

**South San Joaquin Groundwater Sustainability Agency  
Special Meeting  
Manteca, California  
February 20, 2019**

The Governing Board of the South San Joaquin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SSJGSA) met in a special session at the South San Joaquin Irrigation District (SSJID) Board Room at 9:00 a.m. Director Holmes called the meeting to order and led the flag salute.

Upon roll-call the following members were noted present:

**DIRECTORS:** Robert Holmes, South San Joaquin Irrigation District  
Dave Kamper, South San Joaquin Irrigation District  
Dale Kuil, South San Joaquin Irrigation District  
Leo Zuber, City of Ripon

**ABSENT:** Tammy Alcantor, City of Escalon

Also present were SSJID General Manager, Peter Rietkerk; SSJID Engineering Department Manager, Forrest Killingsworth; Special GSA Counsel, Valerie Kincaid; SSJID General Counsel, Mia Brown; and SSJID Clerk of the Board, Betty Garcia.

**Public Comment** – None

*Tammy Alcantor arrived at 9:05 a.m. prior to taking action on item #1.*

**ACTION CALENDAR**

**Item #1 - Consider approval of the meeting Minutes of September 5, 2018**

A motion was made by Director Zuber and seconded by Director Kuil to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion passed 5 to 0 by the following vote:

**AYES:** ALCANTOR HOLMES KAMPER KUIL ZUBER  
**NOES:** NONE  
**ABSTAIN:** NONE  
**ABSENT:** NONE

**Item #2 – Review of Financial Statements for 2018 and January 2019**

Mr. Bere Lindley, Assistant General Manager of SSJID, reviewed a complete detailed report of all invoices paid on behalf of the SSJGSA. He wants to provide full transparency to the Board of all of the GSA’s financial transactions. Mr. Lindley stated that currently the SSJGSA funds are co-mingled with SSJID funds and will remain so until a separate entity (a joint powers authority) is established for the GSA which will require a Federal Tax ID number.

**Item #3 – Review and consider approval of 2019 Budget**

Mr. Lindley, Assistant General Manager of SSJID, presented a complete review of the proposed budget for 2019. He stated there was a carryover of \$137,648 in unspent member contributions from 2018 and therefore no bills will be issued to member agencies until the carryover amount is depleted.

He noted that in the board meeting of January 27, 2018 the board determined that capital contributions required of the members will be shared in the following proportions:

- South San Joaquin Irrigation District 85%
- City of Ripon 10%
- City of Escalon 5%

After discussing alternatives, the directors and SSJID management indicated a consensus that the capital contributions required of the members for funding the budget will continue to be billed by SSJID quarterly in advance. The proposed budget is based on the estimates of 2019 expenses, made by SSJID management. Wages, payroll taxes, and benefits reflect allocation of the cost of compensation for four (4) SSJID employees:

- Water Resources Coordinator at 50%. This is a position newly approved by the SSJID Board of Directors. The proposed budget reflects that this position is expected to be filled by April 2019.
- Assistant General Manager @ 5%.
- Engineering Manager @ 5%.
- Executive Secretary @ 5%.

The proposed 2019 budget calls for three GSA members to contribute a total cash amount of \$103,994 as follows:

- South San Joaquin Irrigation District \$88,395
- City of Ripon \$10,399
- City of Escalon \$ 5,200

This is the total expense budget of \$241,642 for 2019 minus the unspent 2018 member contributions of \$137,648. In addition to reviewing the 2019 proposed budget, he also reviewed the financial statements for 2018 and the year-to-date financial statements as of January 31, 2019.

A motion was made by Director Zuber and seconded by Director Alcantor to adopt the proposed budget for 2019 and that no bills be issued to the members for quarterly capital contributions until the carryover amount of \$137,648 from 2018 is depleted. The motion passed 5 to 0 by the following vote:

AYES: ALCANTOR HOLMES KAMPER KUIL ZUBER  
NOES: NONE  
ABSTAIN: NONE  
ABSENT: NONE

**Item #4 – Update regarding Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority business, including groundwater sustainability plan development activities and initial policy discussion**

Mr. Peter Rietkerk, General Manager of SSJID, reviewed an update of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan development process and policy discussion with the Board. He noted that since September 2018, the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority (GWA) has continued to develop technical work supporting the groundwater sustainability plan. The Groundwater

Sustainability Plan (GSP) development consultant, Woodard and Curran, has transitioned from thresholds analysis for six (6) SGMA sustainability indicators, and focused almost exclusively on solicitation, development, and analysis of potential sustainability projects that would encourage and promote long-term sustainability. He informed the Board that the City of Lathrop has pulled out of the basin and will be reorganized into the Tracy Subbasin.

He stated the GWA solicited Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) to submit projects that promote sustainable groundwater management within the subbasin. The scope of the projects submitted included demand side management, surface water transfers, surface water distribution, in-lieu groundwater storage projects, and recharge projects. A total of 31 projects were submitted by the GSAs, including six (6) projects submitted by the SSJGSA and its members. The following criteria were developed for project assessment:

- 1) Implementability
- 2) Location/proximity to area of overdraft
- 3) Cost per volume water savings
- 4) Environmental benefit/impact
- 5) Disadvantaged community benefit
- 6) Water quality impact (positive or negative)
- 7) Affordability

The projects were then grouped into project portfolios based on specific priority themes. These themes included cost effectiveness, regional diversity, minimized infrastructure, environmental benefit, disadvantaged community benefits, impact to the cone of depression, fast implementation, small volume projects, and large volume projects. It was understood after reviewing the preliminary life-cycle cost assumptions that more work was needed to assure project costs were truly an “apples-to-apples” comparison with appropriate assumptions made for capital and operations and maintenance cost.

The board had an in-depth discussion regarding the path to develop a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP). This discussion included necessary policy decisions that the SSJGSA will need to participate in at the GWA board level in order to appropriately direct GSP preparation. Rietkerk noted a technical/legal workshop held by GSA staff and consultants on February 28, 2019 that will address related schedule and policy concerns. As the GSP development will become more aggressive over the coming months, it will be necessary for the SSJGSA members to meet more often.

This item was for information only and no action was taken.

**Item #5 – Consider approval of regular board meeting schedule**

A motion was made by Director Kamper and seconded by Director Zuber to propose the Third (3<sup>rd</sup>) Wednesday of every month to be designated as regular board meeting days of the SSJGSA and allow staff to call for special meetings, as needed. The motion passed 5 to 0 by the following vote:

AYES:	ALCANTOR HOLMES KAMPER KUIL ROOS
NOES:	NONE
ABSTAIN:	NONE
ABSENT:	NONE

**Item #6 – Communications - None**

**Item #7 - Adjournment**

There being no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Director Zuber and seconded by Director Holmes to adjourn the meeting at 10:50 a.m. The motion passed 5 to 0 by the following vote:

AYES:	ALCANTOR HOLMES KAMPER KUIL ZUBER
NOES:	NONE
ABSTAIN:	NONE
ABSENT:	NONE

**ATTEST:**

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**Betty L. Garcia, Clerk of the Board**