



## Meeting Summary: ECC GSP

### East Contra Costa Working Group Meeting

**When:** Wednesday May 11, 2022, 10:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

**Where:** Zoom call

**Attendees:** Casey Wichert, Dan Muelrath, Dina Breitstein, Faithe Lovelace, Greg Young, Jackson Cook, James Wolfe, Maggie Dutton, Mike Davies, Nacho Mendoza, Paul Seger, Ryan Hernandez, Scott Buenting, Vicki Kretsinger

#### ACTION ITEMS May 2022

ITEM	OWNER	DUE
1. Send final MOU	Ryan	May 2022
2. Send link to public comments on ECC GSP	LSCE	Now
3. Provide estimate of level of effort to respond to GSP Comments	LSCE	June 2022
4. Provide a list of ongoing projects in ECC underway by ECCCHC	Ryan/ ECCHC	Aug 2022

#### MEETING SUMMARY

1. Faithe provided an Update on the Annual Report
2. Faithe provided an Update on upload of water level monitoring data to SGMA and CASGEM
3. Faithe informed the group there is funding available for additional wells to be installed in the Subbasin. Alternatively, there are several remote monitoring devices that can be installed at other locations.
  - a. Paul asked if there is monitoring near the proposed Oil and Gas well
    - i. Dan asked if the funds could be used to install a new well near the well
      - i. Faithe said that currently there is not a well nearby and to install a well, access agreements would be needed
        - a. Dan asked Ryan if the county could make the company developing the O and G well install a monitoring well as part of the permit
    - b. Dan informed the group that Ironhouse Sanitary District is open to discussion of including their wells into a monitoring program. DWD is also interested in installing a remote monitoring device at their wells.
4. Faithe informed the group that Brentwood had to remove three wells from the RMS monitoring network, at this time data coverage is still sufficient
  - a. Dan asked Brentwood the reasons for removing wells from monitoring program
    - i. James informed the group that Brentwood no longer has access to the wells
5. The ECC GSP has received one comment letter, the comment period is now closed however people/organizations can still submit comments on the DWR Website. Faithe asked the Working group how much detail they want to provide for the responses to address the comments.

- a. Ryan requested an estimate of level of effort to address the various comments. Asked if DWR will review the letters for determining if the subbasin approved and how soon will DWR approving the GSPs.
    - i. Vicki informed the group that DWR does take the comment into consideration when reviewing the GSPs, so the Working group should responded but it is not urgent
    - ii. Jackson reported he has no update on approval timelines except for the statutory 2 year period
  - b. Mike stated that since this letter is more general that the level of response should not be as detailed compared to if it came from a resident located within the Subbasin
    - i. Paul acknowledged Mikes comment but also provided the thought that some of the organizations involved in the comment letter are membership groups which do have residents located with in the Subbasin
6. Vicki provided a broad overview of the Governors Executive Order (EO) regarding the drought and how other counties/subbasins are handling the order
- a. Ryan informed the group that the County Environmental Health Department has made changes to their permit application in response to the EO
    - i. Greg Young (BBID) informed the group that BBID is working developing policy in their boundaries that reviews well permits and does not allow for an increase in water use, and violators will be fined.
      - i. Vicki clarified that in ECC the GSP accounted for future pumping increases so we might not need to be as ridge as other subbasins
        - a. Greg stated the policy might contain language that a new well will consider future conditions
  - b. Ryan asked if the EO goes away do the regulations also go away?
    - i. Vicki informed the group that there is currently an Assembly Bill in the works that be similar to the EO
  - c. Ryan informed the group that since January 2022 only one well permit for agricultural wells has been filled out and in 2021 there were only 8 applications. His planning group has developed a webmap interface that allow the group to determine if the applicant is located within the Subbasin.
    - i. Vicki asked if all the GSA will be notified if there is permit in their boundary and aslo asked about permits located outside the Subbasin but still nearby to be of interest.
      - i. Ryan said if the applicant is located within the Subbasin than the planning group will inform the GSA the applicant is located within. The applicant cannot move ahead until the GSA determines that well will not be an issue for the subbasin. He will have to review procedure for applications that fall outside the subbasin boundaries
    - ii. Greg stated that the policy needs to be clear for what and will not be allowed so that the process does not become arbitrary. Greg said BBID will

take the lead on starting to develop the policy also mentioned that even if a well is approved that there should be language stating that in the future limits may be put on the well.

- iii. Vicki suggested that a subcommittee be formed to address the EO
  - i. Ryan, Dan and Greg agreed to be part of the subcommittee
7. Ryan provided an update on the MOU, waiting on one GSA signature but anticipates it to be complete by the end of the week.
8. LSCE submitted a fiscal year budget to Brentwood, James stated the budget is being reviewed by the board and will be approved at the end of June
9. Faithe provided an update on various grant activities
  - a. PR 14 submitted to DWR in April
    - i. CCWD and DWD requested Brentwood send them dates of when checks
      - i. James said Brentwood would provide the requested information
  - b. Grant close out report in progress, the subbasin will receive the 10% retentions after the submittal of the report
  - c. Late Summer/Early Fall DWR will release Round 2 funding for GSP implementation
10. Jackson provided an update on various DWR topics
  - a. DWR had a listening session in April pertaining to the EO, link to resources and recordings is located here: [Drought \(ca.gov\)](https://www.drought.ca.gov)
  - b. InSAR data up to January 2022 is available online
  - c. DWR website has new features to look at trends for domestic and irrigation wells
11. Dan asked how other agencies are handling leach fields in their boundaries, DWD has illegal and new leach areas located near domestic wells
  - a. Ryan provided information on a phone number to call to report illegal activities
  - b. Brentwood and Antioch stated that they have policy that requires new homes to be tied into the city sewer system.
12. Next meetings:
  - a. TBD, Working Group EO Subcommittee
  - b. August 10<sup>th</sup>, Working Group meeting.
    - i. Possible that a future meeting pertaining to the EO may be needed