

Colusa Groundwater Authority Board of Directors

P.O. Box 475, Colusa, CA 95932 | www.colusagroundwater.org

SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA

August 19, 2025 | 1:00 p.m.

Colusa Industrial Properties, 100 Sunrise Blvd, Colusa, CA 95932

Alternate meeting location(s):
244 SE Piper Dr, Holt, MO 64048
344 E Laurel St, Willows, CA 95988

Members of the public may attend this meeting in person or through Zoom:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83956519409>

Full Agenda Packet: <https://colusagroundwater.org/agendas-and-meetings-2025/>

** Indicates action item*

1. Call To Order and Determination of Quorum

- a. Roll Call of Directors and Alternates
- b. Introductions of others in attendance

2. Period Of Public Comment

At this time, members of the public may address the CGA Board regarding items that are not on the agenda but are of relevance to the CGA. The Board may not act on items not on the agenda.

3. Closed Session:

- a. Conference with Legal Counsel (Gov't Code 54956.9) – Potential litigation (3 items)

4. Report out of Closed Session

5. Discussion of Colusa Groundwater Authority Operations Assessment

- a. *The Board may consider action related to the proposed Operations Assessment.

6. Consider Land Use Reclassification Requests

- a. *Westside Water District parcels

7. Review of Alternate CGA Fiscal Year 2025-26 Budget

- a. *Review and comment on proposed Alternate FY 2025-26 Budget

8. Adjourn

The full agenda packet can be found on the CGA website: <https://colusagroundwater.org>. In compliance with the Americans with Disability Act, if you require special accommodation to participate in CGA Board or committee meetings, please contact the Colusa Groundwater Authority Program Manager at 650-587-7300, extension 17, prior to any meeting for accommodations.

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AGENDA SUPPORT MATERIALS

AGENDA ITEM 6: Land Use Reclassification Request from Westside Water District

ACTION ITEM

ITEM 6a: Westside Water District parcels

For the Proposition 218 assessment and Engineer's Report (ER), the CGA Board recently approved a process for the consultant(s) to work with landowners to allow lands to be reclassified based on new/available information provided by the landowner or other interested party. The Board limited that authority to simple, easily identifiable changes.

Westside Water District (Westside) has made a request to the CGA to have all lands within its district reclassified from conjunctive use to surface water; due to the complexity of the request, the matter was outside of the consultant's approval authority and, pursuant to CGA's approved policy, is being brought to the Board for consideration.

From the Engineer's Report Table B.1, which is based on historical (1990 – 2015) groundwater pumping estimates by Subarea from the Colusa GSP, Appendix 3F, Westside's total acreage was 17,803; groundwater pumping was estimated to total 3,350 acre-feet, equating to an estimated average of 0.19 acre-feet/acre of groundwater use. Consequently, the Westside parcels were assigned to the Conjunctive Use class since the overall pumping estimate was between 0.15 AF per acre and 1.3 AF per acre as assigned in the ER.

Staff and consultants coordinated with Westside to obtain updated information and also obtained data from other sources, including U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, to attempt to update groundwater use from 2014-2024. This effort was fairly extensive and time consuming.

The attached table, which was also provided to Westside for review and comment last week, provides the following information by year: water year type, Central Valley Project (CVP) allocation in percent and acre-feet, cropped acres, deliveries based on Westside and Reclamation data, estimated demand using Cal Poly evapotranspiration (ET) rates, with groundwater estimated based on the difference of supply and demand. (See also the table footnotes for specific data information.)

The net result from the updated information is that Westside's groundwater pumping is estimated to be between 0.52-0.58 acre-foot per acre versus 0.19 acre-foot which was in the ER. The updated information remains consistent with the ER's determination that the Westside parcels should be classified as Conjunctive Use.

RECOMMENDATION:

The CGA Board should review the information provided and determine whether or not the Westside Water District parcels should maintain the classification of Conjunctive Use for assessment purposes.

ATTACHMENT:

- Westside Estimated Groundwater Use Table

WWD Estimated GW Use (2014 – 2024)

Year	WY Type	CVP Allocation	CVP Allocation, AF	Cropped Acres	Deliveries, AF	Estimated Total Demand, AF	Estimated GW Pumping within District	Estimated GW Pumping within District, AF/acre
2014	C	0%	0	12,245	26,462	33,779	7,317	0.60
2015	C	0%	0	12,245	23,203	33,779	10,576	0.86
2016	BN	100%	65,000	15,344	30,496	34,852	4,356	0.28
2017	W	100%	65,000	14,391	29,259	38,509	9,250	0.64
2018	BN	100%	65,000	14,391	29,030	38,509	9,479	0.66
2019	W	70%	45,500	14,479	27,766	29,243	1,477	0.10
2020	D	50%	32,500	14,256	32,467	40,358	7,891	0.55
2021	C	0%	0	14,010	28,111	40,161	12,050	0.86
2022	C	0%	0	13,378	20,855	38,803	17,948	1.34
2023	W	100%	65,000	14,376	25,336	29,518	4,182	0.29
2024	AN	100%	65,000	14,376	27,128	29,518	2,390	0.17
Average (2014 thru 2024):		56%	36,636	13,954	27,283	35,184	7,901	0.58
Average (2016 thru 2021):		70%	45,500	14,478	29,522	36,939	7,417	0.52

Notes:

1. Cropped acres are based on DWR's 2014, 2016, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023 land use coverages developed by LandIQ
2. In 2022, the district delivered groundwater pumped outside of Westside WD and conveyed through USBR facilities to WWD using the Warren Act.
3. Surface water transfers to WWD occurred in 2014, 2015, 2016, 2018, 2019, and 2020. Surface water transfer may have occurred through GW substitution.
4. For 2015, assumed cropped acres and estimated total demand from 2014; For 2017, assumed cropped acres and estimated total demand from 2018; For 2024, assumed cropped acres and estimated total demand from 2023
5. Deliveries obtained from WWD (for 2023), USBR website (<https://www.usbr.gov/mp/cvo/24deliv.html>), and J. Berens. → **MIKE PLEASE CONFIRM DELIVERY DATA**
6. Estimated demand based on ET rates from Cal Poly ITRC; **assumed 85% efficiency**; GW application (AF/acre) based on cropped acres.

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AGENDA SUPPORT MATERIALS

AGENDA ITEM 7: Review of Alternate CGA Fiscal Year 2025-26 Budget

ACTION ITEM

7a. *Review and Comment on Alternate FY 2025-26 Budget

The budget for Fiscal Year 2025-26 was developed as part of CGA's fee study and was approved as part of the 2025 SGMA Operational Assessment Engineer's Report for that fee. That budget totals approximately \$1.99 million and supports implementation of several programs and management actions in the approved Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the Colusa Subbasin.

In the event the CGA does not approve or implement the new proposed Proposition 218 fees to support the approved FY 2025-26 Budget, the Board should consider adoption of an alternate budget that can accommodate the fees currently in place. An alternate budget has been prepared using the existing assessment of \$1.21 per acre along with available prior year funds. The alternate proposed budget totals about \$1.8 million, allocates \$225,000 to a Domestic Well Mitigation fund reserve, and includes \$400,000 for the components of a Groundwater Demand Management program, along with SGMA compliance activities and general administration. The proposed budget rolls over virtually all of CGA's prior year funds but acknowledges the existing reserves of \$150,000 for a legal fund and \$150,000 for administrative needs (prior to collection of tax roll revenues).

It should be noted that use of CGA's prior year funds to balance the proposed alternate budget would essentially eliminate all but the board approved reserve funds for future years. CGA would require an increase in assessments or imposition of an alternate funding mechanism in order to fund future budgets and carry out required GSP activities.

RECOMMENDATION:

In the event that, on August 26, 2025, the CGA Board does not implement new fees sufficient to support the approved FY 2025-26 budget contained in the 2025 SGMA Operational Assessment Engineer's Report, the CGA Board should consider adoption of the proposed alternate budget using the current approved fee of \$1.21/acre along with use of prior-year funds. On August 19, the Board should review and finalize the proposed alternate budget in preparation for its consideration on August 26, 2025, if necessary.

ATTACHMENT:

- Proposed alternate FY 2025-26 Budget

FY 25-26 PROPOSED CORE BUDGET - ASSUMES CURRENT ASSESSMENTS

		Adopted FY 24 BUDGET	Estimated YEAR-END	Proposed Budget	2025-26 First 6 months	2025-26 Second 6 months
1	REVENUE					
2	<i>Prior Period Funds to Balance (Cash)</i>	-	-	1,400,000	1,400,000	396,500
3	Proposition 218 Fee Agreements- \$1.21 Per Acre: \$472,000/\$81,568 Incr	390,432	390,432	472,000	236,000	236,000
4	TBD - CAN USE THIS LINE FOR NEW REVENUE	-	-			
5	Proposition 218 Landowner Fee	6,812	6,812			
6	Glenn County Groundwater Authority Cost Share Reimbursements	-	-	-	-	-
7	Interest	-	-	-	-	-
8						
9	TOTAL REVENUES	<u>397,244</u>	<u>397,244</u>	<u>1,872,000</u>	<u>1,636,000</u>	<u>632,500</u>
10						
11	TRANSFERS TO DEDICATED FUNDS					
12	Legal Defense Fund			150,000	150,000	
13	Administration Fund			150,000	150,000	-
14	Domestic Well Mitigation Fund			225,000	225,000	-
15						
16	EXPENSES					
17	Office Expense					
18	Bank Fees	50	19	500	250	250
19	JPA Insurance	1,800	1,765	2,000	2,000	-
20	Printing and Copying/Outreach	5,000	-	5,500	2,750	2,750
21	Website-Current	500	132	500	250	250
22	Website -New	15,000	-	1,000	500	500
23	Supplies	500	168	500	250	250
24						
25	Professional Services- Admin					
26	Auditor	8,000	10,500	15,000	7,500	7,500
27	Financial Services Bookkeeping (Crippen/Atlas)	5,000	2,500	5,000	2,500	2,500
28	Legal Services (Young & Wooldridge)	55,000	31,540	50,000	25,000	25,000
29	Program Manager/Facilitation Svcs (RGS)	175,000	120,064	175,000	87,500	87,500
30	Annual Parcel Update (Provost & Pritchard)	3,500	1,870	3,500	3,500	-
31	GSP Implementation	-	-	-	-	-
32	County Tax Roll Fee Support	-	-	5,000	5,000	-
33	County of Butte GSA- Member Contribution	8,000	12,500	12,500	12,500	-
34	<i>Miscellaneous - Contingency 10%</i>	-	-	-	-	-
35	ADMINISTRATION SUBTOTAL	277,350	181,057	801,000	674,500	126,500
36	EXPENSES (cont'd)					
37	Professional Services- SGMA COMPLIANCE					
38	Long Term Funding: Update Revenue Requirements	-	-	-	-	-
39	GSP Gaps Analysis and Response to DWR GSP Approval Letter (GGA Shared)			150,000	75,000	75,000
40	GSP Annual Report (GGA Shared)	70,000	31,167	35,000	35,000	-
41	Project Initiation: Refined/Develop Projects with GGA	-	-	-	-	-
42	Study Implementation -Refine/Develop Studies	-	-	-	-	-
43	Study Implementation -Implement Studies to Fill Data Gaps	-	-	-	-	-
44	Study Implementation -Subsidence Monitoring Network: Realtime Monitoring	-	-	50,000	25,000	25,000
45	Public Engagement & Outreach	-	-	60,000	30,000	30,000
46	GSP Implementation/Management	-	-	120,000	60,000	60,000
47	Grants/Funding Applications	-	-	60,000	30,000	30,000
48	<i>Miscellaneous- Contingency</i>	-	-	-	-	-
49						
50	Professional Services- Demand Management - Water Accounting System					
51	Groundwater Accounting Program Setup	-	-	250,000	125,000	125,000
52	Satellite Imagery	-	-	150,000	75,000	75,000
53						
54	Professional Services- Domestic Well Mitigation					
55	GSP DWM Implementation and Administration (GGA shared)	-	-	20,000	10,000	10,000
56	Demand Management Mitigation: DM/Groundwater Allocation Program	-	-	-	-	-
57						
58	Professional Services- Projects					
59	GSP-Grant Application (Shared with Glen County)	30,000	-	-	-	-
60	GSP Technical Assistance:On-Call Support Svcs (Davids Engineering)	15,000	-	-	-	-
61	GSP Subbasin GSP Revisions (Shared with Glenn County)	-	177,754	-	-	-
62	GSP Revisions(Water Ecology)	-	27,000	-	-	-

