



**COUNTY OF COLUSA**  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
**GROUNDWATER COMMISSION**  
*100 Sunrise Boulevard Suite F*  
*Colusa, CA 95932*

**JOSEPH J. DAMIANO**  
Agricultural Commissioner  
Sealer of Weights & Measures

Lorraine Marsh, Chair | Jeff Moresco | Mark Morris | Bruce Rolen, Vice Chair | Darrin Williams

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COLUSA COUNTY GROUNDWATER COMMISSION**

**Location:** **Colusa Industrial Park Conference Room**  
100 Sunrise Boulevard, Colusa, CA 95932

**Date:** **October 23, 2014**

**Meeting Minutes**

**1. CALL TO ORDER :**

Chair Lorraine Marsh called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm

**a. Pledge of Allegiance**

**b. Introductions**

*In attendance:*

*Dan McManus, DWR*

*Suzie Dawley, Colusa County Env. Health*

*Derick Strain, Landowner*

*Denise Carter, Colusa county Supervisor*

*John Garner, Farm Bureau*

*Tom Charter, WUG*

*Sandy Denn, WUG*

*Elly Gutierrez, Colusa County Department of Agriculture*

*Mary Fahey, Staff*

**c. Roll Call**

*Present: Commissioners Marsh, Moresco, Morris, Williams*

*Absent: Commissioner Rolen*

**d. \*Acceptance of Agenda**

*Motion to accept agenda made by Darrin Williams, Motion seconded by Mark Morris and accepted.*

**e. \*Approval of Minutes from September 11, 2014**

*Motion to accept Minutes from September 11, 2014 GW Meeting made by Darrin Williams, seconded by Jeff Moresco and accepted.*

**f. Comments by Commissioners**



**COUNTY OF COLUSA**  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
**GROUNDWATER COMMISSION**  
*100 Sunrise Boulevard Suite F*  
*Colusa, CA 95932*

**JOSEPH J. DAMIANO**  
Agricultural Commissioner  
Sealer of Weights & Measures

*Commissioner Morris asked Suzie Dawley from Environmental Health if there were any reports of well issues. Suzie reported that there are no reports of domestic wells being dry.*

**g. Period of Public Comment**

*None*

**2. GENERAL BUSINESS**

- a. \*Discussion and possible action to approve Annual Statement of Goals and Objectives**

*Mary Fahey reported that this Annual Statement of Goals and Objectives needs to be produced once a year. It was tabled from last meeting. Jeff Moresco asked if the new legislation will change our goals. Mary reports that it will not change our goals, but we will hear more in the presentation and these goals are always able to be changed.*

*Jeff Moresco Moved to accept the Annual Statement of Goals and Objectives, Motion was Seconded by Darrin Williams. Passed 4 yes, 0 noes, one absent.*

**3. STANDING AGENDA ITEMS**

- a. Staff Report**

- i. General Staff activities**

*Mary Fahey reports they are looking at the monitoring network, working with DWR to put together well frequency charts and reviewing Ground Water Legislation.*

- ii. Water Users Group activities**

*No update on WUG. They have not met since the last Commission meeting.*

- iii. Technical Support Team activities**

*Wood Rodgers is in the budget for Technical Assistance but they have been put on hold to preserve those funds to be used at a later date as we learn more about the new groundwater legislation. They are developing Well frequency charts and looking at CASGEM and Monitoring Network. A student at DWR is putting the excel data together so Ms. Fahey can create these charts. They will be able to help in choosing wells to monitor and find any gaps in data. This will allow us to be ready when funding becomes available. Commissioner Morris requested a copy. The TST goal is to have something in place by the spring.*

- iv. MOUs with water purveyors**

*No updates to report on the MOU's.*



**COUNTY OF COLUSA**  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
**GROUNDWATER COMMISSION**  
*100 Sunrise Boulevard Suite F*  
*Colusa, CA 95932*

**JOSEPH J. DAMIANO**  
Agricultural Commissioner  
Sealer of Weights & Measures

**4. INFORMATION ONLY**

a. Presentation - Groundwater Legislation signed September 16, 2014  
Presentations and Q&A:

- Colusa County Supervisor, Kim Vann  
*Kim Vann was not present. Denise Carter spoke on her behalf. Ms. Carter reports that our Supervisors were able to keep Ground Water Management controlled at the local level. Legislation has provided a framework and timeline for this process on how to improve the GW Management on the local level. Colusa County is going to study the options of a Basin boundary adjustment, and how to form a groundwater sustainability agency. At this point we are keeping our options open. We will be working with all the water agencies in the area and figure out what will be best for all of us. When we go through the process the agency will morph out of the GW Commission. We have a great commission and Water Users Group in place. We want to be inclusive with all the districts, private pumpers and municipalities and develop a program that will work for our county. Through this process we will be able to develop a plan that will accurately represent our county so that we can manage our groundwater on a local level.*
- Dan McManus, Department of Water Resources  
*Dan McManus provided handouts, including the Groundwater Legislation Timeline. Power Point Presentation given on 2014 Sustainable GW Management Legislation. New legislation requires that a groundwater sustainability plan (GSP) be adopted for the most important groundwater basins in California. Limited to "high & medium priority basins" which are 127 out of 515 basins in the State. These 127 basins account for over 97% of California's groundwater use. Adjudicated basins are exempt, except for minimal reporting. Low and very low priority basins are exempt, though they are encouraged to adopt plans. Basin priority will be updated in January 2015 to include impacts to habitat and stream flow.*

*Legislation Timeline was presented. Local Groundwater Sustainability Agencies need to be identified by 2017. Groundwater Sustainability Plans for Basins in Overdraft need to be completed by 2020. All other Plans to be completed in 2022. By 2040 all high and medium priority basins must achieve sustainability. What this legislation does is empower local agencies to manage their basins sustainability by giving the local agencies the authority to: Adopt and enforce rules, require registration of groundwater wells, measure and manage groundwater extraction, require reporting of use and assessment of fees and*



**COUNTY OF COLUSA**  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
**GROUNDWATER COMMISSION**  
*100 Sunrise Boulevard Suite F*  
*Colusa, CA 95932*

**JOSEPH J. DAMIANO**  
Agricultural Commissioner  
Sealer of Weights & Measures

*request revisions of groundwater basin boundaries. "Local Agency" means any local public agency that has water supply, water management, or land use responsibilities within a groundwater basin.*

*The Legislation Establishes Basic Requirements for GSPs:*

- *Description of physical setting*
- *Identification of groundwater conditions: (levels, quality, subsidence, groundwater – surface water interaction)*
- *Historic and projected water demands and supplies*
- *Maps: basin and agency boundaries, recharge areas.*
- *Measurable Objectives with Interim Milestones (every 5 yrs.) to achieve sustainability in 20 yrs.*
- *Description of how GSP is given consideration in General Plans*

*Legislation also provides for a limited state role. DWR will evaluate groundwater sustainability plans within two years of submission. State Water Board may temporarily intervene in four limited circumstances.*

- *No governance structure for a basin after two and a half years*
- *No plan after five years (overdrafted basins) or ten years in other basins*
- *If plan is inadequate and the basin has serious groundwater problems*
- *If the local agency has not adequately implemented the plan and if the basin has serious groundwater problems.*

*DWR will determine if the basin has a serious groundwater problem.*

*State Board must return control to local agencies as soon as they adopt an adequate plan.*

*The State Board may limit its temporary control to the portion of the basin not being managed.*

*Referring to the legislation timeline:*

*If a County has not developed a Groundwater Management Plan by Jan 2015, hold off. By Jan. 31, 2015 we have to update our basin priorities. There are generally three things that GW agencies need implement this plan. 1. They need to know the priority of their basin. 2. They need to know if their basin is in overdraft. 3. They need to know what area they are working with. These things need to be laid out before they start to develop their plan.*

*This year is the first efforts in updating basin priorities to include impacts to habitat & stream flow. Outreach will begin in two or three weeks. There will be workshops where DWR will talk about the process that they have developed for the basin prioritization. They will take the data they are able to collect from input and other agencies and add into tools they already*



**COUNTY OF COLUSA**  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
**GROUNDWATER COMMISSION**  
*100 Sunrise Boulevard Suite F*  
*Colusa, CA 95932*

**JOSEPH J. DAMIANO**  
Agricultural Commissioner  
Sealer of Weights & Measures

*have to analyze all of this. Then there will be another round of workshops where people can come and review.*

*In January 2016, DWR will have to adopt regulations to adopt basin boundaries. The basin priority depends on the revising boundary conditions. DWR will get back into a cycle of updating the Bulletin 118 and develop regulations to describe the path to change the regulations for adopting basin boundaries. By June 30 GW sustainability needs to be identified. By April 2016 adjudicated basins start their annual reports to DWR. By June 2016 they need to evaluate how to implement a sustainable plan. By December 2016 DWR reports on water availability for groundwater replenishment statewide.*

*As part of the sustainable management plan we should be looking at possible areas for recharge.*

*DWR's Bulletin 118 needs to be done in years ending in 0 and 5 because the California Water Plan needs to be done in years ending in 3 and 8. This is so that the Bulletin 118 can feed into our California Water Plan.*

*Based on all these things that are happening the goal is to identify the new basin boundaries, talk about prioritization and in January 2017 DWR will publish practices for sustainable groundwater management plans.*

*For people who are already doing a good job and if their plan already contains most of these things, they will only need to modify their existing plans to accommodate the new legislation regulations.*

*In summary the new Sustainable GW Management Legislation establishes new state policy for sustainable management of groundwater resources. It requires sustainable groundwater management for High & Medium priority basins. It establishes basic requirements for Groundwater Sustainability Plans. It empowers local agencies to manage their basins sustainably. It does not alter or determine any surface water rights. It does not alter the State Water Resources existing authority under current law. It provides for temporary State intervention in limited circumstances.*

*Darrin Williams asked considering how large Colusa Basin is, how we will interact with other agencies in the area to work together to come up with a plan.*

*Mr. McManus replied: Colusa could sit down with other agencies and go over the goals and objectives and let them know that Colusa does not want to infringe upon the goals and objectives of other agencies. And if they do, then come up with a buffer. The new plan requires much more coordination than it has in the past.*



**COUNTY OF COLUSA**  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
**GROUNDWATER COMMISSION**  
*100 Sunrise Boulevard Suite F*  
*Colusa, CA 95932*

**JOSEPH J. DAMIANO**  
Agricultural Commissioner  
Sealer of Weights & Measures

*Colusa County can be their own basin and there can also be multiple basins within one agency. There is the freedom to choose what agencies are within the boundaries of that basin.*

*Denise Carter commented that Colusa County needs to figure out what our goals and objectives are to see what our boundary changes need to be.*

*Sandy Denn (WUG) asked, since this legislation gives the districts within the counties some authorities that they didn't have in the past, how does that affect the counties that overly that area?*

*Mr. McManus replied that in the way the water code is written now, if someone wants to do a management plan the county can't impose that plan. So the county needs to coordinate with that district.*

*Mr. McManus' presentation will be posted on the Water Resources page of the Colusa County Website.*

**5. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS**

a. Items for next agenda

*Mary Fahey mentions that Roy Hull from DWR will give a presentation on the Fall Groundwater measurements. We will also discuss the 2015 meeting dates and the groundwater ordinance.*

**6. ADJOURNMENT**

*Commissioner Moresco moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Darrin Williams. Meeting adjourned at 3:02pm*

*Next meeting date is December 11, 2014 at 1:30 at Colusa Industrial Properties*

TO THOSE WHO PARTICIPATE IN COMMISSION PROCEEDINGS: California Government Code Section 84308 requires you to disclose campaign contributions to Groundwater Management Commissioners if they amount to \$250 or more and were made within the last twelve months. Please announce your applicable campaign contributions when you speak. Any disabled person needing special accommodation to participate in the Commission proceeding is requested to contact the Colusa County Agriculture Department prior to meeting and arrangements will be made to accommodate you.