

**DRAFT**

A meeting of the GFWD Board was opened in person and telephonically on August 19, 2024 at 1:33 PM.

PRESENT: In person: Seth Kirk, Paul Stewart, Michael Naito, Diane Kirk, Nick Davis, Don Roberts, Garth Pecchenino - QK Consulting, Keasha Blew - QK Consulting  
CALL-IN: Tom Campagne  
ABSENT: None  
PUBLIC: None  
PUBLIC CALL-IN: None

1. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: (a) On a motion by D Kirk and a second by M Naito, the minutes of the regular meeting of August 19, 2024 were unanimously approved as emailed.  
(b) On a motion by D Kirk and a second by M Naito, the Board acknowledged their approval of the cancellation of the regular September 16, 2024 meeting due to a lack of a quorum.
3. POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST: No potential conflicts were identified.
4. GSA/GSP (SGMA):  
Garth and Keasha of QK presented the attached Gravelly Ford Water District Groundwater Sustainability Plan Update.  
Garth provided the attached "Notice of Public Hearing on Updates and Adoption of the GFWD Groundwater Sustainability Plan". The Hearing will be an Agenda Item at the District's GSA/GSP meeting of January 20, 2025.  
Garth advised our GSA needs to advise the City of Madera and the County of Madera.  
Don advised he will have the Notice posted on the District's Web Site and he will notify all the GSA's within the Madera Subbasin and he will place a Notice in the Madera Tribune this week.  
Garth provided an update on the GSA/GSP (SGMA). A copy of the report is attached.
5. WATER SUPPLY 2024: No changes in amounts. Madera Canal release is 0 cfs. F-K Canal is 1053 cfs and SJ River is 409 cfs with a target of 195 cfs at the Gravelly Ford Recorder.
6. MADERA REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT GROUP: Item of interest was an update of activities - No action taken.
7. FINANCIAL REPORT: (a) The Board was presented with a summary of the September 16, 2024 bills, the September 16, 2024 summary of the District's Temporary Investments and the September 2024 Income & Expenses for the year, along with the monthly totals of Temporary Investments for 2022, 2023 and 2024. On a motion by P Stewart and a second by M Naito, the Board voted unanimously to approve payment of the September bills in the amount of \$26,204.43.  
(b) The Board was presented with a summary of the October 21, 2024 bills, the October 21, 2024 summary of the District's Temporary Investments and the October 2024 Income & Expenses for the year, along with the monthly totals of Temporary Investments for 2022, 2023 and 2024. On a motion by P Stewart and a second by M Naito, the Board voted unanimously to approve payment of the September bills in the amount of \$18,959.91.

8. CORRESPONDENCE & MANAGER'S REPORT:

(a) Conflict of Interest Code Status - Don advised that the Board of Supervisors were advised by letter that no changes to the existing Code are needed.

(b) Web Site Update - Don advised that the Web Master had been given the current list of District Officers, Directors and Committees.

(c) Refund request to Bureau of Reclamation for surplus payments for Water Year 2023 has been submitted.

(d) Bureau of Reclamation contract Compliance Review for Gravelly Ford for 2023 year has been completed, and there were no compliance deficiencies by the District.

(e) Request by Gallo to defer any action on their Ripperdan Annexation process was received by the Board. This issue will be deferred as requested.

9. BOARD COMMENTS, FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: The Board directed that an Agenda Item to discuss the Annexation Request by those lands that are already in the district's Sphere of Influence needs to be included.

15. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting declared adjourned at 3:10 PM by Pres. S Kirk.  
The next scheduled meeting will be November 18, 2024 at 1:30 PM at O'Neill Farm Management Office. It is anticipated the meeting will be in person attendance with telephone call-in option.

---

Diane Kirk, Secretary/Treasurer



**MEMO**

**Date:** October 15, 2024 **Project No.:** 180035  
**To:** Gravelly Ford WD  
**From:** Garth Pecchenino  
**Subject:** Board meeting - GSA/GSP SGMA  
**cc:** Name or delete

4. GSA/GSP (SGMA)

- a.) We have continued with our Technical Group meetings to set out a schedule and topics for review and discussion on how to best address the comments in the State letter. This again being the main topics; Domestic wells, subsidence, groundwater levels and interconnected surface water.

The discussion has continued on the method and data to be used to develop the basin wide minimum thresholds and the interim milestones to achieve sustainability in the basin as a whole by 2040.

The main elements being reviewed are the subsidence levels, ground water levels, water quality and interconnected surface waters. As for GFWD the overall deviation has been limited for these elements within the boundary of the District. The impact to those values in the overall water model tends to produce levels lower than the field collected data. We continue to push back for adjustments to the overall model to have the output of the model reflect the values that represent the field collected data for those input criteria of the model.

The Domestic well program will be the first item to resolve and then the subsidence, both will most likely have the Board sign onto an MOU for the actions to put the steps in place to reach the goals for the GSP. **This is being moved forward by David Ceppos (facilitator) to resolve with all the GSA's**

This will represent the areas for the 5-year update and the periodic review documents to be submitted to the State.

We will need to conduct water quality samples this year for the report.

We have surveyed the wells in the District for Subsidence.

Going forward we need to establish formal access to the wells for groundwater levels and subsidence.

- b.) Coordination Agreement – The other agencies have also agreed with the approach to extend out the final date to 2040 to end the agreement. **This is being moved forward by David Ceppos (facilitator) to resolve with all the GSA's**



**MEMO**

**PAGE 2 OF 2**

- c.) Interconnected Surface Water – There is a draft MOU that has been provided to the Bureau for comment and we are waiting on their response to determine the path forward on this topic.
- d.) WaterSMART Grant – Grant application Submitted on July 8<sup>th</sup>. Waiting for a response, estimate maybe by the end of the year. **No update**

Other:  
Water Purchases:

Infrastructure:

Need a list of the existing District facilities; length of canal, pipelines, control structures, turnouts?  
Do we know if or how many meters are on existing Ag wells?  
Water Quality Testing

Can we get an updated Crop survey for the District; Tree type, grapes, fallow ground?

End of Report

GAP

**DRAFT**

**GRAVELLY FORD WATER DISTRICT  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON  
UPDATES AND ADOPTION OF THE  
GFWD GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN**

To comply with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, Gravelly Ford Water District does give the following notice:

1. Date, Time, Location and Purpose of Public Hearing: At 1:00 p.m. on January 20, 2025, at O'Neill Agri-Management, 13991 Avenue 7, Madera, California 93637, the Gravelly Ford Water District, Board of Directors will adopt the 2025 Updated Gravelly Ford Water District Groundwater Sustainability Plan.
2. The purpose of the updates to the Gravelly Ford Water District Groundwater Sustainability Plan is to comply with recommendations made by DWR in their 2023 Approval Letter for the Madera Subbasin.
3. The Gravelly Ford Water District is working closely with the other GSAs in the Madera Subbasin to standardize approaches and methods for Plan. Additional information on the Groundwater Subbasin can be found in the Madera Subbasin Joint GSP.
4. Any entity that would like to consult with Gravelly Ford Water District should send their request to Gravelly Ford Water District, 1625 Howard Road, #324, Madera CA 93637 or email [donroberts717@gmail.com](mailto:donroberts717@gmail.com).