

DRAFT

A meeting of the GFWD Board was opened in person and telephonically on December 16, 2024 at 1:33 PM.

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

1. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: On a motion by P Stewart and a second by N Davis, the minutes of the regular meeting of November 18, 2024 were unanimously approved as emailed.
3. POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST: No potential conflicts were identified.
4. GSA/GSP (SGMA): Don reported he had a confidential discussion on Domestic Wells with Coordinator Dave Ceppos. No notification to date for any follow up meetings on subbasin positions.
Garth reviewed his attached Board Report on GSA/GSP (SGMA)
5. INTERCONNECTED SURFACE WATER MOU: Garth reviewed his attached Board Report on this Item.

Don brought up the following questions that need answers from Coordinator:

- Why is not the Delta Mendota Subbasin interconnected with the Madera and Kings Subbasins?
- Why are the City of Fresno and Fresno Irrigation District not signing this proposed MOU since all the GSA's in the Madera Subbasin are signing?
- Why are the McMullen Area GSA and the North Kings GSA signing this agreement. Do they not have a separate agreement?
- If FID and the City of Fresno do not have to sign, then why does not the Madera GSP (GSA) which includes Madera County, City of Madera and Madera Irrigation District qualify as signing for all 3 entities?
- Under "J" the comment letters and any responses uploaded to the SGMA portal dated May 14, 2020, December 16, 2020, September 30, 2022 and June 2, 2023 should all be included and attached to the MOU.
- Under "T" "depletions of interconnected surface water " - What is this a part of?
- No. 8 - Environmental Review - The issue of interconnected surface water as it relates to the SJR Restoration should have been evaluated as part of the Bureau of Reclamation EIR for the "SJR Restoration" and no additional environmental review should be required, G74-0096

6. ANNEXATION REQUESTS FOR EXISTING SPHERE OF INFLUENCE AREA: Several possible items were discussed regarding annexation criteria:
 - Staff to provide follow up to Board
 - No negative impact to District or to SGMA process for District
 - Buy-in suggested at \$500 per acre payable over 5 years? Need to establish a dollar amount.
 - New annexations need to bring or enable the District to increase water supply.
 - Costs of enlargement of diversion capacity including pumps, road crossing, operational control improvements need to be reimbursed over a period of up to ten years?
 - New pond areas for operational use including recharge needed
 - Estimated costs for distribution system modifications with a recommended priority schedule?

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7. WATER SUPPLY 2024: No changes in amounts. Madera Canal release is 0 cfs. F-K Canal is down to 52 cfs and SJ River is 426 cfs with a target of 235 cfs at the Gravelly Ford Recorder.
8. MADERA REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT GROUP: November 25th meeting - Items of interest:
 - 2025 Budget - approved
 - 2025 Meeting Schedule - approved
 - Update of activities - Information
9. FINANCIAL REPORT: The Board was presented with a summary of the December 16, 2024 bills, the December 16, 2024 summary of the District's Temporary Investments and the December 2024 Income & Expenses for the year, along with the monthly totals of Temporary Investments for 2022, 2023 and 2024. On a motion by M Naito and a second by P Stewart, the Board voted unanimously to approve payment of the November bills in the amount of \$47,334.65.
10. CORRESPONDENCE & MANAGER'S REPORT: 2025 Calendars from QK for the District's use.
11. BOARD COMMENTS, FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:
12. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting declared adjourned at 2:40 PM by Pres. S Kirk.
The next scheduled meeting will be January 20, 2025 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: November 18, 2024
To: Gravelly Ford WD
From: Garth Pecchenino
Subject: Board meeting - GSA/GSP SGMA
cc: Name or delete

Project No.: 180035

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 Draft GSP for the Joint GSP has been put out and we are reviewing the report for the overall method of approach in the report. As per the coordination agreement we will acknowledge the approach from the Joint GSP report and then clarify how and what approach is the best fit for GFWD to meet the objective or threshold.

We are working to have a draft report for you by the end of the month.

We have a draft Periodic Review Report to send over as well, this covers the review of what was completed and learned over the last four years by the District through the efforts to collect data and put projects into effect, what are the outcomes and does that change any of the approaches to the matrix of SGMA compliance.

Keasha and I meet with Ken Schimdt about the draft report and he provided comments that we are working on to revise the draft report.

Ken's Items to work on for the District:

- Meters on the Irrigation Wells and start collecting flow volumes pumped annually
- Water Quality samples from all the Domestic Wells as a background number
- Ken providing an updated Water Balance
- List of Data Gaps
- Add well in newly annexed area for monitoring
- Transmissibility study for gradient flow through District, at Boundary
- Current Crop Pattern

Overall Ken's opinion is that the District is in good shape going forward.

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



MEMO

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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. Overall change is less than the interim milestone and within expected range.

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**
- c.) WaterSMART Grant – Grant application Submitted on July 8th. Waiting for a response, estimate maybe by the end of the year. **No update**

There are new grants coming out and we will ok to see if any apply to the needs of the District.

5. Interconnected Surface Water MOU – The rest of the parties see the agreement as how the various agencies will share information and work together, Tom has concerns as to will it lead into the agencies being called on to provide the surface water back into the River.

6. Annexation SOI -

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

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AGENDA ITEMS 4 & 5

Gmail - Interconnected Surface Water MOU

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?ik=bc46ceaa1b&view=pt&search=...>



Don Roberts <donroberts717@gmail.com>

Interconnected Surface Water MOU

1 message

Don Roberts <donroberts717@gmail.com>

Thu, Dec 26, 2024 at 11:51 AM

To: Garth Pecchenino <Garth.Pecchenino@qkinc.com>

Cc: Keasha Blew <keasha.blew@qkinc.com>, Tom Campagne <cc@campagnelaw.com>, Nick Davis <ndavis.deltagreen@gmail.com>, Michael Naito <michaelnaito@aol.com>, Seth Kirk <seth@atbgrowers.com>, Paul Stewart <paastewart@gmail.com>, Diane <dKirk365@gmail.com>

Bcc: Don Roberts <donroberts717@gmail.com>

Garth

I brought up the following at the Dece Board meeting , which we need answers on.

First we need to change the GFWD address to

1516 Howard Rd #324

Madera, CA 93637

. Why isn't the Delta-Mendota Subbasin interconnected with the Madera , Kings & McMullen subbasins? It certainly has an impact on the interconnected surface water, especially since the Columbia Canal co pumps all their water?

.Why aren't the City of Fresno and Fresno Irrigation District not signing the proposed MU, since all the GSA's in the Madera Subbasin having to sign?

. Apparently there is no white area in Fresno County that's impacted by this interconnection?

Why are the McMullen Area GSA and the NNorth Kings GSA signing this agreement? Didn't they have a separate agreement?

. If the City of Fresno and Fresno Irrigation District don't have to sign? : then why doesn't the Madera GSP(GSA) which includes the City of Madera and Madera Irrigation District qualify as signing for all 3 entities?

. . Under "J"

The comment letters and any responses uploaded to the SGMA Portal dated May 14, 2020, Dec 16, 2020, September30, 2022, June 2, 2023 should all be attached hereto and made a part of the MOU.

Under "T"

the comment--"depletions of interconnected surface water" what is this a part of?

No 8 Environmental Review

This issue of interconnected surface water as it relates to the San Joaquin River Restoration should have been evaluated as part of the Bureau of Reclamation's EIR for the "SJR Restoration" project, and no additional environmental review should be required!

Don



MEMO

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GSP Info:

All for the next Annual Report 2025:

We need to do a domestic well inventory for water quality sampling,

We need GFWD to do a crop inventory for District parcels; Tree type, grapes, fallow ground?

We are going to develop a questioner to send each year to the growers for this information and other information about pumping volumes.

Develop a list of Wells that already have meters.

End of Report

GAP

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AGENDA ITEM 5

AGENDA ITEM 6

ANNEXATION CRITERIA EXISTING SPHERE OF INFLUENCE

Items for discussion:

1. Costs for LAFCO Application and associated documents, fees for annexation, etc.
2. Existing system buy-in fees.
3. Responsible for connections from Existing District Facilities to place of use including pipelines, control valves, metering, etc.
4. Responsible for costs to modify existing District pipeline to provide operational controls for District facilities (eg control boxes, gates, connections, etc)
5. Agree to accept the tax and assessments being charged to District parcels.
6. Agree to apply District water to property when available to meet GSP requirements.
7. Costs for modifications to existing District facilities may be reimbursed to District with equal installments over a 5 year period.