



# Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency

## Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

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**Monday, January 23, 2023**

**3:15 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

**Remote Meeting Only – Attendance via GoToMeeting**

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- 1. CALL TO ORDER and DETERMINATION OF QUORUM:** Meeting called to order at 3:15 p.m. by Roger Cornwell, Chair.  
Executive Officer Sicke conducted a roll call and determined a quorum was present.

The following Board members and (alternates) were in attendance:

City of Davis: Bapu Vaitla

City of West Sacramento: Verna Sulpizio-Hull

City of Winters: Carol Scianna, (Kurt Balasek)

City of Woodland: (Tania Garcia-Cadena)

Dunnigan Water District: David Schaad, (Bill Vanderwaal)

Esparto CSD: Charlie Schaupp

Reclamation District (RD) 108: (Bill Vanderwaal)

RD 307: James Johas

RD 537: Tom Ramos

RD 787: Roger Cornwell, (Dominic Bruno)

RD 999: Tom Slater

RD 1600: Michele Clark

RD 2035: (Mike Hall)

Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation: Marc Fawns

Yolo County: Gary Sandy

Yolo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (YCFC&WCD): Tom Barth,  
(Kristin Sicke)

UC Davis: (Kelli O'Day)

Cal Am Water – Dunnigan: Evan Jacobs

Yolo County Farm Bureau: Lee Smith

Environmental Representative: Ann Brice

Absent: Madison CSD, RD 150, RD 730, RD 765, Rumsey Water Users Association, Colusa  
Drain Mutual Water Company

- 2. CONSIDERATION: RE-AUTHORIZE TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS AS A RESULT OF THE COVID-19 EMERGENCY**

Action: 1) find that, as a result of the COVID-19 emergency, meeting in

person would present imminent risks to the health and safety of attendees, and 2) hold meetings by teleconference as authorized by subdivision (e)(1)(C) of Section 54953 of the Government Code.

Motion: Yolo County (Sandy)

Second: City of Winters (Scianna)

Discussion: Kristin provided an overview of how teleconferencing rules will change at the expected end of the COVID-19 Emergency in February 2023. The Board will transition away from remote attendance in March.

Vote: Approved unanimously (roll call attached)

**3. ADDING ITEMS TO THE POSTED AGENDA:** Nothing to add.

**4. PUBLIC FORUM:** No public comment.

**5. CONSIDERATION: CONSENT ITEMS**

- a) Approve November 21, 2022 Regular YSGA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
- b) Receive Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Financial Statements: November 3, 2022 – January 19, 2023
- c) Approve Payment of Bills in Approved Fiscal Year 22-23 Budget
- d) Receive minutes of Executive Committee: 11/9 and 12/19/22
- e) Consider Changing March 2023 Regular Meeting Time to 3:00 pm

Action: Approve items a), c), and e) as presented.

Motion: Cal Am Water (Jacobs)

Second: City of Davis (Vaitla)

Discussion: No further discussion.

Vote: Approved unanimously (roll call attached)

**6. CONSIDERATION: 2023 BOARD OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

Since the Yolo Subbasin GSP has been submitted to DWR and the YSGA is in the implementation phase of administering the GSP, the YSGA Executive Committee recommended electing new Board officers. The Executive Committee appreciates Roger Cornwell and Jesse Loren serving as Chair and Vice Chair for the past four years, and recommends the Board now appoint Gary Sandy (Yolo County) and Lee Smith (Yolo County Farm Bureau) to serve as the YSGA Chair and Vice Chair, respectively. The Executive Committee is recommending that Kristin Sicke continue to serve as the Secretary and Treasurer.

The Executive Committee shall be comprised of the Chair, the Vice Chair, the Executive Officer, an Urban Representative, and an Agricultural Representative. The Executive Committee's Agricultural Representative, Lynnel Pollock (Colusa Drain MWC), has served on the Executive Committee for almost seven years and is ready to provide another Director with the opportunity to serve. In addition to the Chair and Vice Chair election discussed above, the YSGA Executive Committee recommends appointing the Urban and Agricultural Representatives of the Executive Committee as Kurt Balasek (City of Winters) and David Schaad (Dunnigan Water District), with Carol Scianna serving as the City

of Winters alternate representative.

There are currently no term limits in the YSGA JPA or Board policies. If desired, term limits can be designated in future bylaws.

Action: Approve item 6 as presented.

Motion: YCFC&WCD (Barth)

Second: City of Winters (Scianna)

Discussion: The Board agreed that the matter of term limits should be taken to the Ad Hoc Committee on Funding Mechanisms and Voting Structure.

Vote: Approved unanimously (roll call attached)

## **7. UPDATE ON WATER LEGISLATION, REGULATORY, & DELTA ISSUES**

David Guy and Ivy Brittain provided an update from NCWA:

The Governor's water supply strategy is placing emphasis on groundwater recharge projects and ensuring drinking water supplies are protected. There are discussions in Sacramento around water rights modernization, although it is not yet clear what that could look like. NCWA and partners are continuing work on Voluntary Agreements to ensure adequate Delta flows. NCWA's annual meeting will be held on March 3<sup>rd</sup> at Sierra Nevada Brewing.

Due to the large turnover in Congress, new headline-grabbing bills are likely to be introduced this year. There is also a current focus on regulatory streamlining which is likely to be reflected in legislative efforts. Another SGMA-focused bill is likely. The state's budget this year will be significantly less than previous years, so less funding will be available. However, there are still several water-related funding programs that are expected to continue.

## **8. CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES UPDATE**

A representative from the California Department of Water Resources was not available to provide an update.

## **9. REPORT OF THE CHAIR AND EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

Kristin Sicke, Executive Officer, provided a summary of her written update included in the agenda packet.

A December meeting hosted by NCWA at Dunnigan Water District provided an opportunity for Sacramento Valley water agencies and environmental agencies to discuss GSP Implementation and tour the Dunnigan Recharge Project. Current groundwater levels are approximately six feet lower than last year and four feet lower than in 2015. DWR has released a new INSAR subsidence dataset providing data up to October 1, 2022. The newest dataset shows some recovery between July and October 2022.

## **10. WATER CONDITIONS UPDATE, Member Agency Roundtable**

- a. Update from the Ad Hoc Drought Task Force Committee: The Committee continues to meet to coordinate drought response efforts.

- b. Statewide Conditions: There has been a significant amount of rainfall, which has alleviated drought conditions statewide.
- c. Roger Cornwell / Bill Vanderwaal, Sacramento River Update
  - Roger: Lake Shasta gained over 1 million acre-feet (AF) of storage in January. The reservoir is now about 54 percent full.
  - Bill gave an update on Dunnigan’s groundwater recharge project. Since October, groundwater levels have shown about 30 ft of recovery. During the storm event, excess water from the Tehama-Colusa Canal was diverted into Buckeye Creek, and 72 AF were diverted onto the farmer’s field.
- d. Tim Busch, Woodland Davis Clean Water Agency: The agency was using purchased water until early December 2022 when the Term 91 curtailment was rescinded. Woodland then started injecting into their ASR wells and has stored about 650 AF (as of January 23, 2023). Depending on water availability, an additional 2000-2500 AF could be stored through the winter. There is still a good chance that there could be curtailments this summer.
- e. Kristin Sicke, YCFC&WCD: After significant rainfall, the District now has about 27,000 AF of allocated water from Clear Lake and 114,000 AF stored in Indian Valley Reservoir. The District is anticipating selling at least 120,000 AF to growers this year.

**11. UPDATE ON GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN IMPLEMENTATION**

- a. *SGMA Implementation Grant Submission:* Kristin provided an overview of the submitted SGMA Implementation Grant application. The total grant request is about \$13 million. Decisions from DWR are expected in June 2023.
- b. *Executive Order N-7-22 Well Permitting Update:* Kristin updated the Board on the status of well permit review under the Executive Order.
- c. *Establishing a Framework for Forming the Management Area Advisory Committees:* Kristin continues to work to identify Committee members.
- d. *Investigation of Long-Term Funding Strategies:* The Executive Committee approved an expenditure of up to \$10,000 for Ludhorff and Scalmanini to develop a Technical Memorandum. The Memo will develop five-year revenue projections, consider viable cost allocation options, provide metrics on future changes, and provide a scope of work for a long-term fee study.

**12. MEMBERS’ REPORTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**

Tom Barth suggested that Kevin O’Brien provide an overview of lessons learned from groundwater adjudication in the Ventura area at a future Board meeting.

**13. NEXT MEETING – March 20, 2023**

**14. ADJOURNMENT – Chair Sandy adjourned the meeting at 4:29 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,



Kristin Sicke, Executive Officer

ROLL CALL YSGA Board of Directors							
	Agency	Name	Board/ Alternate	ATTENDANCE	VOTE - ITEM 2	VOTE - ITEM 5	VOTE - ITEM 6
1	City of Davis	Bapu Vaitla	<b>Board</b>	X	Aye	Aye	Aye
		Will Arnold	Alternate				
2	City of West Sacramento	Verna Sulpizio-Hull	<b>Board</b>	X	Aye	Aye	Aye
		Chris Ledesma	Alternate				
3	City of Winters	Carol Scianna	<b>Board</b>	X	Aye	Aye	Aye
		Kurt Balasek	Alternate	X			
		Wade Cowan	Alternate				
4	City of Woodland	Mayra Vega	<b>Board</b>				
		Tania Garcia-Cadena	Alternate	X (Item 6-end)	Absent	Absent	Aye
5	Dunnigan Water District	David Schaad	<b>Board</b>	X	Aye	Aye	Aye
		Bill Vanderwaal	Alternate	X			
6	Esparto CSD	Charles Schaupp	<b>Board</b>	X	Absent	Aye	Aye
		Manuel Quintana	Alternate				
7	Madison CSD	Leo Refsland	<b>Board</b>	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
8	RD 108	Hilary Reinhard	<b>Board</b>				
		Bill Vanderwaal	<b>Alternate</b>	X	Aye	Aye	Aye
9	RD 150	Warren Bogle	<b>Board</b>	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
10	RD 307	James Johas	<b>Board</b>	X	Aye	Aye	Aye
		Karen Chesnut	Alternate				
11	RD 537	Tom Ramos	<b>Board</b>	X (Item 5-end)	Absent	Aye	Aye
12	RD 730	Jim Heidrick	<b>Board</b>	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
13	RD 765	David Dickson, Jr.	<b>Board</b>	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
		Doug Dickson, Sr.	Alternate				
14	RD 787	Roger Cornwell	<b>Board</b>	X	Aye	Aye	Aye
		Dominic Bruno	Alternate	X			
15	RD 999	Tom Slater	<b>Board</b>	X	Aye	Aye	Aye
16	RD 1600	Michele Clark	<b>Board</b>	X	Aye	Aye	Aye
17	RD 2035	Kryiakos Tsakopoulos	<b>Board</b>				
		Mike Hall	Alternate	X	Aye	Aye	Aye
18	Rumsey Water Users Association	Ken Muller	<b>Board</b>	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
19	Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation	Marc Fawns	<b>Board</b>	X	Aye	Aye	Aye
		Jim Etters	Alternate				
20	Yolo County	Gary Sandy	<b>Board</b>	X	Aye	Aye	Aye
		Jim Provenza	Alternate				
21	YCFC&WCD	Tom Barth	<b>Board</b>	X	Aye	Aye	Aye
		Kristin Sicke	Alternate	X			
22	UC Davis	Camille Kirk	<b>Board</b>				
		Kelli O'Day	Alternate	X (Item 6-end)	Absent	Absent	Aye
23	Cal Am Water -Dunnigan	Evan Jacobs	<b>Board</b>	X	Aye	Aye	Aye
		Audie Foster	Alternate				
24	Colusa Drain MWC	Lynnel Pollock	<b>Board</b>	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
		Jim Wallace	Alternate				
25	Yolo County Farm Bureau	Lee Smith	<b>Board</b>	X	Aye	Aye	Aye
		Denise Sagara	Alternate				
26	Environmental Rep.	Ann Brice	<b>Board</b>	X (Item 2-end)	Aye	Aye	Absent

Agency	Name	Attendance
<b><i>OTHER YSGA STAFF:</i></b>		
Executive Officer	Kristin Sicke	X
Legal Counsel, Downey Brand	Kevin O'Brien	X
YSGA Water Resources Tech.	Sarah Leicht	X
<b><i>PUBLIC AND AGENCY STAFF:</i></b>		
NCWA	Ivy Brittain	X
NCWA	David Guy	X
Yolo LAFCo	Christine Crawford	X
Yolo County	Elisa Sabatini	X
WDCWA	Tim Busch	X
Conoway Preservation Gro	Byron Buck	X
Yolo RCD	Kate Reza	X
	Linda Bell	X
	Matt Frank	X
	Jan Hushbeck	X