



# Joint Colusa Groundwater Authority and Glenn Groundwater Authority Board of Directors

## Special Meeting April 18, 2025 | 1:00 p.m.

LOCATION: 225 North Tehama Street, Willows, CA 95988

ALTERNATE MEETING LOCATIONS: 244 SE Piper Dr, Holt, MO 64048; 344 E Laurel St., Willows, CA 95988

### MINUTES

#### **In Attendance:**

#### **Colusa Groundwater Authority:**

Director Members Present:	Alternate/2 <sup>nd</sup> Alternate Directors	Agency Representing:
X Janice Bell	Jose Corona	County of Colusa
Jeremy Cain	Jesse Cain	City of Colusa
X Kate Dunlap	Alfred Sellers, Jr.	City of Williams
X Kelly Ornbaun	Jeff Sutton	Glenn Colusa Irrigation District
Frank Nobriga	X Shelly Murphy	Colusa County Water District
Zach Dennis	X Mike Urkov	Westside Water District
Jim Campbell		Provident Irrigation District
Hilary Reinhard	Lewis Bair	Reclamation District 108
Derrick Strain	Vacant	Reclamation District 479
Jim Wallace	Lynell Pollock	Colusa Drain Mutual Water Company
* Deke Dormer (as public)		Private Pumper
Jeff Moresco		Private Pumper

#### **Glenn Groundwater Authority:**

Director Members Present:	Alternate Directors	Agency Representing:
Grant Carmon	X Tony Arendt	County of Glenn
X Brandon Smith	Vacant	City of Orland
X Gary Hansen	Tavis Beynon	City of Willows
Matt Deadmond	X Vince Laufer	Glide Water District
X John Amaro	Jeff Sutton	Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District
X Charles Schonauer	X Justin Dahl	Orland-Artois Water District
X Randy Hansen	Wade Danley	Kanawha Water District
X Mark Lohse	Seth Fiack	Monroeville Water District
Jered Shipley	Gary Enos	Princeton-Codora-Glenn Irrigation District/ Provident Irrigation District

**Others in Attendance:** Lisa Hunter (GGA), Carol Thomas-Keefer (CGA), Jeff Davids (Davids Engineering, Inc.), Katie Klug (Davids Engineering, Inc.), Daniel Smith (Davids Engineering, Inc.), Valerie Kincaid (GGA Counsel), Alan Doud (CGA Counsel), Kellie Burt, Ben King, Shasta Banchio, Judith Redmond, Mary Fahey, Maddie Munson, Arne Gustafson, Matt Jones, Ryan Fulton, Pamela Katleba-Jenkins, Bill Vanderwaal, Thad Bettner, Denise Carter, Marshall Giesbrecht, Craig Knight, Bill Davis.

## **1. Call to Order, Roll Call and Introductions (CGA Board and GGA Board)**

Chair Gary Hansen (GGA) called the meeting to order at 1:11 p.m. Attendance was noted above. A quorum of members was present for GGA; CGA did not have a quorum.

## **2. Approval of Minutes**

- a. \*February 14, 2025 CGA/GGA Joint Board Meeting Minutes (CGA, GGA)

Due to CGA's lack of a quorum, action on this item was deferred to a future meeting.

## **3. Period of Public Comment**

Chair Hansen opened the floor to public comment for items not on the agenda. Ms. Kincaid noted that comments had been received via email from Mr. Ben King, and they would be circulated to the members of the two GSA boards.

## **4. Domestic Well Mitigation Program Development**

- a. Receive update on development of a domestic well mitigation program:

Mr. Jeff Davids, Davids Engineering, reviewed the purpose of the Domestic Well Mitigation Program and the topics under discussion with the ad hoc committees, including a) program management (staff or consultant; separate for GSAs or single manager); b) funding requirements (\$3.5 – \$6 million per GSP); and cost allocation (50/50 administration cost split; program mitigation costs by location). Mr. Davids noted that the ad hoc committees will further review information and provide recommendations at upcoming joint board meetings in order to have a program in place by January 1, 2026.

## **5. Groundwater Demand Management Program Development**

- a. Presentation: Water rights background for demand management development: Ms. Kincaid provided a comprehensive review of water rights in California and factors affecting demand management development, noting the following highlights:

- Unlike surface water rights, groundwater rights are generally established through case law;
- The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act does not provide permitting authority or address water rights but rather focuses on sustainability and local management;
- Types of groundwater rights include Pueblo, Overlying, Appropriative and Prescriptive
- Considerations for determining groundwater allocations

Considerable discussion followed, and Ms. Kincaid answered a number of questions.

- b. Receive recommendations from CGA/GGA Joint Demand Management Ad Hoc Committee and discuss to reach a consensus on next steps: Mr. Jeff Davids reviewed the following recommendations from the ad hoc committee:

Recommendation 1: Regardless of supply side actions, the subbasin needs to develop an accounting system to fulfill the commitment to DWR to develop a GDM program.

Recommendation 2: A single consistent water accounting methodology and system for the entire subbasin is needed.

Recommendation 3: This accounting system needs the flexibility to potentially handle different spatial

scales (large groupings of land vs. individual fields/parcels, etc.).

Recommendation 4: The preferred measurement method for evapotranspiration of applied groundwater (ETAGW) is remote sensing with certified totalizing flowmeters as an option.

Recommendation 5: Certified totalizing applied groundwater (AGW) flowmeters will be used as an option at the grower's expense if: (1) growers prefer flowmeters over remote sensing or (2) if applied surface water (ASW) is not measured with sufficient volumetric or spatial accuracy.

Recommendation 6: Collectively, the CGA and GGA need to budget \$500,000 / YR for remotely sensed evapotranspiration (ET) measurement data across the entire Colusa Subbasin.

Recommendation 7: Water accounting should be implemented in a phased manner with a pilot phase including provision of data to growers as soon as possible (e.g., providing draft groundwater consumption/extraction data to growers in 2025/2026).

Considerable discussion took place, with Mr. Davids responding to questions regarding water accounting methodology and remote sensing technology. The GGA Board and CGA members present indicated consensus to proceed with development of recommendations as presented.

c. Direct staff/consultants to develop an RFP/RFQ for an accounting system solicitation: Following a brief discussion, staff was directed to begin preparation of an RFP/RFQ for an accounting system.

d. Direct staff/consultants to develop an RFP/RFQ for remote sensing solicitation: Staff was directed to begin preparation of an RFP/RFQ for remote sensing technology.

## **6. Groundwater Sustainability Plan Approval**

Mr. Jeff Davids reported that, along with DWR's approval of the revised GSP earlier this year, DWR also issued a number of Recommended Corrective Actions (RCAs). The RCAs must be addressed in the Periodic Evaluation of the GSP, which must be submitted to DWR by January 2027. Mr. Davids then briefly reviewed each of the RCAs outlined in DWR's GSP approval letter. Ms. Hunter noted that the GSA boards will need to consider bringing on a consultant to prepare the Periodic Evaluation in time for the January 2027 submittal.

## **7. Discussion on Community Outreach Planning**

Mr. Davids briefly reviewed the need for community outreach to educate the community about the programs under development. He stated that development of outreach programs will focus on content and methodology to ensure stakeholders understand the issues and needs. Ms. Hunter added that consistency in messaging is also a key factor in preparing an outreach program.

## **8. Review Meeting Schedule and Next Steps**

Ms. Hunter reviewed the proposed meeting schedule for joint board meetings through June, with the next joint board meeting scheduled for May 16 at 1:00 p.m. in Colusa.

## **9. Member Reports and Comments**

None.

## **10. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.