Special Board Meeting - July 21, 2020

1. Agenda Packet

   Documents:

   200721 AGENDA PACKET - POSTED 200717.PDF
Notice: Pursuant to Governor Newsom’s Executive Orders N-29-20 and 33-20, which in part, provide waivers to certain Brown Act provisions, meetings of the Board of Directors will be held by teleconference. There will be no physical location from which members of the public may participate. Instead, the public may listen and/or view the meeting proceedings and provide public comment and comments on agenda items by following these instructions:

To join via Zoom Webinar from a computer, tablet, or smartphone, click on the link below:
https://zoom.us/j/91458023440

To join this meeting via telephone, please dial:
1-669- 900-6833 or 1-253-215-8782
Meeting ID: 914 5802 3440

If you are unable to access the meeting using this call-in information, please contact the Board Secretary at (619) 409-6703 for assistance.

To provide public comment on non-agenda items or to provide public comment on any item of the agenda:

**Before the meeting:**

- Go to www.sweetwater.org; click on the “HOW DO I…” at the top of the page; and then click on the “Public Comment” link in the Contact section.

OR

- Physically deposit your public comment in the Authority’s payment drop box located in the public parking lot at the Authority’s Administrative Office at 505 Garrett Avenue, Chula Vista.

OR

- Mail your comments to 505 Garrett Avenue, Chula Vista, CA 91910 [Attention: Public Comment].

All written public comment submissions must be received 1 hour in advance of the meeting and will be read aloud to the Board during the appropriate portion of the meeting with a reading limit of 3 minutes for each comment.
During the meeting:
The Chair will inquire prior to Board discussion if there are any comments from the public on each item.

- Via Zoom Webinar go to Participants List, hover over your name and click on “Raise Hand.” This will notify the moderator that you wish to speak during Oral Communication or during a specific item on the agenda.

- Via phone, you can raise your hand by pressing *9 to notify the moderator that you wish to speak during the current item.

Any person with a disability who requires a modification or accommodation in order to participate in a meeting should direct such request to the Board Secretary at (619) 409-6703 at least forty-eight (48) hours before the meeting, if possible. The above public comment procedures supersede any Authority standard public comment policies and procedures to the contrary.

• Call Meeting to Order and Roll Call

• Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

• Opportunity for Public Comment
  Opportunity for members of the public to address the Board (Government Code Section 54954.3)

ACTIONS CALENDAR AGENDA
The following items on the Action Agenda call for discussion and action by the Board. All items are placed on the Agenda so that the Board may discuss and take action on the item if the Board is so inclined, including items listed for information.

Briefing Regarding the Groundwater Sustainability Plan

• Directors’ Comments
  Directors’ comments are comments by Directors concerning Authority business that may be of interest to the Board. Directors’ comments are placed on the Agenda to enable individual Board members to convey information to the Board and the Public. There is no discussion or action taken on comments made by Board members.

• Adjournment

This agenda was posted at least twenty-four (24) hours before the meeting in a location freely accessible to the Public on the exterior bulletin board at the main entrance to the Authority’s office and it is also posted on the Authority’s website at www.sweetwater.org. No action may be taken on any item not appearing on the posted agenda, except as provided by California Government Code Section 54954.2. Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the members of the Sweetwater Authority Governing Board regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at the Authority Administration Office, located at 505 Garrett Avenue, Chula Vista, CA 91910, during normal business hours. Upon request, this agenda will be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with disabilities, as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Any person with a disability who requires a modification or accommodation in order to participate in a
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**PUBLIC COMMENT PROCEDURES**

Members of the general public may address the Board regarding items not appearing on the posted agenda, which are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Governing Board. Speakers are asked to state name, address, and topic, and to observe a time limit of three (3) minutes each. Public comment on a single topic is limited to twenty (20) minutes. Anyone desiring to address the Governing Board regarding an item listed on the agenda is asked to fill out a speaker’s slip and present it to the Board Chair or the Secretary. Request to Speak forms are available at the Speaker’s podium and at www.sweetwater.org/speakerform.
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TO: Governing Board
FROM: Management
DATE: July 17, 2020
SUBJECT: Briefing Regarding the Groundwater Sustainability Plan

SUMMARY

On September 30, 2016, Sweetwater Authority (Authority) and the City of San Diego (City) executed Settlement Agreement Revision No. 1 regarding the joint expansion of the Richard A. Reynolds Groundwater Desalination Facility (Desal Facility), which required the Authority and the City to jointly fund and develop a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for the San Diego Formation, in accordance with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014.

The San Diego Formation was not previously recognized by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) as a groundwater basin, so in mid-2016 the City submitted a Basin Boundary Modification (BBM) application to DWR, requesting to combine the Sweetwater Valley Basin, Otay Valley Basin, Tijuana Valley Basin, and the San Diego Formation into a new groundwater basin. The BBM was approved by DWR and the new groundwater basin, of which the San Diego Formation is a part of, was designated by DWR as the Coastal Plain of San Diego (CPSD) Basin. A second BBM application was submitted to DWR in 2018, to exclude the southernmost portion of the City of Coronado from the CPSD Basin; however, this second BBM was denied by DWR.

The GSP for the CPSD Basin has been completed and AECOM, the consultant who prepared the GSP, has prepared an executive briefing presentation of the GSP. The presentation is enclosed for information purposes.

PAST BOARD ACTIONS

May 23, 2018  Board Adopted Resolution 18-10: Authorizing the Authority’s General Manager to file an application with DWR for a Basin Boundary Modification for the CPSD Basin

July 27, 2016  Board Approved Revision No. 1 to August 28, 2013 Settlement Agreement with City regarding joint expansion of the Desal Facility

FISCAL IMPACT

The GSP has been completed and there is no fiscal impact for FY 2020-21.
POLICY
Strategic Plan Goal 7: Environmental Stewardship (ES) – Provide core services while maintaining a balanced approach to human and environmental needs.

- Objective ES6: Complete studies related to Groundwater Management, to include a Sustainable Groundwater Management Plan in coordination with City of San Diego.
  - Task 002.00: Prepare Groundwater Sustainability Plan

CONCLUSION
This is an information item only.

ATTACHMENT
Briefing on the Costal Plain of San Diego Groundwater Sustainability Planning
Managing the CPSD for Long-Term Sustainability
AGENDA
Board of Directors Briefing

1) INTRODUCTIONS / BACKGROUND
2) KEY FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
3) BASIN OVERVIEW
4) GSP OVERVIEW – MANAGING FOR LONG-TERM SUSTAINABILITY
5) PLANNING FOR FUTURE SGMA COMPLIANCE
6) OTHER / DISCUSSION
Sweetwater Authority and the San Diego Formation

National City Well Field (1950’s)

Richard A. Reynolds
Groundwater Desalination Facility (1999)
The San Diego Formation Aquifer

- Most production from Upper SDF between 400 and 1000 feet
- Upper SDF confined by clay
- Groundwater is naturally brackish
San Diego Formation / Coastal Plain of San Diego Basin
### SGMA Abbreviations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Full Form</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SGMA</td>
<td>Sustainable Groundwater Management Act</td>
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<tr>
<td>CPSD</td>
<td>Coastal Plain of San Diego</td>
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<tr>
<td>SDF</td>
<td>San Diego Formation (the principal aquifer)</td>
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<tr>
<td>GSA</td>
<td>Groundwater Sustainability Agency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GSP</td>
<td>Groundwater Sustainability Plan</td>
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<tr>
<td>DWR</td>
<td>California Department of Water Resources</td>
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Even more…..
Sustainable Groundwater Management Act

– State Legislation passed in September 2014, effective January 2015

– Provides tools and authorities to Groundwater Sustainability Agencies to manage groundwater

– Requires a Groundwater Sustainability Plan in January 2020 for High Priority Basins and January 2022 for Medium Priority Basins

– Requires groundwater basins to be managed “sustainably” within 40 years of adoption of Groundwater Sustainability Plan
SGMA Basin Prioritization

High/Medium
- Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs)
- Groundwater Sustainable Plan (GSP)
- By 2020/2022

Low/Very Low
- Voluntary participation
Basin Boundary Modification
Coastal Plain of San Diego
KEY FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
1) CPSD is a valuable resource

SWA:
- 8,300 AF/yr
- @ $1,700/AF SDCWA Replacement Cost = $14M/yr

City:
- 2,600 AF/yr
- @ $1,700/AF SDCWA Replacement Cost = $4M/yr

Highly reliable, locally-managed supply
2) Current operations are sustainable

- No adverse effects to:
  - Basin
  - People
  - Environment

Sustainable over 50-year planning horizon
3) Continued monitoring is essential

- Assess trends and monitor for:
  - Water quality
  - Seawater intrusion
  - Land subsidence

- Early-warning system, allowing for adjustments before issues become problems

Ongoing investment maintains the value of the resource
4) Additional development possible; oversight required

- Any new projects should demonstrate:
  - Sustainability
  - Absence of significant harm to existing users
- Monitor new projects via:
  - County well permits
  - CEQA
  - GSP/SGMA (future)
BASIN OVERVIEW
Basin Setting – Groundwater Monitoring
# Current Utilization Production Wells

## SDF Average Annual Pumping

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Wells</th>
<th>Annual Pumping</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National City Well Field</td>
<td>NCW 3 &amp; 4</td>
<td>2,000 AF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reynolds Well Field</td>
<td>SDF 1-6</td>
<td>4,000 AF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SDF 7-11</td>
<td>~6,700 AF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf Courses</td>
<td>Irrigation Wells</td>
<td>~400 AF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>~13,000 AF</td>
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GSP OVERVIEW
MANAGING FOR LONG-TERM SUSTAINABILITY
SGMA Sustainability Indicators

- Lowering GW Levels
  - Groundwater Elevation
- Reduction of Storage
  - Total Volume
- Seawater Intrusion
  - Chloride concentration isocontour
- Degraded Quality
  - Migration of Plumes
  - Number of supply wells
  - Volume
  - Location of isocontour
- Land Subsidence
  - Rate and Extent of Land Subsidence
- Surface Water Depletion
  - Volume or rate of surface water depletion
Seawater Intrusion
TDS Trends
SDF Wells with TDS>2,500 mg/L
Minimum Thresholds - Seawater Intrusion

Reynolds Plant Source Water

Minimum Threshold = 3,100 ppm
Management Objective = 2,600 ppm
Sustainable Management Flowchart

- Seawater Intrusion
Land Subsidence
Land Subsidence – USGS Remote Sensing (InSAR)
Representative Monitoring Points
## Projects & Management Actions

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measure</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1) Basin Monitoring and Reporting</td>
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<tr>
<td>2) Hydrogeologic Model Maintenance and Enhancement</td>
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<td>3) Five-Year Meta-Reviews</td>
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<td>4) County Well Permit Coordination</td>
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<td>5) Coordination with Other CPSD Development Projects</td>
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PLANNING FOR FUTURE SGMA COMPLIANCE
CPSD is currently rated as “Low Priority” but is on the border with “Medium Priority.” Re-rating to Medium priority would trigger mandatory SGMA compliance.
Significant Authorities Granted to GSAs by SGMA

1. Adopt Rules and Regulations
2. Impose Fees
3. Monitor Groundwater Extractions
4. Acquire Property and Water Rights / Construct Projects
5. Arrange Transfers and Exchanges
6. Regulate Well Spacing
7. Regulate Groundwater Extractions
8. Coordinate with County on Issuance of Well Permits
9. Enforcement

- GSAs are empowered by SGMA to manage groundwater basins and regulate use.

These authorities give GSAs the tools to manage the basin sustainably for the long-term benefit of ratepayers and the public.
Four GSAs:
- SWA GSA
- City of San Diego GSA (municipal boundary area)
- Otay Area GSA
- IB-Coronado Area GSA (w/ possible Cal Am participation via MOU)

Common GSP: Shared effort of the four GSAs for mutual economy

+ Public outreach and hearings
Drafts ready to go

- GSA MOU
- GSA Formation Resolutions
- Public Outreach Materials
- White Papers and FAQs
- Etc.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Basin a valuable resource</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sustainably operated</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Continued monitoring essential</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Additional use possible; oversight required</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Full SGMA compliance possible in future; regional cooperation is good!</strong></td>
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