

# Paso Basin Cooperative Committee

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Paso Basin Cooperative Committee will hold a Regular Meeting at **4:00 P.M. on Wednesday, April 25, 2018** at the City of Paso Robles Council Chambers (1000 Spring St., Paso Robles, CA 93446).

NOTE: The Paso Basin Cooperative Committee reserves the right to limit each speaker to three (3) minutes per subject or topic. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, all possible accommodations will be made for individuals with disabilities so they may attend and participate in meetings.

**John Hamon**, Chairperson, City of Paso Robles  
**Reginald Cousineau**, Member, Heritage Ranch CSD  
**Joe Parent**, Member, San Miguel CSD  
**John Peschong**, Vice Chairperson, County of SLO  
**Willy Cunha**, Secretary, Shandon-San Juan WD

**Steve Martin**, Alternate, City of Paso Robles  
**Scott Duffield**, Alternate, Heritage Ranch CSD  
**Kelly Dodds**, Alternate, San Miguel CSD  
**Debbie Arnold**, Alternate, County of SLO  
**Matt Turrentine**, Alternate, Shandon-San Juan WD

## **Agenda** **April 25, 2018**

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- 1. Call to order**
- 2. Roll Call**
- 3. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 4. Public Comment – Items not on Agenda**
- 5. Approval of Meeting Minutes**
  - a. March 7, 2018
- 6. Approach for GSP Development Process, Roles and Responsibilities**
- 7. Approval of Sustainability Indicators Addressed by GSP**
- 8. Receive update on GSP Development**
  - a. Outreach and Engagement Update
  - b. Upcoming Public Meetings
- 9. Consider support for the Salinas Valley Basin GSA’s potential pursuit of jurisdictional boundary modification for the Paso Basin**
- 10. Committee Member Comments** – Committee members may make brief comments, provide status updates, or communicate with other members, staff, or the public regarding non-agenda topics
- 11. Upcoming meetings**
  - a. Consider moving October 24 regular meeting to October 17
  - b. Consider Special Meeting Schedule (as needed)
- 12. Future Items**
- 13. Adjourn**

*For more information, please visit the Groundwater Sustainability Agency websites at:*

• City of Paso Robles – [www.prcity.com](http://www.prcity.com) • Heritage Ranch CSD – [www.heritageranchcsd.com](http://www.heritageranchcsd.com) • San Miguel CSD – [www.sanmiguelcsd.org](http://www.sanmiguelcsd.org)  
• County of San Luis Obispo – [www.slocountywater.org](http://www.slocountywater.org) • Shandon-San Juan Water District – [www.ssjwd.org](http://www.ssjwd.org)

**Paso Basin Cooperative Committee  
Minutes (DRAFT)  
March 7, 2018**

**The following members or alternates were present:**

- John Hamon**, Chair, Member, City of Paso Robles
- John Peschong**, Vice Chair, Member, County of San Luis Obispo
- Willy Cunha**, Secretary, Member, Shandon-San Juan WD
- Reginald Cousineau**, Member, Heritage Ranch CSD
- Joe Parent**, Member, San Miguel CSD

<b>1. Call to Order</b>	Member Hamon, acting as Chair, calls the meeting to order at 4:00PM
<b>2. Roll Call</b>	Secretary Cunha leads the Pledge of Allegiance.
<b>3. Pledge of Allegiance</b>	County staff, Angela Ruberto: calls roll.
<b>4. Public Comment – Items not on the Agenda</b>	<p>Chairperson Hamon: opens the floor for public comment on items not on the Agenda.</p> <p>Cody Ferguson: Comments that Draft Minutes in the agenda packet are clear and an improvement from previous form.</p> <p>Greg Grewal: Requests clarification on when to speak regarding the DWR Grant; will give comments at that point in the Agenda.</p> <p>Jerry Reaugh: Articulates that the Estrella-El Pomar-Creston Water District (EPCWD), though not an individual Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA), would like to participate with the GSAs in a cooperative effort towards development of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP).</p> <p>Cody Ferguson: States that members from the City of Paso Robles, the County of San Luis Obispo, and the EPCWD held non-public meetings regarding EPCWD.</p> <p>Chairperson Hamon: Calling for any further Comment, and seeing none, closes Public Comment for items not on the Agenda; speaks to public comment regarding meeting with Vice Chairperson Peschong and EPCWD representative; states that the meeting was strictly informational and no action was taken during meeting; requests Vice Chairperson Peschong to report out on 3/6/18 County Hearing where the Board of Supervisors (BOS) considered, and declined, withdrawal from serving as the GSA within EPCWD’s service area.</p> <p>Vice Chairperson Peschong: speaks to action taken at previous day’s BOS meeting where the vote was 3-2 not to withdraw from serving as GSA within EPCWD’s service area; explains that his vote against withdrawing was influenced by the difference between parcel percentages represented by EPCWD and voting power allocated to</p>

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	<p>EPCWD should they join the Cooperative Committee (Committee); expressed support of the public's, including members of EPCWD, continued participation in development of GSP.</p>																														
<p><b>5. Approval of Meeting Minutes</b></p>	<p>Chairperson Hamon: moves to discuss approval of minutes and asks the Committee for questions or comments.</p> <p>Vice Chairperson Peschong: Thanks County Staff for efforts made in producing meeting minutes.</p> <p>Secretary Cunha: Expressed approval of minutes.</p> <p>Chairperson Hamon: opens floor for public questions and comments on meeting minutes.</p> <p>Greg Grewal: speaks.</p> <p><b>Motion By:</b> Willy Cunha <b>Second By:</b> Reginald Cousineau <b>Motion:</b> The Committee moves to approve Meeting Minutes from December 6, 2017 and February 14, 2018.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="578 999 1482 1230"> <thead> <tr> <th>Members</th> <th>Ayes</th> <th>Noes</th> <th>Abstain</th> <th>Recuse</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>John Hamon (Chairperson)</td> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>John Peschong (Vice Chairperson)</td> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Willy Cunha (Secretary)</td> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Joe Parent (Member)</td> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reginald Cousineau (Member)</td> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Members	Ayes	Noes	Abstain	Recuse	John Hamon (Chairperson)	X				John Peschong (Vice Chairperson)	X				Willy Cunha (Secretary)	X				Joe Parent (Member)	X				Reginald Cousineau (Member)	X			
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<p><b>6. Consider Administration of Paso Basin Cooperative Committee</b></p>	<p>County Staff, Carolyn Berg and Angela Ruberto: provide the staff PowerPoint presentation.</p> <p>Chairperson Hamon: Opens public comment and, seeing none, brings it back to Committee for discussion.</p> <p>Secretary Cunha: asks about potential need to hire outside help to administer Committee, referencing County Staff capacity and time required to administer Committee.</p> <p>County Staff, Carolyn Berg: responds that the County will be able to provide administrative support for monthly or quarterly meetings, citing that this becomes more challenging if meeting frequency is increased; states that it would be helpful to distribute workload so that County is not writing all of the support material and anticipates that much of the material being brought to the Committee will be GSP milestones/tasks generated by the GSP Consultant.</p>																														

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Secretary Cunha: asks if the Committee will need to hire somebody beyond a treasurer to provide the assistance for developing the required Annual Reports.

County Staff, Carolyn Berg and City Staff, Dick McKinley: inform that MOA speaks only to annual review of expenditures; explain that more specific audit requirements will be incurred by (anticipated) receipt of Proposition 1 Grant funds; City is designated contracting agent and will leverage other departments (e.g. City Finance and Accounts Payable) and GSAs, where possible, to get the work done.

Chairperson Hamon opens the floor for public comment and, seeing none, closes public comment and brings it back for Committee deliberation.

Chairperson Hamon: moves to address staff concerns; responds that quarterly regular meetings in the Paso Council Chambers (when available) are sufficient; reiterates that special meetings can be added if needed, with Vice-Chairperson Peschong inquiring about the Brown Act rules for noticing such special meetings.

County Staff, Carolyn Berg: informs that regular meetings require 72 hours advance notice and special meetings require 24 hours' notice.

City Staff, Dick McKinley: states that if the Committee moves to recommend the City of Paso Robles enter into a contract with the consultant, then there will be an administrative period of gathering relevant documents (contracts, insurance certificates, etc.). States that a schedule and a calendar of key dates would then be developed and brought to Committee for input.

Committee: discusses keeping quarterly regular meeting schedule, holding regular meetings in Paso Robles City Council Chambers and public meetings where appropriate; cites the importance of bringing decisions back to be made by the entire Committee; agrees with County Staff's proposed Committee Administration approach; asks where the community and interested members of the public can find information about Committee meetings (upcoming and previous).

GSA Members and Staff: give GSA websites where information is made available in accordance with SGMA requirements and propose

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that these websites be provided on the upcoming Committee agenda as follows:

- City of Paso Robles – [www.prcity.com](http://www.prcity.com)
- Heritage Ranch CSD – [www.heritageranchcsd.com](http://www.heritageranchcsd.com)
- San Miguel CSD – [www.sanmiguelcsd.org](http://www.sanmiguelcsd.org)
- County of San Luis Obispo – [www.slocountywater.org](http://www.slocountywater.org)
- Shandon-San Juan Water District – [www.ssjwd.org](http://www.ssjwd.org)

Chairperson Hamon: Asks about spend tracking and financial reporting oversight; requests volunteer to act as Committee treasurer who may review reports from the City Finance department, amongst other tasks; Member Joe Parent volunteers.

Secretary Cunha: moves to create the office of Treasurer and nominates Joe Parent to fill that position.

**Motion By:** Secretary Cunha

**Second By:** Vice Chairperson Peschong

**Motion:** The Committee moves to create the office of Treasurer and appoint Joe Parent.

Members	Ayes	Noes	Abstain	Recuse
John Hamon (Chairperson)	X			
John Peschong (Vice Chairperson)	X			
Willy Cunha (Secretary)	X			
Joe Parent (Member)	X			
Reginald Cousineau (Member)	X			

Chairperson Hamon: asks County Staff if administrative needs have been addressed.

County Staff, Carolyn Berg: states that there may be future administrative needs for developing and approving an annual budget, as well as legal needs for individual GSAs; suggests Committee thinks about hiring a neutral, legal counsel; comments on importance of future engagement with basin users if they are not addressed by GSP consultant.

Chairperson Hamon: responds that most of the outreach and budget will be driven by the GSP consultant's engagement; individual GSAs' legal counsel has been satisfactory to meet legal needs so far; reiterates importance of communication to public via GSA websites.

City Staff, Dick McKinley: clarifies the separation between legal, financial, and outreach needs associated with the administration of

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	<p>the Cooperative Committee and those same needs associated with the development of the GSP.</p> <p>Chairperson Hamon: Confirms there are no further questions/comments and closes item.</p>
<p><b>7. Continued item to consider recommended GSP Consultation and related contract consistent with MOA Section 6.3</b></p>	<p>County Staff, Carolyn Berg: states that, in response to concerns expressed at the last Committee meeting regarding a possible conflict of interest with hiring HydroMetrics as the recommended GSP consultant, the City Attorney and County Counsel reviewed pertinent information and concluded that they believe there is no conflict of Interest.</p> <p>Chairperson Hamon: concurs that there is no conflict of interest with hiring HydroMetrics as the GSP consultant; asks to speak with a representative from HydroMetrics who is in attendance.</p> <p>President of HydroMetrics, Derek Williams: discusses work experience in hydrogeology and managing groundwater basins; speaks to timely execution of GSP development and offers to answer questions.</p> <p>Vice Chairperson Peschong: reiterates that all key decisions will be brought back to Committee in a public meeting for full discussion and vote.</p> <p>Chairperson Hamon asks about anticipated schedule for works efforts to be completed in the next year and half.</p> <p>President of HydroMetrics, Derek Williams: responds that a schedule will be laid out for the next year and a half which will be highly focused on upfront meetings and decisions in the next six months; suggests that special meetings may be more frequent in order to get information to the public, GSAs, and the Committee; will work with staff to get feedback and layout for meetings.</p> <p>Vice Chairperson Peschong: asks Derek Williams when stakeholder or community meetings should start.</p> <p>President of HydroMetrics, Derek Williams: responds that it is important to conduct public meetings soon in order to gather public feedback on sustainability.</p> <p>Chairperson Hamon opens the floor for public comment.</p> <p>Greg Grewal and Cody Ferguson: Speak</p>

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	<p>Chairperson Hamon closes the floor for public comment.</p> <p><b>Motion By:</b> Secretary Cunha  <b>Second By:</b> Vice Chairperson Peschong  <b>Motion:</b> The Committee approves staff's recommendation that the Committee confirm the working group and staff recommendation that the City of Paso Robles contract with HydroMetrics WRI and forward said confirmed recommendation to the City Council for award of the contract for Paso Robles Subbasin GSP Development.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="578 562 1489 787"> <thead> <tr> <th>Members</th> <th>Ayes</th> <th>Noes</th> <th>Abstain</th> <th>Recuse</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>John Hamon (Chairperson)</td> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>John Peschong (Vice Chairperson)</td> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Willy Cunha (Secretary)</td> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Joe Parent (Member)</td> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reginald Cousineau (Member)</td> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Members	Ayes	Noes	Abstain	Recuse	John Hamon (Chairperson)	X				John Peschong (Vice Chairperson)	X				Willy Cunha (Secretary)	X				Joe Parent (Member)	X				Reginald Cousineau (Member)	X			
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<p><b>8. Continued item to receive Department of Water Resources Grand Funding Award Update</b></p>	<p>City Staff, Dick McKinley: reports that he has been in contact with DWR and is currently in the process of amending grant application as was previously discussed by Committee.</p> <p>Chairperson Hamon: asks what the total grant amount is after amendment followed by City Staff, Dick McKinley, explaining that the grant amount will be \$1.5M with a possible maximum out-of-pocket amount of \$280K divided amongst the GSAs.</p> <p>Chairperson Hamon: opens the floor for public comment.</p> <p>Greg Grewal and Jerry Reaugh: speak.</p> <p>Chairperson Hamon: closes the floor for public comment.</p> <p>Chairperson Hamon: responds to public comment regarding Shandon-San Juan Water District's hiring of HydroMetrics to write Grant application by reiterating decision to split up work between the GSAs.</p> <p>City Staff, Dick McKinley: responds to public comment regarding the use of EPCWD's in-kind contributions, articulating that DWR is aware of EPCWD's involvement and has expressed approval of grant submittal process; asks Committee to direct action on whether or not to remove the in-kind contribution from EPCWD, or to count those funds as part of the County GSA.</p>																														

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	<p>Committee and staff: discuss timing of steps taken to write grant application and document in-kind contributions; agree to remove EPCWD’s in-kind contribution; reiterate the importance of bringing back any action items to the Committee in a public setting.</p>					
<p><b>9. Continued item to consider approval of recommended FY 2017-2018 Annual Budget, for consideration and approval by each of the parties consistent with MOA Section 5.2</b></p>	<p>City Staff, Dick McKinley: reports that Proposition 1 Grant Funding will cover most, if not all, costs of consultant developing the GSP; however, funds will need to be covered by each of the GSAs (based on MOA percentages) until the grant reimbursement is distributed.</p> <p>Chairperson Hamon: seeks clarification on estimated costs and proposed payment process.</p> <p>City Staff, Dick McKinley: explains that costs will be proportionally paid by the individual GSAs per the MOA; as services from HydroMetrics are invoiced, the City will invoice each of the GSAs according to their percentage (based on the MOA) who will return payment within 30 days; the City of Paso Robles will then pay HydroMetrics and seek reimbursement from the State. Once reimbursement funds are being received, the GSAs will no longer be required to pay upfront.</p> <p>Chairperson Hamon: confirms MOA percentages.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 61% for the County of San Luis Obispo</li> <li>• 15% for the City of Paso Robles</li> <li>• 20% for the Shandon-San Juan WD</li> <li>• 3% for San Miguel CSD</li> <li>• 1% for Heritage Ranch CSD</li> </ul> <p>Chairperson Hamon opens the floor for public comment.</p> <p>Greg Grewal and Cody Ferguson: speak.</p> <p>Committee and staff: discuss payment timeline and process of receiving funds from GSAs for payment to HydroMetrics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 30 days to pay the City of Paso Robles</li> <li>• 45 days to pay HydroMetrics</li> </ul> <p><b>Motion By:</b> Vice Chairperson Peschong <b>Second By:</b> Secretary Cunha <b>Motion:</b> The Committee moves to approve the recommended Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Annual Budget, for consideration and approval by each of the GSAs, consistent with MOA Section 5.2</p>					
	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%; padding: 2px;">Members</td> <td style="width: 10%; padding: 2px;">Ayes</td> <td style="width: 10%; padding: 2px;">Noes</td> <td style="width: 10%; padding: 2px;">Abstain</td> <td style="width: 10%; padding: 2px;">Recuse</td> </tr> </table>	Members	Ayes	Noes	Abstain	Recuse
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	John Hamon (Chairperson)	X				
	John Peschong (Vice Chairperson)	X				
	Willy Cunha (Secretary)	X				
	Joe Parent (Member)	X				
	Reginald Cousineau (Member)	X				
<b>10. Future Items</b>	Chairperson Hamon: states that future items should include overview of recent upcoming studies supporting GSP development.					
	County Staff, Carolyn Berg: suggests that consultant present on key studies to inform the Committee; participate in kick-off items and stakeholder outreach.					
	City Staff, Dick McKinley states the importance of coordinating with HydroMetrics and adopting an official outreach plan; working with DWR to establish an official record as part of the GSP.					
	Chairperson Hamon: states that future Agendas should have an item for Committee member comments and should indicate date, time, and location of next scheduled meeting.					
	Next meeting set for Wednesday, April 25, 2018 at 4:00PM Location: Paso Robles - City Council Chambers					
	<b>Motion By:</b> Vice Chairperson Hamon					
	<b>Second By:</b> Secretary Cunha					
	<b>Motion:</b> The Committee moves to adjourn the meeting at 5:10 PM.					
		Members	Ayes	Noes	Abstain	Recuse
		John Hamon (Chairperson)	X			
	John Peschong (Vice Chairperson)	X				
	Willy Cunha (Secretary)	X				
	Joe Parent (Member)	X				
	Reginald Cousineau (Member)	X				

I, Willy Cunha, Secretary to the Paso Basin Cooperative Committee, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a fair statement of the proceedings of the meeting held on February 14, 2018, by the Paso Basin Cooperative Committee.

Willy Cunha, Secretary of the Paso Basin Cooperative Committee.

Drafted by: Joey Steil and Angela Ruberto, County of San Luis Obispo

**PASO BASIN COOPERATIVE COMMITTEE**

**April 25, 2018**

**Agenda Item #6 – Approach for GSP Development Process, Roles and Responsibilities**

**SUBJECT**

Approach for GSP Development Process, Roles and Responsibilities

**RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Paso Basin Cooperative Committee (Committee) receive HydroMetrics' presentation regarding the Paso Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) development process, roles and responsibilities.

**PREPARED BY**

Not Applicable – See attached memorandum provided by the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Consultant.

**DISCUSSION**

Discussion is deferred to GSP Consultant's Memorandum (attached).

**ATTACHED**

HydroMetrics' Memorandum regarding Roles and Approach to Paso Robles Groundwater Sustainability Plan Decision Making, dated 4/25/18.

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Mr. Dick McKinley  
City of El Paso de Robles  
1000 Spring St.  
Paso Robles, CA 93446

April 25, 2018

Subject: Roles and Approach to Paso Robles Groundwater Sustainability Plan  
Decision Making

Mr. McKinley;

The Paso Robles Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) must be delivered to the California Department of Water Resources by January 31, 2020. To accommodate the required 90-day notice period, a draft GSP must be complete by September 1, 2020. A significant amount of work must be accomplished, and a number of decisions must be made, before the September 1, 2020 date. This letter outlines an approach for ensuring proper decision-making protocols are followed while efficiently providing guidance and direction to the consulting team.

## **BACKGROUND**

The Paso Roble Cooperative Committee (Committee) is the only group authorized to approve the sustainability criteria, groundwater policies, projects, groundwater management programs, text, and graphics that are included in the GSP. We recognize, however, that Committee members are busy, and their time is best spent approving final policies rather than providing day-to-day guidance.

Many decisions regarding project approach, project strategy, and public messaging must be made with short notice. It is impractical to hold Committee meetings whenever project approach or project strategy decisions are needed. Furthermore, it is a violation of the Ralph M. Brown Act (Government Code § 54950 *et seq.*) to make decisions by polling

Committee members individually outside of noticed meetings. Therefore, we are proposing the following approach to decision making for the Paso Robles GSP.

## GSP TEAM MEMBERS

GSP development is a cooperative effort involving a number of groups or entities. We propose that each group or entity adopt the following roles:

Group	Role
*Groundwater Sustainability Agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approve all actions and decisions by the Cooperative Committee members (listed below)</li> <li>• Provide direction to GSA staff members</li> </ul>
Cooperative Committee Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approve formal policies incorporated into the GSP</li> <li>• Approve Sustainable Management Criteria</li> <li>• Approve descriptions of project and programs that will attain sustainability</li> <li>• Approve all GSP text and graphics &amp; recommend adoption to GSAs</li> </ul>
GSA Staff Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide day to day guidance to the GSP consultant regarding project direction</li> <li>• Convey the directions of the individual GSAs</li> <li>• Provide strategy decisions on outreach and GSP direction</li> <li>• Review draft documents before they go to the Cooperative Committee</li> </ul>
Stakeholders and Public Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide public input regarding sustainable management criteria, projects, and programs</li> </ul>
GSP Consultants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Day to day running of the GSP project</li> <li>• Incorporate information from the GSA staff members and Cooperative Committee members</li> <li>• Disseminate information as appropriate</li> <li>• Draft the GSP</li> </ul>

By adopting this decision-making approach, Cooperative Committee members empower their respective staff members to provide direction on GSP strategy and to make interim decisions on the approach and messaging involved in GSP development. Fundamental to this decision-making approach is that GSA staff regularly communicate with GSA

Boards and Committee Members. It is important that staff guidance reflects the wishes of their respective Committee members.

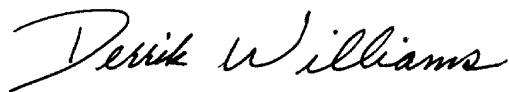
Below is a list meetings, informational sessions, and formal approvals that the Cooperative Committee will be part of. This list demonstrates how the Cooperative Committee members are critically involved in all significant decisions, while allowing GSA staff to make day-to-day decisions. The dates shown on this table are approximate dates based on our current schedule. We have not yet lined up the dates of Committee approvals with standing Committee meetings. We will attempt to get Committee approval at regularly scheduled meetings, although special meetings will likely be necessary.

Cooperative Committee Activity	Approximate Date
Initial Schedule and Sustainable Management Criteria Meeting	April 23, 2018
Regular Meeting	April 25, 2018
Initial Water Rights & State of Basin Meeting	April 30, 2018
Initial Sustainability Projects & Actions Meeting	May 14, 2018
Follow up Initial Meetings	May 21, 2018
Review GSP Section 1	July 11, 2018
Approval of Section 1	October 15, 2018
Review of Communications Plan	June 6, 2018
Regular Meeting	July 25, 2018
Review GSP Section 2	October 1, 2018
Regular Meeting	October 17 or 24, 2018
Approval of Section 2	November 2, 2018
Regular Meeting	January 23, 2018
Regular Meeting	April 24, 2018
Regular Meeting	July 24, 2018
Review of Minimum Thresholds	August 3, 2018
Approval of Minimum Thresholds	August 30, 2018
Review of Undesirable Results	August 10, 2018
Approval of Undesirable Results	September 6, 2018
Regular Meeting	October 23, 2018
Review of Measurable Objectives	November 2, 2018
Approval of Measurable Objectives	November 29, 2018
Review of Preliminary GW Monitoring Plan	December 4, 2018
Review Section 3	December 7, 2018
Approval of Section 3	January 3, 2019

Cooperative Committee Activity	Approximate Date
Review of Projects & Actions	March 11, 2019
Approval of Projects & Actions	April 5, 2019
Review of Section 4.0	May 20, 2019
Approval of Section 4.0	June 14, 2019
Review of Draft GSP and recommend Final GSP for GSAs to consider adopting	July 22, 2019
*Groundwater Sustainability Agencies consider adoption of final recommended GSP	August 1 – December 28, 2019

We believe the approach outlined above balances the Cooperative Committee’s role as the body that must approve the GSP with our need for rapid responses on project approach and strategy questions.

Sincerely,



Derrick Williams, President  
HydroMetrics Water Resources Inc.

**PASO BASIN COOPERATIVE COMMITTEE**

**April 25, 2018**

**Agenda Item #7 – Approval of Sustainability Indicators Addressed by GSP**

**SUBJECT**

Approval of Sustainability Indicators Addressed by GSP

**RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Paso Basin Cooperative Committee (Committee) consider approval of sustainability indicators to be addressed by the Paso Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP).

**PREPARED BY**

Not Applicable – See attached memorandum provided by the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Consultant.

**DISCUSSION**

Discussion is deferred to GSP Consultant's Memorandum (attached).

**ATTACHED**

HydroMetrics' Memorandum regarding Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Sustainability Indicators, dated 4/25/18.

\* \* \*



1814 Franklin St., Suite 501  
Oakland, CA 94612

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Mr. Dick McKinley  
City of El Paso de Robles  
1000 Spring St.  
Paso Robles, CA 93446

April 25, 2018

Subject: Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Sustainability Indicators

Mr. McKinley;

This letter presents HydroMetrics WRI's suggestions for which sustainability indicators should be addressed in detail in the Paso Robles Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP). We will acknowledge all sustainability indicators in the GSP, but only address in detail the indicators relevant to the Paso Robles Basin. The Cooperative Committee (Committee) must take a formal action on which sustainability indicators will be addressed in detail before we can draft the GSP.

## **BACKGROUND**

The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), define sustainability as managing groundwater in a way that avoids undesirable results. The SGMA emergency regulations identify six sustainability indicators that, if not managed properly, would lead to undesirable results. The six sustainability indicators are:

- Chronic lowering of groundwater levels;
- Reduction of groundwater storage;
- Seawater intrusion;
- Degraded water quality;
- Land subsidence; and
- Depletion of interconnected surface waters.



A GSP must present a plan to manage each of the six sustainability indicators if the indicator is applicable to the groundwater basin.

The decision on which of the six sustainability indicators are applicable to the Paso Robles basin is a decision for the Committee. The Department of Water Resources (DWR) provided their opinion on which sustainability indicators should be addressed in a GSP in their Sustainable Management Criteria Best Management Practice document. The document states:

*“The default position for GSAs should be that all six sustainability indicators apply to their basin. If a GSA believes a sustainability indicator is not applicable for their basin, they must provide evidence that the indicator does not exist and could not occur. For example, GSAs in basins not adjacent to the Pacific Ocean, bays, deltas, or inlets may determine that seawater intrusion is not an applicable sustainability indicator, because seawater intrusion does not exist and could not occur. In contrast, simply demonstrating that groundwater levels have been stable in recent years is not sufficient to determine that land subsidence is not an applicable sustainability indicator. As part of the GSP evaluation process, the Department will evaluate the GSA’s determination that a sustainability indicator does not apply for reasonableness.”*

There is no requirement to strictly adhere to DWR’s guidance. However, DWR is the agency that will review the Paso Robles GSP for completeness. Therefore, we believe it is wise to follow DWR’s guidance on this subject to the degree possible. The following bullets apply DWR’s guidance to each of the six sustainability criteria in the Paso Robles basin.

- Chronic lowering of groundwater levels. If groundwater is left unmanaged, chronic lowering of groundwater levels could occur. Therefore this sustainability indicator applies to the Paso Robles basin.
- Reduction of groundwater storage. If groundwater is left unmanaged, the amount of groundwater in storage could be significantly reduced. Therefore this sustainability indicator applies the Paso Robles basin.
- Seawater intrusion. The Paso Robles basin does not adjoin the Pacific Ocean, a bay, or inlet, that could be a source of seawater intrusion. Therefore this sustainability indicator does not apply to the Paso Robles basin.
- Degraded water quality. This sustainability indicator does not require that groundwater quality in the basin be improved. Instead, it simply requires that groundwater management actions do not worsen existing groundwater quality by moving impaired waters towards existing wells. This sustainability indicator is a

“do no harm” criteria. The Paso Robles basin has impaired groundwater quality in certain areas that could impact beneficial uses if groundwater management moves the impaired groundwater to other parts of the basin. Therefore this sustainability indicator applies to the Paso Robles basin.

- Land subsidence. 2001 report by the US Geologic Survey identified possible land subsidence northeast of the City of Paso Robles. If groundwater is left unmanaged, lowering groundwater levels could lead to additional land subsidence. Therefore this sustainability indicator applies to the Paso Robles basin.
- Depletion of interconnected surface waters. This sustainability indicator only applies to the basin if groundwater levels are at or near streambed elevations somewhere in the basin. While we have not formally mapped all of the groundwater elevations, we believe it is prudent to assume that along the basin margins groundwater elevations will be close to stream bottom elevations. Therefore this sustainability indicator applies the Paso Robles basin. If during our geologic analysis of the basin we decide that groundwater elevations are everywhere significantly below stream bottom elevations, we will remove this sustainability indicator from the GSP.

Based on the above analysis, our suggestion is that the Committee approved the GSP to address five of the six sustainability indicators:

- Chronic lowering of groundwater levels;
- Reduction of groundwater storage;
- Degraded water quality;
- Land subsidence; and
- Depletion of interconnected surface waters.

Sincerely,



Derrick Williams, President  
HydroMetrics Water Resources Inc.

**PASO BASIN COOPERATIVE COMMITTEE**  
**April 25, 2018**

**Agenda Item #8 – Receive update on GSP Development:  
Outreach and Engagement Update and Upcoming Public Meetings**

**SUBJECT**

Receive update on GSP Development: Outreach and Engagement update and upcoming public meetings.

**RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Paso Basin Cooperative Committee (Committee) receive GSP Consultant's presentation regarding an update on GSP Development: Outreach and Engagement update and upcoming public meetings.

**PREPARED BY**

Not Applicable – See attached presentation material provided by the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Consultant.

**DISCUSSION**

Discussion is deferred to GSP Consultant's Memorandum (attached).

**ATTACHED**

GSP Consultant's presentation regarding Communication and Engagement (C&E) Update, dated 4/25/18.

\* \* \*

# Communication and Engagement (C&E) Update

Presentation to the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Cooperative Committee

April 25, 2018

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## Draft C&E Plan Contents

### CHAPTERS

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Goals and Objectives
- 3 Stakeholder Groups
- 4 GSAs' Decision-making Process
- 5 How Can Stakeholders and Public Get Involved?
- 6 Desired Outcomes
- 7 Communication + Engagement Tools and Venues
- 8 Track, Evaluate, and Assess Communications and Engagement
- 9 Summary

### APPENDICES

- Appendix A: Statutory Table
- Appendix B: Groundwater Interests Participation Portal (web-based tool)
- Appendix C: Stakeholder List
- Appendix D: Preliminary Engagement Schedule

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# Groundwater Interests Participation (GIP) Portal

Paso Robles Groundwater Interests Participation (GIP) Portal

Register as an interested party to receive updates on meetings and events

Welcome to the Paso Robles GIP Portal

California's Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) requires the preparation and implementation of Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSP) for High and Medium priority groundwater basins. The Paso Robles Groundwater Subbasin is a critically overdrafted high priority basin. Therefore, areas within the Basin must be managed under a GSP by January 31, 2020.

The GSAs listed below joined together to form a Cooperative Committee with the purpose of leading development of one GSP:

- County of San Luis Obispo GSA
- Shandon-San Juan GSA
- Heritage Ranch GSA
- City of Paso Robles GSA
- San Miguel GSA

Register as interested party

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# GIP Portal Administrator Dashboard

Paso Robles Groundwater Interests Participation (GIP) Portal

Welcome, Charde Lay

Administrator Dashboard

Manage Events

- Create/edit events
- Notify stakeholders
- View RSVPs

Outreach Data

- Create surveys
- View survey results
- Refer to C&E Plan
- Perform C&E evaluation

Reporting

- Log communications
- Generate reports

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## Upcoming Public Workshops

Date	Topic
Monday, April 23, 2018	Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) development for the Paso Basin
Monday, April 30, 2018	Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) and the Paso Basin
Monday, May 14, 2018	Projects and Programs for Groundwater Management
Monday, May 21, 2018	Further information on the state of the Paso Basin

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## Next Steps for C&E Plan

- Conduct stakeholder survey
  - Questions will be sent to Cooperative Committee for approval
- GSAs may be contacted regarding items needed such as:
  - Photos
  - Information unique to your GSA

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**PASO BASIN COOPERATIVE COMMITTEE**

**April 25, 2018**

**Agenda Item #9 – Consider support for the Salinas Valley Basin GSA’s pursuit of jurisdictional boundary modification for the Paso Basin**

**SUBJECT**

Consider support for the Salinas Valley Basin GSA’s pursuit of jurisdictional boundary modification for the Paso Basin.

**RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Paso Basin Cooperative Committee (Committee) consider recommending that the five Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) adopt resolutions supporting the Salinas Valley Basin GSA’s pursuit of jurisdictional boundary modification for the Paso Basin.

**PREPARED BY**

Angela Ruberto, County of San Luis Obispo

**DISCUSSION**

The Paso Basin, designated by the Department of Water Resources (DWR) as a high priority basin subject to conditions of critical overdraft, currently underlies two counties (Monterey and San Luis Obispo). To develop a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) covering the entire basin by SGMA’s January 31, 2020 deadline, the five GSAs comprising the Paso Basin Cooperative Committee over the portion of the basin in San Luis Obispo County will have to coordinate with the Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“SVBGSA”) regarding that portion of the basin in Monterey County. Staff from the six GSAs covering the Paso Basin have discussed various possibilities for coordination, including a single multi-county GSP covering the entire basin or two coordinated GSPs (one for that portion of the basin in Monterey County and one for that portion of the basin in San Luis Obispo County). Discussions are still ongoing and the inter-county coordination remains an outstanding issue that will need to be addressed before GSP(s) can be adopted and submitted to DWR for approval (at least under the current subbasin boundary).

In 2015, DWR adopted regulations relating to basin boundary modification processes, consistent with SGMA and the Water Code, and providing an opportunity to propose basin adjustments based on scientific reasoning or jurisdictional boundaries. The regulations detail the required processes that a local agency must follow prior to requesting that DWR make modifications to a basin boundary, including a requirement

that Requesting agencies<sup>1</sup> consider Affected agency input<sup>2</sup> and, in cases where a Requesting agency pursues a jurisdictional boundary modification request, obtain support from at least three-fourths of the local agencies and public water systems in the affected basins.

In 2016, prior to formation of the GSAs, an effort was made by the Monterey County Water Resources Agency, and supported by the County of San Luis Obispo, to request a jurisdictional boundary adjustment at the Monterey County Line. At that time, the application for the request was deemed incomplete by DWR and the request was denied. DWR is again providing the opportunity to file for a basin boundary modification request. At their April 12, 2018 meeting, the SVBGSA adopted a resolution that set the basin boundary modification request (BBMR) process in motion. No formal request or documentation has been provided; however, in order to support SVBGSA's request for a basin boundary modification in the expedited timeframe, it is recommended that the Cooperative Committee consider recommending that each respective GSA adopt a resolution supporting the proposed basin boundary modification.

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<sup>1</sup> Code of Regulations 341 Definitions (c) "**Affected agency**" means a local agency, as defined in Water Code Section 10721(m), whose jurisdictional area would, as a result of a boundary modification, include more, fewer, or different basins or subbasins than without the modification; (v) "**Requesting agency**" means the local agency that requests a boundary modification as authorized by Water Code Section 10722.2.

<sup>2</sup> Code of Regulations 344.8 Local Agency Input (b) Any affected agency or affected system that elects to support or oppose the proposed boundary modification shall provide the requesting agency with one of the following: (1) A copy of a resolution formally adopted by the decision-making body of the affected agency or affected system. (2) A letter signed by an executive officer or other official with appropriate delegated authority who represents the affected agency or affected system.