

ATASCADERO BASIN

Groundwater
Sustainability Agency



Executive Committee Meeting Agenda

Meeting Date: Wednesday, March 22, 2023
Meeting Time: 4:30 p.m.
Meeting Location: Templeton CSD Board Meeting Room
206 5th Street
Templeton, California 93465

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call: Chairperson Grigger Jones
Vice Chairperson Navid Fardanesh
Secretary Rob Rossi
Committee Member Debbie Arnold
Committee Member John Hamon
Committee Member Susan Funk
Non-Voting Committee Member Tom Mora
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Order of Business
Executive Committee members may request to change the order of business.
5. Introductions
6. General Public Comments
The Executive Committee invites members of the public to address the committee on any subject that is within the purview of the committee and that is not on today's agenda. Comments shall be limited to three minutes.
7. Consent Agenda
The following items are considered routine and non-controversial by staff and may be approved by one motion if no member of the Executive Committee wishes an item removed. If discussion is desired, the item may be removed from the Consent Agenda by an Executive Committee member and will be considered separately. Questions or clarification may be made by the Executive Committee members without removal from the Consent Agenda. Individual items on the Consent Agenda are approved by the same vote that approves the Consent Agenda unless an item is pulled for separate consideration. Members of the public may comment on the Consent Agenda items.
 - a. Minutes – February 22, 2023

8. Old Business:
 - a. Adopt Resolution 2023-01, Filing of Annual Report with DWR
 - b. Groundwater Model Refinement Update

9. New Business:
 - a. Request for Future Items
 - b. Next Meeting: to be determined

10. Informational Items

11. Adjournment

ATASCADERO BASIN

*Groundwater
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TO: Executive Committee

FROM: GSA Staff/ John Neil, Atascadero Mutual Water Company

DATE: March 22, 2023

SUBJECT: Agenda Item 7.a, Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approve the Executive Committee meeting minutes for the meeting held on February 22, 2023.

MEETING MINUTES:

The Executive Committee (Committee) of the Atascadero Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) was held at the Templeton Community Services District board room and via teleconference on Wednesday, February 22, 2023, at 4:30 p.m.

Roll Call: Chairperson Robert Jones called the meeting to order at 4:33 p.m. Present in person at the Committee meeting were Voting Members Robert Jones, Navid Fardanesh, Susan Funk, and Alternative Member John Peschong. A quorum (minimum of 4 voting representatives) of the Committee was established. Voting members Rob Rossi and John Hamon were absent. Non-voting member Tom Mora was absent.

Order of Business: The Committee Members reviewed the order of the meeting’s agenda and confirmed to conduct the meeting as presented in the agenda.

Introductions: The attendees listed below introduced themselves.

<u>Atascadero Mutual Water Company</u> John Neil	<u>Templeton Community Services District</u> Jeff Briltz	<u>GEI Consultants</u> Mike Cornelius
<u>GSI Water Solutions</u> Nate Page David O’Rourke	<u>County of San Luis Obispo</u> Blaine Reely	<u>City of Paso Robles</u> Chris Alakel
<u>Public</u> None		

General Public Comments: Chairperson Jones opened public comment and, seeing none, closed public comment.

Consent Agenda:

Agenda 7.a: October 25, 2022, Meeting Minutes – The Committee reviewed the minutes from the October 25, 2022, meeting.

A motion was made by Member Funk to approve the minutes. Member Fardanesh provided a second. Voice vote of Voting Members: Ayes – Jones, Fardanesh, Peschong, Funk. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Old Business Agenda: (None)

New Business Agenda:

Agenda 9.a: Appointment of Officers – The Committee elected members to serve as Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer for 2023.

A motion was made by Member Funk to elect Member Jones as Chair for 2023, seconded by Member Peschong. Voice vote of Voting Members: Ayes – Funk, Peschong, Fardanesh, Jones. Nays – none. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Member Funk to elect Member Fardanesh as Vice Chair for 2023, seconded by Member Peschong. Voice vote of Voting Members: Ayes – Funk, Peschong, Jones, Fardanesh. Nays – none. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Member Peshong to elect Member Rossi as Secretary for 2023, seconded by Member Funk. Voice vote of Voting Members: Ayes – Peshong, Funk, Jones, Fardanesh. Nays – none. Motion carried.

The Committee unanimously agreed to defer election of a Treasurer for 2023 due to the GSA not having any assets or liabilities at this time.

Agenda 9.b: Annual Report to DWR (draft) – Michael Cornelius of GEI Consultants provided the Committee with an overview of the draft annual report to the DWR for Water Year 2022 (October 1, 2021 – September 30, 2022) as required under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. The report is due by April 1, 2023. A draft of the report was posted on the Atascadero Basin GSA communications portal on February 17, 2023, for a 30-day review period. A final report will be presented to the Executive Committee at its meeting on March 22 and posted on the DWR portal by March 31, 2023.

The report concluded that there was a reduction in groundwater storage of 5,200 acre-feet in WY 2021 and 8,000 acre-feet in WY 2022. Both years had below average rainfall. There were no exceedances of groundwater level minimum thresholds at any of the representative monitoring sites.

Agenda 9.c: Groundwater Model Refinement Update – Nate Page of GSI Water Solutions provided the Committee with a progress update on the refinements being made to the basin-wide/basin-specific groundwater model for the Atascadero Basin. He explained the how the work performed for the 2016 basin boundary modification effort was utilized in the development of the hydrogeologic conceptual model. He reviewed the next steps in development of the refined groundwater model.

Agenda 9.d: Request for Future Items – The Committee did not offer any suggestions for future agenda items.

Agenda 9.e: Next Meeting: The next Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for March 22, 2023.

Informational Items:

Agenda 10.a: DWR Prop 1 Grant Progress Report, Q4 2022 – The Committee received the progress report.

Adjournment:

There being no further business to discuss, Chairperson Jones adjourned the meeting at 5:12 p.m.

Rob Rossi, Secretary

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ATASCADERO BASIN

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TO: Executive Committee

FROM: GSA Staff/ John Neil, Atascadero Mutual Water Company

DATE: March 22, 2023

SUBJECT: Agenda Item 8.a, Filing of Annual Report with the Department of Water Resources

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Adopt Resolution 2023-01 authorizing the filing of the Atascadero Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan Annual Report with the California Department of Water Resources for the water year ending September 30, 2022.

DISCUSSION:

Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) are required to prepare annual reports before April 1 of each year following submittal of their Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs) to the Department of Water Resources (DWR). The DWR will be reviewing annual reports and GSPs to ensure that they are in conformance with Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, regulations, and likely to achieve the sustainability goal of the basin.

The annual report includes data and information used in the development of the GSP updated to reflect the most recent hydrologic data, and maps representing current conditions with narrative describing the progress made toward implementing the GSP.

On February 22, 2023, a public draft of the annual report for the water year ending September 30, 2022, was made available on the Atascadero Basin communication portal (<https://portal.atascaderobasin.com/>) for a minimum 15-day public review and comment period.

The annual report concludes, in general, that the groundwater elevations observed in the Basin during water years 2018 through 2022 are stable in both the Salinas River alluvial aquifer and Paso Robles Formation aquifer. Positive and negative changes in groundwater elevations from year to year are observed in response to climatic variability and changes in pumping, but water levels at all representative monitoring site locations were maintained above minimum thresholds. The alluvial aquifer continues to show an ability to recharge rapidly after significant rainfall.

ATTACHMENTS:

- A. Resolution 2023-01
- B. Annual Report for the Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the Atascadero Basin (via weblink - <https://portal.atascaderobasin.com/>)

RESOLUTION 2023-01

APPROVING THE ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN FOR THE ATASCADERO BASIN, AND AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING ITS FILING WITH THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES FOR THE WATER YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2022

WHEREAS in August 2014, the California Legislature passed, and in September 2014 the Governor signed, legislation creating the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (“SGMA”) “to provide local groundwater sustainability agencies with the authority and technical and financial assistance necessary to sustainably manage groundwater” (Wat. Code, § 10720, (d)); and

WHEREAS SGMA requires sustainable management through the development of groundwater sustainability plans (“GSPs”), which can be a single plan developed by one or more groundwater sustainability agency (“GSA”) or multiple coordinated plans within a basin or subbasin (Wat. Code, § 10727); and

WHEREAS the Atascadero Basin GSA Executive Committee approved submittal of a GSP for the Atascadero Basin (3-004.11 Salinas Valley Atascadero Area) to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) on January 19, 2022; and

WHEREAS the Atascadero Basin GSA submitted the GSP for the Atascadero Basin to the DWR on January 30, 2022; and

WHEREAS GSAs are required to prepare annual reports before April 1 of each year following submittal of their GSP to the DWR; and

WHEREAS a public draft of the annual report for the water year ending September 30, 2023, was made available for review and comment on the Atascadero Basin communication portal (<https://portal.atascaderobasin.com/>) for a minimum 15-day public review on February 22, 2023; and

WHEREAS an email was sent to all interested parties who have registered on the communications portal notifying them that the annual report was available for review and comment on February 22, 2023.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Committee of the Atascadero Basin GSA hereby approves and authorizes the filing of the Atascadero Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan Annual Report with the California Department of Water Resources or the water year ending September 30, 2022.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Atascadero Basin GSA on March 22, 2023, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Robert Jones, Chairperson

Secretary's Certification

I, Rob Rossi, Secretary of the Atascadero Basin GSA Executive Committee, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution is a true and correct copy entered into the Minutes of the Meeting of March 22, 2023, at which time a quorum was present, and no motion to amend or rescind the above resolution was made.

Rob Rossi, Secretary

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TO: Executive Committee

FROM: GSA Staff/ John Neil, Atascadero Mutual Water Company

DATE: March 22, 2023

SUBJECT: Agenda Item 8.b, Groundwater Model Refinement Update

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Receive report

DISCUSSION:

Staff presented a technical memorandum describing how a refined geologic model was prepared for the Atascadero Basin to the Executive Committee at its meeting on February 22, 2023. Staff informed the Committee that the next step in the groundwater model update process is to prepare a groundwater flow model that uses the updated geologic model. The results of the groundwater flow model will be described in a technical memorandum.

Groundwater Solutions, Inc. (GSI) is the consulting firm preparing the basin-wide/basin-specific groundwater model for the Atascadero Basin. GSI will be providing an oral update on the progress made on updating the groundwater flow model at the meeting.

The basin-wide/basin-specific groundwater model for the Atascadero Basin will reflect the latest boundary established in the 2016 Basin Boundary Modification and incorporate the additional information collected during the development of the groundwater sustainability plan (GSP). A refined model grid will provide an improved understanding of basin boundaries and the surface water/groundwater interaction along the Salinas River, which plays a significant role in overall groundwater management of the basin.

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) approved an amendment to the Proposition 1 grant agreement that allows the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) to expend the remaining \$220,188 in grant funds on costs related to GSP development beyond the original grant agreement termination date of April 30, 2022. The amendment revised the grant work plan to include the development of a basin-wide/basin-specific hydrogeologic conceptual model for the Atascadero Basin.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Fifty percent of the cost to prepare the refinement to the groundwater model is funded through the Proposition 1 grant awarded to the GSA by the Department of Water Resources, with the remaining costs being a local match.

ATTACHMENTS: