

# Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency Working Group Meeting Agenda

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Thursday, September 10, 2020  
1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

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- 1:00 1. CALL TO ORDER and DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**
- 1:03 2. APPROVE AGENDA and ADDING ITEMS TO THE POSTED AGENDA** – To add an agenda item, it must fit into one of the following categories: a) A majority determination that an emergency (as designed by the Brown Act) exists; or b) A 4/5 determination that the need to take action arose subsequent to the agenda being posted.
- 1:04 3. PUBLIC FORUM** – The Public may address the Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency Working Group on any item of interest not appearing on the agenda that is within the subject matter of the Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency Working Group.
- 1:06 4. APPROVE MINUTES** of the May 6, 2020 YSGA Working Group meeting, pages 3 - 6
- 1:07 5. INFORMATIONAL ITEM** – Report of the Executive Officer – Kristin Sicke

- 1:12 6. GSP DEVELOPMENT: GROUNDWATER MONITORING PROGRAM UPDATE – YCFC&WCD**
- 1:20 7. GSP DEVELOPMENT: TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATE ON SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT CRITERIA DEVELOPMENT – GSP Technical Team and TAC**
- a. Method for establishing the Minimum Threshold and Measurable Objectives
    - Groundwater Storage, Levels, Quality
  - b. Process for Selecting Representative Wells
  - c. Future TAC Meeting Analyses
    - Land Subsidence, GW/SW Interaction, Seawater Intrusion
    - Water Budget and Future Scenarios
- 2:40 8. GSP DEVELOPMENT: SCHEDULING MANAGEMENT AREA WORKSHOPS and DRAFT CHAPTERS OF THE GSP – Executive Officer**
- a. Scheduling Management Area Workshops
  - b. Schedule for Posting Draft Chapters of the GSP
- 2:45 9. YSGA BOARD OF DIRECTORS’ MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 21, 2020 – Executive Officer**
- a. Administrative Items – Audit, Bills, etc.
  - b. Ad-hoc Committee for Reconsideration of Voting Structure and Expense Allocation
  - c. GSP Development Update: TAC’s Analysis of Sustainable Management Criteria
- 2:50 10. FUTURE WORKING GROUP DISCUSSIONS – Executive Officer**
- a. Annexation of White Areas
  - b. White Paper on Areas of Special Concern
  - c. Role of Water Transfers
- 2:55 11. WRAP UP and NEXT STEPS**
- a. Next meeting: December 2, 2020 at 1 p.m.
- 3:00 12. ADJOURN**

Consideration of items not on the posted agenda, items in the following categories: 1) majority determination that an emergency (as defined by the Brown Act) exists; or 2) a 4/5ths determination that the need to take action arose subsequent to posting of the agenda. I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing agenda meeting of the Working Group of the Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency was posted September 4, 2020 at the Yolo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District located at 34274 State Highway 16, Woodland 95695 and was made available to the public during normal business hours.



Donna L. Gentile, Board Secretary/Administrative Coordinator

**Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency (YSGA) Working Group**  
**1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. via ToGoMeeting Teleconference**  
**May 6, 2020 Minutes (DRAFT)**

<b>1</b>	<p><b>CALL TO ORDER and DETERMINATION OF QUORUM</b>          Kristin Sicke, Executive Officer, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Donna Gentile conducted a roll call and determined a quorum of sixteen (16) member agencies were virtually in attendance (Roll Call attached).</p>
<b>2.</b>	<p><b>APPROVE AGENDA and ADDING ITEMS TO THE POSTED AGENDA</b> – Kristin noted a minor modification to Agenda Item #7 in the emailed version. Bill Vanderwaal motioned to approve the agenda; the motion was seconded by Roger Cornwall and passed unanimously.</p>
<b>3.</b>	<p><b>PUBLIC FORUM</b> – There were no comments from the public.</p>
<b>4.</b>	<p><b>APPROVE MINUTES of April 3, 2019 YSGA Working Group meeting.</b> Carol Scianna motioned to approve the minutes, the motion was seconded by Roger Cornwell and passed unanimously.</p>
<b>5.</b>	<p><b>INFORMATIONAL ITEM – Report of the Executive Officer (Kristin Sicke):</b>          Kristin reported on the behind the scenes work that has been ongoing since the last Working Group meeting in 2019. She provided a refresher of the YSGA’s 27-member organizational structure and identified the six Management Areas (MA) for managing the subbasin. Those MA are Capay Valley, North Yolo, Central Yolo, Yolo Zamora, South Yolo, and Clarksburg. One update: RD1600 requested to move from North Yolo to South Yolo MA.</p> <p>Kristin gave a real-time groundwater monitoring well update. She illustrated with a historical comparison of current year groundwater levels to last year and to 2015 levels (drought year). In addition to the YCFWCWD’s sixteen SCADA monitoring wells, they are installing new WellIntel monitoring devices into select wells. The data from WellIntel sites will be included into the monitoring network. Max Stevenson will give an update on the groundwater monitoring program in Item #7.</p> <p>Kristin summarized discussions at the March 16, 2020 YSGA Board meeting regarding development of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) and the hiring of GEI Consultants to assist with the development GSP components and begin conducting outreach for local feedback. The GSP schedule will be updated to reflect a new completion timeline. Originally planned for the end of this year, completion is now projected by spring 2021 as impacted by the COVID-19 State mandates. The YSGA continues to utilize DWR’s awarded grant funding to the JPA for GSP development tasks.</p>
<b>6.</b>	<p><b>DWR UPDATE</b> – Barrett Kaasa, California Department of Water Resources (DWR) <a href="mailto:bkaasa@water.ca.gov">bkaasa@water.ca.gov</a>, gave an update on groundwater related funding and activities. He informed that DWR’s non-essential staff is working from home per State’s shelter-in-place mandates (SIP). Therefore, contacting staff via email is the most expedient way to receive a response. Essential DWR staff is in the office and in the field, so email is also your best option. He gave updates on the following topics:  <b>SGMA</b> (<a href="https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management">https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management</a>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The GSP public comment period for the 42 submitted Plans has been extended to May 15 and June 3. Currently none of those GSP’s border Yolo county.</li> <li>• In January, DWR held two SGMA workshops in Southern California (location of the</li> </ul>

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	<p>most critically overdrafted basins). Two Northern California workshops are planned, but due to SIP those dates and locations are still to be determined. Topics will include DWR’s assessment and evaluations process, how to use the GSP reporting system, the monitoring network module, and the annual report submittal system, provide information on State assistance and discussions on sustainable management criteria.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More GSA forums are also planned to discuss SGMA implementation topics, but scheduling is still to be determined.</li> <li>• The SacValley SIM model was released. This is a groundwater model that DWR will be using for modeling. It is also available for GSAs to use. A beta version is available on DWR’s website. A calibrated model is expected by fall 2020.</li> <li>• DWR is now offering in-translation services for notices and informational documents that GSA’s are sending to the public. Languages included are Chinese, Hmong, Korean, Laotian, Punjabi, Spanish, Tagalog, and Vietnamese. Documents have a 1,500 word count limit.</li> <li>• DWR recently updated their InSAR data set through September 2019. Data for 2020 is expected to be available in 2021.</li> <li>• A new landuse dataset that represents 2016 for California is available on the SGMA Data Viewer (<a href="https://sgma.water.ca.gov/webgis/?appid=SGMADataViewer#gwlevels">https://sgma.water.ca.gov/webgis/?appid=SGMADataViewer#gwlevels</a>)</li> </ul>
<p><b>7.</b></p>	<p><b>GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN (GSP) DEVELOPMENT: GROUNDWATER MONITORING PROGRAM UPDATE – YCFC&amp;WCD, Max Stevenson</b> gave updates on the following items.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <u>Spring 2020 Update of Bi-Annual Hydrograph</u>: Max illustrated average groundwater levels (<a href="https://www.yologroundwater.org/reports">https://www.yologroundwater.org/reports</a>) for 2020. Measurements are taken in spring and fall every year to capture seasonal changes.</li> <li>b. <u>YSGA Monitoring Program Activities 2019-2020</u>: Max gave an overview of activities and available technical resources. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brooke Ely, CivicSpark Fellow has been assisting the YSGA with groundwater monitoring activities this year. She is an environmental engineer and will be working with the YSGA until August 2020.</li> <li>• Yolo County Water Resources Information Database (WRID) was developed with a DWR grant in 2004. In 2009 it became an online database sponsored by the Water Resources Association of Yolo County. Most of the groundwater level and water quality data is contained within this database. It assists with our regulatory and CASGEM reporting and currently has about 100 active user accounts.</li> <li>• GIS Database includes the location of all our representative wells that will be used to evaluate sustainability criteria for the GSP. Max gave a photographic tour through the YCFCWCD well monitoring network and some of the well improvements that are underway. Frame Survey and Mapping is conducting ground surface elevation (GSE) surveys. He has already completed surveillance of 152 wells in the YCFCWCD program. Next, he will survey an additional 50-75 YSGA representative wells from its member agencies. Some wells may already have good quality GSE information. Max explained why surveying GSE is important with a simple illustration (see the PPT from the meeting: <a href="https://www.yologroundwater.org/files/c67facc66/Working+Group+Meeting_20200506.pdf">https://www.yologroundwater.org/files/c67facc66/Working+Group+Meeting_20200506.pdf</a>). This task is being funded by our DWR grant at an estimated cost of \$70-\$80,000 when completed.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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	<p>c. <u>Representative Well Selection and Member Agency Coordination</u>: Max discussed the coordination steps with Member Agencies to complete the outdoor labeling and elevation survey process. After a representative well is selected, then the YSGA and well owner need to enter into a one-page monitoring agreement. This is a data coordination agreement, not a legal agreement. Max showed an example of the agreement form. After the agreement is signed then access to the wells allows labeling and GSE surveying. Max showed a simple table listing the Member Agencies and number of wells in the program. He reviewed next steps: contacting each agency and confirm their representative wells, getting contact information for technicians and execute agreements. The timeline is to be completed by the end of the summer.</p>
<p><b>8.</b></p>	<p><b>GSP DEVELOPMENT: OVERVIEW OF WATER BUDGETS</b> - Executive Officer and Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI): Vishal Mehta, Susie Bresney, Chuck Young</p> <p>a. <u>Activities since the April 2019 Working Group Meeting</u>: Vishal gave an update on progress made in the last year. The historical modeling period has been extended to 2018 from 2015. They have incorporated and run five future scenarios and aggregated the results by management area. Today SEI will give a quick overview of the results they are currently evaluating. For detailed illustrations: <a href="https://www.yologroundwater.org/files/c67facc66/Working+Group+Meeting_20200506.pdf">https://www.yologroundwater.org/files/c67facc66/Working+Group+Meeting_20200506.pdf</a>.</p> <p>b. <u>Water Budgets by Management Areas and Yolo Subbasin Summary</u>: and</p> <p>c. <u>Future Scenarios</u>: Vishal reviewed the five future scenarios projections that are based on historical climate repeating. Each scenario includes urban demand projections and constant recent cropping pattern. All future projections are slightly wetter and warmer. He displayed a graph comparing historical precipitation vs future scenarios for the Yolo subbasin from 1970 to 2016. He also compared historical vs future baseline for urban and agricultural water deliveries. Vishal discussed and illustrated baseline and future baseline storage by management area. When compared to historical information their analysis projected that the Capay, South Yolo and Clarksburg areas would experience no remarkable change. Central and North Yolo would fare well because of more surface water availability/utilization. Dunnigan Hills would fare worse than historically because the groundwater drops lower during drought years and does not recover as well. He noted that there is variation in all the management areas because certain assumptions had to be made during modeling future scenarios. Next steps will be defining sustainable yield, exploring model use for defining Sustainable Management Criteria, and incorporating rural landuse changes, projects, and management actions.</p>
<p><b>9.</b></p>	<p><b>GSP DEVELOPMENT: SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT CRITERIA DEVELOPMENT AND WORKSHOPS</b> - Executive Officer, Kristin reviewed the Sustainable Management Criteria (SMC) that includes sustainable goal, undesirable results, minimum thresholds, and measurable objectives. She reviewed the sustainability indicators and how they will be applied to the SMC. The next steps for developing the SMC include selection of representative monitoring sites, assessment of sustainability indicators, definition of undesirable results, setting minimum thresholds and measurable objectives and sustainability goal.</p> <p>a. <u>Establishing Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)</u>: Kristin asked the WG for their input to create a TAC to discuss Sustainability Indicators and Management Area Focus. Kristin asked for interested participants to serve on the TAC. A representative</p>

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	<p>is needed from each of the management areas. Kristin was asked whether the TAC would cover both topics or would there be a TAC for each. This might impact who would be able to serve. This will need to be discussed further. Kristin laid out a timeline for establishing the TAC and receiving a commitment to participate by 5/22 and have the first teleconference meeting on 6/1. Kristin will be reaching out to individuals. Anyone interested should contact Kristin directly.</p> <p>b. <u>Scheduling Workshops</u>: Scheduling of workshops is on hold due to the SIP mandate. If anyone has suggestions on how to host a large workshop virtually, please talk with Kristin. Camille, UC Davis had a recommendation and will share that information with Kristin.</p>
<b>10.</b>	<p><b>FUTURE WORKING GROUP DISCUSSIONS – Executive Officer</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Transition to quarterly meetings; email updates of TAC activities</li> <li>b. Annexation of White Areas</li> <li>c. White Paper on Areas of Special Concern</li> <li>d. Role of Water Transfers</li> </ul>
<b>11.</b>	<p><b>WRAP UP and NEXT STEPS:</b></p> <p>The Groundwater Resources Association will be offering a groundwater short course. That information will be posted on the YSGA’s website. It is a good course for new staff or those interested in learning more about groundwater.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <u>Next Meeting</u>: Transitioning from monthly to quarterly WG meetings. Next meeting will be August 5, 2020 at 1 p.m. (Post meeting note: August 5<sup>th</sup> meeting was postponed to September 10.)</li> </ul>
<b>12.</b>	<p><b>ADJOURN:</b> Meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm</p>

Respectfully submitted,

Donna L. Gentile, Board Secretary & Administrative Coordinator