

Eastern Water Alliance

Post Office Box 5157
Stockton, CA 95205

An Alliance of Water Districts, Central San Joaquin Water Conservation District, North San Joaquin Water Conservation District, and Stockton East Water District, located over the critically overdrafted Eastern San Joaquin County Groundwater Basin

NOTICE OF MEETING

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Eastern Water Alliance will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Monday, June 21, 2021 at Stockton East Water District, 6767 East Main Street, Stockton, California

DUE TO COVID-19 EWA MEETINGS WILL BE AVAILABLE BY TELECONFERENCE.

Please call (425) 436-6336/Access Code: 866228# to be connected to the Eastern Water Alliance Meeting, to begin at 1:30 p.m.

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| 1) Call to Order | |
| 2) Roll Call | |
| 3) Public Comment | |
| 4) June 7, 2021 Minutes | 01 |
| 5) Demonstration Recharge Extraction and Aquifer Management (DREAM) Project Permit Conditions Amendment Discussion/Possible Action | 05 |
| 6) Funding of Groundwater Sustainability Plan/Groundwater Sustainability Agencies Discussion | |
| 7) Director Reports | |
| 8) Agenda Planning for Next Meeting | |
| 9) Adjournment | |



STOCKTON EAST WATER DISTRICT

PROVIDING SERVICE SINCE 1948

www.sewd.net

DIRECTORS

Richard Atkins
Vice President
Division 1

Andrew Watkins
President
Division 2

Alvin Cortopassi
Division 3

Melvin Panizza
Division 4

Paul Sanguinetti
Division 5

Loralee McGaughey
Division 6

Thomas McGurk
Division 7

STAFF

Scot A. Moody
General Manager

Justin M. Hopkins
Assistant General Manager

LEGAL COUNSEL

Jeanne M. Zolezzi
General Counsel

Phone 209-948-0333
Fax 209-948-0423

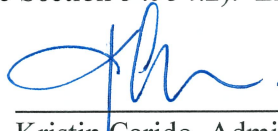
E-mail sewd@sewd.net

6767 East Main Street
Stockton, CA 95215

Post Office Box 5157
Stockton, CA 95205

Certification of Posting

I hereby certify that on June 17, 2021 I posted a copy of the foregoing agenda in the outside display case at the District Office, 6767 East Main Street, Stockton, California, said time being at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Eastern Water Alliance (Government Code Section 54954.2). Executed at Stockton, California on June 17, 2021.



Kristin Carido, Administrative Services Manager
Stockton East Water District

Assistance for the Disabled: If you are disabled in any way and need accommodation to participate in the meeting, please call Kristin Carido, Administrative Services Manager (209) 948-0333 for assistance so the necessary arrangements can be made.

Eastern Water Alliance (EWA)

Post Office Box 5157
Stockton, CA 95205

An Alliance of Water Districts, Central San Joaquin Water Conservation District (CSJWCD), North San Joaquin Water Conservation District (NSJWCD), and Stockton East Water District (SEWD), located over the critically overdrafted Eastern San Joaquin County Groundwater Basin

Monday, June 7, 2021 Minutes

1. Call to Order: Director McGurk called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m.
2. Roll Call: A quorum of Board members were present. Present at the District were Directors McGurk, Sanguinetti, Flinn and Simpson. Also present were SEWD's General Manager Moody, SEWD's District Engineer Evensen, SEWD's Administrative Services Manager Carido and SEWD's Administrative Assistant Curtis.

Representatives of the DREAM Monitoring Committee were General Manager Moody and Darrel Evensen (alternate), SEWD; Director Simpson, NSJWCD; Grace Su, EBMUD, ex officio member; and Matt Zidar (alternate), San Joaquin County.

3. Public Comment: None
4. Minutes of April 12, 2021: A motion was moved by Director Simpson and seconded by Director Sanguinetti to approve the April 12, 2021 minutes, as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

Director McGurk made a correction to the attendance list, requesting that Director Simpson be listed as attending in person and Director Flinn was present via teleconference.

5. Demonstration Recharge Extraction and Aquifer Management (DREAM) Project Monitoring Committee Presentation: Matt Zidar provided a presentation to the Board on the items that will be taken to the County Board of Supervisors (BOS) for approval at their June 8th meeting. The County BOS will be considering for approval revising the Monitoring Committee members.

Matt Zidar reported the Monitoring Committee will be requesting the BOS amend the permit, as permit conditions are not being met, to allow the addition of wells, how they are added and who has the power to add them in the future. Discussion followed on the wells and the minimum operating levels. The more monitoring wells results in a denser array of monitoring wells; therefore, providing better information.

Matt Zidar is proposing to take a resolution to the BOS recognizing the history and permittee and Monitoring Committee and all issues that have occurred to date. They will be asking the BOS to delegate authority to the Director of Public Works along with the Monitoring Committee to make necessary changes to the Monitoring Plan in concurrence with the DREAM Monitoring Committee during the pilot project operations.

Matt Zidar reported he would like to bring the EWA Board more solid recommendations at their next meeting after the Monitoring Committee has met and agreed on specifics.

Andrew Watkins asked a question on behalf of the public, stating the ordinance was written for the export project based on levels after 1992 drought. Does it make sense to quantify that information or should it be waived and when the data from the demonstration project is received the information can be added. Matt Zidar reported the monitoring conditions still need to be amended because that is what currently applies. The ordinance in this case is not changing, only the permit conditions. There has already been a declining trend noted in this area in the groundwater levels and the DREAM Project has yet to begin pumping.

Jennifer Spaletta reported County staff is asking the EWA to support a proposal to the BOS to amend the DREAM Project export permit to delete the current list of monitoring wells and minimum levels and replace with language that says the monitoring wells and minimums will be set by the Monitoring Committee. If the BOS grants this request, it will no longer be the job of the BOS for the Project to specify wells or monitoring levels, rather will be delegated to the Monitoring Committee. For the Demonstration Project there would be no need to go to the BOS on these issues, we would only go back to the BOS for a new export permit in the future.

Jennifer Spaletta reported that if the EWA Board is comfortable with allowing the Monitoring Committee to take over specifications of which wells will be used for monitoring, they would support recommending. Jennifer Spaletta reported there is a procedural problem, as the proposed resolution language being presented is not part of the packet and has not been agendaized. Director Sanguinetti commented that another meeting should be scheduled to agendaize this information for approval.

Director Sanguinetti reported the EWA Board will need to take the right steps in approving any changes.

Director Flinn inquired if the permit was issued to the EWA. Jennifer Spaletta replied yes. Director Flinn inquired, if the permit was granted to the EWA shouldn't the EWA Board be requesting the amendments to the permit. Jennifer Spaletta replied the EWA Board can request amendments, but the Monitoring Committee should as the monitoring is more onerous on the Monitoring Committee. Matt Zidar added that the Monitoring Committee is an entity of the BOS and are independent of the EWA. Director Flinn reported both the EWA and the Monitoring Committee should concur and it should be in way of a formal action. It should not look like the EWA took a backseat to these amendments.

Director Simpson inquired if their representative from NSJWCD should be replaced if they cannot reach him. Matt Zidar replied if nominated by the group, NSJWCD can select who is on the Monitoring Committee. Glenn Prasad reported the way the permit reads is the EWA Board established the Monitoring Committee and as it pertains to landowners, a primary and alternate within 2 miles of the extraction well as appointed by NSJWCD. Director Simpson advised they will locate another representative. Jennifer Spaletta advised that the resolution should state who the nominees are and they were appointed by NSJWCD or modified by NSJWCD.

Jennifer Spaletta inquired if the EWA Board would like to read the language today and have concurrence or wait until the next meeting. Director McGurk replied wait until the next meeting when formal action can be taken.

Jennifer Spaletta suggested scheduling a EWA and Monitoring Committee at the same time so they can take formal action together. Mat Zidar can reach out to the Monitoring Committee to inquire if a meeting on June 21st at 1:00 p.m. will work with their schedules and Director Simpson can inquire with the landowner representatives for NSJWCD on the date and time.

Jennifer Spaletta inquired if there are any other topics to be discussed at the next meeting other than the official action for the resolution. Matt Zidar replied no, but he will try and get everything up on the DREAM website for review. Director Simpson suggested having a discussion on the monitoring wells.

Jennifer Spaletta inquired if Matt Zidar will be in a position to provide a presentation or recommendation on the monitoring wells or operating limits. Matt Zidar replied on the existing wells, yes for operating levels, but not sure he will have information prepared on the new wells.

Jennifer Spaletta reported three action items will be agendized, but they may not all be acted on.

Director McGurk inquired if the resolution would change power. Jennifer Spaletta replied it gives more authority to what can be done. The BOS approving this would give the Monitoring Committee more responsibility to make changes for the DREAM Pilot Project.

6. Director Reports: Director Flinn reported it is good to see all agencies working together. The group needs to start thinking about what the next steps are and if discussion should begin with EBMUD. Jennifer Spaletta agreed that the conversation with EBMUD soon, as under the Protest Dismissal Agreement, the dedication of water to this area goes away if the new project is not in place by 2025. Conversations should start late fall 2021 or early 2022.

Director McGurk inquired if everyone will be invited to the meetings when next step discussions start. Jennifer Spaletta replied yes, everyone that is party to the agreement, to include EBMUD.

7. Agenda Planning for Next Meeting: The next meeting was scheduled for June 21, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.
8. Adjournment: Director McGurk adjourned the meeting at 2:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Director Flinn
Secretary

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BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

R E S O L U T I O N

R-

Authorize the Director of Public Works or designee to approve future changes to the Demonstration Recharge, Extraction and Aquifer Management Project (DREAM) Monitoring Committee appointments nominated by the represented agency; modify DREAM Monitoring Plan and related permit-conditions with the concurrence of the Monitoring Committee.

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Demonstration Recharge, Extraction and Aquifer Management (DREAM) project (Project) is to demonstrate, at a small scale, the feasibility of recharging the underlying groundwater basin by using surface water in lieu of pumping groundwater and returning a portion of the banked groundwater to the East Bay Municipal Utilities District (EBMUD); and,

WHEREAS, the Project identified on Exhibit A is a collaborative effort between North San Joaquin Water Conservation District (NSJWCD), EBMUD and the County; and,

WHEREAS, on April 17, 2017, by Resolution R-17-35 (Exhibit "A"), granted a Permit to Export Groundwater for the Project and pursuant to Title 5, Division 8, Section 5-8345 of the County Ordinance Code, the Board established the DREAM Project Monitoring Committee and the DREAM Project Monitoring Plan; and,

WHEREAS, issues related to the Monitoring Plan and related permit Conditions have been encountered that require modification to the Monitoring Plan and permit conditions; and these modifications are supported by the Monitoring Committee and EWA.

WHEREAS, since the Project is only a demonstration project, it will allow the County to experience potential challenges at a smaller scale and adapt accordingly to help ensure the viability of a potential full scale project;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby delegates the authority to the Director of Public Works or designee to authorize necessary changes to Monitoring Plan in cooperation with, and with the concurrence of the DREAM Project Monitoring Committee during conduct of the pilot project operations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the numbered permit conditions contained in Resolution R-17-35 Exhibit A are amended as follows;

11. By proceeding with the project, Permittees acknowledges that the Monitoring Committee has the authority to curtail, modify or terminate the extraction process, and to amend the Monitoring Plan by adding or removing wells or amending Minimum Operating Levels.

12. Permittees shall operate the extraction process such that groundwater levels in the wells listed below do not drop more than five feet under the minimum operating levels shown in the following table:

Well	Minimum Operating Level (ft above msl)
03N07E17K002	-45.7
03N07E19J004	-59.0
03N07E21L003	-51.5
03N07E33G002	-50.0

PASSED and ADOPTED by the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors, on the ____ day of _____ by the following vote of the Board of Supervisors to wit:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

ATTEST: RACHÉL DeBORD
 Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
 County of San Joaquin,
 State of California



By _____
 Deputy Clerk

 TOM PATTI
 Chairman, Board of Supervisors
 County of San Joaquin,
 State of California

Board of Supervisors
44 North San Joaquin Street, Suite 627
Stockton, California 95202

Dear Board Members:

**Authorize the Director of Public Works or designee to approve future changes to the Demonstration Recharge, Extraction and Aquifer Management Project (DREAM) Monitoring Committee appointments nominated by the represented agency; modify DREAM Monitoring Plan and related permit-conditions with the concurrence of the Monitoring Committee.
(4th District)**

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors, by resolution, authorize the Director of Public Works or designee to approve future changes to the DREAM Monitoring Committee appointments nominated by the represented agency; modify DREAM Monitoring Plan and related permit-conditions with the concurrence of the Monitoring Committee.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION:

The purpose of the Project is to demonstrate, at a small scale, the feasibility of recharging the underlying groundwater basin by using surface water in lieu of groundwater pumping and returning a portion of the banked groundwater to the East Bay Municipal Utilities District (EBMUD). The Project, identified in Exhibit A, is a collaborative effort between North San Joaquin Water Conservation District (NSJWCD), EBMUD and the County.

On April 7, 2016, the Eastern Water Alliance (EWA) approved an application for a Permit to Export Groundwater (Export Permit) for the Project and subsequently submitted it to the County for consideration. On April 17, 2017, by Resolution R-17-35, the Board granted the requested Export Permit and pursuant to Title 5, Division 8, Section 5-8345 of the County Ordinance Code, the Board established the -Project Monitoring Committee; adopted the Project Monitoring Plan and established permit conditions to set Minimum Operating Levels to asses project effects. Monitoring Committee Role is to implement Monitoring Plan defined by the permit; review complaints regarding the project operations and make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors, maintain official records of recharge and recovery activities (open to the public). The Monitoring Committee has the authority to curtail, modify or terminate the extraction process (SJC Reso 17-35). The Project Monitoring Plan tasks the County to monitor four wells.

During implementation of the Monitoring Plan a number of issues have been identified including: groundwater level wells are no longer accessible; the historical declines in groundwater levels were not factored into the establishment of Minimum Operating Levels set

Acceptance of the Monitoring Committee Appointments to the Demonstration Recharge, Extraction and Aquifer Management Project

by permit; and currently observed groundwater levels are already exceeding Minimum Operating Levels even though the project has not operated.

As such, adjustments to the Monitoring Plan and the monitoring-related permit conditions are needed. These adjustments will include refinement of monitoring well network, re-establishment of monitoring protocols, selection of alternative monitoring locations, modernization of data collection strategies, and revisions to the Minimum Operating Levels.

It is recommended that for the purposes of the pilot and demonstration project activities, the Board delegate the authority to the Director of Public Works or designee, to authorize necessary changes to Monitoring-Plan in cooperation with, and with the concurrence of the EWA and the DREAM Project Monitoring Committee during conduct of the pilot project operations. This includes making -modifications to the existing permit conditions establishing Minimum Operating Levels to be consistent with the observed groundwater trends and those levels set in the East San Joaquin Groundwater Sustainability Plan. These actions are only for the pilot and demonstration project and any further implementation of an export project would be brought back to the Board along with revised permits. These recommendations are supported by the Monitoring Committee and the EWA as the permittee.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no cost to the County General Fund. Costs for staff processing time will be paid from the 2020-2021 budget for Water Investigation Zone 2 or resources from the DREAM project.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN FOLLOWING APPROVAL:

Following Board adoption, the Public Works Director or designee, with concurrence of the Monitoring Committee and EWA, will review and approve any future Monitoring Committee appointments and changes to the Monitoring-Plan.

Sincerely,

KRIS BALAJI, PMP, P.E.
Director of Public Works

KB:KS:lj

WR-21D044-L3 LTR DREAM

c: Board Clerk
May 18, 2021 Agenda