

**South San Joaquin Groundwater Sustainability Agency
Regular Meeting
Manteca, California
January 20, 2021**

The Governing Board of the South San Joaquin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SSJGSA) met in regular session in person at the South San Joaquin Irrigation District (SSJID) Board Room at 9:00 a.m., with public access provided via the online Zoom meeting platform. Chairman Holmes called the meeting to order and led the flag salute.

Upon roll-call the following members were noted present:

PRESENT: Tammy Alcantor, City of Escalon (via Zoom)
Daniel de Graaf, City of Ripon
Robert Holmes, South San Joaquin Irrigation District
Mike Weststeyn, South San Joaquin Irrigation District

ABSENT: Dave Kamper, South San Joaquin Irrigation District

Also present were SSJID General Manager, Peter Rietkerk; SSJID Water Resources Coordinator, Brandon Nakagawa; Special SSJGSA Counsel, Valerie Kincaid; SSJID General Counsel, Mia Brown; and SSJID Clerk of the Board, Danielle Barney.

Public Comment – None

ACTION CALENDAR

Item #1 – Approval of the Meeting Minutes of August 18, 2020

MOTION: A motion was made by Director de Graaf and seconded by Director Weststeyn to approve the minutes as submitted.

The motion passed 4 to 0 by the following vote:

AYES: ALCANTOR de GRAAF HOLMES WESTSTEYN
NOES: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: KAMPER

Item #2 – Presentation of YTD Financial Statements Through December 2020

Mr. Bere Lindley, SSJGSA Treasurer and SSJID Assistant General Manager, addressed the Board and distributed three (3) handouts: 1) SSJGSA-MOU YTD Financial Statements through December 31, 2020, for the entity established by an April 5, 2017 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU); 2) SSJGSA Joint Powers Authority (JPA) YTD Financial Statements through December 31, 2020; and 3) Truing-up the Initial Capital Contribution to the SSJGSA JPA.

Mr. Lindley referred to the SSJGSA-MOU YTD financial statements and explained the member contributions in 2018 totaling \$167,447 and \$0.00 contributions in 2019 and 2020; total expenses incurred in 2018, 2019 and 2020 totaling \$360,227; and the additional member contributions required to true-up reimbursement to SSJID for expenses paid prior to the legal formation of the JPA for a total of \$192,780 (Escalon @ 5% = \$9,639 DUE, Ripon @ 10% = \$19,278 DUE, and SSJID @ 85% = \$163,863 PAID). He noted these true-up amounts will not be final until all SSJGSA financial transactions made through the SSJID checking account have cleared, and the

member agencies will be billed at that time. Mr. Lindley also provided a detailed account of the classifications of expenses through December 31, 2020.

Mr. Lindley then referred to the SSJGSA JPA year-end financial statements (Nov-Dec 2020) and provided a brief summary of the Balance Sheet; and Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Change in Net Position. He explained SSJID's initial capital contribution totaling \$80,000 and provided two (2) true-up options:

1. Member agencies provide member contributions to the JPA at the agreed cost-share of \$94,117.65 (Escalon @ 5% = \$4,705.88 DUE, Ripon @ 10% = \$9,411.76 DUE, and SSJID @ 85% = \$80,000 PAID); or
2. Member agencies reimburse SSJID outside the JPA at the agreed cost-share of SSJID's \$80,000 initial capital contribution (Escalon @ 5% = \$4,000 DUE, Ripon @ 10% = \$8,000 DUE)

Board consensus was to choose Option 1 with member agencies providing member contributions to the JPA at the agreed cost-share amounts of Escalon - \$4,705.88 DUE, Ripon - \$9,411.76 DUE, and SSJID - \$80,000 PAID. The member agencies will be billed immediately.

MOTION: A motion was made by Director de Graaf and seconded by Director Weststeyn to approve True-up Option 1, and to bill the SSJGSA member agencies for member contributions to the JPA at the agreed cost-share of \$97,117.65 (Escalon @ 5% = \$4,705.88 DUE, Ripon @ 10% = \$9,411.76 DUE, and SSJID @ 85% = \$80,000 PAID).

The motion passed 4 to 0 by the following vote:

AYES: ALCANTOR de GRAAF HOLMES WESTSTEYN
NOES: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: KAMPER

Item #3 – Adoption of the 2021 SSJGSA Annual Budget

Mr. Brandon Nakagawa, SSJID Water Resources Coordinator, addressed the Board and explained that the draft 2021 SSJGSA Annual Budget was presented to the Board at the last meeting on August 18, 2020. There have been no revisions to the draft and the 2021 SSJGSA Annual Budget stands as proposed. Mr. Nakagawa stated that the member agencies have all shared the draft budget with their respective councils.

MOTION: A motion was made by Director Weststeyn and seconded by Director de Graaf to adopt the 2021 South San Joaquin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Annual Budget.

The motion passed 4 to 0 by the following vote:

AYES: ALCANTOR de GRAAF HOLMES WESTSTEYN
NOES: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: KAMPER

Item #4 – Approval of Consulting Services Agreement with Davids Engineering to Process the 2020 SSJID Water Balance and Provide Data and Results to the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority for the Eastern San Joaquin Subbasin Annual Report for a Not to Exceed Amount of \$10,448

Mr. Nakagawa addressed the Board and provided history of Davids Engineering, Inc.'s (Davids) previous work with SSJID, in 2019, completing a water budget to support the preparation of SSJID's 2020 Agricultural Water Management Plan and to support the District's ongoing water management efforts. He explained how the water

budget tool was used to prepare the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for the Eastern San Joaquin (ESJ) Subbasin, and to quantify groundwater extractions, surface water supplies, and net recharge from the surface water system within the SSJGSA and the irrigated surface areas served by SSJID within the City of Manteca GSA. Mr. Nakagawa further explained that per GSP regulations, agencies are required to submit annual reports to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) by April 1 of each year following the adoption of the GSP. The second annual report for the ESJ Subbasin GSP is due April 1, 2021.

Mr. Nakagawa described Davids proposed scope of work (Tasks 1, 2 and 3) to complete the SSJID 2020 calendar year water budget and compile, organize and deliver information about the SSJGSA area of the ESJ Subbasin needed to prepare the 2021 GSP annual report. Data collected will include Woodward Reservoir releases; deliveries from the Water Treatment Plant at Woodward Reservoir to the cities of Manteca, Escalon, Lathrop, and Ripon; and groundwater pumping volumes for Escalon and Ripon. The estimated cost is \$10,448 including completion of the 2020 calendar year water budget. The work will be performed on a time and materials not to exceed basis.

In conclusion, Mr. Nakagawa stated that future intent is to train staff to implement the water budget tool in-house; water balances need to be monitored and collected annually; and the Agricultural Water Management Plan needs to be completed every five (5) years.

MOTION: A motion was made by Director Weststeyn and seconded by Director de Graaf to approve the consulting services agreement with Davids Engineering, Inc. to process the 2020 SSJID Water Balance and provide data and results to the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority (ESJGWA) for the Eastern San Joaquin Subbasin Annual Report for a not to exceed amount of \$10,448.

The motion passed 4 to 0 by the following vote:

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| AYES: | ALCANTOR de GRAAF HOLMES WESTSTEYN |
| NOES: | NONE |
| ABSTAIN: | NONE |
| ABSENT: | KAMPER |

Item #5 – Discussion on Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority Business

Mr. Nakagawa displayed a PowerPoint presentation from the ESJGWA Board meeting held on January 13. He provided a recap of the meeting discussions including the role of San Joaquin County in the ESJGWA; the needs of the ESJGWA; a look back at groundwater planning efforts prior to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA); a look forward at grant opportunities, project development, and partnerships; and potential threats (e.g. attack on filed water rights, negative DWR review of the GSP, no stable funding or failed funding initiatives, and lawsuits between Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) partners).

Board discussion included the benefit of stable funding to SSJID and the SSJGSA from a local tax; the benefit of the ESJGWA Technical Advisory Committee and the Steering Committee to keep open communication among the GSAs; and the motivation of the local level GSAs to work together for the benefit of the ESJGWA. Mr. Nakagawa added that the allocation of budget funds will be a future issue with the ESJGWA.

COMMUNICATIONS

Item #6 – Communications

a) Staff and Consultant Updates

Mr. Peter Rietkerk, SSJID General Manager, stated that he is keeping abreast of the issues involving water rights on the Stanislaus River, as well as the ongoing proceedings on the Water

Quality Control Plan litigation. He will update the Board as more information becomes available.

- b) **Technical Advisory Committee**
None
- c) **Member Reports**
None
- d) **Correspondence**
None

It was announced that all items in Closed Session would be discussed. The Board took a break at 10:20 a.m. and convened to Closed Session at 10:25 a.m.

CLOSED SESSION

Item #7 – Closed Session

- a) Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation
Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9
- 1 case

California Sportfishing Protection Alliance v. Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority et al.
Superior Court of Stanislaus County
Case No. CV-20-001720

The Board reconvened to open session at 10:37 a.m.

Disclosure of reportable actions taken in Closed Session, pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.1: There were no reportable actions taken in closed session.

ADJOURNMENT

Item #8 – Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 10:38 a.m.

ATTEST:

Danielle Barney, Clerk of the Board