

**MINUTES OF THE SAN JOAQUIN RIVER EXCHANGE CONTRACTORS
GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY MEETING
HELD FRIDAY, AUGUST 2, 2024 AT 8:30 A.M.**

The *San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Groundwater Sustainability Agency (Exchange Contractors GSA)* met on Friday, August 2, 2024 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):

Cannon Michael, Director; John Wiersma, General Manager

Firebaugh Canal Water District (FCWD):

Mike Stearns, Director (arrived 8:32 a.m.); Jeff Bryant, General Manager

Columbia Canal Company (CCC):

Kimberly Brown, Chair; Chris Cardella, CCC Director

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:

Andrew McClure, Minasian Law

The following person(s) participated via Conference Call:

Rick Iger, Provost & Pritchard

CALL TO ORDER:

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

REVIEW OF THE AGENDA:

The Executive Director stated that there were no changes proposed to the Agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The unapproved minutes from the April 5, 2024 San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors GSA meeting were presented. A motion was made by Director Fontana and seconded by Director Michael to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was unanimously carried.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Introductions by those attending in person and via teleconference were provided.

BOARD TO APPROVE APRIL – JULY 2024 EXPENDITURES AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT:

Joann White presented the Expenditure List comprising of the expenses from April through July 2024. Following, a review of her Financial Report was provided highlighting the Budget Comparison and Cash Activity Report.

A motion was made by Director Michael and seconded by Director Fontana to approve the Financial Report as presented. The motion was unanimously carried.

PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER ADOPTION OF A GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN FOR THE DELTA MENDOTA SUBBASIN:

At 8:38 a.m., the Public Hearing was opened to receive oral and written comments prior to the consideration of approving the Resolution Adopting the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for the Delta-Mendota Subbasin. The hearing convened pursuant to and in the satisfaction of the requirements of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, including Section 10728.4.

Manager Wiersma provided a report on the process leading up to the proposed adoption of the single GSP, explaining that the GSP had been adopted by the Delta-Mendota Subbasin Coordination Committee on July 22nd. During the month of August, all of the GSA's within the Delta-Mendota Subbasin will be considering adoption of the Plan at their meetings. The final draft of the GSP was submitted to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) on July 31st to allow them additional time for the review process. Once all the other GSA's adopt the Plan, copies of the Resolutions will be forwarded to the SWRCB.

Mr. Wiersma said that the development of the GSP met all the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) criteria, and addresses previous comments received from the California Department of Water Resources (DWR). The next phase will focus on outreach including meetings with the SWRCB and staff, circulation of news releases, and public participation webinars. Scott Petersen and Lighthouse have been working through these details. Lastly, Mr. Wiersma thanked many who were involved in getting through this milestone including San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority, CCID, and Exchange Contractors.

After determining there were no further comments submitted, the Public Hearing was closed at 8:44 a.m.

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 24-02:

Following review of Resolution No. 24-02, Adopting the Delta-Mendota Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan, a motion was made by Director Stearns and seconded by Director Michael to approve Resolution No. 24-02 as submitted. Upon a roll call vote, the motion was passed unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 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

CANNON MICHAEL, DIRECTOR

MIKE STEARNS, DIRECTOR