

Telephonic Public Hearing and Meeting of the Central Delta-Mendota GSA

Monday, January 25th, 2021, 10:00 AM

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Call-in number: +1-669-900-6833

Meeting ID: 869 0167 1277

Passcode: 649574

Central Delta-Mendota GSA Members and Alternates Present

Randy Miles, Member – Eagle Field Water District
Augie Ramirez, Alternate – Fresno County
Lacey McBride, Alternate – Merced County
Juan Cadena, Member/Alternate – Mercy Springs and Pacheco Water Districts
Aaron Barcellos, Member – Pacheco Water District
Michael Linneman, Alternate – Panoche Water District
Mike Wood, Member – San Luis Water District
Ben Fenters, Alternate – San Luis Water District
Amy Montgomery, Member – Santa Nella County Water District
Danny Wade, Alternate – Tranquillity Irrigation District

San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority Representatives Present

Claire Howard – Provost & Pritchard

Others Present

Bill Pucheu – Tranquillity Irrigation District
Lauren Layne – Baker, Manock & Jensen
Chase Hurley – Pacheco Water District
Joe Hopkins – Provost & Pritchard

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Aaron Barcellos/Pacheco called the meeting to order at 10:06 AM.

2. Committee to Consider Corrections or Additions to the Agenda of Items, as authorized by Government Code Section 54950 et seq.

No corrections or additions were made to the agenda of items.

3. Opportunity for Public Comment

No public comment was shared.

4. GSA to Review and Take Action on Consent Calendar

- a. October 26, 2020 Meeting Minutes (Quarterly Central Delta-Mendota GSA Meeting)
- b. December 4, 2020 Meeting Minutes (Special Central Delta-Mendota GSA Meeting)

The GSA considered approval of the October 26, 2020 and December 4, 2020 meeting minutes. Ben Fenters/SLWD requested an amendment to the October 26th meeting minutes under item 9 which was a discussion of Central Delta-Mendota GSA monitoring. The requested clarification is to explain that private monitoring locations used in the GSP representative monitoring network may be reconsidered if existing monitoring sites have unforeseen issues affecting monitoring, such as high cost burden to well owner or issues with access or lack of agreements.

The GSA approved the October 26th minutes with the requested amendment. No edits were requested for the December 4th minutes. Mike Wood/SLWD provided the motion and Randy Miles/EFWD seconded. The GSA voted by roll call; the motion was passed unanimously by those present.

c. Quarterly Financial Report, Montgomery

Amy Montgomery/SNCWD reviewed the quarterly financial report and noted that the GSA has not been billed yet by the Authority for Fiscal Year 2021 costs. Amy has been in contact with Scott Petersen/SLDMWA regarding the Authority billing these costs. Augie Ramirez/Fresno provided the motion and Randy Miles/EFWD seconded. The GSA voted by roll call; the motion was passed unanimously by those present.

5. Public Hearing to Consider Well Registration Policy Fees (Central Delta-Mendota GSA Administrative Policy Number One Well Registration Policy Fee Rate Study)

Lauren Layne/BMJ opened the public hearing at 10:16 AM and explained the intent of the hearing, which is for consideration of the Proposed Administrative Fee Schedule associated with the Central Delta-Mendota GSA's Well Registration Policy. Lauren explained that a notice of the public hearing and fee study was posted online and shared via mail in December. Lauren further explained that the fee study is not aimed at collecting revenue for the Central Delta-Mendota GSA; the intent of implementing the fee study is to gather comprehensive and accurate information on wells within the Central GSA's area. Once the GSA has an accurate account of wells within the Central GSA's area, the GSA will be able to equitably implement management actions and distribute costs related to achieving sustainability. The public hearing closed at 10:22 AM.

a. GSA to Consider Approval of Resolution Adopting the Administrative Policy Number One Well Registration Policy Fees, Layne

The GSA considered approval of a resolution adopting the Administrative Policy Number One Well Registration Policy Fees. Lauren explained the process by which the Central GSA discussed this topic in the December 4th meeting and then developed the proposed fees and noticed the public hearing. Lauren also described the well registration policy and fee process relative to Proposition 26. The Central GSA's proposed fees are exempt as a tax under Proposition 26 because the intent of the fees is not to develop a revenue source, but to support the GSA's compliance with SGMA.

Danny Wade/FSWD provided the motion to approve this resolution, which will be Central Delta-Mendota GSA Resolution No. 2021-01, and Amy Montgomery/SNCWD seconded. The GSA voted by roll call; the motion was passed unanimously by those present.

b. GSA to Consider Approval of Resolution Adopting the Central Delta-Mendota Groundwater Sustainability GSA Administrative Policy Number One Well Census and Registration Policy, Layne

The GSA considered approval of a second resolution to adopt the GSA's Administration Policy Number One Well Census and Registration Policy. Mike Wood/SLWD provided the motion and

Randy Miles/EFWD seconded. The GSA voted by roll call; the motion was passed unanimously by those present.

6. **GSA to Consider Approval of Fiscal Year 2022 Budget, Montgomery**

Amy Montgomery/SNCWD reviewed the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2021-2022. The recommended budget includes a \$200 increase for each member agency's contribution. The proposed member contribution for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 will be \$3,700. The GSA considered approval of the recommended budget. Danny Wade/FSWD provided the motion and Randy Miles/EFWD seconded. The GSA voted by roll call; the motion was passed unanimously by those present.

7. **GSA to Discuss Central Delta-Mendota GSA Well Registration Effort, Fenters**

Ben Fenters/SLWD shared that well registration information received from landowners will be shared with Gavin O'Leary at Provost & Pritchard to compile into the Northern and Central Regions' well census and inventory project. Ben suggested that a small group of Central GSA members meet with Gavin to discuss the data compilation and reporting process with Gavin. Augie Ramirez/Fresno, Amy Montgomery/SNCWD, and Juan Cadena/MSWD offered to meet with Gavin and discuss this project.

8. **Next Steps**

- The GSA considered approval of Administrative Policy Number One Well Registration Policy and Administrative Fee Schedule.
- The approved resolutions (2021-01 and 2021-02) will be shared for signature and finalization for the Central Delta-Mendota GSA's records.
- The GSA considered approval of the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 budget as presented.
- Compiled information from the GSA's well registration effort will be shared with Provost & Pritchard to compile for the Northern and Central Regions' well census effort.

9. **Reports Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2(a)(3)**

No topics were discussed under this item.

10. **Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation**

The Board will meet in closed session to confer with legal counsel pursuant to Paragraph (1), Subdivision (d) of Government Code section 54956.9: (1 case).

California Sportfishing Protection Alliance v. All Persons Interests in the Matter of the Validity of the Northern and Central Delta-Mendota Regions Groundwater Sustainability Plan, et al., Stanislaus County Superior Court, Case No. CV-20-001748 [Delta-Mendota Subbasin SGMA Challenge].

11. **Report Out of Closed Session (if any)**

No reportable action was taken.

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

Aaron Barcellos/Pacheco adjourned the meeting at 10:48 AM.