



# **Regional Water Management Group**

**LOCATION: Online (ZOOM)**

## **MINUTES**

**Monday, July 22, 2024, 1:30 pm**

### **1. The meeting was called to order at 1:32 pm, by Jeannie Habben, temporary chairperson.**

Those present included:

Allison Medley – Madera County  
Becky Horn – Triangle T WD  
Brandon Tomlinson – Chowchilla WD  
Craig Wagner – Madera County  
Dina Nolan – Madera ID  
Don Roberts – Gravelly Ford WD  
Erin Capuchino – Y/S RC&DC  
Fahed Mosleh – Madera County  
Gretchen Heisdorf – Root Creek WD

Jacob Roberson – RWMG Coordinator  
Jason Rogers – City of Chowchilla  
Jeannie Habben – Madera County  
Jon Cottingham – Coarsegold RCD  
Keith Helmuth – City of Madera  
Kevin Sischo – Madera County  
Leticia Tapia – Madera County  
Phil Janzen – Madera WD  
Tukta Phetasa – Madera County

### **2. Review & Approval - Agenda & Minutes**

- A motion to approve the June minutes and July agenda was made by Gretchen H; Jason R second; all voted; Motion passed unanimously.

### **3. Public Comment**

- Items of interest were mentioned by Jacob R (for more information, reach out to Jacob):
  - The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board is accepting written comments regarding the 2024 Triennial Review Draft Workplan through July 29<sup>th</sup> for both the Sacramento River and San Joaquin River Basins, and the Tulare Lake Basin.
  - A full public draft of the proposed single Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the Delta-Mendota Subbasin has been posted on the Subbasin's SGMA website.

### **4. Discussion & Action - Financial Report/Warrant Approvals**

- July 2024 Financial Report
  - Jacob R reported that there was an income for the month of \$15,241.90. This income was for work on the Prop 1 DACTI grant for the period of 5/1/23 through 7/31/23. No outgoing expenses for the month. We started the month with \$24,560.50, and ended the month with \$39,802.40.
    - A motion to approve the July financial report was made by Keith H; Gretchen H second; all voted; Motion passed unanimously.

### **5. Review & Approval – Hidden Lakes Water Tank Project Proposal**

- Jacob R mentioned that this project was discussed during last month's meeting. This project will be using the money we had allocated in the Mountain Counties Funding Area (MCFA) for Madera RWMG's jurisdiction area (Madera County). This funding was originally approved by the group to be used for the Sierra

Highlands Water Treatment Plant project, and the amount of funding available is not feasible for the Sierra Highlands project. The Hidden Lakes project is needing to be added to the IRWMP Project List in order to be eligible for the allocated funds in the MCFA for Madera County. Hidden Lakes is in the Millerton Lake area and this funding will be used for a new water storage tank and for the fill line.

- Fahed M added that they are looking to add two storage tanks with this funding for the Hidden Lakes community. Both tanks have a 130,000-gallon holding capacity.
- The group had no objections in adding the Hidden Lakes project to the IRWMP Project List.
- Jacob mentioned he will get a letter of support to Fahed to submit to DWR showing the group's support for this project being a replacement project for the MCFA allocated funds and also a link for the IRWMP Project List showing it is an approved project for the group.

## **6. Discussion – Proposition 1 Disadvantaged Community Involvement Funding**

- San Joaquin Valley
  - Chowchilla Nitrate Control Program / Chowchilla Management Zone – Projects 12 and 13
    - Jacob R commented that the Prop 1 grant has been completed. The grant deadline was on June 1, 2024. All the required reporting and final invoicing have been submitted to Contra Costa WD, who is the grant administrator for the entire San Joaquin River Funding Area (SJRFA). The paperwork has been submitted by Contra Costa WD to DWR and is currently in the review process before officially being closed out.
    - Becky H commented that Jeannie H connected CMZ with the Public Health Department in Madera County, and they are going to have a Health Fair this Thursday evening in Chowchilla at a local school. CMZ is going to partner with them for this event. They are going to have a blood donation truck, a food bank, and CMZ will be passing out flyers and talking with attendees about domestic well testing for Nitrates. CMZ will also be handing out free school supplies to attendees. They are expecting 100 – 150 people to attend this event.

## **7. Discussion – Proposition 1 IRWM Implementation Funding**

- San Joaquin Valley Counties
  - Parkwood
    - Fahed M commented that construction has been completed. They are working on sending all the deliverables to DWR and close out the project.
  - City of Madera
    - Keith H commented that for the project dealing with larger meters, they are expecting the meters to come in shortly and the project should be completed within the next month or so. For the project dealing with smaller meters, it has been delayed. This project is a

few months out. All the IRWM funds have been spent for both projects.

- City of Chowchilla
  - Jason R mentioned there is no critical updates since last month. Currently the project is in construction with an expected completion date in December of this year.

## **8. Discussion – SGMA Implementation Grant**

- Gretchen H reported for the various projects going on under this grant:
  - Grant administration continues. The formal amendment that was requested for Project 3 is still being reviewed. Pay Request 7 was paid by DWR on 6/13/24. Pay Request and Progress Report 8 development has started.
  - For Project 2, the groundwater model update is ongoing.
  - For Project 3 (Madera WD), they are waiting on the Division of Safety of Dam (DSOD) permit. They are also continuing to work on obtaining easements prior to moving forward with finalizing plans/specs for construction bidding. A grant amendment will be necessary due to the delay in obtaining permits and final easement. A request was made on 5/23/24 for the amendment.
  - For Project 4, the project is complete.
  - For Project 5, no new information to share at this time.

## **9. Discussion – Drought Working Group**

- Jeannie H commented that the last meeting was held on 6/21/24. It was on Natural Climate Solutions and Building Water and Watershed Resiliency in California. There was a professor from UC Merced that gave a presentation. If you were unable to attend, please reach out to Jeannie or Jenny N for the presentation slides. Currently, the next meeting will be in September. They are currently working on holding a Domestic Well Mitigation Conference. More information will be shared once they get closer to finalizing details for the conference.

## **10. Discussion – Sierra Highlands Water Treatment Plant Project**

- Fahed M commented that this is the project that the Hidden Lakes Storage Water Tank is replacing. Jacob R will be changing the agenda topic moving forward.

## **11. New/Suggested Members for the Madera RWMG**

- Jacob R will be reaching out to the Alviso WD GSA again about joining the group. Jacob also added that he received a membership application late Friday last week from the Yosemite Springs Park Utility Company. This application will be on the agenda for next month's meeting.

## **12. Future Agenda Items**

- The Parkwood project for the Prop 1 grant will be removed, the Sierra Highlands project will be removed and replaced with the Hidden Lakes project, the Prop 1 DACI grant for projects 12 and 13 will be removed, and the membership application review and approval for the Yosemite Springs Park Utility Company will be added.

**13. Next Meeting**

- Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 26, 2024, on Zoom

**14. The meeting was adjourned at 1:51 pm.**