

Santa Rosa Plain Groundwater Sustainability Agency
Advisory Committee Meeting
MEETING SUMMARY

Meeting date/time: January 8, 2018 | 3:00 pm – 5:30 pm

Location: City of Santa Rosa’s Utility Field Office (UFO)
35 Stony Circle Drive, Santa Rosa, CA 95401

Contact: Brittany Jensen, Interim Administrator, Santa Rosa Plain GSA

Email: Brittany@goldridgercd.org | Phone: 707.823-5244

Sonoma County Groundwater Website: <http://sonomacountygroundwater.org>

MEETING RECAP

- The facilitator opened the meeting with an overview of the meeting’s agenda. The general public was given an opportunity to make comments to the Advisory Committee shortly after the opening of the meeting.
- Brittany Jensen, Interim Administrator for the Santa Rosa Plain Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) provided an overview of planned topics for the next Board meeting on February 8th. She walked the attendees through the updated Advisory Committee Workplan which will be presented to the Board, noting it is still subject to change.
- Ann DuBay of the Water Agency, updated the Advisory Committee on the Outreach and Communication Plan noting the next action is to present the Plan to the Board.
- Committee Members discussed the latest iteration of the charter, offered a range of comments, questions and input, and came to agreement on the use of proxies, and later discussion of alternates. The committee then adopted its charter by consensus.
- Committee Members appointed Bob Anderson, representing Agricultural interests, as its Chair and Rue Furch, representing Environmental interests, as its Vice-Chair.
- Marcus Trotta, Sonoma County Water Agency presented the process for basin boundary modifications. Committee Members were given the opportunity to ask questions and provide input. The basin boundary discussion will continue at the February meeting.

Summary of Action Items

<i>Action Item</i>	<i>Responsible Party</i>	<i>Deadline</i>
Include Advisory Committee meeting dates in the AC Work Plan.	Brittany Jensen	Next updated Plan

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Include Sally Van Etten of Reftelis' contact information in next email to Committee.	Brittany Jensen	1/10/18
Draft Options for Alternates for Advisory Committee discussion	Brittany Jensen	March, 2018
Summary of Options for Basin Boundary Modifications with pros/cons/costs	Marcus Trotta	Prior to 2/12/18 AC meeting
Develop a Staff Report for GSA Board review at 2/8 Board Meeting	Brittany Jensen	1/24/18
Comments on the attached FAQs presented at the last meeting please email them to Lauren Dunlap of the Sonoma County Water Agency Lauren.Dunlap@scwa.ca.gov.	Advisory Committee Members	ASAP

Next Meeting: February 12th, 2018, 3:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m., City of Santa Rosa's Utility Field Office (UFO), 35 Stony Circle Drive

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Welcome, Introductions and Agenda Review

Rich Wilson, Center for Collaborative Policy, opened the meeting with a welcome, and introductions, then followed with an overview of the meeting's agenda and ground rules. He then opened the floor for public comment.

- ❖ Public Comment from Dwayne DeWitt, Roseland He stressed the need for agencies to remember the constituents they represent. The Citizens Cleanup coalition in Roseland which came together in the 90s is concerned with contamination of ground water. Contamination still exists today. Agency representatives should consider people and flora, not only monetary interests. Later in the meeting this same member of the public expressed concern that it may be difficult for members of the public to influence the committees' discussions.

Administrator Updates

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Brittany Jensen, Interim Administrator for the Santa Rosa Plain Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA), reminded the Advisory Committee that the next Board meeting is February 8th at 2:00pm. The planned topics include bylaws, a presentation on basin boundary, the budget and Advisory Committee updates. Raftelis is scheduled to present at the February Advisory Committee meeting and has requested to have an April meeting as well, no date set yet. The March Advisory Committee meeting is cancelled.

The Advisory Committee workplan has been updated but is still subject to change. It will be presented to the Board in February. Brittany asked if anything should be added to the workplan. Chris Bates would like contact information for Sally Van Etten of Raftelis included and Rue Furch suggests Advisory Committee meeting dates be added to the workplan.

Ann DuBay, Sonoma County Water Agency, provided an update on the Outreach and Communication Plan. The next step for the Plan is to go to the Board for comments. A survey was completed with 288 responses from Santa Rosa Plain, of which 41% responses are from residential well owners, followed by 30% who consider environmental interests, and 18% agricultural interests. Email, social media and newspaper were stated as preferred ways to be contacted. Survey recipients would like to see periodic short surveys and workshops. A basic fact sheet has also been requested to be added to the Communications plan, Lauren will include it.

Advisory Committee Charter Discussion and Adoption by Consensus

The facilitator introduced the latest iteration of the draft charter, acknowledged past group work on the document, and, at the outset of the discussion, clarified the meaning of a quorum as well as the groups' consensus decision-making rule. The Interim Administrator recommended that the committee consider a simple majority as a quorum that enables the group to meet and conduct its business. A simple majority is in line with Brown Act requirements, honors the commitment shown by members who show up regularly, and will ensure effective and efficient use of funds as the Advisory Committee conducts its work. The group will continue to strive for consensus in any recommendations it makes, and any committee report provided to the Board will reflect all member opinions, whether or not consensus is achieved. Following these opening comments, the committee discussed and deliberated a range of issues, namely the appropriate threshold for a quorum, the potential for members to have alternates, and the use of proxies among other topics.

A few at large members requested the use of alternates; at least one member did not support the use of alternates. To date, the Board has not yet approved the use of alternates. The committee therefore agreed to let the project team craft some options for the use of alternates, and then discuss the issue at a later meeting. Although a few members inquired as to whether or not the committee should establish some sort of super majority quorum, ultimately all members agreed that they could live with a simple majority of the total number of

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filled committee seats for the group to meet and conduct its business. To ensure broad member participation on a consistent basis, the committee agreed to the use of proxies when decisions (recommendations) are placed on future meeting agendas. Finally, a few minor amendments were made in relation to the role of the facilitator; removal of language on Board commitments not seen as germane the committee's responsibilities; and corrections to the number of committee seats.

The committee ultimately agreed by consensus to adopt its charter with the inclusion of the aforementioned amendments. The project team agreed to craft options for the use of alternates for discussion at a later committee meeting.

Appointment of Advisory Committee Chair and Vice-Chair:

The facilitator requested nominations for the role Chair and Vice-Chair and afforded interested members the opportunity to share why they could effectively fill these roles as described in the charter. Bob Anderson expressed interest to be Chair and Rue Furch was interested to be Vice-Chair. Bob plans to attend Board meetings and has served on Citizens Advisory Committee since 1991. Rue has been a chair of local and statewide organization and represents a broader spectrum of groups than others in the Advisory Committee. The committee agreed by consensus and thereby appointed Bob and Rue to these respective roles.

Basin Boundary Modifications

Jay Jasperse and Marcus Trotta, Sonoma County Water Agency, gave an informational presentation on basin boundary decisions to be made in the next few months. Two types of boundary issues were described:

- Smaller-scale, parcel-level boundary issues, which include parcels that overlap two medium-priority basins (e.g., Santa Rosa Plain and Petaluma Valley) and parcels that are partially within the Santa Rosa Plain and partially outside of a medium-priority basin. These smaller scale issues can't be addressed through DWR's Basin Modification Process, but will need to be considered by the Advisory Committee and GSA Board during the ongoing rate/fee study.
- Larger-scale boundary issues related to the Bulletin 118 basin boundaries. Local public agencies may submit requests for basin boundary modifications to DWR by June 30, 2018. There was a previous opportunity to submit modifications, and the next opportunity will likely occur in 2023. The Advisory Committee is being asked to provide recommendations to the SRPGSA Board by the February meeting on whether to move forward with proposing any basin boundary modifications, so that the Board can consider at their April Board meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 5:35 pm.

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Meeting Attendees

Advisory Committee Members

Agriculture, David Long
Agriculture, Bob Anderson
Business, Joe Gaffney
Environmental, Rue Furch
Environmental, Sebastian Bertsch
Rural Residential, Marlene Soiland
City of Rohnert Park, Mary Grace Pawson
City of Santa Rosa, Jennifer Burke
City of Sebastopol, Henry Mikus
County of Sonoma, Mark Grismer
Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, Maureen Geary
Gold Ridge RCD, Matt O'Connor
Independent Water Systems, Chris Bates
Sonoma County Water Agency, Carolyn Dixon
Sonoma RCD, Wayne Haydon
Town of Windsor, Sandi Potter

Staff

Center for Collaborative Policy (facilitator), Rich Wilson
Gold Ridge Resource Conservation District, Brittany Jensen
Santa Rosa Plain Groundwater Sustainability Agency, Simone Peters
Sonoma County Water Agency, Ann DuBay
Sonoma County Water Agency, Jay Jasperse
Sonoma County Water Agency, Marcus Trotta

Public

Santa Rosa Water, Colin Close
Town of Windsor, Elizabeth Cargay
Sonoma County Water Agency, Lauren Dunlap
Roseland, Dwayne DeWitt
2 others