

Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA)

Board of Directors Meetings Minutes

August 2, 2017

Cuyama Valley Family Resource Center, 4689 CA-166, New Cuyama, CA 93254

The Cuyama Basin GSA Board of Directors met in regular session at 4:00 pm.

PRESENT: Directors: Paul Chounet, Tom Bracken, George Cappello, Byron Albano, Lynn Compton, Das Williams, Cory Bantilan, Glenn Shephard

Alt. Directors: Matt Klinchuch, Brad DeBranch, Ryan Schultz

ABSENT: Directors: David Couch, Jane Wooster, Derek Yurosek (Alternate appeared as substitute for a Director)

1. Call to order

Vice Chair Compton calls the meeting to order at approximately 4 PM.

2. Roll call

Secretary Berg calls roll of the Board (shown above).

3. Pledge of allegiance

The pledge of allegiance is led by Vice Chair Compton.

4. Approval of minutes of the June 30, 2017 meeting

Vice Chair Compton: opens the floor to comments.

Directors: Director Cappello requests that the minutes be edited to spell his name correctly.

Motion by: Director Cappello moves to approve the minutes as amended.

Second by: Director Shephard.

Motion passes unanimously.

5. Review and discuss from ad-hoc committee for budget and funding

Vice Chair Compton: Introduces the item, and asks staff to provide a brief overview of committee meeting held just prior to the GSA Board meeting.

Carolyn Berg (County of San Luis Obispo Staff): Provides an overview of the first ad hoc committee meeting, consisting of Director Compton, Director Bracken, Director Chounet, and Director Bantilan, and staff Matt Young, Carolyn Berg, and Matt Klinchuch. The committee was charged with preparing a recommended budget and funding plan. During the first meeting, the committee developed an initial annual budget, separating items into either administrative or technical categories, and providing a range of estimated costs per item. Next steps will include, seeking Executive Director review and comment (once hired), developing funding source options, then returning for the GSA Board's consideration.

Directors: No comments.

No action at this time.

6. Consider staff review of responses to RFQ for Grant Assistance and select consultant

Matt Young (Santa Barbara County Water Agency Staff): Provides an overview of the Request for Qualifications process conducted, reviewed statements received from three firms (Dudek, RMC, Provost & Pritchard), and described staff's review/selection process. Staff recommends RMC, given their experience, proposed effort and cost.

Directors: Director Chounet asks if the firm can meet State's expedited process (9 weeks). Mr. Young notes that RMC's proposal identifies an 8-week process to develop a grant application. Director Albano wonders whether RMC being selected for this effort would prevent the firm from also proposing on the GSP effort. Ernest Conant, Cuyama Basin Water District Staff, does not believe so.

Motion by: Director Bantilan moves to authorize execution of a contract with RMS with a not-to-exceed amount of \$40,000.

Second by: Director Chounet.

Motion passes unanimously.

7. Consider responses to RFQ for Executive Director Position

Matt Young (Santa Barbara County Water Agency Staff): Provides an overview of the Request for Qualifications process conducted and reviewed statements received from three firms (Richard G. Sweet, Bondy Groundwater Consulting, Hallmark Group) just prior to today's Board meeting. Staff recommends that the GSA Board form an ad hoc committee to review the statements.

Directors: Vice Chair Compton asks if any Directors or Alternates will volunteer to participate on said ad hoc committee. Director Bracken, Director Cappello, and Director Williams volunteer to participate.

Motion by: Director Shultz moves to establish an ad hoc committee of the GSA Board, consisting of Director Bracken, Director Cappello, and Director Williams, to consider Executive Director statements of qualifications/ interview candidates, and return for the GSA Board's consideration.

Second by: Director Bracken.

Motion passes unanimously.

8. Consider responses to RFQ for GSP Preparation Consultant

Matt Young (Santa Barbara County Water Agency Staff): Provides an overview of the Request for Qualifications process conducted and reviewed statements received from four firms (Dudek, Hydrometrics, RMC, Amec-Foster Wheeler) just prior to today's Board meeting. Staff recommends that qualified firms be invited to submit detailed proposals (rather than simple qualifications submitted initially), and that the GSA Board form an ad hoc committee to review the proposals.

Directors: Vice Chair Compton asks if any Directors or Alternates will volunteer to participate on said ad hoc committee.

Motion by: Director Albano moves to establish an ad hoc committee of the GSA Board, consisting of Director Chounet, Director Yurosek (not present but volunteered), and Director Albano, to consider GSP Preparation Consultant proposal, and return for the GSA Board's consideration.

Second by: Director Williams.

Motion passes unanimously.

9. Consider responses to RFQ for Legal Services

Matt Young (Santa Barbara County Water Agency Staff): Provides an overview of the Request for Qualifications process conducted and reviewed statements received from three firms (Brownstein, Hyatt Farber & Schreck, Klein, DeNatale & Goldner and McMurtrey, Hartsock & Worth) just prior to today's Board meeting. Staff recommends that the GSA Board form an ad hoc committee to review the statements.

Directors: Vice Chair Compton asks if any Directors or Alternates will volunteer to participate on said ad hoc committee. Director Wooster (not present but volunteered), Director Shultz, and Director Shephard volunteer to participate, with Ernest Conant as staff support.

Motion by: Director Chounet moves to establish an ad hoc committee of the GSA Board, consisting of Director Wooster, Director Shultz, and Director Shephard, to consider legal services statements of qualifications, and return for the GSA Board's consideration.

Second by: Director Williams.

Motion passes unanimously.

10. Consider GSA insurance options

Alternate Director Klinchuch: Provides an overview of his research into insurance companies. He found that many insurance companies are not familiar with SGMA or GSAs, and therefore were reluctant (if not entirely opposed) to insuring the Cuyama Basin GSA. He offers that it might be worth asking other GSAs what they are planning to do.

Directors: Discussions arise regarding how coverage relates to JPA related section, and whether the full coverage is needed now, before specific assets are owned. Directors requested more information to make an informed decision. Arne Anselm, Ventura staff, is asked to provide Mr. Klinchuch with any insights gained from Fox Canyon Groundwater Management efforts. Mr. Klinchuch will coordinate with staff of other agencies to see what other options may exist.

No action at this time.

11. Review and discuss report from ad-hoc committee for advisory committee

Ad Hoc Committee Verbal Report: Director Williams provides a brief overview of the committee's work to understand and establish a (stakeholder) advisory committee. He notes their aim is to have a diverse advisory committee, that is prepared to invest some time in gaining the background, foundational knowledge needed, and in order to prepare for meetings or review of SGMA related documents. The committee anticipates that the level of effort for advisory committee members could range from 5 -30 hours per month, depending on their focus at that time. The ad hoc committee develop a draft advisory committee application (handout).

Public Comment: Casey Walsh, Lynn Carlile, Gene Zannon, Mike Posta, Julia Warner

Directors: Director Bracken notes the importance of advisory committee engagement. Discussion ensues about limitations and process of stakeholder representation and public comment. Director Chounet notes that advisory committee chair could have more than typical 3-minute limit when presenting reports from advisory committee to the GSA Board, and Director Bantilan notes that the agenda could include a standing item for advisory committee report(s). Discussion ensues about communication between GSA Board and advisory committee representative at meetings, with the intent of understanding recommendations and input from the advisory committee; as well as the importance of advisory committee input having a clear nexus to implementing SGMA and developing/implementing

a GSP. Discussions ensues about GSA Board composition per Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement (JPA), which also establishes advisory committee as a mechanism to engage stakeholders and basin users. Directors discuss nature of advisory committees and applicability of Brown Act, insurance, etc. Alternate Elliott will revise the application, send out through the Family Resources Center/ post to SBCWA website, and will collect advisory committee applications through August 25th.

No action at this time.

12. Public comment

Vice Chair Compton: opens the floor to public comment without response.

Director Williams notes the great turnout, and how better decisions are made when communities pay attention and engage in processes.

13. Adjourn

Vice Chair Compton adjourns the Cuyama Basin GSA Board of Directors meeting at approximately 5:07.

I, Carolyn Berg, temporary Secretary to the Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board of Directors, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a fair statement of the proceedings of the meeting held on Wednesday, August 2, 2017, by the Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board of Directors.

CAROLYN BERG

Dated: September 6, 2017