

MEETING MINUTES

Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the Western Management Area in the Santa Ynez River Groundwater Basin October 20, 2021

A special meeting of the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for the Western Management Area (WMA) in the Santa Ynez River Groundwater Basin was held on Wednesday, October 20, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. As a result of the COVID-19 emergency, this meeting occurred solely via teleconference as authorized by AB361 and in accordance with the latest Santa Barbara County Health Officer Order.

GSA Committee Directors Present: Jeremy Ball, Chris Brooks, Meighan Dietenhofer (Acting as Alternate), and Myron Heavin

Alternate GSA Committee Director Present: Kristin Worthley

Staff Present: Joe Barget, Bill Buelow, Amber Thompson

Others Present: Ken Domako, Karen Kistler, and Brett Stroud

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

GSA Committee Director Chris Brooks called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. and asked Mr. Bill Buelow to call roll. Three Committee Directors and one Acting Alternate Committee Director were present providing a quorum. Mr. Buelow announced names of phone and video attendees.

II. Additions or Deletions to the Agenda

No additions or deletions were made.

III. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

IV. Consider adopting Resolution WMA-2021-001, "Resolution Initially Authorizing Remote Teleconference Meetings Under AB361"

Mr. Buelow provided background of and purpose for AB361. Mr. Brett Stroud (Young Wooldridge) explained the code, history leading up to passing of AB361 and benefits of invoking AB361 to change teleconference rules while abiding by the Brown Act. Discussion followed.

GSA Committee Director Myron Heavin made a MOTION to approve Resolution WMA-2021-001, RESOLUTION INITIALLY AUTHORIZING REMOTE TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS UNDER AB361. GSA Committee Director Jeremy Ball seconded the motion, reading of the Resolution was waived and the Resolution was passed 3-0-1 by roll call vote with the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District representative being absent.

V. Next "Special" WMA GSA Meeting: Wednesday, October 27, 2021, 10:00 AM

Mr. Buelow announced the next proposed meeting for the WMA GSA Committee will be a Special Meeting on Wednesday, October 27, 2021 at 10:00 am via ZOOM.

VI. Next Regular WMA GSA Meeting: Wednesday, November 17, 2021, 10:00 AM

Mr. Buelow announced that the next WMA GSA Committee Regular Meeting will be on Wednesday, November 17, 2021, 10:00 am, via ZOOM.

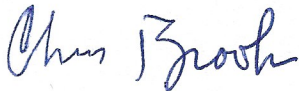
VII. WMA GSA Committee requests and comments

GSA Committee Director Myron Heavin thanked Mr. Joe Barget for speaking at the Rotary Club meeting recently. As there are strong differing public opinions regarding if the Lower Aquifer is in long-term decline, he requested Mr. Buelow prepare a report to explain this situation for distribution.

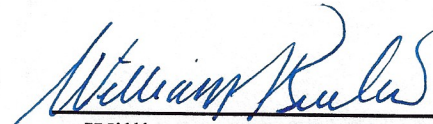
GSA Committee Director Jeremy Ball thanked everyone for the welcome and assured everyone he will be working closely with Ms. Kristin Worthley to learn about WMA GSA information as he is the new representative for the City of Lompoc.

XIII. Adjournment

GSA Committee Director Chris Brooks adjourned the meeting at 10:21 am.



Chris Brooks, Chairman



William J. Buelow, Secretary

Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the Western Management Area in the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin

RESOLUTION WMA-2021-001

RESOLUTION INITIALLY AUTHORIZING REMOTE TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS UNDER AB 361

WHEREAS, meetings of the governing Committee (“Committee”) of the **Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the Western Management Area in the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin** (WMA GSA) are open and public, as required by the Ralph M. Brown Act (Cal. Gov. Code 54950 – 54963), so that any member of the public may attend, participate, and watch the WMA GSA conduct its business;

WHEREAS, Government Code section 54953(e), added by Assembly Bill 361 (2021) (“AB361”), provides for remote teleconferencing participation in meetings by members of a legislative body, without compliance with the requirements of Government Code section 54953(b)(3), subject to certain conditions and requirements; and

WHEREAS, the WMA GSA wishes to invoke the provisions of AB361 to authorize teleconference meetings subject to the provisions of Government Code section 54953(e);

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that:

Section 1. Findings. The Committee hereby finds as follows:

- (a) As provided by Government Code section 54953(e)(1), a proclaimed state of emergency exists under the California Emergency Services Act, as declared by the Governor on March 4, 2020.
- (b) As provided by Government Code section 54953(e)(1), the County of Santa Barbara Health Department has imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing, specifically Santa Barbara County Health Order No. 2021-10.5 (see also Santa Barbara County Public Health Department Health Officials AB 361 Social Distance Recommendation issued September 28, 2021).

Section 2. Procedures for Teleconference Meetings. The WMA GSA shall hold meetings to allow for teleconference participation pursuant to the requirements of Government Code section 54953(e).

Section 3. Effective Date. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

Section 4. Renewal. Pursuant to Government Code section 54953(e)(3), the WMA GSA may consider findings regarding the state of emergency every 30 days.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the governing Committee of the WMA GSA on October 20, 2021 by the following roll call vote:

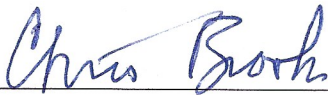
AYES: Jeremy Ball, Chris Brooks, Myron Heavin

NOES: None

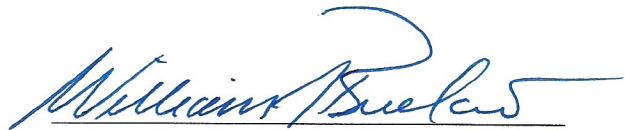
ABSENT: Steve Jordan

ABSTAINED: None

ATTEST:



Chris Brooks, Chairman



William J. Buelow, Secretary