Ad Hoc Committee to select Lohdorff & Scalmanini Consulting Engineers to Provide Services to Develop and Implement a Funding Mechanism for the Operations of the Corning Sub-basin

Groundwater Sustainability Agency and Implementation of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan.

- c. *Authorize staff to work with Counsel to negotiate an agreement with Luhdorff & Scalmanini Consulting Engineers for consideration at a future meeting.
- Ms. Hunter referred to the summary provided in the meeting packet and stated three proposals were received during the RFP process. The ad hoc committee reviewed the proposals and is recommending selection of Luhdorff & Scalmanini Consulting Engineers. She noted that the individuals on the CSGSA ad hoc committee were also on the ad hoc committee for the Glenn Groundwater Authority (GGA) fee study RFP review. Two of the firms were interviewed during the GGA process. Interviews were not held specifically for the CSGSA.
 - Mr. Amaro and Mr. Carmon stated the GGA process interviews were quite helpful and solidified the CSGSA recommendation.
 - Mr. Knight asked about the total cost and if it is consistent with the budget. Ms. Hunter stated there are a few details remaining to review and ensure are included in the agreement. The proposed fee for the project is within the amount expected and budgeted.
 - Mr. Carmon spoke in favor of having a Proposition 26 process to get initial funding and then do a more detailed approach. Discussion ensued on the contents of the proposal, potential paths forward, and expected expenses.
 - Ms. Hunter discussed the need to review the scope of work in greater detail to identify potential changes and to coordinate with counsel prior to executing a contract.
 - Ms. Violich suggested utilizing the consultant for the technical components and less on the outreach portions, which could be handled internally.
 - There was some discussion on the likelihood of receiving grant funding which may reduce the cost and inform the development of the fee.
 - Mr. Knight asked if the contract will be brought back to the CSGSA for approval. Ms. Hunter stated the contract would be brought to a future meeting, likely in January 2023 in order to give enough time for contract review, negotiation, and coordination.

On a motion by Ms. Violich, seconded by Mr. Arnold, it was unanimously ordered to approve the recommendation of the Funding Mechanisms RFP Ad Hoc Committee to select Luhdorff & Scalmanini Consulting Engineers to Provide Services to Develop and Implement a Funding Mechanism for the Operations of the Corning Sub-basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency and Implementation of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan and to authorize staff to work with Counsel to negotiate an agreement with Luhdorff & Scalmanini Consulting Engineers for consideration at a future meeting.

10. Sustainable Groundwater Management Round 2 Grant Application

- a. Receive an update on the status of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Round 2 grant application.
 - b. Discussion on grant components and provide direction on preferred prioritization of components.
 - c. *Approve letter supporting the Corning Subbasin Sustainable Groundwater Management Round 2 grant application and for the Tehama County Flood Control and Water Conservation District to serve as the grant applicant on behalf of the subbasin.
- Ms. Hunter announced the grant application deadline had been extended to December 16, 2023. She continued by directing the CSGSA to the proposed grant components in the meeting packet that will potentially be included in the grant application. She requested the board provide direction on the potential ranking of these components, which is a required portion of the grant application. She further described a public meeting that Tehama County held to discuss projects and prioritization.
 - Ms. Violich suggested considering which components are fundable based on the amount of funding available through the grant. Ms. Hunter stated the consultant team will also be thinking about the strategy for ranking the projects. Discussion ensued on component prioritization, scoring criteria, funding requests, and the grant award process.
 - It was clarified the recharge project previously recommended for inclusion in the grant application was not shown on the draft list, but will be included in the application.
 - There was general agreement to prioritize components in the following order:
 - Component 2: Monitoring Network Enhancements to Fill Data Gaps
 - Component 1: GSP Implementation, Outreach, and Compliance Activities
 - Component 4: Recharge Projects
 - Component 3: Regional Conjunctive Use Project
 - There was no discussion on Item 10.c.

On a motion by Mr. Carmon, seconded by Ms. Violich, it was unanimously ordered to approve letter supporting the Corning Subbasin Sustainable Groundwater Management Round 2 grant application and for the Tehama County Flood Control and Water Conservation District to serve as the grant applicant on behalf of the subbasin.

11. Corning Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan

- Ms. Hunter stated the focus of work has been on grant preparation and creating a strong application.

12. Corning Subbasin Advisory Board Report

- Ms. Hunter stated the outcomes of the last Corning Subbasin Advisory Board meeting had been reported at the October 10, 2022 CSGSA meeting. The November 2, 2022 meeting was cancelled. She further stated the December 7, 2022 will likely be cancelled as well.

13. Correspondence Received

- Mr. Amaro referred to the letter from Monroeville Water District in the meeting packet and stated the letter contains similar concerns that were conveyed in the letter from GCID a few months before.
- Ms. Violich stated Monroeville Water District felt the same as GCID and was sensitive to the amount the landowners are already being charged to be part of the District. She further stated the importance of the upcoming consultant work on a funding mechanism.

14. Corning Sub-basin GSA Committee Member Reports and Comments

- Mr. Carmon recently attended a CSAC Conference which included a speaker panel discussing and encouraging counties to review land use policies to address drought and water supply issues. Discussion ensued on policies and water markets.

15. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for January 26, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.

16. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 3:34 p.m.