

MEETING MINUTES

Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the Eastern Management Area in the Santa Ynez River Groundwater Basin August 25, 2022

A regular meeting of the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for the Eastern Management Area (EMA) in the Santa Ynez River Groundwater Basin was held on Thursday, August 25, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. As a result of the COVID-19 emergency, this meeting occurred solely by video and teleconference in accordance with the Santa Barbara County Public Health Social Distance Recommendation and as authorized by State Assembly Bill 361, and Resolution EMA-2021-001 (passed on 10/21/2021, reaffirmed 7/21/2022).

EMA GSA Committee Members Present: Joan Hartmann, Mark Infanti, Brad Joos, and Brett Marymee

EMA GSA Alternate Committee Members Present: Cynthia Allen

Member Agency Staff Present: Jose Acosta, Paeter Garcia, Amber Thompson, Kevin Walsh, and Matt Young

Others Present: Steve Anderson, Russell Chamberlin, Doug Circle, Alex Dominguez, Elizabeth Farnum, Tim Gotham, Gay Infanti, Ray Shady, and Bruce Wales

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

EMA GSA Committee Chair Brett Marymee called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. and asked Mr. Garcia to call roll. Four EMA GSA Committee Members were present providing a quorum plus one EMA GSA Alternate Committee Member. At 6:37 p.m., due to “zoom-bomb” disruptions, the meeting was adjourned to reestablish a Zoom meeting link and the meeting was closed.

EMA GSA Committee Chair Brett Marymee called the meeting to order at 6:42 p.m. and asked Mr. Garcia to call roll. Four EMA GSA Committee Members were present providing a quorum plus one EMA GSA Alternate Committee Member.

II. Consider findings under Government Code section 54953(e)(3) to authorize continuing teleconference meetings under Resolution EMA-2021-001

Mr. Garcia explained Assembly Bill 361, the Santa Barbara County Public Health recommendation, and adoption of Resolution EMA-2021-001, passed on October 21, 2021 and reaffirmed on July 21, 2022, which authorize public meetings to be conducted remotely via video and/or teleconference and that such conditions continue to exist.

EMA GSA Committee Member Joan Hartmann made a MOTION in consideration of current circumstances to continue meeting remotely under Resolution EMA-2021-001. EMA GSA Committee Chair Brett Marymee seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

III. Additions or Deletions to the Agenda

No additions or deletions were made.

IV. Public Comment

No public comment was received. Mr. Garcia and Ms. Thompson announced that no public comments were received in advance of the meeting.

V. Review and consider approval of meeting minutes of May 26, June 30, and July 21, 2022

The minutes of the GSA Committee meetings on May 26, June 30, and July 21, 2022 were presented for GSA Committee approval. There was no discussion.

EMA GSA Committee Member Joan Hartmann made a MOTION to approve the minutes of May 26, 2022, June 30, 2022 and July 21, 2022, as presented. GSA Committee Chair Brett Marymee seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and it passed unanimously by roll call vote.

VI. Review and consider approval of Financial Statements and Warrant List

The GSA Committee reviewed the financial reports of FY 2021-22 Periods 10 through 12 (through June 30, 2022) and the Warrant Lists for April, May, and June 2022. Discussion followed.

EMA GSA Committee Member Mark Infanti made a MOTION to approve the financial reports and the April, May, and June 2022 Warrant Lists (Mechanics Bank Check Nos. 1057-1060 and Five Star Bank Check Nos. 2000-2009) totaling \$103,342.08, as presented. GSA Committee Member Brad Joos seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and it passed unanimously by roll call vote.

VII. Biennial Review of EMA GSA Conflict of Interest Code

The GSA Committee reviewed the EMA GSA Conflict of Interest Code. Mr. Garcia explained the biennial review process and that no amendment is required. Discussion followed.

EMA GSA Committee Member Joan Hartman made a MOTION to file the 2022 Local Agency Biennial Notice designating “no amendment is required” with the Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors. GSA Committee Member Brad Joos seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and it passed unanimously by roll call vote.

VIII. Update on Executive Order N-7-22

Mr. Garcia provided an update on EMA GSA compliance with Executive Order N-7-22. Two complete well verification applications have been received to date. However, no work can be done until an executed contract with GSI Water Solutions is in place.

Mr. Garcia reported that at the last EMA GSA meeting, the Committee requested Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District (SYRWCD) consider entering a contract with GSI Water Solutions on behalf of the EMA GSA. Since that time, the SYRWCD has indicated that the contract on behalf of the EMA GSA should be addressed by more than just one member agency. Member agency staff considered alternatives and recommended executing a multi-party contract with GSI Water Solutions by the EMA GSA member agencies SYRWCD, City of Solvang, and Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Improvement District No. 1 (ID No. 1) on behalf of the EMA GSA.

Discussion followed. Mr. Young reported that the County of Santa Barbara is supportive of executing a multi-party contract and is not included in this multi-party contract solely due to timing issues. Ms. Thompson reported that the EMA GSA has received two complete well verification applications with deposits, to date.

EMA GSA Committee Member Joan Hartman made a MOTION to request the SYRWCD, City of Solvang, and ID No. 1 execute a multi-party contract with GSI Water Solutions on behalf of the EMA GSA to evaluate well verification requests. GSA Committee Member Mark Infanti seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and it passed unanimously by roll call vote.

IX. Update on Governance for EMA GSA

Mr. Garcia advised that establishing the EMA GSA future governance was recently put on hold temporarily to focus on compliance with Executive Order N-7-22. Member agency staff and attorneys plan to restart the EMA GSA future governance process again to finalize a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) for the EMA. He introduced a letter the EMA GSA received from the Santa Ynez Water Group, dated August 5, 2022, regarding governance issues in the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin. He encouraged Committee Members take the letter to their respective Boards and Council. Mr. Doug Circle provided public comment. Discussion followed.

EMA GSA Committee Chair Brett Marymee requested that each Committee Member take the letter received from the Santa Ynez Water Group to their respective Boards and Council.

X. Next Regular EMA GSA Meeting, Thursday, September 22, 2022, at 6:30 p.m.

EMA GSA Committee Chair Brett Marymee announced the next regular EMA GSA meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 22, 2022, at 6:30 p.m., either hybrid, with in person at the Santa Ynez Community Services District Conference Room, or via Zoom. The

details will be determined closer to the meeting date based on continuing health concerns presented by the COVID-19 pandemic.

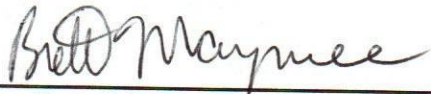
XI. EMA GSA Committee requests and comments

EMA GSA Committee Chair Brett Marymee requested staff discuss and determine how to avoid disruptions in future zoom meetings.

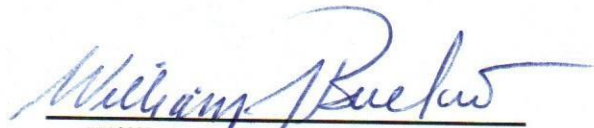
EMA GSA Committee Member Brad Joos and Chair Brett Marymee thanked Mr. Garcia for running a productive meeting and Ms. Thompson for providing reports with the absence of Mr. Buelow. Mr. Garcia responded with thanks to all member agencies staff for working together to proceed with the meeting and acknowledged Mr. Buelow for his efforts in advance of the meeting.

XII. Adjournment

GSA Committee Chair Brett Marymee adjourned the meeting at 7:35 p.m.



Brett Marymee, Chairman



William J. Buelow, Secretary

**GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY FOR THE
EASTERN MANAGEMENT AREA (EMA)
IN THE SANTA YNEZ RIVER VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN**

APRIL 2022 WARRANT LIST FOR COMMITTEE APPROVAL

(Paid through Mechanics Bank)

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
1057	04/13/22	VOID	VOID - Damaged check	\$ -
1058	04/13/22	Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District	Transfer of EMA GSA funds at Mechanics Bank (#5843) to EMA GSA checking account at Five Star Bank (#5951)	\$ 30,000.00
1059	04/25/22	GSI Water Solutions	Engineering Service: February 2022 Annual Report and March 2022 GSP Preparation	\$ 32,285.50
MONTH TOTAL				\$ 62,285.50

MAY 2022 WARRANT LIST FOR COMMITTEE APPROVAL

(Paid through Five Star Bank)

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
2000	05/13/22	GSI Water Solutions	Engineering Service: March 2022 Annual Report	\$ 9,925.25
2001	05/13/22	Stetson Engineers	Engineering Service: March 2022 Basin Coordination	\$ 366.00
2002	05/13/22	Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District	Reimburse costs for SantaYnezWater.org website domain paid by SYRWCD 3/29/2022 (\$21.17 split 1/3 per GSA)	\$ 7.06
MONTH TOTAL				\$ 10,298.31

JUNE 2022 WARRANT LIST FOR COMMITTEE APPROVAL

(Paid through Five Star Bank)

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
2003	06/14/22	GSI Water Solutions	Engineering Service: April 2022 GSP Preparation	\$ 1,939.25
2004	06/14/22	Santa Ynez CSD	Conference Room Rental (5/26/2022 EMA GSA Meeting)	\$ 30.00
2005	06/17/22	GSI Water Solutions	Engineering Service: May 2022 GSP Preparation	\$ 2,417.00
2006	06/17/22	Valley Bookkeeping	2022 2nd Quarter Bookkeeping (April, May, June 2022)	\$ 150.00
2007	06/30/22	City of Solvang	Refund EMA GSA Cost Share FY 21-22	\$ 5,000.00
2008	06/30/22	SYRWCD, ID No. 1	Refund EMA GSA Cost Share FY 21-22	\$ 5,000.00
2009	06/30/22	SYRWCD	Refund EMA GSA Cost Share FY 21-22	\$ 10,000.00
Month Subtotal - Five Star Bank				\$ 24,536.25

(Paid through Mechanics Bank)

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
1060	06/14/22	Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District	Transfer of EMA GSA funds at Mechanics Bank (#5843) to EMA GSA checking account at Five Star Bank (#5951). Mechanics Bank Account #5843 CLOSED.	\$ 6,222.02
Month Subtotal - Mechanics Bank				\$ 6,222.02
MONTH TOTAL				\$ 30,758.27

TOTAL CHECKS THIS QUARTER: \$ 103,342.08

Transfers of funds from Mechanics Bank to Five Star Bank: \$ 36,222.02

Total Accounts Payable This Quarter: \$ 67,120.06