



ANY INDIVIDUAL WITH A DISABILITY MAY REQUEST SPECIAL ASSISTANCE BY CONTACTING THE RECORDING SECRETARY

**MINUTES for County of Madera
Groundwater Sustainability Agencies'
Special Advisory Committee
July 16, 2020, 2:00 P.M.**

Supporting documents relating to the items on this agenda are available through the County of Madera website at www.maderacountywater.com. These documents are also available at the office of the Madera County Water and Natural Resources Department, 200 West 4th Street, Madera, CA 93637. Please contact the Department of Water and Natural Resources for updates.

1. Call to Order – 2:05 pm
Devin A reviewed the agenda and called the meeting to order.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
At this time, all were asked to turn off their cameras as they stood to say the Pledge.
3. Roll Call – Committee Members Present (alternates noted with “a”)

Victoria Ortiz
Madeline Harris (a)
Jay Quick (a)
Al Solis (a)

Jim Maxwell
Devin Aviles
Larkin Harman
Bryant Elkins

Darcy Vlot
Jared Samarin
Mike
DeLaGuerra (a)

Additional alternates present :
Angela Islas
Karun Samran
Ben Pitman

Greg Hooker
Sam Lopes

Staff present included Stephanie Anagnoson, Jeannie Habben, Kim Witten, and Kirsten Heffner. Mike Linden, Deputy County Counsel, and Greg Young, engineering consultant for the County. An additional 28 participants were on the line.

4. Public Comment
 - Angela I from S.H.E. requested that the minutes from each Advisory Committee meeting are posted on the website. This is already done and a copy of the link was provided to her.
5. Ambassador Report - Committee
 - Jim M explained that he had a very productive meeting with the Groundwater Users group.



- Madeline H is working with the California Alliance for Agricultural Ecology discussing SGMA and how it effects the socially disadvantaged farmers.
- Victoria O stated that some of the Fairmead residents received a letter stating that the emergency tank program has lost funding and there will be no more water deliveries to fill tanks after July 13.
- Larkin H reported that Clayton WD has expanded to five board members, they reside in both Madera and Merced Counties and are planning 12 diversions within the combination of both Counties. Information is on ClaytonWD.com

6. DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Stephanie Anagnoson

a. Update on Subbasins

Stephanie gave an update for the County GSAs in the Madera Subbasin, Chowchilla Subbasin and Delta-Mendota Subbasin. It included an update on the current grants, projects, and studies the staff of the County GSA is working on. These would include projects such as the Data Management of the GSA information, the grant/projects such as the WaterSMART Water Market Strategy, the Strategic Agricultural Land Conservation, and the Prop 68 Domestic Well Inventory (more mentioned below). There are also current studies such as the Recharge Studies, Rate Studies, and the Measurement of Agricultural Water Use.

7. DOMESTIC WELLS – Stephanie Anagnoson

- Now that the Coordination Agreement has been signed, the Madera Subbasin has received the grant funding for the Domestic Well Inventory and Installation of Monitoring Wells. The Chowchilla Subbasin has already received the funding for Domestic Well Inventory and Installation of Monitoring Wells. This project, or these projects, will begin when all contracts are signed.
- Domestic Well Ad Hoc Committee (2019)
 - Make the process easy to use (clear communication, less paperwork, speedy process).
 - Understand the multiple barriers for participation address data gaps in terms of the extent of the problem and make distinctions between short-term versus longer-term solutions.
- Upcoming Speakers
 - Tami McVay, Self-Help on August 6, 2020
 - State Water Resources Control Board SAFER on September 3, 2020



8. WATER USE DISCUSSION – Greg Young and Stephanie Anagnoson

Greg Y explained Demand Management Options and shared multiple pictures and maps showing ET analysis by satellite. He explained options for reducing consumptive use are: Allocation, Allocation + Water Market, Land Resting/Retirement Easements, and Fee structures. It is important to review all options and move forward with reducing consumptive use because we need to show good faith to GSA partners and avoid state intervention while understanding trends in terms of the magnitude of reduction. He stated that we acquired satellite-based ET analysis for 2010-2019 to look at recent changes in agricultural water use as it informs an allocation approach.

This presentation leaned toward remote sensing as the way to estimate actual ET over large areas and long periods of time. This was through:

- Field scale satellite archives combined with availability of climate data and cloud computing creates transformative opportunities.
- Rapid processing and visualization tools for simple consumptive use decision support
- Allowing for all to perform field scale consumptive use analysis

In conclusion, the August 6th Advisory Committee Meeting will include a discussion of allocations and an allocation approach will be brought to the Board of Directors by the end of the year.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Next Meeting Date: August 6, October 1 and December 3 at 2 p.m.