

**Paso Basin Cooperative Committee
Minutes (APPROVED)
July 25, 2018**

The following members or alternates were present:

John Hamon, Chair, Member, City of Paso Robles
Debbie Arnold, Alternate Member, County of San Luis Obispo
Willy Cunha, Secretary, Member, Shandon-San Juan WD
Scott Duffield, Alternate Member, Heritage Ranch CSD

<p>1. Call to Order</p> <p>2. Roll Call</p> <p>3. Pledge of Allegiance</p>	<p>Chairperson Hamon calls the meeting to order at 4:00PM.</p> <p>County Staff, Angela Ruberto: calls roll.</p> <p>Alternate Member Arnold leads the Pledge of Allegiance.</p>
<p>4. Public Comment – Items not on the Agenda</p>	<p>Chairperson Hamon: opens the floor for public comment on items not on the Agenda.</p> <p>Greg Grewal: comments on number of wells added and replaced in the basin between 2014 and 2018 (cites 125 wells added, 120 wells replaced; totaling 8,000 wells with about 5 new wells being added per year); comments that replaced wells are concentrated in two specific areas: the Jardine Area and the Estrella el Pomar Area; states these wells required deeper drilling, original depth of ~300ft increased to approximately 700ft; emphasizes the variation in depth to water throughout the basin and suggests targeting “problem areas” to understand what contributed to that condition.</p> <p>Leonard Johnson: states concern over the Salinas River, including: the use of the river for flood control—not for replenishing the aquifers running alongside it; the historical concern of water flowing in and under the river; the ecology around the river and the levels of clay being stored since 1942.</p> <p>Dana Merrill, Estrella-El Pomar-Creston Water District (EPCWD): comments that the EPCWD is supportive of the Cooperative Committee and is looking forward to learning what the County GSA has planned regarding aspects of SGMA and how it pertains to their GSA; states that EPCWD has started an initiative to develop more well data in order to provide better understanding of water levels; comments that EPCWD represents a third of the pumping in the Basin and is working on a project with Shandon to develop hydrologic expertise to provide scientifically based technical support to staff; comments that both (Water Districts) are: spending their own money on this project, looking to gain traction with well monitoring and see a benefit to securing voluntary well data.</p> <p>Jerry Reaugh, EPCWD: comments that the EPCWD represents the largest single group of water users in the Basin and is anxious to see</p>

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	<p>what type of outreach they will receive as members of the County’s GSA as it pertains to their specific problems; states that it is important to outreach to their membership since EPCWD represents such a significant portion of water users in the Basin; states that the EPCWD has raised \$180,000 and is now able to participate in the projects previously mentioned by Dana Merrill; comments that EPCWD is looking very closely at the recycled water project, an important project that will produce new water the Basin and could reduce pumping.</p> <p>Chairperson Hamon: closes the floor for public comment.</p>																									
<p>5. Approval of Meeting Minutes and Public Workshop Summaries</p>	<p>Chairperson Hamon: moves to discuss approval of minutes and asks Committee for questions or comments.</p> <p>Alternate Member Arnold: requests that corrections be made on pages 4 and 5 of draft Minutes to reflect the correct name of voting Member:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove John Peschong as voting Member and replace with Debbie Arnold <p>Chairperson Hamon: opens the floor for public comment.</p> <p>Greg Grewal: Speaks.</p> <p>Chairperson Hamon: asks County Staff if recordings can be recalled to verify information, if needed.</p> <p>County Staff, Angela Ruberto: responds that recordings can be recalled, and that Committee Minutes are formatted by following the County Board’s process of stating who spoke during each item; public comments are included for non-agendized topics only.</p> <p>Motion By: Secretary Cunha Second By: Alternate Member Arnold Motion: The Committee moves to approve Meeting Minutes and Public Workshop summaries from April 23, April 25, April 30, May 14 and May 21, 2018.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="553 1549 1518 1745"> <thead> <tr> <th>Members</th> <th>Ayes</th> <th>Noes</th> <th>Abstain</th> <th>Recuse</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>John Hamon (Chairperson)</td> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Debbie Arnold (Alternate Member)</td> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Willy Cunha (Secretary)</td> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Scott Duffield (Alternate Member)</td> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Members	Ayes	Noes	Abstain	Recuse	John Hamon (Chairperson)	X				Debbie Arnold (Alternate Member)	X				Willy Cunha (Secretary)	X				Scott Duffield (Alternate Member)	X			
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<p>6. Receive overview of approach for Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP)</p>	<p>City Staff, Dick McKinley: presents an overview of approach for Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Chapters and Draft Review and Approval (attached in Meeting Agenda).</p>																									

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Chapters and Draft Review and Approval	<p>Chairperson Hamon: comments that GSA Chapter review process could be potentially lengthy; emphasizes the importance of time management during the review period.</p> <p>City Staff, Dick McKinley: comments that it is not defined how individual GSAs should conduct their review process, stating that each GSA may choose to review as they see fit, and that each GSA should consider time restraints while reviewing; adding that there is a mandatory 90 public comment period prior to GSP submission, as well.</p>
7. Project Status Update	<p>City Staff, Dick McKinley: presents update on the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Budget (attached in Meeting Agenda); discusses the City of Paso Robles' invoicing and review process as the contracting agency.</p> <p>Montgomery & Associates, Derrik Williams: presents an update on the GSP Schedule (presentation attached in Meeting Agenda).</p> <p>Montgomery & Associates, Tim Leo: presents an update on development of the GSP Water Budget (presentation attached in Meeting Agenda).</p> <p>Secretary Cunha: asks Tim Leo if the four-month timeframe for developing a water budget is sufficient time; Tim Leo responds that it is.</p> <p>Chairperson Hamon: opens the floor for public comment.</p> <p>Greg Grewal and Leonard Johnson: speak.</p> <p>Montgomery & Associates, Tim Leo: comments that Atascadero Subbasin is not accounted for in current water budget; streamflow from the Salinas are included in the model as provided in County records.</p> <p>Chairperson Hamon: closes the floor for public comment.</p> <p>Montgomery & Associates, Tim Leo: presents an overview on the Sustainable Management Criteria Survey (attached in Meeting Agenda).</p> <p>Alternate Member Arnold: asks if well depth in relation to water levels in the Creston Area will be addressed as part of the data collection process.</p> <p>Montgomery & Associates, Tim Leo: responds that, yes, time has been dedicated to mapping out where wells and the principal aquifers are located/screened.</p>

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	<p>Chairperson Hamon: asks Tim Leo if an average is used throughout the Basin to track water levels, noting that rainfall is heavier on west side than on east.</p> <p>Montgomery & Associates, Tim Leo: responds that several, spatially distributed, weather stations are used throughout the basin, capturing and accounting for variation in rainfall; confirms confidence in reasonableness of conceptualization of the water budget in the basin based on good science and comprehensive evaluation of the processes that use water in the basin.</p> <p>Chairperson Hamon: opens the floor for public comment.</p> <p>Mary Stover, Greg Grewal, Anne Myhre, and Jerry Reaugh: speak.</p> <p>Montgomery & Associates, Tim Leo: comments that there were 111 responses to the Sustainable Management Criteria Survey.</p> <p>Montgomery & Associates, Derrick Williams: comments that the Sustainable management Criteria Survey was a way to start the public input process.</p> <p>Chairperson Hamon: closes the floor for public comment.</p>
<p>8. Consider recommending that each GSA receive and file Paso Robles Subbasin GSP Draft Sections</p>	<p>Montgomery & Associates, Derrick Williams: provides an overview and description of the Paso Robles Subbasin GSP Draft Outline (attached in Meeting Agenda).</p> <p>Montgomery & Associates, Derrick Williams: describes process of receiving and filing sections of the GSP; states that the Outline was based on a reading of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act regulations and addresses all requirements; regulations will be cross-referenced throughout GSP; in general, Committee will receive draft GSP sections in chapter order.</p> <p>Secretary Cunha: comments that the Draft Outline matches the regulations and is a very helpful guide.</p> <p>Montgomery & Associates, Derrick Williams: provides an overview and description of the Paso Robles Subbasin GSP Draft sections (attached in Meeting Agenda):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chapter 1. Introduction• Chapter 2. Agency Information• Chapter 3. Description of Plan Area

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Montgomery & Associates, Derrick Williams: suggests the Committee thoroughly review each section and reiterates that the regulations have been fully addressed in each section; states that Dick McKinley is listed as project manager in Draft sections—a place holder until someone has been formally appointed by the Committee or otherwise designated in accordance with the GSP regulations; other place holders are also included in the Draft Sections; explains that the GSP is being written as if the Basin boundary modification request to separate the San Luis Obispo portion of the Basin from the Monterey County portion of the Basin will be accepted by the Department of Water Resources (DWR); DWR will not announce final approval of boundary modification requests until next year, and many important sections of the GSP are being written without knowing the outcome of DWR’s decision.

Chairperson Hamon: opens the floor to questions from the Board.

Alternate Member Arnold: suggests the following edits to Draft Chapters 1-3:

- Chapter 1, Section 1.2: subbasin is part of greater Salinas valley Basin... acreage in paragraph before basin boundary is incorrect (note: given what is presented on page 2); confirm or correct
- Chapter 2: Section 2.3.1, Authority of Agencies/Individual GSAs, page 5. Be specific and consistent if/when describing how each agencies’ representatives are elected (for example, “elected by districts”, “elected at large”, etc.)
- Chapter 3, Section 2.3.2: list GSAs weighted voting percentages in the text to help explain who participated, how they participated, and how they came to be.

Montgomery & Associates, Derrick Williams: states that the MOA will be included in the GSP as an attachment.

Chairperson Hamon: opens the floor for public comment.

Dennis Loucks, Greg Grewal, and Jerry Reaugh: speak.

Montgomery & Associates, Derrick Williams: explains that DWR categorizes idle land as native vegetation and unirrigated land/pastures; states that all the water received by the City of Paso Robles from Lake Nacimiento, and the turnout in Creston, is being acknowledged in water budget; will review naming structure regarding the conjunctive use program vs. import of surface water.

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Chairperson Hamon: asks if the GSP will address the number issued by the California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring (CASGEM) Program.

Montgomery & Associates, Derrik Williams: states that this will not be addressed; in DWRs view, the Basin is critically overdrafted; the GSAs and GSP Consultant team are not planning on negotiating the basin's score as part of the GSP development; states that land use questions will be addressed in upcoming GSP sections.

Chairperson Hamon: opens and closes the floor for public comment.

Montgomery & Associates, Derrik Williams: provides an overview of the Draft GSP Communication and Engagement Plan (attached in Meeting Agenda).

Chairperson Hamon: asks if review for chapters 1-3 will need to be completed by the next Regular Meeting scheduled for October 17.

Montgomery & Associates, Derrik Williams: Answers no and explains that the Board will be receiving additional Draft Chapters at future meetings; each GSA will need to take it amongst themselves to move forward with the review process; the next time the Board will see the updated Chapters (1-3 and outline) will be mid-2019.

Alternate Member Arnold: comments on the importance of providing feedback on the Draft Chapters; asks for clarification on whether or not there is "conjunctive use" in the Subbasin, citing the Shandon turnout and the Nacimiento pipeline as potential sources of "conjunctive use".

Montgomery & Associates, Derrik Williams: responds that conjunctive use may have different uses/definitions; agrees to meet with County Staff to clarify, and change if needed, the language used in description of "conjunctive use" in the draft chapters.

Secretary Cunha: comments on the accuracy of data sets in Draft Chapter 3; would like to see more accurate, local data sets to be included.

Alternate Member Arnold: reiterates the importance of providing immediate feedback on Draft Chapters to help facilitate edits prior to reviewing the final document.

City Staff, Dick McKinley: comments that there will be a future opportunity to make additional edits to the GSP Chapters.

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	<p>Alternate Member, Scott Duffield: recommends utilizing staff to provide additional feedback to consultants throughout review process.</p> <p>Motion By: Chairperson Hamon Second By: Secretary Cunha Motion: The Committee moves to receive and file Paso Robles Subbasin GSP Draft Sections:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GSP Outline • Chapters 1-3 • Communication and Engagement Plan. 				
	Members	Ayes	Noes	Abstain	Recuse
	John Hamon (Chairperson)	X			
	Debbie Arnold (Alternate Member)	X			
	Willy Cunha (Secretary)	X			
	Scott Duffield (Alternate Member)	X			
<p>9. Receive update on supporting efforts</p>	<p>Secretary Cunha: provides an overview on DWR Technical Support Services and possible approach for pursuing Assistance (Memo and DWR fact sheet attached in Meeting Agenda); if chosen to pursue, the GSAs would need to designate an Agency contact and submit paperwork that describes ideal projects for approval from DWR.</p> <p>Chairperson Hamon: asks, and Secretary Cunha confirms, that there will only be one opportunity to submit the grant application.</p> <p>Department of Water Resources, Benn Gooding: confirms Secretary Cunha’s understanding, and overview, of the program; recommends submitting application as soon as possible.</p> <p>Chairperson Hamon: suggests the Committee provide direction to Staff to initiate project development.</p> <p>Alternate Member Arnold: asks County Staff if a monitoring well location could be determined by using previously identified data gaps.</p> <p>County Staff, Angela Ruberto: responds that there have been efforts to identify data gaps throughout the Basin, including a matrix developed by Montgomery & Associates that compares the benefits of targeting specific areas based on the identified data gaps.</p> <p>City Staff, Dick McKinley: suggests a motion be made to direct staff to work toward identifying appropriate monitoring well locations.</p> <p>Secretary Cunha: asks who the lead Agency contact will be.</p>				

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	<p>Alternate Member Arnold: comments that the monitoring well would still be in use long after the Committee has dissolved, and that the County could potentially add the well to an existing well monitoring program.</p> <p>County Staff, Carolyn Berg: states that the well could be added into the San Luis Obispo County Flood Control District’s existing well monitoring program; well ownership would depend on the Agency’s boundaries that the well resides in, and that Agency would own and operate that well and share the data with the County.</p> <p>Motion By: Alternate Member Arnold Second By: Secretary Cunha Motion: The Committee moves to direct County Staff to proceed with pursuing DWR’s Technical Support Services Grant.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="553 779 1511 968"> <thead> <tr> <th>Members</th> <th>Ayes</th> <th>Noes</th> <th>Abstain</th> <th>Recuse</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>John Hamon (Chairperson)</td> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Debbie Arnold (Alternate Member)</td> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Willy Cunha (Secretary)</td> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Scott Duffield (Alternate Member)</td> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Members	Ayes	Noes	Abstain	Recuse	John Hamon (Chairperson)	X				Debbie Arnold (Alternate Member)	X				Willy Cunha (Secretary)	X				Scott Duffield (Alternate Member)	X			
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<p>10. Committee Member Comments</p>	<p>Secretary Cunha: comments that he appreciates the participation and input from the public.</p> <p>Alternate Member Arnold: comments that she appreciates seeing developed Draft GSP Chapters.</p>																									
<p>11. Upcoming Meetings</p>	<p>Next meeting: Special Meeting set for Wednesday, September 12, 2018 at 4:00PM, Location: Paso Robles - City Council Chambers.</p> <p>Next meeting: Regular Meeting set for Wednesday, October 17, 2018 at 4:00PM, Location: Paso Robles - City Council Chambers.</p>																									
<p>12. Future Items</p>	<p>Gwen Palfrey: speaks.</p> <p>Montgomery & Associates, Derrik Williams: suggests that members of the public should work with their local GSAs to have their comments effectively noted, and that ongoing comments are predicted throughout the GSP development process; can come back to the Board to discuss a plan that establishes a commenting/posting period.</p> <p>Chairperson Hamon: states that a commenting plan should be should be included on the September 12, 2018 Agenda.</p>																									

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13. Adjourn	Next meeting set for Wednesday, September 12, 2018 at 4:00PM Location: Paso Robles - City Council Chambers				
	Motion By: Chairperson Hamon				
	Second By: Secretary Cunha				
	Motion: The Committee moves to adjourn the meeting.				
	Members	Ayes	Noes	Abstain	Recuse
John Hamon (Chairperson)	X				
Debbie Arnold (Alternate Member)	X				
Willy Cunha (Secretary)	X				
Scott Duffield (Alternate Member)	X				

I, Willy Cunha, Secretary to the Paso Basin Cooperative Committee, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a fair statement of the proceedings of the meeting held on July 25, 2018, by the Paso Basin Cooperative Committee.

Willy Cunha, Secretary of the Paso Basin Cooperative Committee.
Drafted by: Joey Steil and Angela Ruberto, County of San Luis Obispo