

Meeting Summary

Ukiah Valley Basin Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Implementation Meeting

March 30, 2017

County Administration Center, Agriculture Building Conference Room

890 North Bush Street

Ukiah, CA

Prepared by the Center for Collaborative Policy, CSU Sacramento (based on meeting notes taken by Sarah Dukett)

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Background

California's Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) provides a statewide framework for sustainable groundwater management. SGMA intends to support local groundwater management through the oversight of local agencies, which are required to form Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) by June 30, 2017. GSAs must develop groundwater sustainability plans (GSPs) by 2020 or 2022 (depending on priority) to achieve sustainability within twenty years of the GSP's adoption.

The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) is providing GSA development support to the County of Mendocino (the County) and various stakeholders in the Ukiah Valley Basin (the Basin). Following a series of public workshops held by the County in 2015, the DWR tasked the Center for Collaborative Policy (CCP) at California State University, Sacramento to support GSA formation efforts, including assessing the perspectives of a diverse set of stakeholders, facilitating stakeholder discussions, and helping finalize the governance process(es) for one or more GSAs. This is the tenth public meeting held as part of this process, and the ninth meeting held of the group as a GSA Formation Committee.

Meeting Summary

This meeting's purpose and goals were to:

- Review and approve final draft of the Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) for the proposed GSA; and
- Plan and schedule final steps for GSA formation.

Supporting Documents (on County website)

Supporting Document A – Meeting agenda

Supporting Document B – Draft JPA

1. Welcome, Introductions, Review of Previous Meeting Summary & Overview of Today's Meeting

Mendocino County Supervisor Carre Brown welcomed attendees and invited participants to introduce themselves. Facilitator Malka Kopell of CCP reviewed the agenda and previous meeting materials, and sought feedback on any necessary changes. The group discussed the March 16 meeting summary and suggested no changes.

Ms. Kopell reminded the group that this would likely be the Formation Committee's last meeting, and that the goal was to come out of the meeting with a JPA that members could present to their Boards for approval. After each Member's Board approves the JPA and elects to join the GSA, the Members will host a public hearing to form the GSA and send notice to DWR. If the members want to take advantage of the full 30-day period to submit the notice to DWR, the public hearing should be held no later than the end of May (with 14-day public notice).

2. Review Draft GSA Joint Powers Agreement

Review of JPA Changes Made Since the Last Meeting:

Sarah Dukett presented the changes to the JPA that County Counsel made to reflect direction from the March 16 Workgroup meeting. Some changes generated additional discussion, and in some cases, members made additional recommendations for improvements. If there was no discussion, members agreed to the changes and moved on.

The group reviewed each of the following edits and additions to the draft JPA:

1. (Section 6.2) The group approved the language regarding creating additional Stakeholders Directors.
2. (Section 8.1) The group approved the language requiring all Members to attend the initial meeting.
3. (Section 9.3) The group approved the language requiring an affirmative vote by the majority of the Board of Directors regarding fiscal items.
4. (Section 9.4) The group recommended and approved the deletion of the language in 9.2 regarding the change in annual contributions, as it is now addressed in Section 15.2.
5. (Section 15.2)
 - There was a suggestion to replace the word "shall" with "may" (as in "the Agency may be initially funded by a contribution from Members"). During the ensuing discussion, there was a suggestion to add "initial" before Members. After more discussion, the group decided to leave "shall" and add "initial."

The facilitator then asked for any other feedback or changes to the JPA.

1. (section 7.1.2 a) There was a suggestion to add "be a resident of Mendocino County" to the list of criteria for the Agricultural Stakeholder Director.
 - The group discussed and approved the addition.
2. (Section 7.1.3) There was a suggestion to remove "dues-paying" from the language here.
 - Members agreed to the deletion.

Ms. Dukett made all changes requested above to the JPA on her laptop and distributed hard copies of the final JPA to the group. With a caveat that the final copy would be checked one more time by County

Counsel for typos/formatting issues, the members approved the hard copy-version.

3. Next Steps

Each respective GSA Member's Board will review the JPA at the public hearing dates listed below. At the Board meetings, boards should go through the following steps: (1) approve the JPA language, (2) agree to join the GSA; and (3) appoint their GSA representative and alternate.

- City of Ukiah: April 19
- Upper Russian River Water Agency: April 5
- Russian River Flood Control: April 10
- Mendocino County: April 18

The group set the date of the initial GSA meeting. It is scheduled for May 10, 2017 at 1pm. Agenda items will include:

- Tribal seat confirmation;
- DWR noticing discussion and packet; and
- Bylaws discussion and process for developing them.

The group also identified June 15, 2017 at 1pm as the second meeting of the GSA. Agenda items will include:

- Continued discussions of the DWR public notice package and bylaws.

4. Closing Remarks

Ms. Kopell thanked members for their participation and hard work over the last ten months and adjourned the meeting.

5. Attendance

Attendees included but were not limited to the following individuals:

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| • Sarah Dukett, Mendocino County | • Frost Pauli, Mendocino County Farm Bureau (MCFB) |
| • Jerry Cardoza, Upper Russian River Water Agency (URRWA) | • Roger Kellerman, City of 10,000 Buddhas |
| • Brandi Brown, Redwood Valley Rancheria | • Dan Hamburg, Mendocino County |
| • Carre Brown, Mendocino County | • Susan Knopf |
| • Kevin Doble, City of Ukiah | • Devon Jones, MCFB |
| • Sean White, City of Ukiah | • Rebecca Dalske, LACO |
| • Douglas Crane, City of Ukiah | • Paul Zellman, Russian River Flood Control |
| • Chris Watt, LACO | • Carmel Angelo, Mendocino County |
| • Jarod Thiele, City of Ukiah | |