



Executive Committee Meeting Agenda

Meeting Date: Wednesday, October 3, 2018

Meeting Time: 4:30 p.m.

Meeting Location: Templeton CSD Board Meeting Room
206 5th Street
Templeton, California 93465

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Order of Business
Executive Committee members may request to change the order of business.
4. Introductions
5. General Public Comments
The Executive Committee invites members of the public to address the committee on any subject that is within the purview of the committee and that is not on today's agenda. Comments shall be limited to three minutes.
6. Consent Agenda
The following items are considered routine and non-controversial by staff and may be approved by one motion if no member of the Executive Committee wishes an item removed. If discussion is desired, the item may be removed from the Consent Agenda by an Executive Committee member and will be considered separately. Questions or clarification may be made by the Executive Committee members without removal from the Consent Agenda. Individual items on the Consent Agenda are approved by the same vote that approves the Consent Agenda, unless an item is pulled for separate consideration. Members of the public may comment on the Consent Agenda items.
 - a. Minutes – April 4, 2018
7. New Business:
 - a. Basin Prioritization & SGMA Compliance Efforts
 - b. Non-Voting Representatives
 - c. Request for Future Items
8. Adjournment

ATASCADERO BASIN

*Groundwater
Sustainability Agency*

TO: Executive Committee

FROM: GSA Staff

DATE: October 3, 2018

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item 6.a - Meeting Minutes from Wednesday, April 4, 2018**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approve the minutes from the April 4, 2018, GSA EC meeting

MEETING MINUTES:

The Executive Committee (EC) of the Atascadero Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) held a meeting on Wednesday, April 4, 2018, at 4:30 p.m. in the board meeting room of the Templeton Community Services District located at 206 5th Street, Templeton, CA.

Roll Call: Present at the GSA meeting were Committee Members Roberta Fonzi, Navid Fardanesh, Debbie Arnold, John Hamon, and Robert Jones. A quorum was present when Chairperson Fonzi opened the meeting shortly before 4:30 p.m.

General Public Comments: Chairperson Fonzi opened public comment and, seeing none, closed public comment.

Consent Agenda:

Minutes – January 3, 2018: The GSA reviewed the minutes from the January 3, 2018, meeting. No changes were noted and Member Hamon motioned to approve the minutes with a second by Member Arnold. Roll Call: Ayes – Committee Members Jones, Fardanesh, Arnold, and Fonzi. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda: Non-Voting Representative Application Process: At the request of Chairperson Fonzi, the Non-Voting Representative Application Process was pulled from the consent agenda for further discussion. Chairperson Fonzi asked whether the three public seats (Agricultural At-Large, Rural Residential At-Large, Environmental At-Large) could be consolidated into a single public seat. John Neil, General Manager of the Atascadero Mutual Water Company (AMWC), informed that the three seats are required per the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) that forms the GSA and that the change would require amendment and subsequent approval by each of the constituent agencies. City of Paso Robles (PR) Director of Public Works, Dick McKinley, adds that SGMA requires outreach to many stakeholder groups

and that this contributed to the inclusion of multiple public seats on the GSA EC. Chairperson Fonzi asks how the GSA will ensure appropriate representation for rural residential, noting that this is especially important in the Atascadero Basin, with John Neil responding that the application and vetting process will allow for the GSA to select the best candidate. Member Fardanesh asks that the statement in the application regarding filing of disclosures be modified to reflect its' status as a requirement. Member Arnold asks about the deadline to submit the applications with General Manager of AMWC, John Neil, and County Staff, Angela Ruberto, responding that the deadline to submit applications will be posted and distributed with the Application and will be dependent on the scheduling of the next meeting. General Manager of AMWC, John Neil, reminds the GSA that the next quarterly meeting is scheduled for the 4th of July Holiday and suggests canceling it since there likely won't be enough material to merit holding a meeting.

Member Hamon motioned to approve the Non-Voting Member application with a second by Member Fardanesh. Roll Call: Ayes – Committee Members Jones, Fardanesh, Arnold, and Fonzi. Nays – none. Motion carried.

New Business – a) Groundwater Protection Ordinance: John Neil, General Manager of AMWC, confirmed to the GSA that the “Citizens for San Luis Obispo County Groundwater Protection” have officially withdrawn their initiative petition for the County of San Luis Obispo Groundwater Protection Ordinance Initiative Measure. John Neil, General Manager of AMWC, gave a brief overview of the withdrawn initiative's proposed changes to how groundwater is defined when compared to SGMA's definition, how groundwater is handled by the water purveyors, and the corresponding challenges to the GSA's management that would arise under it; he explains that he believes the intent of the initiative was simply to prohibit exportation of water from the County and that the language of the initiative had further reaching implications on, among other things, land-use decisions, the ability of the purveyors to help one another during emergencies and the City of Paso's recycled water program. The GSA discusses the County's existing Ordinance prohibiting export from the basin, noting that the Group was likely concerned with having a more permanent solution and that this may have been achieved more effectively and with fewer ramifications than what was proposed by the initiative. The GSA and staff discuss that the initiative, though officially withdrawn, may be revisited in the future and that the GSA would be glad to work with them at that time.

New Business – b) Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Compliance Activities Update: John Neil, General Manager of AMWC, presented this report and notified the GSA that DWR has released the Final Grant Awards, awarding the Atascadero Basin the full amount requested (\$809,250). Chairperson Fonzi requests clarification of the proposed “support for the Paso Robles Groundwater Model Update” and explanation of the “Land Use Conditions”, as found on Table 4 – Atascadero Subbasin Project Budget in the Agenda packet. General Manager of AMWC, John Neil, clarifies that the Atascadero Basin will work with Paso Robles to support and leverage their modeling effort and explains that the Land Use Conditions references the analysis of zoning, existing and proposed land use patterns and corresponding impact on water use, confirming that land use authority stays with the GSA's constituent agencies, per the MOA. Chairperson Fonzi opens public comment during which Willy Cunha, public, compliments General Manager of AMWC, John Neil, and his work in the Atascadero Basin. Chairperson Fonzi adds that, if allowable under Brown Act, she would like to suggest use of some of the Grant

Funds to support administration efforts of the GSA. General Manager of AMWC, John Neil, responds that current administration of the GSA and contributions of the constituent agencies have run smoothly and proposes no change. Member Arnold requests confirmation that the Grant Funding will cover the full cost of the GSP with General Manager of AMWC, John Neil, stating that these costs are just estimates and could potentially change. The GSA asks about the basin's prioritization and the implications of it (potentially) changing. General Manager of AMWC, John Neil, states that the basin is currently designated by the state as a medium priority basin, not subject to conditions of critical overdraft and, as such, is required to develop a GSP by 2022; though the Department of Water Resources (DWR) may re-prioritize, the Atascadero Basin has momentum developing a plan and should carry on regardless; DWR's Ben Gooding, in attendance, confirms support of this approach especially in light of the grant funding opportunity.

New Business – c: Request for Future Items: the GSA discussed:

1. Canceling the meeting, 7/4/18, due to the Holiday
2. Changing the semantics/use of the "Executive Committee" to more clearly articulate that the EC is the main decision-making body of the "Groundwater Sustainability Agency"

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the EC will be on October 3, 2018, at 4:30 p.m. in the board meeting room of the Templeton Community Services District located at 206 5th Street, Templeton, CA.

Adjournment: There being no further business to discuss, Chairperson Fonzi adjourned the meeting at 5:04 p.m.

Submitted by: _____
Committeeman Hamon, Secretary

ATASCADERO BASIN

*Groundwater
Sustainability Agency*



TO: Executive Committee

FROM: GSA Staff/ John Neil, Atascadero Mutual Water Company

DATE: October 3, 2018

SUBJECT: Agenda Item 7.a - Basin Prioritization & SGMA Compliance Efforts

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Continue with the preparation of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the Atascadero Basin in accordance with SGMA requirements.

DISCUSSION:

The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) requires the formation of Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) for the purpose of achieving groundwater sustainability through the adoption and implementation of Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs) *for all medium- and high-priority basins as designated by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR).* [Emphasis added.]

In 2014, the DWR prioritized groundwater basins through its California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring (CASGEM) Program.

In October 2016, the DWR approved a basin boundary modification creating the Atascadero Basin, officially designated in the DWR's Bulletin 118 as Basin No. 3-004.11, Atascadero Area Groundwater Sub-basin of the Salinas Valley Basin. At the time of its creation, the Atascadero Basin was classified medium- to high-priority, which subjected the basin to compliance with SGMA requirements.

SGMA requires that the DWR reassess the prioritization of groundwater basins anytime it updates Bulletin 118 basin boundaries. In May 2018, the DWR released its draft prioritization of groundwater basins in the state. The prioritization classified basins as high, medium, low, or very low based on the following factors:

1. Existing population
2. Population growth
3. Number of public water supply wells
4. Total wells
5. Irrigated acreage
6. Groundwater use in relation to groundwater supply
7. Groundwater pumping impacts (i.e. declining groundwater levels, deteriorating water quality, etc.)
8. Habitat and other information

The DWR re-classified the Atascadero Basin as being very-low priority, exempting it from the requirement to comply with SGMA. The re-prioritization of basins statewide will be finalized by fall 2018.

Now that the DWR considers the Atascadero Basin is a very low priority, the EC has some significant decisions it needs to make:

- Does the EC want to continue with the development of a SGMA-compliant groundwater sustainability plan?
- Does the EC want to dissolve the GSA now that SGMA compliance is not mandatory?

The GSA has gained momentum with its SGMA compliance efforts. At its last meeting, the EC was provided with an update showing the progress made towards SGMA compliance since the legislation was adopted in 2014. With that update was a summary of stakeholder outreach activities.

Funds are available from the State to offset the costs of GSP development. The DWR awarded \$809,250 Proposition 1 grant to the GSA to prepare a GSP for the Atascadero Basin. These funds are available should the GSP elect to develop a SGMA-compliant GSP. The GSP must be completed by January 21, 2022.

Even though SGMA does not require a GSP for the Atascadero Basin at this time, staff anticipates that the State will likely require all basins in the state to have some form of management plan, including basins with low priorities. Additionally, the DWR could re-prioritize the Atascadero Basin to either medium or high priority during future evaluations of basin conditions. For example, if pumping within the basin were to increase by 1,000 AFY, the priority would change based on today's evaluation criteria. For these reasons, staff is recommending that the GSA continue with its efforts to prepare GSP for the Atascadero Basin and take advantage of the funding that is currently available.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Prop 1 grant significantly decreases the costs Atascadero Basin GSA must pay to develop and submit a GSP. The grant provides a 50% grant with a 50% local match, but part of the local match can be met with in-kind services, including staff time spent in meetings and in preparing documents retroactively to 2014. The parties to the GSA formation memorandum of agreement (MOA) will still have their allocated cost share of towards the expense of the plan's development per the MOA, but these costs will be reduced if the grant is awarded.

For example, if the GSP preparation cost were \$1,000,000, and the grant covered 50% of that cost, then the local match would be \$500,000. If the local in-kind costs were \$100,000 then the total local match, out-of-pocket costs by the parties to the GSA formation MOA would total \$400,000, allocated among the GSA parties per the MOA.

ATASCADERO BASIN

*Groundwater
Sustainability Agency*

TO: Executive Committee

FROM: GSA Staff/ John Neil, Atascadero Mutual Water Company

DATE: October 3, 2018

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item 7.b - Non-Voting Representative Application Process Update**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

- A. Appoint Thomas Mora as the agricultural at-large, non-voting member of the Executive Committee
- B. Direct staff to continue seeking nominees for the rural residential at-large, and environmental at-large non-voting member positions of the Executive Committee

DISCUSSION:

On October 4, 2017 The Atascadero Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Executive Committee (EC) reviewed and approved, with minor changes, the Non-Voting Representative Application Form and Process. Non-voting members were to be representatives of the agricultural at-large, rural residential at-large, and environmental at-large stakeholder groups.

On April 4, 2018, the EC approved the final application form for the non-voting representatives and directed staff to proceed with solicitation of applicants.

On July 11, 2018, a public notice was posted in the Tribune requesting nominations for the three non-voting representative positions (see Attachment A). Notices were posted on the websites of the GSA participants, and on the GSA's website - www.atascaderobasin.com. Staff also emailed notices directly to stakeholders who attended the various informational meetings held since the adoption of the SGMA legislation.

The deadline for submitting applications for the non-voting representative positions was August 31, 2018. No applications were received for the rural residential at-large, and environmental at-large non-voting member positions.

BACKGROUND:

Article 4 of the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) forming the Atascadero Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) states that the Agency shall be governed by an Executive Committee (“EC”). It further states that the EC shall be comprised of both Voting and Non-Voting Representatives, calling for the appointment of the Non-Voting Representatives by the Voting Representatives via an application process established by the EC (MOA Section 4.3.7, 4.3.8 and 4.3.9).

Article 4.1.2 of the MOA provides that the Non-Voting Representatives on the EC shall include representatives from the following stakeholder groups: Rural Residential At-Large, Agriculture At-Large and Environmental At-Large. Pursuant to MOA section 4.5, each Non-Voting Representative shall be appointed for a term of four years and may be removed from his or her term or reappointed for multiple terms at the discretion of the Agency. While not required to appoint Alternate Representatives for the Non-Voting Representatives, Article 4.4 of the MOA provides the EC with the option to do so in the future by simple majority vote.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None

ATTACHMENTS:

- A. 06/11/2018 Public Notice
- B. Application for Non-Voting Member Appointment, Thomas Mora

ATTACHMENT A

THE *Newspaper of the Central Coast*
TRIBUNE

3825 South Higuera • Post Office Box 112 • San Luis Obispo, California 93406-0112 • (805) 781-7800

In The Superior Court of The State of California
In and for the County of San Luis Obispo

AD #3751893
ATASCADERO MUTUAL WATER COMPANY

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

ss.

County of San Luis Obispo

I am a citizen of the United States and a resident of the County aforesaid; I am over the age of eighteen and not interested in the above entitled matter; I am now, and at all times embraced in the publication herein mentioned was, the principal clerk of the printers and publishers of THE TRIBUNE, a newspaper of general Circulation, printed and published daily at the City of San Luis Obispo in the above named county and state; that notice at which the annexed clippings is a true copy, was published in the above-named newspaper and not in any supplement thereof – on the following dates to wit; JULY 11, 2018 that said newspaper was duly and regularly ascertained and established a newspaper of general circulation by Decree entered in the Superior Court of San Luis Obispo County, State of California, on June 9, 1952, Case #19139 under the Government Code of the State of California.

I certify (or declare) under the penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.



(Signature of Principal Clerk)

DATE: JULY 11, 2018

AD COST: \$169.40

ATASCADERO BASIN

**Groundwater
Sustainability Agency**

**Request for Nominations For
Non-Voting Members for the Atascadero
Basin Groundwater Sustainability
Agency
Executive Committee**

The Atascadero Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) is seeking qualified persons to fill three non-voting representative positions on its Executive Committee (EC), the governing board of the agency.

To be eligible to serve as a non-voting representative, persons must live on a parcel of land within the boundaries of the Atascadero Area Groundwater Sub-basin of the Salinas Valley Basin identified in DWR Bulletin 118 as Basin No. 3-004.11 ("Atascadero Basin"). Persons interested in becoming a non-voting representative may be nominated or may nominate themselves.

The GSA is seeking non-voting representatives from the following stakeholder groups:

- Agricultural
- Environmental
- Rural-Residential

Any person desiring to become a non-voting representative on the EC is required to submit a completed application no later than Friday, August 31, 2018. Interested persons may obtain an application from the GSA website, www.atascaderobasin.com, or by calling John Neil at the Atascadero Mutual Water Company at (805)464-5351. Submit completed applications to:

Atascadero Mutual Water Company
ATTN: Atascadero Basin GSA Executive
Committee

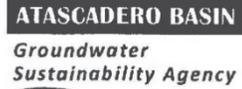
5005 El Camino Real
Atascadero, CA 93422

July 11, 2018

#3751893

ATTACHMENT B

APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO
ATASCADERO BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Date 8 22 2018

Applying for appointment to Executive Committee as: Agricultural
(Name of At-Large Representative Vacancy)

Name THOMAS A. MORA

Address [REDACTED]

Business Phone [REDACTED] Home Phone [REDACTED]

Fax Phone _____ E-mail Address _____

Supervisory District Peschong Years resided in County 50 - owned home 70 yrs

If retired, Past Occupation/Employer

FARMER

Education

Bachelor Science - Animal Science Cal-Poly 1965
Master of Arts Education - 1966

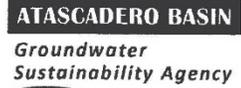
List work experience, training, volunteer activities, skills that relate to your qualifications

College Agricultural teacher 20 years
High School Agriculture teacher 2 years

List dates/names of positions you have held on any advisory body or elected office

Upper Salinas - Los Tablas - member
Conservation District 30 years
member S.H.O Co. WRAC Advisory Board
for the past 20 years.

APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO
ATASCADERO BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

List Membership to Organizations

Please explain why you would like to serve in this capacity

I irrigate crops year around.
I am concerned about protecting our
water for my next generations who
are already actively involved in this business
This farm started pump irrigation water
Nov 4, 1916

If appointed, are you willing to attend meetings of EC, held at least quarterly and at such other times as determined by the EC, and if necessary participate in numerous related meetings or subcommittees?

YES NO

COMMENTS: I am available at any time.

If appointed, are you willing, if required, to file a Statement of Disclosure as a Public Official Under the standards of the Fair Political Practice Commission?

YES NO

COMMENTS: yes, I have no hidden
financial interest

If appointed, do you want to have your address or telephone number(s) published?

YES NO