

**NORTHERN DELTA
GROUNDWATER
SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY**

**Minutes of Monday December 13, 2021
Northern Delta Groundwater Sustainability Agency Meeting**

Remote Teleconference at (669) 900-9128, Meeting ID 999-2674-8212
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87320221764>

In accordance with the Governor's Executive Orders N-25-20 and N-29-20, the NDGSA's meeting was conducted remotely. The meeting notice was posted at the Walnut Grove Library as usual. However, there was no public access location in conformance with County health guidelines; the public was welcome to attend remotely by calling the number above, going to the webcast link, or both.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:35 a.m. by Chair Van Loben Sels.

2. Roll Call

NDGSA Members Representatives:

RD 744 – Brad Van Loben Sels, Chair

RD 501 – Craig Nakahara, Vice-Chair

RD 755 – Richard Elliot

RD 813 – Tom Herzog

RD 1002 – Jeff McCormack,
Secretary/Treasurer

RD 369 – Topher Chan

FDD – Richard Elliot

Osha Meserve, General Counsel

Soluri Meserve

Erik Ringelberg, California Director
The Freshwater Trust

Chris Thomas, Policy Specialist
The Freshwater Trust

Anna Swenson, Outreach Coordinator
The Freshwater Trust

Associate Member Representatives:

RD 38 – Emily Wells

Quorum established with seven Members (eleven total votes) present throughout the meeting.

3. Review & Approve 05/18/2021 Board Meeting Minutes

Action – Motion to approve the 12/13/21 Minutes by Vice-Chair Nakahara, seconded by Secretary McCormack. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Solano Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Adoption

Presentation & Discussion – NDGSA Staff provided a presentation detailing the proposed Solano Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan that was finalized at the end of November 2021. Following this presentation members of the public were invited to provide comments or pose questions about the proposed GSP. There were no public comments or questions but Staff did answer several questions from the NDGSA Member Representatives concerning costs, management actions, and the status of neighboring basins.

Action – Motion to approve Resolution 2021-004 to Adopt Solano Subbasin GSP by Secretary McCormack, seconded by Vice-Chair Nakahara. Motion passed unanimously.

5. South American Subbasin GSP Adoption

Presentation & Discussion – NDGSA Staff provided a presentation on the proposed South American Subbasin GSP that was finalized at the end of November 2021. Following the presentation NDGSA Staff invited members of the public to provide comments and ask questions about the proposed GSP. After this opportunity for public comment there was a brief discussion on the potential impact of the GSP on residential drinking water wells and restrictions on groundwater use in the Delta.

Action – Motion to approve Resolution 2021-005 to Adopt South American Subbasin GSP by Secretary McCormack, Seconded by Member Chan. Motion passed unanimously.

6. Chair, Vice- Chair, and Treasurer/Secretary Reports

No other reports from the Chair, Vice-Chair, or Secretary/Treasurer.

Action – None.

7. Associate Member Agency Activities

GSA-RD 551 & South American Subbasin Participation

Discussion – In mid-2020, GSA-RD 551 and the NDGSA entered into an Associate Member agreement. This agreement has since expired, but NDGSA Staff are coordinating with GSA-RD 551 to develop a longer-term agreement on similar terms.

Action – Motion to approve Resolution 2021-006 Authorizing the Chair to Execute MOU with RD 551 by Secretary McCormack, seconded by Member Herzog. Motion passed unanimously

Staten Island in Eastern San Joaquin Subbasin Planning

Discussion – Reclamation District (RD) 38 – Staten Island was designated an Associate Member of the NDGSA in 2018 and since that time has received support from the NDGSA, which Staff invoice separately. The funds that have covered this support to date are nearly depleted. RD 38 – Staten Island has tentatively agreed to contribute additional funding to finance the continued NDGSA support equal to half of the per-acre fee levied for the 2021-2022 fiscal year. Staff will prepare an invoice and coordinate with Staten Island to secure payment of \$11,593.

Action – None.

8. NDGSA Member Status

RD 349 Withdrawal

Discussion – RD 349 submitted notice of its intent to withdraw from the NDGSA on June 9, 2021. In accordance with the Joint Powers Agreement Forming the NDGSA (JPA), this withdrawal took effect on August 8, 2021. NDGSA Staff have provided the necessary support to facilitate this withdrawal and transition all responsibilities to representatives of RD 349. Per the JPA, withdrawing agencies are for the proportional share of the outstanding debts and liabilities of the NDGSA. RD 349 has directed the NDGSA to retain the property-based fees attributable to it for the 2021-2022 Fiscal Year, which are expected to cover its outstanding liabilities.

Action – None.

9. Financial Update

Previous Fiscal Year Budget & Audit

Discussion – The NDGSA has received all invoices for the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year and has reconciled the actual expenses against the adopted budget and revenue. There was a budget surplus for the 2020-2021 FY, which was used to pay down outstanding agency liabilities. The financials for this fiscal year will again be audited by Boden Klein & Sneesby per previous Board direction. Staff are working to provide all necessary documents and the audit is expected to be done by the next NDGSA Board Meeting, at which time the findings will be presented to the Board.

Action – None.

Current 2021-2022 FY Budget Status

Discussion – To date, the NDGSA remains on budget for the 2021-2022 FY. Approximately 18% of the Agency's projected 2021-22 FY budget has been invoiced during the first third of the fiscal year, though this period does not include costs associated with the NDGSA Board Meeting or the adoption of the GSPs. The NDGSA currently has a bank account balance over \$16,000. The property-based fees were again included with the *ad valorem* taxes for the properties within Solano and Sacramento Counties. The first payment from Solano County is expected in mid-December and the first payment from Sacramento County is expected in February.

Action – None.

10. Staff Report

No further reports at this time.

11. Agenda Proposals, Time and Place of Next Board Meeting, TBD May 2022

Board suggested June 7, 2022. A poll will be circulated to confirm a date in late May or early June.

12. Public Comment

DWR identified that an Electromagnetic Survey will become available to Delta landowners.

13. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:56 am by Chair Van Loben Sels.

Respectfully submitted by Anna Swenson