



**PAJARO VALLEY WATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY**

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

**Thursday, August 12, 2021, 2:00-4:30 p.m.**

<b>Committee Members</b>	
<b>Present</b>	<b>Not Present</b>
Kirk Schmidt, Chair	Mary Bannister, Director
Bob Culbertson, Director, Vice Chair	Tom Broz, Director, <i>Alternate</i>
Amy Newell, Director	Tannis Thorlakson
Robert Rodoni	Gary Vincelet
Christi Suchil	Beau Kayser
Jonathan Pilch	
Robert Johnson	
Marla Anderson	
Mayra Hernandez, <i>Alternate</i>	
Sandra Hoppe	
Kyle Monper, <i>Alternate</i>	
Sandy Coplin	
Sierra Ryan	
<b>Staff &amp; Other Attendees</b>	
Brian Lockwood, General Manager (GM)	Marcus Mendiola, Conservation and Outreach Specialist (COS)
Casey Meusel, Associate Hydrologist (AH)	Laura Taay, Administrative Analyst/Board Secretary (AA)
Cameron Tana, Montgomery & Associates	Patrick Wickham, Montgomery & Associates
Ellen Cross, Strategy Driver, Inc.	Marisa Earll, United States Geological Survey
Wes Henson, United States Geological Survey	Amanda Peisch-Derby, Department of Water Resources
Erin McCarthy, Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County	Justine Massey, Community Water Center
Heather Lukacs, Community Water Center	Margie Kay, Member of Public
Ann Peden, Member of Public	Julia Rubbo, Member of Public
Kim, Member of Public	Sarah Faraola, Member of Public
KAZU, Member of Public	

- **INTRODUCTIONS**

Meeting called to order at 2:03 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: the Rural Residents for Water presentation from the July 28 community meeting hosted by PV Water for rural residents; a follow-up email regarding the meeting from Rural Residents for Water received August 3; and an email from Rural Residents for Water received August 11. Ms. Cross noted that the project team is preparing a technical memorandum responding to the Rural Residents for Water's community meeting presentation.

- **Comments for Items Not on Agenda**

Ms. Massey requested that a follow-up community meeting be held before the next GSU22 meeting. Committee Member Anderson requested that Rural Residents for Water and Community Water Center be consulted to coordinate the content and depth of detail for the follow-up meeting.

- **MANAGEMENT/GOVERNANCE**

- **Consider Corrections of GSU22 July 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting Summary**

Following a brief discussion, the meeting summary was accepted as drafted.

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

GM Lockwood provided a brief report on the July 21, 2021 [Board of Directors meeting](#).

- **GSU22 DEVELOPMENT**

- **Review and Consider Projected Water Budget**

Mr. Tana presented a summary of the projected water budget from the Pajaro Valley Hydrologic Model (PVHM). The model simulations evaluated the implementation of Basin Management Plan Update (2014) projects and management actions, incorporated climate change, and simulated sea-level rise. In addition, Mr. Tana summarized an assessment of the non-jurisdictional area demonstrating the method by which the PVHM can be used to assess, on an on-going basis, the relationship between the jurisdictional and non-jurisdictional portions of the Basin. Public comments and discussion about simulated agricultural pumping rates and conservation; simulated net change of groundwater in storage; simulated rural residential pumping rates; net change of groundwater in storage and accounting for seawater intrusion; model assumptions and uncertainties with regard to land uses and pumping demands; BMP Update (2014) project implementation and efficacy; and pumping efficiency followed. United States Geological Survey scientists/modelers Dr. Hesnon and Ms. Earll Vice provided valuable input to the conversation.

Chair Culbertson moved to approve a recommendation that the Board of Directors adopt the following statement for the projected water budget; Director Newell seconded.

- *The projected water budget results from the Pajaro Valley Hydrologic Model, updated in 2021, demonstrate that the Basin Management Plan Update (2014) projects and management actions are likely to achieve their intended effects, increasing groundwater in storage and reducing the rate of seawater intrusion, through 2040.*

The motion carried by the following voice vote:

**Ayes:** Schmidt, Culbertson, Newell, Ryan, Rodoni, Coplin, Monper, Johnson, Pilch, Suchil

**Noes:** Anderson

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:** Vincelet, Kayser, Bannister, Hoppe (left meeting)

○ **Review and Consider Sustainability Status**

Mr. Tana reviewed for the Committee information presented during the July 8 meeting on the sustainability status of groundwater in storage and seawater intrusion. A revised proposed statement was provided on sustainability status of groundwater in storage and seawater intrusion for the Committee's consideration. An opportunity for public comment and discussion followed.

Committee Member Ryan moved to approve a recommendation that the Board of Directors adopt the following statement on sustainability status of groundwater in storage and seawater intrusion; Committee Member Johnson seconded.

- *Based on the analysis of observed data, implementation of the Basin Management Plan Update (2014) projects and management actions has helped increase groundwater in storage and reduce the rate of seawater intrusion.*

The motion carried by the following voice vote:

**Ayes:** Schmidt, Culbertson, Newell, Ryan, Rodoni, Coplin, Monper, Johnson, Suchil

**Noes:** Anderson

**Abstain:** Pilch (unresponsive during vote)

**Absent:** Vincelet, Kayser, Bannister, Hoppe

Mr. Tana then presented a summary of an evaluation of the sustainability status of water quality. Comments and discussion ensued on the topics of Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board Agricultural Order 4.0 requirements; water quality objectives; sufficiency of the Salt and Nutrient Management Plan; a recommendation that all sustainable management criteria should be considered collectively; a recommendation that PV Water monitor and set minimum thresholds for all drinking water contaminants; a recommendation to discontinue use of assimilative capacity and establish minimum thresholds at representative monitoring points; and the exceedance of the nitrate minimum threshold and what measures may be taken to address the exceedance.

Committee Member Johnson moved to approve a recommendation that the Board of Directors adopt the following statement on sustainability status of water quality; Director Newell seconded.

- *Based on the analysis of observed data, current groundwater conditions show a water quality undesirable result for nitrate in the coastal zone as defined by the Salt and Nutrient Management Plan (SNMP). There is no undesirable result for nitrate in the Basin inland of the SNMP coastal zone nor are there water quality undesirable results for TDS and chloride in the Basin.*

The motion carried by the following voice vote:

**Ayes:** Schmidt, Culbertson, Newell, Ryan, Rodoni, Coplin, Monper, Johnson

**Noes:** Anderson, Suchil

**Abstain:** Pilch

**Absent:** Vincelet, Kayser, Bannister, Hoppe

○ **Preview Monitoring Plan**

Mr. Tana presented a preview of the monitoring plan including the objective to address monitoring gaps and to establish additional representative monitoring points. Roundtable discussion about past and current outreach efforts to expand the representative monitoring network ensued.

○ **Review Schedule**

The current schedule was presented.

○ **Committee/Public Questions + Comments**

None.

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

○ **Update on C&E Activities**

Ms. Cross reported on recent and upcoming C&E activities including the upcoming fall newsletter, the July 28 rural resident community meeting, and two meetings held with Community Water Center. Ms. Cross informed the Committee that the project team will be scheduling meetings with entities in the non-jurisdictional area, adjacent basins, and with resource agencies.

● **NEXT STEPS**

○ **Identify Agenda Items for Future Meetings**

None.

○ **Next GSU22 Committee Meeting is scheduled for September 9, 2021, 2:00 – 4:30 PM**

**Meeting Adjourned at 4:25 p.m.**