

8) GSP GRANT ELIGIBLE ITEMS

a. Groundwater Sustainability Plan Update (Grant Category (d); Task 11: GSP Development and Preparation)

Executive Director Bondy reviewed the written staff report with the Board. He added that an opportunity has arisen to perform outreach to the Casitas Springs community concerning the Agency and GSP development. He noted that Casitas Springs is the primary disadvantaged community (DAC) in the Basin. The opportunity is to present during the upcoming DAC outreach webinar being held by the County as part of a DAC Involvement (DACI) grant. He stated that he was not sure whether the Stakeholder Engagement Committee wants to make the presentation.

Director Kuebler stated that he would prefer having the Executive Director make the presentation during the DACI webinar.

Director Shephard commented that the DACI process has been very successful in outreaching to DACs.

Recommended Action:

Receive an update from the Executive Director concerning groundwater sustainability plan development and consider providing feedback.

No public comment.

No motion.

b. Groundwater Sustainability Plan Workshop No. 1 Recap (Grant Category (d); Task 11: GSP Development and Preparation)

Executive Director Bondy reviewed the written staff report with the Board.

The Board discussed possible reasons for low workshop participation by agricultural well owners. It was suggested that the 4pm start time might have been problematic or that perhaps the agricultural well owners already feel engaged.

Director Rose noted that future webinars can have less background material concerning the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act.

No public comments.

Recommended Action:

Receive a summary of GSP Workshop No. 1 analytics and consider providing feedback to improve future workshops.

No Motion.

d. Sustainable Management Criteria Screening (Grant Category (d); Task 11: GSP Development and Preparation)

Executive Director Bondy stated the goal of this item is to provide preliminary, high-level information about each of the sustainability indicators and introduce key issues that will need to be addressed in the GSP. He then proceeded to review the staff report with the Board.

Director Spandrio commented on screening out seawater intrusion. He explained that DWR took exception to OBGMA screening out seawater intrusion in their GSP alternative submittal. Executive Director Bondy said he would review the DWR comments on the OBGSA alternative submittal again.

The Board discussed how to link amounts of subsidence to impacts. Executive Director Bondy stated that the GSP Team has been investigating that question and consulted the United States Geological Survey's subsidence expert to identify studies relating subsidence rates to impacts. No studies have been identified. A Director stated that subsidence could not likely impact the area because of the land use. Director Rungren stated that subsidence could affect sewers. Executive Director Bondy stated that he is awaiting feedback from DWR and will revisit subsidence with the Board at a future meeting.

Chair Engle expressed concerns about the 1.15 milligram per liter (mg/L) nitrate value listed in the staff report. She stated that the value is not a regulatory goal and strongly cautioned against describing it as one. Executive Director Bondy stated that the value was provided by the Deputy Executive Director of the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWCB), but that he may have got the terminology wrong and suggested that he consult with Chair Engle outside of the Board meeting. Chair Engle expressed additional concerns and explained that she works on the total maximum daily load (TMDL) and is very familiar with the issues. Chair Engle requested that the minutes specifically reflect the fact that she disagrees with the "numeric target" terminology. Director Rungren stated that she recalls the TMDL discussions are recalls some concerns about the terminology. Executive Director stated that the main point is that groundwater discharges to surface water and the GSA will need to consider any applicable surface water standards when setting the water quality sustainable management criteria.

Recommended Action: Review sustainable management criteria screening results and consider providing feedback to staff.

No public comment.

No motion.

e. Pumping Estimation for GSP (Grant Category (d); Task 11: GSP Development and Preparation)

Due to time constraints for Directors Shephard and Rungren, this item was skipped.

