

Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency (YSGA) Working Group
1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. via GoToMeeting Teleconference
September 2, 2021 Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER and DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Kristin Sicke, Executive Officer, called the meeting to order at 1:03 pm. Kristin conducted a roll call and determined a quorum of member agencies were virtually in attendance (Roll Call attached).

2. APPROVE AGENDA and ADDING ITEMS TO THE POSTED AGENDA – The agenda was approved with no additional items.

3. PUBLIC FORUM – No public comments.

4. APPROVE MINUTES of July 29, 2021 YSGA WORKING GROUP MEETING. Tom Barth motioned to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Roger Cornwell and passed unanimously. (Roll call attached).

5. INFORMATIONAL ITEM – Report of the Executive Officer (Kristin Sicke):

Kristin gave an overview of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) work accomplished by technical staff for the YSGA.

Wells at Cacheville and Knights Landing CSD's are being added to the real-time network. All real-time wells are currently below 2020 levels. Some wells are below their 2015 levels. The spring-fall measurements are being taken monthly throughout the drought. The rate of decline seen in these wells is slowing.

6. UPDATE ON GSP DEVELOPMENT, GSP Technical Team.

A. The Draft GSP is posted to Website for public comment from Aug. 25 until Oct. 27, 2021.

B. Review of Public Workshop Content and Comments Received (Aug. 25 and Sept. 1, 2021). The group discussed the takeaways and main concerns presented by stakeholders at the public workshops. The comments received focused on:

- Technical issues
- Structure of the YSGA
- Data gaps
- Changing conditions: land use, climate change, areas of declining groundwater levels
- Domestic well concerns
- Concerns about management actions such as meters, permitting, and other restrictions

David Schaad commented that the locations of the concerned commentors is important when considering how best to address the concerns. The technical team will work to summarize the areas of the most concerned participants.

Ken Loy suggested overlaying the OES map of dry wells with the map showing changes in water levels to determine how localized the problems are.

David added that assessing the projects based on whether they may help the identified problem areas will be important.

Rod Scheaffer commented that encouraging growers to use surface water is an important project and asked whether any limiting of groundwater pumping will occur for growers not using surface water.

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7. CONSIDERATION OF FORMING A YSGA DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE

The planning committee would develop a drought contingency plan, including considering additional management actions to better manage a long-term drought and prioritizing projects for implementation. The County Board of Supervisors met on August 31 and agreed to continue coordination with the YSGA and receive an advisory recommendation from the drought committee.

The County is working to set up a better data collection program as part of the well permitting process. Coordination is already ongoing between the YSGA, Yolo County DEH, and Yolo OES. Ken Loy suggested a communication plan to be developed to inform the public of the proper notification process. Jeanette Wrynski inquired about the County's ability to contact well owners, which has been lacking in the past.

The group discussed several management actions that may be relevant to drought response, including:

- Coordinated response to threshold exceedances
- Preparedness through recharge projects
- Domestic well impact mitigation program

Evan Jacobs commented on the need to consider whether the agency will be involved in short-term response, and if so, how that response will be funded. Tom Barth emphasized the need for the committee to fully define the nature of the problem.

Ben King commented on the Human Right to Water and stated that the YSGA may need to develop mitigation actions. Second, he commented that climate change is predicted to increase climate variability, and the YSGA will likely need to respond. Rod Schaffer commented that he still sees a lot of flood irrigation around the County and suggested using grants for water conservation and irrigation efficiency technologies. Lee Smith commented that he believes there is no short-term solution such as a moratorium, and that the issue is more long-term. He emphasized the need to understand more about the wells that are failing. Roger Cornwell added that NCWA will be having upcoming strategic planning meetings relevant to this discussion.

Kristin Sicke and Bill Vanderwaal presented the Buckeye Creek Recharge Project, which will be presented to the Board of Directors for approval on September 21. Ben King commented in support of the recharge project, mentioning its benefits to both Yolo and Colusa subbasins. Davis Schaad commented in support of prioritizing the District's China Slough recharge project.

Ashley Driver commented on the need to consider multiple monitoring sites and data sources.

8. FUTURE WORKING GROUP DISCUSSIONS – Executive Officer

- a. Annexation of "Grey Areas"
- b. Advisory Committee Roles
- c. Role of Water Transfers

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9. WRAP UP and NEXT STEPS:

- a. No additional comments.

10. ADJOURN: Meeting adjourned at 2:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristin Sicke
Executive Officer

**Yolo SGA Working Group Meeting Roll-Call Attendance and Votes
September 2, 2021, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., via GoToMeeting teleconference**

<u>Agency</u>	<u>Representative(s)</u>	<u>In Attendance</u>	<u>Vote – Item 4</u>
California American Water -- Dunnigan	Evan Jacobs	Evan Jacobs	Yes
City of Davis	Stan Gryczko	Dawn Calciano	Yes
City of West Sacramento	GM Tully William Roberts	GM Tully William Roberts (Item 5-end)	Yes
City of Winters	Kurt Balasek	Kurt Balasek	Yes
City of Woodland	Matt Cohen	Matt Cohen (Item 6-end)	Absent
Colusa Drain Mutual Water Company	Lynell Pollock	-	Absent
Dunnigan Water District	Bill Vanderwaal Dave Schaad	Dave Schaad Bill Vanderwaal	Yes
Esparto CSD	Steve Knightley Manuel Quintana	Manuel Quintana	Yes
Madison CSD	Leo Refsland	Leo Refsland (Item 6-end)	Absent
Reclamation District (RD) 108	Bill Vanderwaal Roger Cornwell	Bill Vanderwaal Roger Cornwell	Yes
RD 150 (Merritt Island)	Warren Bogle	--	Absent
RD 307 (Lisbon Island)	James Johas	--	Absent
RD 537 (Lovdal District)	Tom Ramos	Tom Ramos	Yes
RD 730 (Knights Landing)	Jim Heidrick	Jim Heidrick (Item 6-end)	Absent
RD 765 (Glide District)	David Dickson	--	Absent
RD 787 (Fair Ranch)	Roger Cornwell Dominic Bruno	Roger Cornwell	Yes
RD 999 (Netherlands)	Tom Slater	--	Absent
RD 1600 (Mull District)	Michelle Clark	--	Absent
RD 2035 (Conaway Ranch)	Mike Hall	--	Absent
University of California, Davis	Camille Kirk	--	Absent
Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation	Emily Drewek Marc Fawns	Marc Fawns	Yes
Yolo County	Richard Reed Elisa Sabatini	Elisa Sabatini	Yes
Yolo County Farm Bureau	Stan Lester Denise Sagara	Denise Sagara	Yes
Yolo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District	Tim O'Halloran Tom Barth Max Stevenson Kristin Sicke	Kristin Sicke Max Stevenson Tom Barth	Yes
Environmental Representative	Ann Brice	Ann Brice	Yes

Other Attendees	
California Department of Fish & Wildlife (CDFW)	Joe Hobbs
Downey Brand	Kevin O'Brien Austin Cho
Yolo County RCD	Jeanette Wrysinski
YSGA Staff	Jack Cronin Sarah Leicht
GEI Consultants	Larry Rodriguez
Ponticello Engineers (City of Winters)	Carol Scianna
Public	Kayla Robinson Ken Loy Ken Wilson Jan Linda Bell Ben King Jenny Scheer Lee Smith Ashley Driver Rod Schaffer