



*Minutes*

***West Placer Groundwater Sustainability Agency Public Meeting***

***February 08***

***6:00 PM – Lincoln City hall community room***

***600 Sixth Street, Lincoln, CA 95648***

***Public input will be provided for at the end of each bulleted item***

*GSA Representatives: Sean Bigley (Roseville), Tony Firenzi (PCWA), Brett Storey and Chris Hanson (Placer County), Chip Close (NID), Audie Foster (CalAm), Angela Frost (Lincoln)*

*Presenters: David Fairman (GEI Consultants), Kurtis Zumwalt (Placer County Environmental Health), Heather Kuklo (Placer County Air Pollution Control District)*

*Prior to the public comment period, Brett provided an update/overview of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). The PowerPoint presentation is available at [westplacergroundwater.com](http://westplacergroundwater.com).*

**1. Public comment period:**

- a. None.

**2. Public Information:**

- a. Grant Possibilities : Placer County Air Pollution Control District
  - i. Heather Kuklo from the PCAPCD provided an update regarding grant funds available to support the purchase of heavy duty off-road equipment (tractors, dozers, etc.). Conversion of agricultural pumps from diesel to electric can be funded as well, including toward the needed electrical infrastructure. Approximately \$1.2M total is available and additional funds will become available annually through 2025. On-road trucks for agricultural operations may be eligible for grants as well, up to 80% of cost.
  - ii. Question: How does groundwater play into this? Heather explained that the goal to reduce emissions, and one way is through incentives for voluntary emission reductions. By helping replace older equipment, emissions are reduced.



Brett added that 90% of groundwater used is from agriculture, and we want to share any programs and information that would help our agricultural community.

iii. Heather provided her contact information.

**3. GSA Discussion Items:** (Information on all items below is on the PowerPoint provided on the website.)

- a. Roles, Budget & funding of Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) activities
  - i. West Placer Partner Agency Activities
  - ii. Consultant (GEI) Work performed
- b. Groundwater Basin Water Quality Report – David Fairman of GEI presented.
  - i. Basin Details
    1. David discussed the groundwater sampling that was conducted in the subbasin, why it was conducted, and provided the water quality data which indicate that water quality is generally good in the basin. All sampling was performed at dedicated monitoring wells, not water supply wells. David answered questions from the audience.
    2. David also provided a “state of the basin”, focusing on water level data historically and through the recent drought. Generally, while water levels declined as much as seven feet (considered relatively modest) during the recent drought, water levels have been relatively stable since around 1980. The GSA will continue to monitor water levels and provide additional updates.
  - ii. Environmental Health Department Informational Update
    1. Kurtis Zumwalt from the Placer County Environmental Health Division explained Environmental Health’s role in ensuring that well construction and other activities do not cause contamination to groundwater. He reiterated that ‘de minimis’ users, such as individual homeowners, are not regulated by SGMA.



2. Kurtis explained that the groundwater data (presented by GEI above) technically indicates no “MCL exceedances”, because none of the wells sampled supplied drinking water subject to the maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) criteria. The drinking water MCLs were used as comparisons only, to help communicate the general good water quality in the subbasin. Kurtis added that he feels very comfortable with the results of the groundwater quality report and for all of the information presented to the public that this is a healthy basin.
  
4. **GSP Discussion Items:** (Detailed information on all items below are included in the PowerPoint presentation provided at [westplacergroundwater.com](http://westplacergroundwater.com))
  - a. North American Sub-basin update: All five GSA’s in the subbasin are committed to build one Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) that would apply to the entire subbasin
    - i. Brett Storey provided information related to the upcoming development of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan. Many steps in the process require public notification, so the GSA will be informing the public at several key steps.
  - b. GSP Grant Status
  - c. Public Notification Process regarding GSP Development
  - d. Plans/Expectations for 2018
  
5. **Current Placer County Prop. 1 supporting SGMA - Grant Status** (Detailed information on all items below included in the PowerPoint presentation provided at [westplacergroundwater.com](http://westplacergroundwater.com))
  - a. Groundwater Well Information System (GWIS) Development report
  - b. David Fairman provided information on the GWIS system, which is an inventory of information on known wells, such as well depth, water levels, and well construction. Information is secure, and will be used to understand basin geology and patterns of use throughout the basin, and ultimately to prepare a subbasin-wide water budget.
  - c. Final report



**6. Items anticipated at next Public Meeting**

- a. Prop 1 Grant Kick off Discussions/Schedule
  - i. Anticipated in April or May. Grant funds will be used for more monitoring, an expansion of the well database and to develop a water model which will lead to a water budgeting system for the basin.
- b. GSP Development Discussions
  - i. The first steps in development will be the consultants gathering data for the water model and well database, so will not have much tangible information or development on the actual GSP for some time.
- c. Seasonal Water Update
  - i. PCWA will give an update on seasonal water supplies this year.

**7. Agency Updates**

- a. Brad Arnold from the Department of Water Resources introduced himself and encouraged people to learn more about SGMA at the DWR website.
- b. Audie Foster from CalAmerican water introduced himself and explained his role and collaboration with the Sacramento Groundwater GSA (as well as the West Placer GSA) which is also a part of this basin.
- c. No other agency updates.