

SAN ANTONIO BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY (SABGSA) BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

UNAPPROVED MINUTES

Tuesday, November 19, 2024

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: Dan Chabot, Tom Durant, Juan Gomez, Patrice Mosby, Randy Sharer,

Chris Wrather.

Directors Absent: Kevin Merrill, Kenny Pata

Alternates present, but not acting on behalf of a Director: Jim Stollberg

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT APPEARING ON THE AGENDA

No public comment.

4. CONSENT ITEMS

a. Approve Minutes from October 15, 2024, SABGSA Board Meeting

Motion by *Director Mosby*, second by *Director Durant* to approve the minutes of the October 15, 2024 Board meeting, as presented.

Ayes: Dan Chabot, Tom Durant, Juan Gomez, Patrice Mosby, Randy Sharer, Chris Wrather.

Nos: None; Absent: Kevin Merrill, Kenny Pata; Abstain: None

b. Agency Finances, Budgeting, and Training

Motion by *Director Wrather*, second by *Director Mosby* to approve the financial report dated October 31, 2024, as presented.

Ayes: Dan Chabot, Tom Durant, Juan Gomez, Patrice Mosby, Randy Sharer, Chris Wrather.

Nos: None; Absent: Kevin Merrill, Kenny Pata; Abstain: None

5. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

a. SABGSA Executive Director Updates:

- The Q4 2024 Groundwater Level Monitoring Event will take place November 26-27, 2024. During the Q4 Event, transducers will be installed in 5 RMS wells. The Q4 2024 report will be reviewed at the January 2025 Board meeting.
- SABGSA is working with GSI Water Solutions, Inc. to update data in the SGMA Portal including AEM Survey Data, Projects and Management Actions Module, and Monitoring Network Module.

b. San Antonio Basin Water District Update

Executive Director Donna Glass reported the following.

• The San Antonio Basin Water District (SABWD) Board of Directors did not meet in November 2024.

c. Advisory Committee Updates

• The Advisory Committee did not meet in November 2024.

d. Board Member Updates

None.

6. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

a. SABGSA Metering Program - Re-Cap of Stakeholder Workshop and Next Steps

The Board discussed the stakeholder workshop for the metering and groundwater extraction reporting program held on October 15, 2024. More than 30 landowners attended. The workshop presentation, with a link to all draft policy documents, and request for additional comments was posted on SABGSA's website and emailed to SABGSA's landowners and interested parties list on October 16, 2024. Following the workshop, SABGSA received two emails with positive feedback and two emails with parcel-specific questions.

The framework for the metering program has been developed over the course of the last year and discussed regularly at SABGSA Board meetings where the public was provided an opportunity to comment. All draft policy documents are posted on SABGSA's website.

- July 18, 2023 Conceptual Framework
- August 16, 2023 Conceptual Framework
- October 17, 2023 Conceptual Framework
- November 28, 2023 DRAFT Installation and Reporting Forms
- March 19, 2024 Frequently Asked Questions
- May 21, 2024 Conceptual Framework and DRAFT Ordinance
- July 16, 2024 DRAFT Administrative Policy and Appeal Process
- August 20, 2024 Stakeholder Workshop Outline
- September 18, 2024 DRAFT Appeal and Fee Deposit Agreement
- October 15, 2024 Stakeholder Workshop

The Board directed SABGSA staff and legal counsel to initiate the public hearing process for adoption of the Ordinance requiring metering and reporting of groundwater extraction in the San Antonio Creek Valley Groundwater Basin at the January 21, 2025 SABGSA Board meeting.

b. Consider a "Waiver of Conflict of Interest – Consultation, Disclosure, Informed Consent" Letter Requested by Legal Counsel Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP

The Board reviewed and discussed a "Waiver of Conflict of Interest - Consultation, Disclosure, Informed Consent" letter requested by the SABGSA's legal counsel, Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP ("Brownstein"). SABGSA legal counsel Jessica Diaz was present and answered questions. Brownstein requested the waiver related to the firm's concurrent legal representation of Rancho La Laguna, LLC, a significant landowner in the San Antonio Creek Valley Groundwater Basin. No current conflict exists. However, the SABGSA's purview includes implementing projects and management actions to manage water supplies available to landowners and other groundwater uses relying on the Basin. In an abundance of caution, and with SABGSA now considering regulations that may impact landowners' ability to pump from the San Antonio Basin in the future, Brownstein's work for SABGSA on the SABGSA matters may impact the water supply sources and/or water rights that may be associated with Rancho La Laguna's properties.

With the waiver in place, Brownstein would retain both parties as clients, representing them in separate, unrelated matters. Should a conflict arise between SABGSA and Rancho La Laguna, SABGSA will engage outside legal counsel and Brownstein will not represent either party in a dispute or litigation.

Motion by *Director Chabot*, second by *Director Durant* to approve the "Waiver of Conflict of Interest – Consultation, Disclosure, Informed Consent" Letter from Brownstein Hyatt Farber

Schreck, LLP dated November 14, 2024, as presented.

Ayes: Dan Chabot, Tom Durant, Juan Gomez, Patrice Mosby, Randy Sharer, Chris Wrather.

Nos: None; Absent: Kevin Merrill, Kenny Pata; Abstain: None

c. Consider a Proposal from GSI Water Solutions, Inc. for Quarterly Groundwater Level Monitoring and Reporting for Calendar Year 2025

The Board reviewed and discussed the proposed scope of work and associated fees for GSI Water Solutions, Inc. to provide quarterly groundwater level monitoring and reporting services during the 2025 calendar year to support the ongoing groundwater monitoring efforts in the San Antonio Creek Valley Groundwater Basin.

Motion by *Director Wrather*, second by *Director Mosby* to approve the proposal from GSI Water Solutions, Inc. for Quarterly Groundwater Level Monitoring and Reporting for calendar year 2025 dated September 13, 2024 in the amount of \$62,454 as presented.

Ayes: Dan Chabot, Tom Durant, Juan Gomez, Patrice Mosby, Randy Sharer, Chris Wrather.

Nos: None; Absent: Kevin Merrill, Kenny Pata; Abstain: None

7. NEXT MEETING:

January 21, 2025 at 6pm at Los Alamos Community Services District.

8. ADJOURN – 6:45pm