

Paso Basin Cooperative Committee Notice of Meeting

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Paso Basin Cooperative Committee will hold a Regular Meeting at **4:00 P.M. on Wednesday, October 27, 2021**. Due to the continuing increase of Coronavirus (COVID-19) cases and in accordance with AB 361, which amends Government Code §54953 to allow local legislative bodies to hold virtual meetings after September 30, 2021, if certain criteria is met, the Paso Basin Cooperative Committee meeting for October 27, 2021 will be a virtual meeting held via Zoom webinar. Members of the public can participate via phone or by logging into the web-based meeting.

TO JOIN THE MEETING FROM YOUR COMPUTER, TABLET OR SMARTPHONE, PLEASE GO TO:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/94488807820?pwd=eGs5STdlMzFycTFTeE1QQ05ScnJWQT09>

(This link will help connect both your browser and telephone to the call)

Passcode: 438088

YOU CAN ALSO DIAL IN USING YOUR PHONE:

- United States: +1 669 900 6833
- Webinar ID: 944 8880 7820
- Passcode: 438088

All persons desiring to speak during any Public Comment can submit a comment by:

- Email at arford@co.slo.ca.us by 5:00 PM on the day prior to the Cooperative Committee meeting
- Teleconference meeting at link and/or phone number above
- Mail (*must be received by 5:00 PM on the day prior to the Committee meeting*) to:
County of San Luis Obispo Department of Public Works
Attn: Angela Ford
County Government Center, Room 206
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408
- Additional information on how to submit Public Comment is on page 3 of this Agenda

NOTE: The Paso Basin Cooperative Committee reserves the right to limit each speaker to three (3) minutes per subject or topic. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, all possible accommodations will be made for individuals with disabilities so they may attend and participate in meetings. Persons who require accommodation for any audio, visual or other disability in order to participate in the meeting of the GSC are encouraged to request such accommodation 48 hours in advance of the meeting from Joey Steil at (805) 781-5252.

For more information, please visit the Groundwater Sustainability Agency websites at:

- County of San Luis Obispo – www.slocounty.ca.gov/sgma
- Shandon-San Juan Water District – www.ssjwd.org
- City of Paso Robles – www.prcity.com
- San Miguel CSD – www.sanmiguelcsd.org

John Hamon, Treasurer, City of Paso Robles
Rob Roberson, Member, San Miguel CSD
Debbie Arnold, Chair, County of SLO
Matt Turrentine, Vice Chair, Shandon-San Juan WD

Steve Martin, Alternate, City of Paso Robles
Vacant, Alternate, San Miguel CSD
John Peschong, Alternate, County of SLO
Kevin Peck, Alternate, Shandon-San Juan WD

Agenda **October 27, 2021**

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3. Roll Call**
- 4. Public Comment – Items not on Agenda**
- 5. Consider Adopting Resolution to Continue Meeting Virtually**
- 6. Approval of July 21 and July 27 Meeting Minutes**
- 7. Consider Appointing PBCC Member to position of Secretary**
- 8. Receive update on modifications to GSA boundaries**
- 9. Consider submitting a letter requesting that DWR wait until the statutory deadline to make a determination on the Paso Basin GSP and, if applicable, grant the full 180 days to address GSP deficiencies**
- 10. Receive update and approve approach for addressing Paso Basin GSP Deficiencies**
- 11. Consider recommended Consultant for Water Year 2021 Annual Report development and related contract consistent with MOA Section 6.3**
- 12. Committee Member Comments –** Committee members may make brief comments, provide status updates, or communicate with other members, staff, or the public regarding non-agenda topics
- 13. Upcoming meeting(s)**
- 14. Future Items**
- 15. Adjourn**

For more information, please visit the Groundwater Sustainability Agency websites at:

- County of San Luis Obispo – www.slocounty.ca.gov/sgma • Shandon-San Juan Water District – www.ssjwd.org
- City of Paso Robles – www.prcity.com • San Miguel CSD – www.sanmiguelcgsd.org

*****CONFERENCE CALL/WEBINAR ONLY*****

Wednesday, October 27, 2021, at 4:00 p.m.

Important Notice Regarding COVID-19 based on guidance from the California Department of Public Health and the California Governor's Officer, to minimize the spread of the COVID-19 virus, please note the following:

1. The meeting will only be held telephonically and via internet via the number and website link information provided on the agenda. After each item is presented, Committee Members will have the opportunity to ask questions. Participants on the phone will then be provided an opportunity to speak for 3 minutes as public comment prior to Committee deliberations and/or actions or moving on to the next item. If a participant wants to provide public comment on an item, they should select the "Raise Hand" icon on the Zoom Online Meeting platform or press *9 if on the phone. The meeting host will then unmute the participant when it is their turn to speak and allow them to provide public comment.
2. The Committee's agenda and staff reports are available at the following website:
www.slocounty.ca.gov/pasobasin
3. If you choose not to participate in the meeting and wish to make a written comment on any matter within the Committee's subject matter jurisdiction, regardless of whether it is on the agenda for the Committee's consideration or action, please submit your comment via email or U.S. Mail to ensure it is received by 5:00 p.m. on the day prior to the Committee meeting. Please submit your comment to Angela Ford at arford@co.slo.ca.us. Your comment will be placed into the administrative record of the meeting.

Mailing Address:

County of San Luis Obispo Department of Public Works

Attn: Angela Ford

County Government Center, Room 206

San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

4. If you choose not to participate in the meeting and wish to submit verbal comment, please call (805) 781-5139 and ask for Angela Ford. If leaving a message, state and spell your name, note the agenda item number you are calling about and leave your comment. The verbal comments must be received by no later than 9:00 a.m. on the morning of the noticed meeting and will be limited to 3 minutes. Every effort will be made to include your comment into the record, but some comments may not be included due to time limitations.

NOTE: The Paso Basin Cooperative Committee reserves the right to limit each speaker to three (3) minutes per subject or topic. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Executive Order N-29-20, all possible accommodations will be made for individuals with disabilities, so they may participate in the meeting. Persons who require accommodation for any audio, visual or other disability in order to participate in the meeting of the Paso Basin Cooperative Committee are encouraged to request such accommodation 48 hours in advance of the meeting from Joey Steil at (805) 781-5252.

For more information, please visit the Groundwater Sustainability Agency websites at:

- County of San Luis Obispo – www.slocounty.ca.gov/sgma
- Shandon-San Juan Water District – www.ssjwd.org
- City of Paso Robles – www.prcity.com
- San Miguel CSD – www.sanmiguelcsd.org

PASO BASIN COOPERATIVE COMMITTEE
October 27, 2021

Agenda Item #5 – Consider Adopting Resolution to Continue Meeting Virtually

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Paso Basin Cooperative Committee (PBCC) adopt the attached resolution approving the following:

- a) Based on the recitals in the resolution, the PBCC finds that holding in person public meetings would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees; and
- b) GSA staff administering the PBCC is asked to return at the next meeting after adoption of this resolution with an item for the PBCC to review and, if appropriate, renew the findings required by AB 361 to continue to hold public meetings under its provisions.

Prepared By

Staff, County of San Luis Obispo

Discussion

On March 4, 2020, California State Governor Gavin Newsom issued a Proclamation of State of Emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. That proclamation remains in effect to date. On March 17, 2020, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-29-20 that suspended the teleconferencing rules set forth in the California Open Meeting Law, the Brown Act (Government Code Section 54950 et seq.). On June 11, 2021, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-08-21, clarifying the suspension of the teleconferencing rules set forth in the Brown Act, noting that those provisions would remain suspended through September 30, 2021.

On July 21st, 2021, the PBCC discussed the format for future meetings and agreed to have hybrid meetings with in-person and virtual options for the public, consistent with how the City of Paso Robles (City) had begun administering City Council meetings with the reopening of California and removal of meeting capacity restrictions.

Due to the surge in new cases of COVID-19, the City, whose Council Chambers had been used by the PBCC for in-person meetings previously, returned to virtual public meetings as allowed by the Governor's Executive Order and Assembly Bill 361 (AB 361). AB 361, signed by Governor Newsom on September 16, 2021, allows legislative bodies subject to the Brown Act to continue meeting by teleconference, provided they make certain findings, including that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees. AB 361 requires that certain findings be made by the legislative body every 30 days.

This staff report is presented today for the PBCC to consider the finding that holding in person meetings would present imminent risks to the health or safety of Committee members, staff and all attendees of PBCC public meetings.

Background

The PBCC is asked to consider whether to approve the finding that holding in person public meetings would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees. As outlined above, the COVID-19 pandemic is still continuing and the California Department of Public Health and the Federal Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Prevention's guidance states that the Delta variant of COVID-19 is currently the dominant strain of the virus in the country, and that this variant is more transmissible

than prior variants, may cause more severe illness, and that even fully vaccinated individuals can spread the virus to others resulting in rapid and alarming rates of COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations.

The CDC has established a “Community Transmission” metric with four (4) tiers designed to reflect a community’s COVID-19 case rate and percent positivity. Currently, the County of San Luis Obispo has community transmission metric of “substantial”, the second most serious of the tiers.

Attachments

1. A Resolution of the Paso Basin Cooperative Committee acknowledging Governor Newsom’s Proclamation of a State of Emergency and authorizing meetings by teleconference for a period of thirty days pursuant to the Ralph M. Brown Act.

* * *

PASO BASIN COOPERATIVE COMMITTEE
COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

_____ day _____, 20__

PRESENT:

ABSENT:

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**A RESOLUTION OF THE PASO BASIN COOPERATIVE COMMITTEE ACKNOWLEDGING
GOVERNOR NEWSOM'S PROCLAMATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY AND AUTHORIZING
MEETINGS BY TELECONFERENCE FOR A PERIOD OF
THIRTY DAYS PURSUANT TO THE RALPH M. BROWN ACT**

The following Resolution is now offered and read:

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, Governor Newsom issued a Proclamation of State of Emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the proclaimed state of emergency remains in effect; and

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-29-20 that suspended the teleconferencing rules set forth in the California Open Meeting law, Government Code Section 54950 *et seq.* (the "Brown Act"), provided certain requirements were met and followed; and

WHEREAS, on June 11, 2021, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-08-21 that clarified the suspension of the teleconferencing rules set forth in the Brown Act, and further provided that those provisions would remain suspended through September 30, 2021; and

WHEREAS, on September 16, 2021, Governor Newsom signed Assembly Bill 361 (AB 361), allowing legislative bodies subject to the Brown Act to continue meeting by teleconference if the legislative body determines that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees, and further requires that certain findings be made by the legislative body every thirty (30) days; and

WHEREAS, California Department of Public Health and the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) caution that the Delta variant of COVID-19, currently the dominant strain of COVID-19 in the country, is more transmissible than prior variants of the virus, may cause more severe illness, and that even fully vaccinated individuals can spread the virus to others resulting in rapid and alarming rates of COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/variants/delta-variant.html>); and

WHEREAS, the CDC has established a “Community Transmission” metric with 4 tiers designed to reflect a community’s COVID-19 case rate and percent positivity; and

WHEREAS, the County of San Luis Obispo currently has a Community Transmission metric of “substantial” which is the second most serious of the tiers; and

WHEREAS, in the interest of public health and safety, as affected by the emergency caused by the spread of COVID-19, the Paso Basin Cooperative Committee (the “PBCC”) deems it necessary to find holding in person meetings would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees, and thus intends to invoke the provisions of AB 361 related to teleconferencing.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDERED by the PBCC that:

1. The recitals set forth above are true and correct.
2. The Proclamation of State of Emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic issued by Governor Newsom on March 4, 2020, remains in effect.
3. Based on the recitals above, the PBCC finds that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.
4. Staff is directed to return at the next regularly scheduled meeting with an item for the PBCC to consider making the findings required by AB 361 to continue meeting under its provisions.

Upon motion of Member _____, seconded by Member _____, and on the following roll call vote, to wit:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAINING:

the foregoing resolution is hereby adopted.

Chairperson of the Paso Basin Cooperative
Committee

ATTEST:

Vice Chairperson of the Paso Basin Cooperative Committee

**Paso Basin Cooperative Committee
Minutes (Draft) – July 21st, 2021**

The following members or alternates were present:

Debbie Arnold, Chair, County of San Luis Obispo
Matt Turrentine, Vice Chair, Shandon-San Juan WD
John Hamon, Treasurer, City of Paso Robles
Kelly Dodds, Secretary, San Miguel CSD

<p>1. Call to Order</p> <p>2. Pledge of Allegiance</p> <p>3. Roll call</p>	<p>Chair Arnold: calls the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.</p> <p>Chair Arnold: leads the Pledge of Allegiance.</p> <p>County Staff, Angela Ford: calls roll.</p>
<p>4. Public Comment – items not on Agenda</p>	<p><i>Meeting recording posted on www.slocounty.ca.gov/pasobasin Meeting recording: Item start ~ 00:02:11</i></p> <p>Chair Arnold: opens the floor for public comment.</p> <p>Dana Merrill: comments on coordination with the State to correct the GSP, efforts to address basin issues and urgency due to drought.</p> <p>Greg Grewal: comments on the first and second annual reports, including mistakes and corrections to Nacimiento water use and metered groundwater use, separation of Paso and Atascadero Basins’ water use, and concerns with water sector designations for Public Water Systems and rural water use.</p>
<p>5. Approval of March April 28, 2021 Meeting Minutes</p>	<p><i>Meeting recording: Item start ~ 00:07:30</i></p> <p>Audio from the April 28, 2021 Paso Basin Cooperative Committee meeting is also available at: www.slocounty.ca.gov/pasobasin</p> <p>Chair Arnold: opens discussion for Agenda Item 5 – Approval of April 28, 2021 Cooperative Committee Meeting Minutes; there are no comments.</p> <p>Motion by: John Hamon Second by: Matt Turrentine Motion: The Committee moves to approve the April 28, 2021 Meeting Minutes without opposition or abstentions.</p>
<p>6. Receive update on DWR’s Initial Assessment of Paso Basin GSP and approve approach and budget for addressing deficiencies</p>	<p><i>Meeting recording: Item start ~ 00:08:42</i></p> <p>Meeting materials for Agenda Item #6 are available at: www.slocounty.ca.gov/pasobasin</p> <p>County Staff, Angela Ford: presents on DWR’s initial “incomplete” assessment of the Paso Basin GSP which outlines two potential corrective actions: groundwater level and interconnected surface water sustainable management criteria; outlined the regulatory timeline which includes a deadline of January 30, 2022; two options for procuring a consultant to help the GSAs address the deficiencies: sole source with a qualified consultant or solicit proposals, and the budget.</p> <p>Treasurer Hamon: asks staff what responsibility the previous consultant has to correct deficiencies.</p>

**Paso Basin Cooperative Committee
Minutes (Draft) – July 21st, 2021**

County Staff, Angela Ford: responds that that should be discussed further when City staff is present.

Treasurer Hamon: responds that previous consultant had some responsibility to prepare the GSP such that it is approved by DWR.

Chair Arnold: asks if Montgomery and Associates would be willing to fix GSP deficiencies.

County Staff, Angela Ford: responds that it is her understanding (per City Staff) that they would be willing to fix deficiencies only under a new contract.

Secretary Dodds: agrees with Treasurer Hamon that staff should ascertain whether the existing contract requires the previous consultant to correct GSP deficiencies, also asks whether a new consultant will be required to fix any deficiencies until GSP is approved by DWR.

County Staff, Angela Ford: responds that the anticipated scope factors in an iterative process likely required for GSP approval.

Vice Chair Turrentine: emphasizes that it would be best to move quickly and efficiently towards choosing a sole source consultant or schedule a special meeting for further discussion.

Chair Arnold: mentions that the Committee received a letter from Craig Altair of DWR in December 2020 listing two of the deficiencies; mentions that there is a significant amount of new information that can be included to address deficiencies.

County Staff, Angela Ford: comments that new information may be better suited for GSP updates, and that the identified deficiencies may need more description or justification about sustainable management criteria.

Treasurer Hamon: asks if consultants have seen the budget that staff has prepared; staff responds that the budget is based on staff's estimates of similar efforts.

Treasurer Hamon: asks if staff can make the requisite changes to the GSP; staff responds that they would not be able to provide the technical analysis likely required to correct GSP deficiencies

Vice Chair Turrentine: agrees with Chair Arnold's points and reiterates that moving quickly is key to success.

Secretary Dodds: proposes a two-pronged approach of working on GSP deficiency improvements and reevaluating contract with previous consultant to verify if they are contractually obligated to fix the deficiencies.

**Paso Basin Cooperative Committee
Minutes (Draft) – July 21st, 2021**

County Staff, Angela Ford: reiterates her understanding (per City Staff) that the previous consultant stated they would only be willing to fix deficiencies under a new contract.

Chair Arnold: opens the floor to public comment.

Ann Myhre and Greg Grewal: speak

Chair Arnold: closes the public comment period.

Vice Chair Turrentine: comments that he would support sole sourcing the work to GSI Water Solutions or soliciting proposals from qualified consultants and returning to the PBCC with a recommendation.

Secretary Hamon and Chair Arnold: agree on calling a special meeting as soon as possible after staff get clarity from DWR so the consultant can be selected.

County Staff, Angela Ford: staff has spoken to DWR and has a potential approach to remedying deficiencies; emphasizes that time is of the essence and it may be appropriate to schedule a meeting with City Staff to answer procurement questions.

Motion by: Debbie Arnold

Second by: John Hamon

Motion: The Committee moves to schedule special meeting for the week of July 26, 2021.

Members	Ayes	Noes	Abstain	Recuse
Debbie Arnold (Chair)	X			
Matt Turrentine (Vice Chair)	X			
John Hamon (Treasurer)	X			
Kelly Dodds (Secretary)	X			

7. Approve Water Year 2021 Annual Report Consultant procurement process

Meeting recording: Item start ~ 00:53:24

Meeting materials for Agenda Item #7 are available at:
www.slocounty.ca.gov/pasobasin

County Staff, Angela Ford: recommends that the committee approves an approach to procure a consultant for the 2021 Annual Report.

Chair Arnold: opens the floor to public comment

Greg Grewal: speaks

Chair Arnold: closes the public comment period.

Chair Arnold: recommends having a Committee Member as participate in the consultant procurement process.

**Paso Basin Cooperative Committee
Minutes (Draft) – July 21st, 2021**

Treasurer Hamon: asks staff about the timing of the consultant procurement process.

County Staff, Angela Ford: responds that there is sufficient time to solicit RFPs and bring multiple recommendations forward if the Committee rejects staff’s recommendation; asks for clarification regarding the City’s procurement policy and whether consultant proposals can be published.

Chair Arnold: comments on reviewing potential consultant’s resumes and their history of working the Paso Basin or other groundwater basins.

Treasurer Hamon: comments that the City does this frequently; reiterates that having multiple proposals discussed at the Committee helps ensure transparency throughout the selection process.

Motion by: John Hamon
Second by: Debbie Arnold
Motion: The Committee moves to appoint Matt Turrentine to coordinate with staff and select three consultant proposals to be discussed and one recommended at a future PBCC meeting.

Members	Ayes	Noes	Abstain	Recuse
Debbie Arnold (Chair)	X			
Matt Turrentine (Vice Chair)	X			
John Hamon (Treasurer)	X			
Kelly Dodds (Secretary)	X			

8. Receive informational update on Prop 68 Round 2 Implementation Grant Pursuit

Meeting recording: Item start ~ 01:07:30
 Meeting materials for Agenda Item #8 are available at: www.slocounty.ca.gov/pasobasin

San Miguel CSD Staff, Blaine Reely: presents on DWR’s solicitation of proposals for GSP implementation; only one application will be accepted per basin, and the Round 2 Grants Solicitation is scheduled to open in spring 2022 with the awards being announced in fall of 2022.

Chair Arnold: asks how the PBCC plays a role in selection of projects and whether the PBCC collaborates to submit a project; San Miguel CSD Staff, Blaine Reely, confirms the Committee will need to collaborate and come to consensus on a project.

Chair Arnold: asks about approach to selecting a project; San Miguel CSD Staff, Blaine Reely, responds that one approach could be having GSAs present on a project and having the Committee select a project to provide basis of a grant application; suggests setting a date for future Committee meeting to submit proposed projects.

**Paso Basin Cooperative Committee
Minutes (Draft) – July 21st, 2021**

	<p>Treasurer Hamon: comments that the City of Paso Robles has a Recycled Water project that is shovel ready which would help provide relief to the basin.</p> <p>Chair Arnold: opens the floor to public comment; there are no requests to speak.</p>
9. Receive update on status of SSJWD’s SWRCB applications to appropriate water	<p><i>Meeting recording: Item start ~ 01:16:30</i></p> <p>Vice Chair Turrentine: provides an update on applications submitted to SWRCB; SSJWD has received and responded to some questions from the SWRCB.</p> <p>Treasurer Hamon: asks about any indication as to whether applications will be approved or denied.</p> <p>Vice Chair Turrentine: responds that there has been no indication as to whether they will be approved or denied; SSJWD will provide updates as the process continues.</p> <p>Chair Arnold: opens the floor to public comment.</p> <p>Greg Grewal: speaks.</p> <p>Chair Arnold: closes floor to public comment.</p>
10. Committee Member Comments	<p>Chair Arnold asks for comments from the Committee, and then from the public; there are no comments.</p>
11. Upcoming meeting(s)	<p>Wednesday, October 27, 2021 @ 4:00 p.m.</p>
12. Future Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Committee agrees to continue discussion on Item 6 at a Special Meeting to be organized by Staff. The Committee discusses format for future meetings and agrees to have hybrid meetings with in-person and virtual options for the public. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Chair Arnold: opens the floor to public comment; Serena Friedman speaks. • Adopt 2022 Regular Meeting Schedule
13. Adjourn	<p>Chair Arnold moves to adjourn the meeting at 5:30 p.m.</p>

I, Kelly Dodds, 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 21, 2021, by the Paso Basin Cooperative Committee.

*Kelly Dodds, Secretary of the Paso Basin Cooperative Committee.
Drafted by: County of San Luis Obispo Water Resources Staff*

**Paso Basin Cooperative Committee
Minutes (Draft) – July 27th, 2021**

The following members or alternates were present:

Debbie Arnold, Chair, County of San Luis Obispo
Matt Turrentine, Vice Chair, Shandon-San Juan WD
John Hamon, Treasurer, City of Paso Robles
Kelly Dodds, Secretary, San Miguel CSD

<p>1. Call to Order</p>	<p>Chair Arnold: calls the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.</p>
<p>2. Pledge of Allegiance</p>	<p>Chair Arnold: leads the Pledge of Allegiance.</p>
<p>3. Roll call</p>	<p>County Staff, Angela Ford: calls roll.</p>
<p>4. Public Comment – items not on Agenda</p>	<p><i>Meeting Audio: Item start ~ 00:02:11</i> Chair Arnold: opens the floor for public comment.</p> <p>Greg Grewal: comments on letters from DWR that outline issues with the GSP, GSA staff communications with DWR and involvement with consultant recommendations/contracting, and Montgomery & Associates involvement with developing a passing GSP in Santa Cruz Mid-County.</p> <p>Chair Arnold: closes the public comment period.</p>
<p>5. Continued Item (from July 21, 2021) Receive update on DWR’s Initial Assessment of Paso Basin GSP and approve approach and budget for addressing deficiencies</p>	<p><i>Meeting Audio: Item start ~ 00:07:30</i> Chair Arnold: opens discussion for Agenda Item 5 – Continued Item (from July 21, 2021) Receive update on DWR’s Initial Assessment of Paso Basin GSP and approve approach and budget for addressing deficiencies.</p> <p>County Staff, Angela Ford: presents on DWR’s Initial Assessment of the Paso Basin GSP, last week’s Committee discussion regarding consultant procurement options, and next steps should the Committee choose the option to recommend GSA staff solicit proposals from qualified consultants and appoint a Committee Member to participate in the selection of a recommendation to bring back to the Committee at a future meeting.</p> <p>Chair Arnold: comments that during last week’s meeting, there was uncertainty regarding Montgomery & Associates’ (M&A) contract; asks for Committee input regarding consultant selection options.</p> <p>Treasurer Hamon: comments that time is of the essence; motions to move forward with a sole source contract.</p> <p>Secretary Dodds: expresses concern regarding the sole source option without having a consultant in mind.</p> <p>City Staff, Christopher Alakel: comments that there have been discussions with Todd Groundwater and that they are willing to assist with correcting the deficiencies identified in the GSP.</p>

**Paso Basin Cooperative Committee
Minutes (Draft) – July 27th, 2021**

Chair Arnold: opens the floor to public comment.

Greg Grewal, Patricia Wilmore, Jerry Ray, and Cody Ferguson: speak.

Motion by: John Hamon

Second by: Debbie Arnold

Motion: The Committee moves to direct staff to proceed with a sole source contract to correct the Paso Basin GSP deficiencies.

Members	Ayes	Noes	Abstain	Recuse
Debbie Arnold (Chair)	X			
Matt Turrentine (Vice Chair)	X			
John Hamon (Treasurer)	X			
Kelly Dodds (Secretary)	X			

The motion passes.

Chair Arnold: opens discussion on which consultant to select for sole source.

Treasurer Hamon: asks City Staff to provide information on available consultants to sole source with.

City Staff, Christopher Alakel: comments on City Staff discussion with M&A over GSP contract and M&A’s refusal to meet with DWR to discuss work required to address GSP deficiencies without a new contract; states M&A has not satisfied the condition that they provide a DWR compliant GSP and the City is evaluating options to seek legal remedies; explains that the City Attorney recommends engaging a consultant other than M&A at this time; City has spoken with GSI Water Solutions and Todd Groundwater, both are both are qualified and willing to address deficiencies.

Treasurer Hamon: asks which deficiency (groundwater levels or interconnected surface water) does M&A have “liability” to address.

City Staff, Christopher Alakel: M&A flagged interconnected surface water (ISW) in a March 4th letter.

Treasurer Hamon: asks if M&A can do the ISW and Todd Groundwater can do groundwater levels.

City Staff, Christopher Alakel: responds that he does not believe it is wise to have two different consultants working on deficiencies.

Vice Chair Turrentine: agrees with Treasurer Hamon’s comments, reiterates the need to move quickly with GSI or Todd Groundwater. Believes GSI is most up to speed, but he’d be happy to consider both consultants

**Paso Basin Cooperative Committee
Minutes (Draft) – July 27th, 2021**

Secretary Dodds: agrees with Vice Chair Turrentine that both GSI and Todd Groundwater would work, believes that Todd Groundwater might be preferable to avoid a perceived conflict of interest.

Vice Chair Turrentine: states that he does not believe there is an actual conflict of interest with GSI; moves to direct Staff to proceed with sole sourcing GSI Water Solutions to address GSP deficiencies.

Secretary Dodds: asks if staff has asked GSI if they would be interested in addressing deficiencies

City Staff, Christopher Alakel: responds that he has not had that discussion with GSI; suggests option to allow the Committee to choose GSI as the first choice and Todd Groundwater as the second choice.

Chair Arnold: comments that she has reached out to Todd Groundwater and that there is existing work on ISW and new AEM studies that were not written into the GSP; would support a motion that includes sole sourcing the work to Todd Groundwater.

Motion by: Matt Turrentine

Second by: Debbie Arnold

Motion: Committee moves to direct Staff to proceed with a sole source contract to GSI Water Solutions, Inc. and authorize Todd Groundwater as a backup choice.

Members	Ayes	Noes	Abstain	Recuse
Debbie Arnold (Chair)		X		
Matt Turrentine (Vice Chair)	X			
John Hamon (Treasurer)		X		
Kelly Dodds (Secretary)	X			

The motion does not pass.

Chair Arnold: motions to direct staff to proceed with a sole source contract to Todd Groundwater to address GSP deficiencies.

Treasurer Hamon: seconds motion for discussion; asks Chair Arnold if the motion can be modified to authorize GSI Water Solutions, Inc. as a backup option.

Chair Arnold: does not agree with modification of the motion and reiterates that Todd Groundwater is available and willing to assist with the work

Treasurer Hamon: asks City Staff for more information regarding discussions with Todd Groundwater and whether they will be able to complete the work before the end of the year.

**Paso Basin Cooperative Committee
Minutes (Draft) – July 27th, 2021**

City Staff, Christopher Alakel: comments that the discussion centered around the nature of the deficiencies, not so much the timing and schedule; they conveyed that they have the bandwidth to do the work and are aware of the deadlines.

Vice Chair Turrentine: asks if proceeding without a backup will put the Committee in bad negotiating position; would support modified motion to proceed with a backup option.

Chair Arnold: comments that if there is a problem with sole sourcing Todd Groundwater there will need to be another special meeting.

Motion by: Debbie Arnold

Second by: John Hamon

Motion: The Committee moves to direct Staff to proceed with a sole source contract with Todd Groundwater to address GSP deficiencies.

Members	Ayes	Noes	Abstain	Recuse
Debbie Arnold (Chair)	X			
Matt Turrentine (Vice Chair)	X			
John Hamon (Treasurer)	X			
Kelly Dodds (Secretary)	X			

Chair Arnold: asks the Committee if they have any additional comments.

Treasurer Hamon: asks about next PBCC meeting.

County Staff, Angela Ford: responds that the next Regular Committee meeting is scheduled for October 27th; a special meeting may be needed as the consultant is brought on board.

Vice Chair Turrentine: suggests a special meeting be held in three weeks for an update on the process.

Treasurer Hamon: asks City Staff if three weeks is an appropriate amount of time to get consultant on board.

City Staff, Christopher Alakel: responds that three weeks is a reasonable amount of time to notify consultant, for consultant to prepare a proposal, and for City Staff to review the proposal.

Treasurer Hamon: asks if the previous budget from staff will be sent to Todd Groundwater.

City Staff, Christopher Alakel: mentions that it might not be in the Committee's interest to give consultant that as a goal post; if the proposed budget deviates

**Paso Basin Cooperative Committee
Minutes (Draft) – July 27th, 2021**

	<p>significantly, staff will return to the Committee, adding that when staff receives the proposal from Todd it will be circulated to the GSAs.</p> <p>Chair Arnold: asks staff which day would be ideal for a special meeting.</p> <p>County Staff, Angela Ford: responds that it depends on what the Committee wants for the special meeting, believes that the second week of September would be good if the Committee needs to be updated after some coordination between Todd Groundwater and DWR.</p> <p>Chair Arnold: asks if there will be anything else that needs to be addressed in a special meeting before the scheduled Committee meeting on October 27th.</p> <p>County Staff, Angela Ford: responds that it depends on how the coordination between Todd Groundwater and DWR goes.</p> <p>Chair Arnold: asks if a GSP amendment can be voted on by the Committee.</p> <p>County Staff, Angela Ford: responds that the MOA requires a unanimous approval of amendment and that it would come to the Committee first and then be sent out to the GSAs (and their respective boards/councils) to approve.</p> <p>Chair Arnold: comments that the Board of Supervisors requires a 3-4 week lead time to properly notice for any actions so it is best to get moving on the work quickly; asks if mid-September would be a good time to meet.</p> <p>County Staff, Angela Ford: responds that mid-September would be a good time, notes that DWR has up to January 30th, 2022 to finalize designation and if the deficiencies aren't addressed a 180-day clock begins; comments that it'd be best to be flexible with mid-September meeting date.</p> <p>Treasurer Hamon: asks City Staff if Todd Groundwater can be brought on board by August 17th City Council meeting.</p> <p>City Staff, Christopher Alakel: responds staff can try to accommodate in time for City Council meeting.</p> <p>Chair Arnold: asks Vice Chair Turrentine and Secretary Dodds if they want to schedule a meeting now or if they want to let Staff return later with a date.</p> <p>Vice Chair Turrentine: comments that he is fine with either approach; reiterates need to meet before October.</p> <p>Secretary Dodds: comments that a week notice is sufficient for him</p>
6. Adjourn	Chair Arnold moves to adjourn the meeting at 1:59 p.m.

**Paso Basin Cooperative Committee
Minutes (Draft) – July 27th, 2021**

I, Kelly Dodds, 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 27, 2021, by the Paso Basin Cooperative Committee.

*Kelly Dodds, Secretary of the Paso Basin Cooperative Committee.
Drafted by: County of San Luis Obispo Water Resources Staff*

DRAFT

PASO BASIN COOPERATIVE COMMITTEE
October 27, 2021

Agenda Item #7 – Appointment of Secretary

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Paso Basin Cooperative Committee (Committee) motion to appoint a Committee member to position of Secretary.

Prepared By

Angela Ford, County of San Luis Obispo

Discussion

The City of Paso Robles, the San Miguel Community Services District (SMCSD), the County of San Luis Obispo, and the Shandon San Juan Water District (collectively “GSAs”) entered into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) regarding preparation of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin and establishing the Committee to facilitate cooperation of the GSAs in SGMA compliance efforts.

While Section 4 of the MOA outlines the roles and activities of Committee, it does not speak to Appointment of Officers. As of October 18, 2017, the Committee has nominated and confirmed appointments for the position of Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary. On May 22, 2018, the Committee added the position of Treasurer.

Duties of Committee Officers are as follows:

- Chair: Set Agenda (based on Committee input) with County Staff; preside over meetings
- Vice Chair: Take on Chair responsibilities in absence of the Chair
- Secretary: Review draft Committee meeting minutes prior to publication in upcoming Agenda
- Treasurer: Reviews reports from the City Finance Department and conducts financial oversight

The most recent officer elections were conducted on January 27, 2021, where the Committee appointed Debbie Arnold as Committee Chair, Matt Turrentine as Vice Chair, Kelly Dodds as Secretary and John Hamon as Treasurer. The office appointments are specific to the individual and not based on the GSA. Since Kelly Dodds is no longer serving as SMCSD’s Committee Member as of this meeting, October 27, 2021, the position of Secretary is vacant, and it is recommended that the Committee motion to appoint a new Committee member to the position of Secretary.

* * *

PASO BASIN COOPERATIVE COMMITTEE
October 27, 2021

Agenda Item #8 – Receive update on modifications to GSA boundaries

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Paso Basin Cooperative Committee (Committee) receive an update on modifications to the Shandon-San Juan Water District GSA and Paso Basin – County of San Luis Obispo GSA boundaries.

Prepared By

Angela Ford, County of San Luis Obispo

Discussion

In 2017, to comply with SGMA, GSAs were formed that collectively covered the entire Paso Basin. Since then, the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) released updates to the Paso Basin boundary that included removal of a small basin area extending towards Lake Nacimiento and aligning the northern basin boundary with the Monterey/San Luis Obispo County line.

Additionally, in September 2019, the San Luis Obispo Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) conditionally approved a detachment of certain properties from Shandon-San Juan Water District (SSJWD) that would modify their GSA boundary upon completion. In November 2019, the County Board of Supervisors, acting as the Paso Basin – County of San Luis Obispo GSA (County GSA), adopted a resolution that authorized modification of the County GSA's boundary to align with the updated DWR basin boundary and, subject to LAFCO final approval, SSJWD's updated GSA boundary.

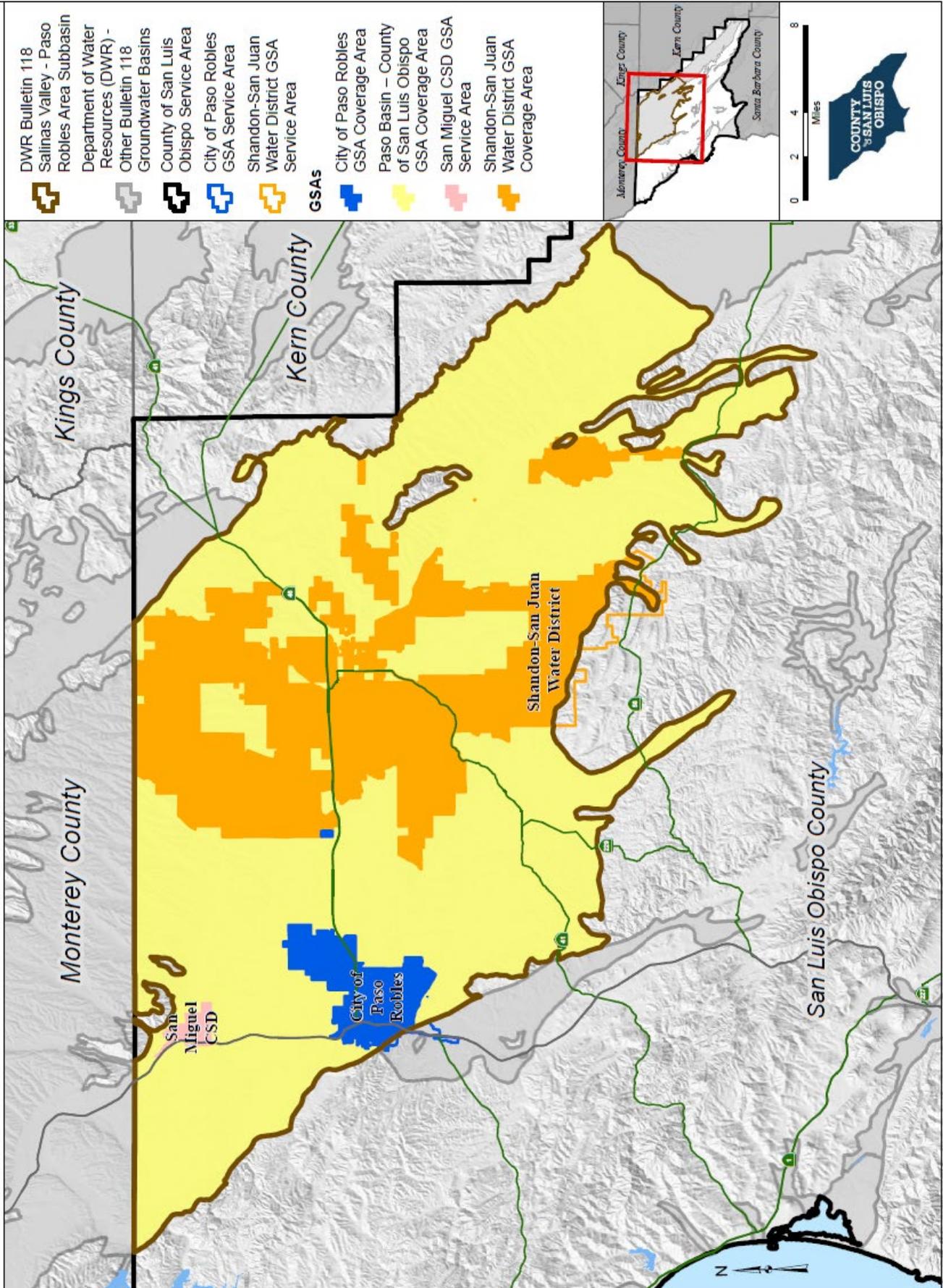
In August 2021, following the satisfaction of LAFCO conditions of approval for detachment, SSJWD took action to modify their GSA boundaries. Then, in September 2021, staff from SSJWD and the County GSA coordinated with DWR to effectuate abovementioned GSA boundary modifications and update the posted GSA notices.

Attached

1. Updated Map of Paso Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agencies Boundaries

* * *

Paso Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agencies Boundaries



PASO BASIN COOPERATIVE COMMITTEE

October 27, 2021

Agenda Item #9 – Letter requesting that DWR wait until the statutory deadline to make a determination on the Paso Basin GSP and, if applicable, grant the full 180 days to address GSP deficiencies

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Paso Basin Cooperative Committee (Committee) send the attached letter requesting DWR wait until the statutory deadline of January 30, 2022 to make a determination on the Paso Basin GSP and, if applicable, grant the full 180 days thereafter to address the GSP deficiencies.

Prepared By

Angela Ford, County of San Luis Obispo

Discussion

SGMA required development and submittal of a Paso Basin GSP by January 31, 2020, and then required the California Department of Water Resources (Department or DWR) to evaluate and make a written assessment of the plan within two years.

The assessment is required to include a determination of the plan as follows:

- **Approved:** DWR will *recommend* actions to be incorporated before the next five-year plan update.
- **Incomplete:** DWR will *require* GSAs to address GSP deficiencies within 180 days and resubmit that information to DWR. If the deficiencies cannot be addressed within that timeframe, the plan could subsequently be determined to be inadequate, potentially triggering state intervention.
- **Inadequate:** The state intervention process may be triggered; this authorizes the State Water Board to step in and manage the basin.

Based on DWR's *initial* assessment, provided June 3, 2021, that the Paso Basin GSP has deficiencies which may preclude approval, and since the process to address deficiencies will likely take several months, it is anticipated that the Paso Basin GSP will be determined "Incomplete" when DWR finalizes their assessment. Since the Paso Basin GSP was submitted on January 30, 2020, DWR must finalize their assessment by January 30, 2022. If the GSP is determined to be incomplete, as is anticipated, the GSP deficiencies must be addressed within 180 days (i.e., by July 30, 2022).

While DWR staff intend to provide the GSAs the best opportunity to develop approved plans, they have stated that the possibility of providing a determination earlier than January 30, 2022, or a timeframe less than 180 days to address deficiencies, is allowed by SGMA and the GSP regulations. Therefore, it is recommended that the GSAs submit a letter requesting that DWR wait until the statutory deadline (January 30, 2022) to make a determination of the Paso Basin GSP and, if applicable, grant the full 180 days (e.g., July 30, 2022) to address the deficiencies.

Attached

1. Draft Letter – Request that DWR wait until the statutory deadline to make a determination of the Paso Basin GSP and, if applicable, grant the full 180 days to address GSP deficiencies

* * *

Paso Basin Cooperative Committee

October 27, 2019

Mr. Craig Altare, Groundwater Sustainability Plan Review Section Chief
California Department of Water Resources
901 P Street, Room 313-B
Sacramento, CA, 95814

Subject: Request that DWR wait until the statutory deadline to make a determination of the Paso Basin GSP and, if applicable, grant the full 180 days to address GSP deficiencies

Dear Craig Altare,

At its meeting on October 27, 2021, the Paso Basin Cooperative Committee approved submittal of this letter requesting that the California Department of Water Resources wait to finalize determination of the Paso Robles Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) until the statutory deadline two years from the GSP submittal (e.g., January 30, 2022) and, if applicable, grant the full 180 days allowed by SGMA to address deficiencies.

Thank you for your consideration.
Respectfully yours,

Debbie Arnold
Chairperson, Paso Basin Cooperative Committee

PASO BASIN COOPERATIVE COMMITTEE
October 27, 2021

**Agenda Item #10 – Receive update and approve approach for
addressing Paso Basin GSP Deficiencies**

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Paso Basin Cooperative Committee (Committee) receive an update and approve the proposed approach for addressing Paso Basin GSP Deficiencies.

Prepared By

Todd Groundwater
Angela Ford, County of San Luis Obispo

Discussion

On July 21, 2021, the Committee received an update on the California Department of Water Resources' (DWR) Initial Assessment of the Paso Basin GSP and it was recommended that the Committee approve an approach and budget for addressing the deficiencies. The staff report included a summary of the deficiencies identified by DWR and a potential approach for addressing them, consultant procurement options, regulatory timeline, and budget. The item was continued to a Special Meeting on July 27, 2021, where the Committee approved proceeding with a sole source contract with Todd Groundwater to address the GSP deficiencies. The City of Paso Robles, as the contracting agent, retained Todd Groundwater in August 2021 and they began work.

The purpose of this item is for Todd Groundwater to provide an update, and get Committee approval, on the proposed approach in order to move forward with addressing the GSP deficiencies.

Attached

1. PowerPoint Presentation
2. Memorandum regarding the Approach for Technical Support to the PBCC in providing Corrective Actions

* * *

Attachment 1

Under Development

PowerPoint presentation will be posted separately to the meeting page on or before October 27, 2021.

[https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Public-Works/Committees-Programs/Sustainable-Groundwater-Management-Act-\(SGMA\)/Paso-Robles-Groundwater-Basin/Meeting-Calendar/2021/Paso-Basin-Cooperative-Committee-\(4\).aspx](https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Public-Works/Committees-Programs/Sustainable-Groundwater-Management-Act-(SGMA)/Paso-Robles-Groundwater-Basin/Meeting-Calendar/2021/Paso-Basin-Cooperative-Committee-(4).aspx)

Attachment 2

Under Development

Memorandum will be posted separately to the meeting page on or before October 24, 2021.

[https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Public-Works/Committees-Programs/Sustainable-Groundwater-Management-Act-\(SGMA\)/Paso-Robles-Groundwater-Basin/Meeting-Calendar/2021/Paso-Basin-Cooperative-Committee-\(4\).aspx](https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Public-Works/Committees-Programs/Sustainable-Groundwater-Management-Act-(SGMA)/Paso-Robles-Groundwater-Basin/Meeting-Calendar/2021/Paso-Basin-Cooperative-Committee-(4).aspx)

PASO BASIN COOPERATIVE COMMITTEE

October 27, 2021

Agenda Item #11 – Consider recommended Consultant for Water Year 2021 Annual Report development and related contract consistent with MOA Section 6.3

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Paso Basin Cooperative Committee (Committee) consider confirming the recommendation to contract with GSI Water Solutions, Inc. (GSI), approve related budget, and forward said confirmed recommendation to the City of Paso Robles for its award of the related contract, consistent with MOA Section 6.3, for Water year 2021 Annual Report development.

Prepared By

Angela Ford, County of San Luis Obispo

Discussion

The GSP Annual Reports are intended to provide technical information on groundwater conditions and effects of implementation of the GSP over the prior water year. SGMA regulations require GSAs to submit an Annual Report to DWR by April 1 following adoption of a GSP and annually thereafter. The next Annual Report (Report) for the Paso Basin is due to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) by April 1, 2022.

On July 21, 2021, the Committee received GSA staffs' draft scope of work for development of the report, considered options and approved an approach for procurement of a consultant. The approach included the City of Paso Robles issuing a formal Request for Proposals (RFP), and the appointment of a PBCC Member to work with staff of the GSAs to review proposals and return to the Committee with Consultant options for consideration.

The City of Paso Robles issued the RFP, inviting qualification statements and competitive proposals from September 9, 2021, to September 30, 2021. Multiple consultants viewed the RFP, and one consultant submitted a proposal. GSI Water Solutions, who developed the first two Annual Reports, submitted a proposal with an anticipated project total of \$72,980. GSA staff and the appointed PBCC Member, Matt Turrentine, reviewed and evaluated the proposal based on project approach, successful completion of similar projects, qualifications of personnel, and cost. Based on these criteria, it is recommended that the Committee consider the attached proposal and recommend the City of Paso Robles award contract to GSI consistent with MOA Section 6.3 and subject to budget ratification from each GSA.

Attached

1. GSI Water Solutions Proposal for Water Year 2021 Annual Report for the Paso Robles Subbasin GSP
2. City of Paso Robles Consultant Contract

* * *

Attachment 1

Large File Size

Proposal will be posted separately to the meeting page on or before October 24, 2021.

[https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Public-Works/Committees-Programs/Sustainable-Groundwater-Management-Act-\(SGMA\)/Paso-Robles-Groundwater-Basin/Meeting-Calendar/2021/Paso-Basin-Cooperative-Committee-\(4\).aspx](https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Public-Works/Committees-Programs/Sustainable-Groundwater-Management-Act-(SGMA)/Paso-Robles-Groundwater-Basin/Meeting-Calendar/2021/Paso-Basin-Cooperative-Committee-(4).aspx)

Attachment 2

Under Development

Contract will be posted separately to the meeting page on or before October 24, 2021.

[https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Public-Works/Committees-Programs/Sustainable-Groundwater-Management-Act-\(SGMA\)/Paso-Robles-Groundwater-Basin/Meeting-Calendar/2021/Paso-Basin-Cooperative-Committee-\(4\).aspx](https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Public-Works/Committees-Programs/Sustainable-Groundwater-Management-Act-(SGMA)/Paso-Robles-Groundwater-Basin/Meeting-Calendar/2021/Paso-Basin-Cooperative-Committee-(4).aspx)