

**MINUTES OF THE SAN JOAQUIN RIVER EXCHANGE CONTRACTORS
GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY MEETING
HELD FRIDAY, MAY 5, 2023 AT 8:30 A.M.**

The *San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Groundwater Sustainability Agency (Exchange Contractors GSA)* met on Friday, May 5, 2023 at the *San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Water Authority’s* office located at 541 “H” Street, City of Los Banos, County of Merced, State of California. The following persons were present:

Central California Irrigation District (CCID):

Eric Fontana, Director; Jarrett Martin, General Manager

San Luis Canal Company (SLCC):

James Nickel, Director; John Wiersma, General Manager

Firebaugh Canal Water District (FCWD):

Mike Stearns, Director; Jeff Bryant, General Manager

Columbia Canal Company (CCC):

Kimberly Brown, Chair; Randy Houk, General Manager

STAFF MEMBERS:

Chris White, Executive Director; Steve Chedester, Director of Policy & Programs; Joann White, Director of Finance and Administration; and, Adam Hoffman, Water Resources Specialist

PRESENT:

Chris Cardella, CCC Director

The following person(s) participated via Conference Call:

Andrew McClure, Minasian Law; Rick Iger, Provost & Pritchard; and Joe Mastro, Cuttone & Mastro CPA

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Kimberly Brown called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. and asked Randy Houk to lead the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The unapproved minutes from the March 9, 2023 Exchange Contractors GSA meeting were presented. A motion was made by Director Fontana and seconded by Director Stearns to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was unanimously carried.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

There were no public comments presented.

BOARD TO APPROVE MARCH – APRIL 2023 EXPENDITURES AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT:

Joann White presented the Expenditure List outlining the months of March and April, 2023. She next moved onto her summary of the Financial Memo outlining the Budget Summaries and Cash Activity Reports for March through April, 2023. Action was then taken by the Board with a motion made by Director Fontana, and seconded by Director Stearns to approve the Expenditures and Financial Report covering the months of March and April, 2023. The motion was unanimously carried.

The Executive Director then reported staff had determined there were insufficient cash funds to cover some recent expenses and recommended invoicing third-quarter dues. The Committee members agreed with staff’s recommendation. In conclusion, Mr. White added that grant funds are due to be received, however, the timing of receipt of them has yet to be tied down.

PRESENTATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTAL DATA FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31 2022 AND 2021:

Joe Mastro of Cuttone & Mastro CPA referred to the Exchange Contractors GSA financial statements that were included in the Board packet and provided an overview of the statements for revenue, expenditures, net position, and reconciliations balances and explained the required communication’s letter.

Following the presentation, Director Nickel made a motion to accept the Financial Statements for Years Ended December 31, 2022 and 2021 as presented. The motion was seconded by Director Fontana, and unanimously carried.

STATUS OF GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN (GSP) AND SUBBASIN COORDINATION EFFORTS:

Manager Martin reported on the notification received from the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) that they are not requiring a 2025 updated GSP at this time, providing the Delta Mendota Sub-basins GSAs to work on response to DWR’s inadequate determination, and once that is complete, they will determine when the next 5-year plan is to be submitted. He then stated that a meeting has been scheduled with the partners of the Exchange Contractors’ GSP to review potential next steps and obtained a consensus to develop an operating agreement. Manager Martin concluded that they are in the process of scheduling meetings with the State Water Resources Control Board and continue to work with the other GSA’s within the sub-basin on coordination in providing a response.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:53 a.m.

KIMBERLY BROWN, CHAIR

Attest a true record of proceedings had
And taken at the foregoing meeting, our
Presence thereat and our consent thereto.

CHRIS WHITE, SECRETARY

ERIC FONTANA, DIRECTOR

JAMES NICKEL, DIRECTOR

MIKE STEARNS, DIRECTOR