



PAJARO VALLEY WATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY

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

Thursday, July 8, 2021, 2:00-4:30 p.m.

Committee Members	
Present	Not Present
Kirk Schmidt, Chair	Sandy Coplin
Bob Culbertson, Director, Vice Chair	Gary Vincelet
Amy Newell, Director	Tom Broz, Director, <i>Alternate</i>
Mary Bannister, Director	Tannis Thorlakson
Robert Rodoni	
Christi Suchil	
Jonathan Pilch	
Robert Johnson	
Marla Anderson	
Mayra Hernandez, <i>Alternate</i>	
Sandra Hoppe	
Kyle Monper, <i>Alternate</i>	
Sierra Ryan	
Beau Kayser	
Staff & Other Attendees	
Brian Lockwood, General Manager (GM)	Cameron Tana, Montgomery & Associates
Darcy Pruitt, Agency Counsel	Ellen Cross, Strategy Driver, Inc.
Patrick Wickham, Montgomery & Associates	Casey Meusel, Associate Hydrologist (AH)
Paul Friedlander, Carollo Engineers	Justine Massey, Community Water Center
Laura Taay, Administrative Analyst/Board Secretary	Amanda Peisch-Derby, Department of Water Resources
Michelaina Johnson, UCSC Graduate Student	Carl Hensler, Member of Public
Lauren, Member of Public	Evelyn, Member of Public

● **INTRODUCTIONS**

Meeting called to order at 2:02 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 the following correspondence: a letter from the Community Water Center dated June 18; an email from Mr. Daniel Castillo received June 28; an email from Mr. Helbard Alkhasseleh received July 5; and an email and memorandum from Rural Residents for Water received July 6. AH Meusel added that an email and an associated memorandum from Committee Member Anderson was received earlier today, July 8. All received correspondence along with PV Water's June 30 memorandum responding to the Community Water Center letter were forwarded to the Committee in advance of today's meeting. Ms. Cross then presented a summary review of the Committee bylaws for a motion to reconsider followed by Mr. Tana providing a brief summary of the well data used in the well depth analysis.

- **Comments for Items Not on Agenda**

Chair Schmidt provided guidance on the amount of time that will be allocated to commenters for items on and not on the agenda. Justine Massey from Community Water Center presented a summary of a [Well Impact Mitigation Framework](#). Rural Residents for Water and Committee Member Anderson commented. Committee Member Anderson made a statement that included the topics of: the rural residents petitions; the May 13 GSU22 meeting; the Rural Residents for Water correspondence; the technical level of the meeting; the chronic lowering of groundwater sustainable management criteria (SMC); the Agency function; and groundwater mapping. Ms. Cross noted that the project team has reached out previously with an offer to host a community meeting for rural residents, and offered it once again.

- **MANAGEMENT/GOVERNANCE**

- **Consider Corrections of GSU22 June 10th Meeting Summary**

Director Newell requested that the date of the Management/Governance "Consider Corrections of GSU22 April 8th Meeting Summary" correctly reflect the meeting #9 date of May 13.

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

GM Lockwood provided a brief report on the June 16, 2021 [Board of Directors meeting](#).

- **GSU22 DEVELOPMENT**

- **Preview Non-Jurisdictional Assessment**

Mr. Tana presented a preview of the non-jurisdictional assessment that included the recommended action being addressed; the history of the Pajaro Valley Hydrologic Model (PVHM); the function and structure of the PVHM; and an outline of the modeling for the non-jurisdictional assessment to be performed including the simulation of climate change and sea level rise. Roundtable discussion ensued on the following topic:

- Climate change scenario simulations as they relate to Department of Water Resources (DWR) provided scenarios

- **Preview Projected Water Budget**

Mr. Tana presented a preview of the Projected Water Budget that included the recommended action being addressed; the history of the Pajaro Valley Hydrologic Model (PVHM); the function and structure of the PVHM; and an outline of the projected water budget modeling to be performed including the simulation of climate change and sea level rise as well as evaluating seawater intrusion flow. Roundtable discussion ensued on the following topics:

- Categorization of seawater intrusion as an inflow in modeling and plan to show effect on usable groundwater in storage
- Water quality as it relates to modeling and groundwater budgets
- Impact of sea level rise on seawater intrusion and simulating scenarios
- **Review and Consider Sustainability Status of BMP Projects**

Mr. Tana presented a summary of the basin sustainability status as it relates to the reduction of groundwater in storage and seawater intrusion sustainability indicators. The summary included a review of the DWR approved groundwater in storage SMC in the Alternative; observed changes of groundwater in storage and groundwater pumping; an evaluation of chloride concentration trends in wells in the coastal area; and the sustainability status based on observed data. Mr. Tana then presented a proposed recommendation for the first vote on sustainability status for the Committee to consider. Roundtable discussion ensued on the following topics:

 - Land fallowing and irrigation efficiency as it relates to the observed reduction in groundwater pumping
 - If and when there is recycled water that is not being used
 - The factors contributing to half the planned annual average yield for recycled water related projects not being met
 - The conservation program and associated funding
 - 2020 water use and change of groundwater in storage
 - The Fallow Land Incentive Program and Recharge Net Metering Pilot Program
 - Changes in groundwater in storage and the effect of seawater intrusion on groundwater levels and groundwater in storage
 - The proposed statement on sustainability status for Groundwater in Storage and Seawater Intrusion
 - Estimated average yield value for the Watsonville Slough System Managed Aquifer Recharge and Recovery Project
 - Groundwater pumping trends and the ability to analyze seawater intrusion annually
 - Water budgets and accounting for seawater intrusion

The Committee suggested that the proposed recommendation on the statement of sustainability status be revised based on feedback from today and brought back at a future meeting for consideration. Mr. Tana offered that the recommendation for all sustainability indicators could be considered collectively.
- **Review Schedule**

The current schedule was presented.
- **Committee/Public Questions + Comments**

The potential for in-person meetings was discussed with mixed feedback on preference for an in-person meeting versus continuing with the teleconference format.
- **COMMUNICATION & ENGAGEMENT (C&E)**
 - **Update on C&E Activities**

Ms. Cross informed the Committee of the summer newsletter and recent communication with rural residents including the invitation for a meeting. Committee Member Anderson inquired about a community meeting for rural residents to which the project team noted that prior invitations to host a community meeting had been sent to Mr. Daniel Castillo who

submitted the rural resident petition and that the team will once again attempt to coordinate a community meeting.

- **NEXT STEPS**

- **Identify Agenda Items for Future Meetings**

Ms. Cross asked the Committee if there are any items that should be included for the August meeting agenda with Ms. Cross specifically asking Committee Member Anderson if there were any items she'd like to be added to the agenda including revisiting groundwater levels. Committee Member Anderson requested that information be presented on if groundwater storage is being lost due exceedances of constituents in the Salt and Nutrient Management Plan. No additional items were requested.

- **Next GSU22 Committee Meeting is scheduled for August 12, 2021, 2:00 – 4:30 PM**

- **Board of Directors Meeting to propose approve recommendations from GSU22 Committee is scheduled for July 21, 2021, 7:00 p.m.**

Meeting Adjourned at 4:37 p.m.