

Eastern Municipal Water District

Our Values: Public Trust, Honesty and Integrity, Responsibility, Loyalty, Courtesy, Human Value, Safety, and Community

West San Jacinto Groundwater Sustainability Agency Stakeholder Advisory Group Meeting MINUTES

EMWD Headquarters, Conference Room 101 (Community Room)
September 24, 2019 from 10:00 am to 11:00 am

Attendees: *list employees below*

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alexander, Lanaya	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gray, Rachel	<input type="checkbox"/> Ohlund, Bob - Dudek	<input type="checkbox"/> Wall, Jeff
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Daverin, John	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Javier, Al	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Olney, Ryan – Riv Co E.H.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wedeking, Matthew
<input type="checkbox"/> Chatha, Pakiza – DWR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kanetis, Nick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Powell, Brian	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Weinberger, Jill - Dudek
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Copeland, Stena	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kowalski, Greg	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reber, Carl	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dierking, Bonnie – Riv Co E.H.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lehto, Eric - MARB	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Riha, Matt – Riv Co E.H.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Fordunski, Janet – W & C	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mortazavi, Behrooz	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ross, Timothy – DWR	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gandara, Mallory - WMWD	<input type="checkbox"/> Mouawad, Joe	<input type="checkbox"/> Shaw, Ryan - WMWD	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ghaderi, Khos	<input type="checkbox"/> Ng, Gordon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Taghavi, Ali – W & C	

AGENDA ITEMS	PRESENTER
<p>Introductions: Brief introductions were made around the room.</p> <p>Project Overview:</p> <p>What is the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act? The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act was signed into law on September 16, 2014 and became effective January 1, 2015. It requires the formation of groundwater sustainability agencies (GSAs) for high and medium priority groundwater basins. These GSAs must prepare a groundwater sustainability plan (GSP) by 2022 which outlines how it will achieve sustainability within 20 years of the plan’s adoption.</p> <p>Eastern Municipal Water District is the GSA for the west-side of the San Jacinto Groundwater Basin. The east-side is managed by the Hemet-San Jacinto Watermaster. The west-side of the basin is split into five groundwater management zones: Perris North, Perris South, Menifee, San Jacinto Lower Pressure, and Lakeview. These zones have operated under EMWD’s groundwater management plan since 1995.</p> <p>What is a Groundwater Sustainability Plan? This is a planning and technical document that includes a hydrogeologic understanding of the basin, predictions of future groundwater use and conditions in the basin, and criteria by which the basin will be managed sustainably by the year 2042. The criteria is based on six sustainability indicators: groundwater elevation, groundwater in storage, groundwater quality, land subsidence, interconnected surface water and groundwater, and seawater intrusion. The latter, seawater intrusion, does not pertain to the basin in question, and will not be covered in this GSP. The remaining five sustainability indicators will assist in developing the material to illustrate the sustainable management criteria: sustainability goal (which will be a broad policy statement), undesirable results (this section will define undesirable results), minimum thresholds (numeric values quantifying when undesirable results occur), and measurable objectives.</p> <p>Federally owned lands are not required to participate in the development and execution of the GSP, but the GSP must cover the entire basin.</p> <p>Update on the Groundwater Sustainability Plan Development – Historical & Current Conditions</p>	<p>Jill Weinberger, Dudek</p>

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Conditions show that the average waterfall is 9.4 inches per the Lake Perris rain gauge (water year equals October 1 through September 30 of each year). Total groundwater production was approximately 22,051 acre-feet in 2018, and is not evenly distributed among the groundwater management zones. Perris South yielded the most groundwater (approximately 6,765 acre-feet), whereas San Jacinto Lower Pressure yielded the least amount of groundwater (approximately 1,088 acre-feet).

Groundwater elevations control the direction of groundwater flow and are influenced by locations of groundwater recharge and discharge/extraction. The flow direction varies through the West San Jacinto Groundwater Basin with elevations and flow direction being similar in the Fall and Spring.

Groundwater in Storage will be determined from the numerical groundwater model for the San Jacinto Basin.

Groundwater Quality has two primary constituents of concern which are total dissolved solids (TDS) and nitrates. Other constituents of concern include: perchlorate, iron, manganese, volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). GSP will incorporate existing monitoring and regulatory framework.

Land Subsidence related to groundwater production has not been documented in the West San Jacinto Groundwater Basin.

Timeline & Next Steps

The consultants and EMWD will work together to finalize figures to support technical background sections for Historical and Current Conditions and the Historical Water Budgets. Future groundwater model scenarios will be conducted, and both parties will continue to define sustainable groundwater management criteria.

SGMA Webpage

The SGMA webpage was shown to the group and it was noted that the page could be used as a resource for everything related to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. Attendees were asked to sign up at the website to receive updates on the GSP. The site can be found here:

<https://www.emwd.org/search/site/sgma>

Questions & Answers

When will stakeholders have documents to review? Stakeholders will receive the documents in parts, beginning in January 2020. The full draft should be expected in July 2020 for internal EMWD review; however, there is currently no timeline that has been written for when the public can expect to receive the sections for review.

After the GSP is implemented, what is expected? The legislation requires annual updates – the first of which will be due the April after the GSP has been submitted. In addition, at regular five year intervals, staff are expected to review the GSP to make sure it is working for the basin. Defining the monitoring for the GSP must be done, and it is expected that the basin is sustainable within 20 years of implementing the GSP.

Rachel Gray

Eastern Municipal Water District

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<p>Is EMWD actively seeking to bring in State Water Project Water and looking for additional input/output opportunities? EMWD is currently launching a feasibility study to look at recharging water in the Perris South sub-basin and extracting water from the Lakeview area. As far as other input/output opportunities, the consultants will be looking at the numerical water data to see whether opportunities will present themselves.</p> <p>Does the plan outline actions to take to mitigate undesirable results, should they appear? Yes, the plan will address the actions to be taken to mitigate undesirable results.</p> <p>After submitting the GSP to the Department of Water Resources, will they accept the plan “as-is,” or will they provide feedback on the GSP? The Department of Water Resources will not accept the plan “as-is,” and will provide feedback to assist in getting the GSP approved by its Board.</p> <p>When will EMWD be expected to adopt the GSP? The District will adopt the plan in August 2021, as it submits its GSP to the Department of Water Resources. Any changes will be adopted in a revised plan thereafter.</p> <p>Are all the GSPs due at the same time? No. Currently, there are 22 critically over-drafted basins that must submit their GSPs by January 2020. Less urgent basins will submit their GSPs at a later time in a staggered fashion.</p>	
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ACTION ITEMS	RESPONSIBLE	DUE BY
No action items resulted from this meeting.	N/A	N/A

MEETING EFFECTIVENESS ASSESSMENT:

STRENGTHS	DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES