



SAN ANTONIO BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY (SABGSA)
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
UNAPPROVED MINUTES
Tuesday, March 18, 2025

1. **CALL TO ORDER and ROLL CALL** – The meeting was called to order by Chair Randy Sharer at 6:00pm at the Los Alamos Community Services District, located at 82 St. Joseph Street, Los Alamos, CA. Members of the public had the option to participate virtually or in-person.

Board of Directors Present: Tom Durant, Alternate Richard Kline, Barbara Landon, Kevin Merrill, Patrice Mosby, Kenny Pata, Randy Sharer, Chris Wrather.

Directors Absent: Dan Chabot

Alternates present, but not acting on behalf of a Director: None

Introduction of New SABGSA Board Member: On February 26, 2025, the Los Alamos Community Services District approved Resolution #25-385 appointing Barbara Landon as their representative on the SABGSA Board of Directors replacing Juan Gomez.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT APPEARING ON THE AGENDA**

No public comment.

4. **CONSENT ITEMS**

a. **Minutes from February 18, 2025, SABGSA Board Meeting**

Motion by Director Merrill, second by Director Durant to approve the minutes of the February 18, 2025 Board meeting, as presented.

Ayes: Tom Durant, Alternate Richard Kline, Barbara Landon, Kevin Merrill, Patrice Mosby, Kenny Pata, Randy Sharer, Chris Wrather.

Nos: None; **Absent:** Dan Chabot; **Abstain:** None

b. **Agency Finances, Budgeting, and Training**

Motion by Director Durant, second by Alternate Director Kline to approve the financial report dated February 28, 2025, as presented.

Ayes: Tom Durant, Alternate Richard Kline, Barbara Landon, Kevin Merrill, Patrice Mosby, Kenny Pata, Randy Sharer, Chris Wrather.

Nos: None; **Absent:** Dan Chabot; **Abstain:** None

5. **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

a. **SABGSA Executive Director Updates**

- The Q1 2025 Monitoring Event was completed in February 2025. The Q1 2025 Monitoring Report is agenda item 6.d.
- The vegetation trimming along access trails to wells in the Barka Slough is complete.
- The SABGSA submitted a funding request to the SABWD on March 11, 2025 for \$52,397.10 to cover invoices received this month.
- SABGSA Executive Director and SABWD Executive Director attended an informational

meeting at the request of Santa Ynez River GSA (EMA) to discuss the development and implementation of SABGSA's well registration and metering programs.

- SB1156 – Form 700 Filing Requirements. SABGSA Board (and Alternates) and Executive Director are now required to file Form 700 with the Fair Political Practices Commission by April 1, 2025. This is in addition to filing Form 700 with the County of Santa Barbara by April 1, 2025. SABGSA will track both submittals on the Board Training/Certifications Report.

b. San Antonio Basin Water District (SABWD) Update

The SABWD Board of Directors met on March 18, 2025. Executive Director Donna Glass reported the following.

- The Wallace Group provided an update on the Re-Evaluation of the Irrigated versus Non-Irrigated Lands.
- The Board approved a Non-Overlying Land Re-evaluation Credit to several landowners in the amount of \$3,645.39.
- The Board discussed the classification of dry farming and what to do about particular parcels that are being put to agricultural use but claiming no irrigation. Based on the discussion the Policy for Evaluating Requests for Assessment Changes will be updated and brought back to the next meeting for review and possible action.
- Change Order Request Forms for an increase or decrease in irrigated acres are due by March 31, 2025.
- As of March 12, 2025, \$520,313 or 93% of the 2024-25 Assessments have been collected. The remaining balance is \$39,057. Assessments become delinquent on February 3, 2025.
- The SABWD approved a fund request from the SABGSA for \$52,397.10 to cover monthly invoices.

c. Advisory Committee Updates

- The Advisory Committee did not meet in March 2025.

d. Board Member Updates

- None.

6. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

a. Second Reading (by Title only) and Adoption of Ordinance No. 25-001 to Establishing SABGSA Rules and Regulations Requiring Well Owners to Install Meters and Report Monthly Groundwater Extraction Readings to the SABGSA on a Twice-a-Year Basis and Making Related Findings for an Exemption from the California Environmental Quality Act.

At the February 18, 2025 meeting, the Board approved Ordinance No. 25-001, as read by title only, waived further reading, and continued the consideration of Ordinance 25-001 for adoption at the March 18, 2025 Board meeting.

SABGSA legal counsel reviewed the draft Notice of Exemption. Ordinance 25-001, including the SABGSA Rules and Regulations, is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Sections 15307 (Protection of Natural Resources), 15308 (Protection of the Environment), and 15061(b)(3) of Title 14 of the CEQA Guidelines because the Ordinance will support GSP implementation and effective groundwater management in order to prevent environmental degradation associated with groundwater overdraft and will not have a significant effect on the environment. SABGSA legal counsel recommended filing the CEQA Notice of Exemption with the State and the County of Santa Barbara.

No public comment received on this item.

Motion by *Director Merrill*, second by *Director Pata* to approve the second reading (by Title only) and adopt Ordinance No. 25-001 Establishing SABGSA Rules and Regulations requiring well

owners to install meters and report monthly groundwater extraction readings to the SABGSA on a twice-a-year basis and make related findings for an exemption from the California Environmental Quality Act.

Ayes: Tom Durant, Alternate Richard Kline, Barbara Landon, Kevin Merrill, Patrice Mosby, Kenny Pata, Randy Sharer, Chris Wrather.

Nos: None; **Absent:** Dan Chabot; **Abstain:** None

b. SABGSA Administrative Enforcement Policy

SABGSA legal counsel reviewed the draft Administrative Enforcement Policy regarding penalties and other enforcement tools for the SABGSA's Rules and Regulations. SABGSA legal counsel outlined the program enforcement process, penalties for non-compliance, and the process for landowners to appeal issuance of a Notice of Violation, fine, or other decision made by the SABGSA to implement the Rules and Regulations. SABGSA legal counsel also reviewed the draft Appeal Form and draft Appeal Fee and Deposit Agreement.

The Board directed SABGSA legal counsel to prepare a resolution for adoption of the Administrative Enforcement Policy and finalize the Appeal Form and Appeal Fee & Deposit Agreement for review at the April 15, 2025 Board meeting.

c. Submission of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan Annual Report for Water Year 2024 to the California Department of Water Resources

At the February 18, 2025 Board meeting, Mike McAlpin, GSI Water Solutions, Inc. presented the first draft of the GSP Annual Report for Water Year 2024. He noted an error in the change in groundwater in storage volumes that would be corrected and reviewed at the March 18, 2025 Board meeting.

Mike McAlpin, GSI Water Solutions, Inc. reviewed the revisions to Table 9 and Figure 17 included in the final draft of the GSP Annual Report dated March 14, 2025. The total change in groundwater in storage for Water Year 2024 is 30,300 acre-feet. The total change in groundwater in storage volumes for water years 2020, 2021, and 2023 were also revised and will be updated in the SGMA portal per direction from the Department of Water Resources. These revisions do not affect the GSP.

Motion by Alternate *Director Kline*, second by *Director Wrather* to approve the GSP Annual Report for Water Year 2024, as presented, and direct GSI Water Solutions, Inc. to submit the Annual Report to the Department of Water Resources via the SGMA portal prior to the April 1, 2025 deadline.

Ayes: Tom Durant, Alternate Richard Kline, Barbara Landon, Kevin Merrill, Patrice Mosby, Kenny Pata, Randy Sharer, Chris Wrather.

Nos: None; **Absent:** Dan Chabot; **Abstain:** None

d. Q1 2025 Quarterly Groundwater Level Monitoring Report

Chair Randy Sharer provided an overview of the Q1 2025 Quarterly Groundwater Level Monitoring Report prepared by GSI Water Solutions, Inc. The Q1 2025 report is posted on SABGSA's website. The Board did not take action on this item.

7. NEXT MEETING:

April 15, 2025 at 6pm at Los Alamos Community Services District.

8. ADJOURN – 7:02pm