



**PAJARO VALLEY WATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY**

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**AD HOC SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER PLANNING ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY**

**Thursday, September 9, 2021, 2:00-4:30 p.m.**

<b>Committee Members</b>	
<b>Present</b>	<b>Not Present</b>
Kirk Schmidt, Chair	Tom Broz, Director, <i>Alternate</i>
Bob Culbertson, Director, Vice Chair	Christi Suchil
Mary Bannister, Director	Tannis Thorlakson
Amy Newell, Director	
Sierra Ryan	
Robert Rodoni	
Beau Kayser	
Sandy Coplin	
Robert Johnson	
Marla Anderson	
Mayra Hernandez, <i>Alternate</i>	
Jonathan Pilch	
Sandra Hoppe	
Gary Vincelet	
Kyle Monper, <i>Alternate</i>	
<b>Staff &amp; Other Attendees</b>	
Brian Lockwood, General Manager (GM)	Marcus Mendiola, Water Conservation and Outreach Specialist (COS)
Casey Meusel, Associate Hydrologist (AH)	Laura Taay, Administrative Analyst/Board Secretary (AA)
Cameron Tana, Montgomery & Associates	Ellen Cross, Strategy Driver, Inc.
Gregory Kamman, cbec eco engineers	Dane Mathis, Department of Water Resources
Joel Casagrande, NOAA Fisheries West Coast Region	Erin McCarthy, Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County
Nicki Fowler, Monterey County Environmental Health Bureau	Michelaina Johnson, UCSC Graduate Student
Heather Lukacs, Community Water Center	Justine Massey, Community Water Center
Sarah Faraola, Member of Public	Brien Sparling, Member of Public
Rebecca Bozarth, Member of Public	Margie Kay, Member of Public
Kim Burdett, Member of Public	Michael Ogunbodede, Member of Public
Sydney, Member of Public	

- **INTRODUCTIONS**

Meeting called to order at 2:04 p.m. Chair Schmidt and meeting facilitator Ms. Cross welcomed attendees. A roll call of GSU22 Committee members was completed (attendance presented in the above table) along with a review of the current meeting objectives, guidelines, and the GSU22 schedule.

- **Received Correspondence**

Ms. Cross reported the receipt of correspondence from Rural Residents for Water and Community Water Center. Ms. Cross noted that PV Water will host a second GSU22 community meeting on September 28 and that PV Water issued a [technical memorandum](#) responding to Rural Residents for Water's [July 28 presentation](#) and August 10 memorandum. Mr. Tana responded to concerns expressed in correspondence relating to climate change uncertainty for projected water budgets and noted a correction to be made in the approximate change of usable groundwater in storage in the [Projected Water Budget TM](#) Table 3 from -5,570 AFY to -5,930 AFY that is incorporated in the GSU22 (Table 18).

- **Comments for Items Not on Agenda**

Committee Member Anderson expressed concern that the precipitation values used in the projected water budgets presented in the August meeting did not adequately represent an average and dry scenario. Mr. Tana responded with an explanation that available climate change projections do show increase in rainfall on average for the period of 2025-2040 when comparing it to the historical period followed by a drier period after 2040, and using the average scenario is consistent with DWR guidance.

- **MANAGEMENT/GOVERNANCE**

- **Consider Corrections of GSU22 August 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting Summary**

None.

- **Receive Report on PV Water Board Meeting**

GM Lockwood provided a brief report on the August 18, 2021 [Board of Directors special meeting](#).

- **GSU22 DEVELOPMENT**

- **Review and Consider Monitoring Plan**

Mr. Tana presented a summary of the GSU22 Monitoring Plan (Plan) which details the types and spatial extents of monitoring networks in the Pajaro Valley Subbasin, and describes the timing and frequency of data collection. In addition, the Plan identifies data gaps and the recommended steps to address them. Following roundtable discussion on topics including the ability of surface water gages to measure streamflow in the subsurface; adequacy of the spatial and topographic coverage of the monitoring networks; the suitability of the AWD\_Aimee well as a representative monitoring point (RMP); the willingness of private well owners to volunteer their wells for monitoring; the planned monitoring of the Alluvium aquifer; the Carneros Creek Management Plan; potential grant funding to support monitoring efforts; the adequacy of the Plan to address shallow domestic wells; a suggestion of an entire analysis section on domestic wells; constituents tested in water quality monitoring; and adequacy of the water quality sustainable management criteria, Committee

Member Johnson moved to approve a recommendation that the Board of Directors adopt the following statement for the GSU22 Monitoring Plan; Director Newell seconded.

*The Monitoring Plan represents PV Water's most current monitoring networks and protocols. It describes future improvements to the network to facilitate improved basin management as the GSP Alternative is implemented.*

*The priorities for future improvements to the network are improvements that will be directly used to assess conditions with respect to sustainable management criteria (SMC)*

- *Wells added to the water quality monitoring network along the seawater intrusion SMC chloride isocontour inland of SC-A4A and between PV6 and the Hudson wells*
- *Representative monitoring points for chronic depletion of groundwater levels in the south of Watsonville, Las Lomas, and east of Watsonville areas*
- *A representative monitoring point for depletion of interconnected surface water along Carneros Creek*

The motion carried by the following voice vote:

**Ayes:** Schmidt, Culberson, Bannister, Newell, Ryan, Rodoni, Coplin, Kayser, Johnson, Vincelet, Pilch, Hoppe, Monper

**Noes:** Anderson

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:** Suchil

○ **Review and Consider Non-Jurisdictional Assessment Plan**

Mr. Tana presented a summary of the Non-Jurisdictional Assessment Plan which details how PV Water will assess adverse effects of groundwater conditions, on an ongoing basis, in the jurisdictional and non-jurisdictional areas from activities in both areas. Following a public comment supporting the assessment plan and an opportunity for discussion, Committee Member Johnson moved to approve a recommendation that the Board of Directors adopt the following statement on the Non-Jurisdictional Assessment Plan; Committee Member Ryan seconded.

*The Basin Management Plan: Groundwater Sustainability Update 2022 (GSU22) includes a plan that will assess adverse effects of groundwater conditions on an ongoing basis in the:*

- 1. jurisdictional area from activities in the non-jurisdictional area, and*
- 2. non-jurisdictional area from activities in the jurisdictional area.*

The motion carried by the following voice vote:

**Ayes:** Schmidt, Culberson, Bannister, Newell, Ryan, Rodoni, Kayser, Coplin, Johnson, Vincelet, Anderson, Pilch, Hoppe, Monper

**Noes:** None

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:** Suchil

○ **Review and Consider Sustainability Status of Groundwater Level (GWL)**

Mr. Tana presented a summary of the sustainability status analysis for chronic lowering of GWL. The analysis evaluated monitoring data in comparison to sustainable management criteria for chronic lowering of GWL. Following public comment and discussion on topics including how improvements in GWLs are being measured and accounting for potential effects from seawater intrusion; and the occurrence of seawater intrusion, Director Newell moved to approve a recommendation that the Board of Directors adopt the following statement on sustainability status of chronic lowering of groundwater levels; Committee Member Johnson seconded.

*Based on the analysis of observed data, implementation of the Basin Management Plan Update (2014) projects and management actions have improved Basin groundwater elevations to support groundwater supply.*

The motion carried by the following voice vote:

**Ayes:** Schmidt, Culbertson, Newell, Ryan, Rodoni, Kayser, Coplin, Johnson, Vincelet, Pilch, Hoppe, Monper, Bannister

**Noes:** Anderson

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:** Suchil

○ **Review and Consider Sustainability Status of Interconnected Surface Water (ISW)**

Mr. Tana presented a summary of the sustainability status analysis for depletion of ISW. The analysis evaluated monitoring data in comparison to sustainable management criteria for depletion of ISW. Following comments and discussion on topics including the nature of the hydraulic connection between the Alluvium and Aromas aquifers; the ability of the Basin Management Plan Update 2014 projects and management actions to improve the interconnectivity of surface waters and the Aromas aquifer; and whether increasing interconnectivity of surface water could provide recharge benefits, Alternate Committee Member Monper moved to approve a recommendation that the Board of Directors adopt the following statement on sustainability status of depletion of interconnected surface water; Committee Member Pilch seconded.

*Based on the analysis of observed data, implementation of the Basin Management Plan Update (2014) projects and management actions have helped improve Basin groundwater elevations to make progress towards increasing the frequency and duration of interconnected surface water with the Aromas aquifer.*

The motion carried by the following voice vote:

**Ayes:** Culbertson, Bannister, Newell, Ryan, Rodoni, Kayser, Coplin, Johnson, Vincelet, Pilch, Hoppe, Monper

**Noes:** Schmidt

**Abstain:** Anderson

**Absent:** Suchil

- **Received Annotated Outline**

Mr. Tana provided an overview of the draft GSU22 annotated outline, summarized the review schedule, and detailed the guidelines for providing review comments.

- **Committee/Public Questions + Comments**

Comments and questions on topics including the scope of and timing of comments for inclusion in the draft GSU22 presented to the Board of Directors on 10/20; recommendation on what types of comments can be made for consideration; the ability for reconsideration of approved statements and SMC; the adequacy of outreach efforts and ability to reach the public; opportunity for comment following submittal; success of stakeholder involvement in the GSU22 Committee process; and appreciation of staff, Committee members, and public involvement in the GSU22 were received and responded to.

- **COMMUNICATION & ENGAGEMENT (C&E)**

- **Update on C&E Activities**

Ms. Cross reported on recent and upcoming C&E activities including the Fall newsletter, the upcoming community meeting on September 28, and planned meetings with non-jurisdictional and adjacent basin entities.

- **NEXT STEPS**

- **Review and Comment on Draft GSU22**

Ms. Cross noted comments are due on the draft GSU22 by October 1 for consideration in the draft being presented to the Board of Directors on October 20.

- **Confirm Board Approval Schedule**

Ms. Cross noted the GSU22 will be presented as an information item to the Board of Directors at the October 20 meeting and considered for adoption at the November 17 meeting.

- **Interest in GSU22 Celebration**

Ms. Cross expressed PV Water's desire to host an event to thank Committee members and interested parties for their time and involvement in the GSU22 process.

- **Discuss Actions / Information Needed**

No actions

**Meeting Adjourned at 4:32 p.m.**