

**Paso Basin Cooperative Committee**

**Minutes**

**October 27, 2021 (Approved)**

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

**Debbie Arnold**, Chair, County of San Luis Obispo

**Matt Turrentine**, Vice Chair, Shandon-San Juan WD

**John Hamon**, Treasurer, City of Paso Robles

**Rob Roberson**, Member, San Miguel CSD

<b>1. Call to Order</b>	Chair Arnold: calls the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.																									
<b>2. Pledge of Allegiance</b>	Chair Arnold: leads the Pledge of Allegiance.																									
<b>3. Roll call</b>	County Staff, Angela Ford: calls roll.																									
<b>4. Public Comment – items not on Agenda</b>	<p><i>Meeting Audio: Item start ~ 00:01:41</i></p> <p>Chair Arnold: opens the floor for public comment.</p> <p>Greg Grewal: comments regarding recent Salinas Dam meeting, SSJWD application for Salinas Dam water appropriations, and concerns regarding recharge from Salinas River.</p> <p>Chair Arnold: asks for additional public comments, seeing none, closes the public comment period.</p>																									
<b>5. Consider Adopting Resolution to Continue Meeting Virtually</b>	<p><i>Meeting Audio: Item start ~ 00:06:06</i></p> <p>County Staff, Angela Ford: explains that, per AB 361, the PBCC must adopt a resolution to continue meeting virtually every thirty days and find that meeting in person would pose a risk to public health and safety.</p> <p>Chair Arnold: opens the floor for public comment.</p> <p>Greg Grewal: speaks.</p> <p>Chair Arnold: closes the public comment period.</p> <p>Treasurer Hamon: Expresses support for hybrid / in-person and virtual meetings.</p> <p><b>Motion by:</b> Treasurer Hamon  <b>Second by:</b> Vice Chair Turrentine  <b>Motion:</b> Committee moves to adopt resolution to continue meeting virtually.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Members</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Ayes</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Noes</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Abstain</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Recuse</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Debbie Arnold (Chair)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Matt Turrentine (Vice Chair)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>John Hamon (Treasurer)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rob Roberson (Member)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Members	Ayes	Noes	Abstain	Recuse	Debbie Arnold (Chair)	X				Matt Turrentine (Vice Chair)	X				John Hamon (Treasurer)	X				Rob Roberson (Member)	X			
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<b>6. Approval of July 21 and 27 Meeting Minutes</b>	<p>Audio from the July 21 and 27, 2021 Paso Basin Cooperative Committee Meeting is available at: <a href="http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/pasobasin">www.slocounty.ca.gov/pasobasin</a></p> <p>Chair Arnold: opens discussion for Agenda Item 6 – Approval of July 21 and 27, 2021 Cooperative Committee Meeting Minutes; asks for comments from the Committee, and then from the public; there are none.</p> <p><b>Motion by:</b> Treasurer Hamon <b>Second by:</b> Vice Chair Turrentine <b>Motion:</b> Committee moves to approve July 21 and 27, 2021 Meeting Minutes.</p> <table border="1"><thead><tr><th>Members</th><th>Ayes</th><th>Noes</th><th>Abstain</th><th>Recuse</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Debbie Arnold (Chair)</td><td>X</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Matt Turrentine (Vice Chair)</td><td>X</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>John Hamon (Treasurer)</td><td>X</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Rob Roberson (Member)</td><td>X</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></tbody></table>	Members	Ayes	Noes	Abstain	Recuse	Debbie Arnold (Chair)	X				Matt Turrentine (Vice Chair)	X				John Hamon (Treasurer)	X				Rob Roberson (Member)	X			
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<b>7. Consider Appointing a Member of the Cooperative Committee to the position of Secretary</b>	<p><i>Meeting Audio: Item start ~ 00:15:03</i></p> <p>Meeting materials for Agenda Item #7 are available at: <a href="http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/pasobasin">www.slocounty.ca.gov/pasobasin</a></p> <p>County Staff, Angela Ford: explains that the PBCC previously appointed positions to each member, however because Kelly Dodds is no longer serving as a member for the San Miguel CSD, there is a vacancy at the Secretary position. Recommends that the Committee appoint a new Secretary.</p> <p>Chair Arnold: opens the floor for public comment; there are none.</p> <p><b>Motion by:</b> Treasurer Hamon <b>Second by:</b> Vice Chair Turrentine <b>Motion:</b> Committee moves appoint Rob Roberson as Secretary of PBCC.</p> <table border="1"><thead><tr><th>Members</th><th>Ayes</th><th>Noes</th><th>Abstain</th><th>Recuse</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Debbie Arnold (Chair)</td><td>X</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Matt Turrentine (Vice Chair)</td><td>X</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>John Hamon (Treasurer)</td><td>X</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Rob Roberson (Member)</td><td>X</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></tbody></table>	Members	Ayes	Noes	Abstain	Recuse	Debbie Arnold (Chair)	X				Matt Turrentine (Vice Chair)	X				John Hamon (Treasurer)	X				Rob Roberson (Member)	X			
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<b>8. Receive update on modifications to GSA boundaries</b>	<p><i>Meeting Audio: Item start ~ 00:16:50</i></p> <p>Meeting materials for Agenda Item are available at: <a href="http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/pasobasin">www.slocounty.ca.gov/pasobasin</a></p> <p>County Staff, Angela Ford: provides a summary of the history of the Paso GSA boundaries and an update on recent coordination to formally modify them.</p> <p>Chair Arnold: opens the floor for public comment.</p> <p>Greg Grewal: speaks.</p> <p>Chair Arnold: closes the public comment period.</p>																									

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**9. Consider submitting a letter requesting that DWR wait until the statutory deadline to make a determination on the Paso Basin GSP and, if applicable, grant the full 180 days to address GSP deficiencies**

*Meeting Audio: Item start ~ 00:22:37*

The presentation for Agenda Item is available at: [www.slocounty.ca.gov/pasobasin](http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/pasobasin)

County Staff, Angela Ford: provides a summary of DWR’s assessment procedures for Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP), explains that it is likely that DWR will provide GSAs with the full 180 days to address GSP deficiencies, however it is not guaranteed. Staff recommends considering submission of a letter requesting the maximum amount of time needed.

Treasurer Hamon: agrees with Staff recommendation.

Vice Chair Turrentine: expresses hope that GSP will be approved but if it is not possible he will support sending the letter to DWR.

Chair Arnold: opens the floor for public comment.

Greg Grewal and Ann Myhre: speak.

Chair Arnold: closes the public comment period.

Treasurer Hamon: asks Angela Ford to update the Committee on Todd Groundwater’s progress towards addressing GSP deficiencies.

County Staff, Angela Ford: comments that the next item on the agenda will be an update from Todd on GSP deficiencies.

**Motion by:** Treasurer Hamon

**Second by:** Vice Chair Turrentine

**Motion:** The Committee moves submit a letter requesting that DWR wait until the statutory deadline to make a determination on the Paso Basin GSP and, if applicable, grant the full 180 days to address GSP deficiencies

Members	Ayes	Noes	Abstain	Recuse
Debbie Arnold (Chair)	X			
Matt Turrentine (Vice Chair)	X			
John Hamon (Treasurer)	X			
Rob Roberson (Member)	X			

**10. Receive update and approve approach for addressing Paso Basin GSP Deficiencies**

*Meeting Audio: Item start ~ 00:29:43*

Meeting materials for Agenda Item #9 are available at: [www.slocounty.ca.gov/pasobasin](http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/pasobasin)

Todd Groundwater, Iris Priestaf: introduces Todd Groundwater team working on addressing GSP deficiencies and provides overview on the approach and schedule for addressing GSP deficiencies.

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Treasurer Hamon: asks what happens after submittal if DWR's assessment determines that it is still inadequate.

Todd Groundwater, Iris Priestaf: comments that staff is looking forward to an adequate assessment and emphasizes that the work being done right now is directly in response to DWR comments.

Todd Groundwater, Chad Taylor: presents on the chronic lowering of Groundwater Levels Sustainability Indicator and sustainable management criteria (SMC) analysis being conducted; explains that work is being done based on existing information that is available with an emphasis on shallow domestic wells; comments that analysis is done to evaluate effects of GSP minimum thresholds and measurable objectives on existing wells; comments that Todd Groundwater has been using a refined approach to analyzing water levels due to potential location inaccuracies from well dataset.

Treasurer Hamon: comments that it seems that the more data points that are available the better the analysis.

Vice Chair Turrentine: asks Chad if the results of this analysis will satisfy the concerns that DWR has voiced.

Todd Groundwater, Chad Taylor: responds that they've talked to DWR about what they're looking for but ultimately the GSAs have the power to define what is "significant and unreasonable".

Vice Chair Turrentine: asks if Chad believes that the RMS wells are representative and whether there are enough RMS wells.

Todd Groundwater, Chad Taylor: responds that there are areas of the basin that don't have RMS wells and adding some RMS wells in the area would be beneficial in the long term, but that these areas are generally low groundwater-use areas.

Todd Groundwater, Gus Yates: presents on approach to Interconnected Surface Water (ISW) Sustainability Indicator including the focus on groundwater dependent ecosystems (GDEs) and aquatic animals; presents updates on vegetation trends, precipitation trends, and fish passage opportunities.

Treasurer Hamon: asks about ISW's impacts in relation to groundwater recharge efforts.

Todd Groundwater, Gus Yates: comments that pumping can affect creek flows if there is evidence of interconnected surface waters which would in turn affect fish passage.

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	<p>Todd Groundwater, Chad Taylor: adds that ISW is one of the six SMCs that SGMA requires all GSPs to address.</p> <p>Vice Chair Turrentine: comments that the initial plan established that there were no ISWs but DWR has asked the GSAs to prove that assertion; asks Gus about the purpose of some of the lookbacks at previous conditions considering the GSAs are tasked with returning the basins to conditions from 2015 onwards.</p> <p>Todd Groundwater, Gus Yates: agrees with Vice Chair Turrentine and explains that the lookbacks before 2015 are still useful to establish trends and develop relationships.</p> <p>Chair Arnold: asks about vegetation at the headwaters of the Salinas River, specifically about changes to vegetation that may not be native but are now prospering.</p> <p>Todd Groundwater, Gus Yates: comments that focus is on the native plants and that he is working to piece out these vegetation patterns and their relation to the climate cycle.</p> <p>Chair Arnold: comments that the most recent drought has damaged the oak tree population but there may also be a climate cycle.</p> <p>Todd Groundwater, Gus Yates: comments that the data sets aren't showing a clear pattern</p> <p>Chair Arnold: opens the floor to public comment</p> <p>Greg Grewal and Patricia Wilmore: speak</p> <p>Chair Arnold: closes the public comment period.</p> <p><b>Motion by:</b> Treasurer Hamon  <b>Second by:</b> Vice Chair Turrentine  <b>Motion:</b> Committee moves to approve approach for addressing Paso GSP Deficiencies.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="430 1543 1388 1732"> <thead> <tr> <th>Members</th> <th>Ayes</th> <th>Noes</th> <th>Abstain</th> <th>Recuse</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Debbie Arnold (Chair)</td> <td align="center">X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Matt Turrentine (Vice Chair)</td> <td align="center">X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>John Hamon (Treasurer)</td> <td align="center">X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rob Roberson (Member)</td> <td align="center">X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Members	Ayes	Noes	Abstain	Recuse	Debbie Arnold (Chair)	X				Matt Turrentine (Vice Chair)	X				John Hamon (Treasurer)	X				Rob Roberson (Member)	X			
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<p><b>11. Consider recommended Consultant for Water Year</b></p>	<p><i>Meeting Audio: Item start ~ 01:44:00</i></p> <p>County Staff, Angela Ford: summarizes the Annual Report deadlines and procurement process led by the City of Paso Robles consistent with the MOA Section 6.3, recommends approving the Water Year 2021 Annual Report</p>																									

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<p><b>2021 Annual Report development and related contract with MOA Section 6.3</b></p>	<p>consultant (GSI Water Solutions, Inc), budget, contract, and forward to City of Paso Robles.</p> <p>Chair Arnold: opens the floor to public comment.</p> <p>Greg Grewal: speaks.</p> <p>Chair Arnold: closes the public comment period.</p> <p>Treasurer Hamon: comments that he would like to investigate any possible mistakes from previous Annual Reports.</p> <p>Chair Arnold: comments that she hopes to take a look at the numbers and check for any discrepancies on the annual report before the April 1<sup>st</sup> deadline.</p> <p><b>Motion by:</b> Vice Chair Turrentine  <b>Second by:</b> Treasurer Hamon  <b>Motion:</b> The Committee moves to approve the contract with GSI Water Solutions Inc and approve the related budget for the development of the Water Year 2021 Annual Report for the Paso Basin</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="425 961 1393 1146"> <thead> <tr> <th>Members</th> <th>Ayes</th> <th>Noes</th> <th>Abstain</th> <th>Recuse</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Debbie Arnold (Chair)</td> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Matt Turrentine (Vice Chair)</td> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>John Hamon (Treasurer)</td> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rob Roberson (Member)</td> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Members	Ayes	Noes	Abstain	Recuse	Debbie Arnold (Chair)	X				Matt Turrentine (Vice Chair)	X				John Hamon (Treasurer)	X				Rob Roberson (Member)	X			
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<p><b>12. Committee Member Comments</b></p>	<p>There are no additional comments.</p>																									
<p><b>13. Upcoming meeting(s)</b></p>	<p><i>Meeting Audio: Item start ~ 01:53:22</i></p> <p>The next meeting will likely include actions related to addressing GSP deficiencies.</p> <p>2022 Regular Meetings: must be at least quarterly and have historically been the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each quarter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• January 26, 2022</li> <li>• April 27, 2022</li> <li>• July 27, 2022</li> <li>• October 26, 2022</li> </ul> <p>Chair Arnold: opens the floor to public comment, seeing none, closes the public comment period.</p>																									
<p><b>14. Future Items</b></p>	<p>There are no additional comments.</p>																									
<p><b>15. Adjourn</b></p>	<p>Chair Arnold moves to adjourn the meeting at 5:56p.m.</p>																									

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I, Rob Roberson, 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 October 27, 2021 by the Paso Basin Cooperative Committee.

Matt Turrentine, Secretary of the Paso Basin Cooperative Committee.  
Drafted by: Brandon Zuniga and Angela Ford, County of San Luis Obispo