



Regional Water Management Group

LOCATION: Online (ZOOM)

MINUTES

Monday, September 23, 2024, 1:30 pm

1. The meeting was called to order at 1:33 pm, by Bobby Macaulay, temporary chairperson.

Those present included:

Al Solis – SEMCU

Allison Medley – Madera County

Ashely Pomona – North Fork Rancheria

Becky Horn – Triangle T WD

Bobby Macaulay – Madera County

Carl Janzen – Madera ID

Clyde Wheeler – Indian Lakes

Dina Nolan – Madera ID

Don Roberts – Gravelly Ford WD

Erin Capuchino – Y/S RC & DC

Fahed Mosleh – Madera County

Jacob Roberson – RWMG Coordinator

Jason Rogers – City of Chowchilla

Jeannie Habben – Madera County

Jenny Nunez-Rodriguez – Madera County

Judy Quinn – YSPUC

Keith Helmuth – City of Madera

Kevin Sischo – Madera County

Leticia Tapia – Madera County

Lyndall Herb – Coarsegold RCD

Tukta Phetasa – Madera County

2. Review & Approval - Agenda & Minutes

- A motion to approve the August minutes and September agenda was made by Don R; 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):
 - This year marks the 10th anniversary of SGMA, and to celebrate this milestone, DWR is planning a SGMA 10-year Anniversary Event on November 18th. The event will feature key SGMA experts talking about SGMA past, present, and future.
 - DWR has release a supporting document for the California Water Plan Update 2023 that describes the approach used to identify and recommend a preliminary set of water-related indicators.
 - The California State Water Resources Control Board Office of Sustainable Water Solutions Technical Assistant Program is currently accepting applications. This program has a rolling deadline. This program provides technical assistance to small, disadvantaged communities to help them develop, fund, and implement eligible drinking water, wastewater, stormwater, or groundwater projects.
 - The U.S. Committee on Irrigation in Drainage will hold its annual conference on October 1st – 4th in Sacramento. The theme of this year's event is "Implementing Sustainable Water Management".
 - A new program has been created within DWR, the Dam Safety and Climate Resilience Local Assistance Program. This program provides

state funding for repairs, rehabilitation, enhancements, and other dam safety projects at existing state jurisdictional dams and associated facilities that were in service prior to January 1, 2023.

- On October 9th, the State Water Resources Control Board will host a virtual workshop for public entities and individuals interested in diverting floodwaters for groundwater recharge.
- The next regional meeting of the California Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force will be October 9th – 11th, in South Lake Tahoe. The task force and CAL FIRE will unveil tools that track the progress being made toward improving wildfire and landscape resilience.

4. Discussion & Action - Financial Report/Warrant Approvals

- September 2024 Financial Report
 - Jacob R reported that there were no incoming or outgoing expenses for the month. We started and ended the month with \$39,802.40. Jacob added that he is working with the City of Madera to start sending out the 2024 membership dues invoices to the group members and to get some individuals/agencies/businesses paid.
 - A motion to approve the September financial report was made by Jason R; Al S second; all voted; Motion passed unanimously.

5. Discussion – Proposition 1 Disadvantaged Community Involvement Funding

- San Joaquin Valley
 - Chowchilla Nitrate Control Program / Chowchilla Management Zone
 - Becky H reported that they continue to send out their mailers monthly. They are going to be doing another event in hopes of connecting with public water providers showcasing the assistance CMZ can provide if they are looking to apply for grant funding. Last year, CMZ participated in a food drive with the Iglesia Cristiana in Chowchilla, and they are looking to do the same with Cornerstone Church in Chowchilla in the coming months.

6. Discussion – Proposition 1 IRWM Implementation Funding

- San Joaquin Valley Counties
 - City of Madera
 - Keith H commented that one ongoing project had 4 meters still needing to be installed. Those meters have been received in and installed. All the IRWM funding for these projects has been spent.
 - Fahed M added that the County is submitting an agreement amendment for this project since it expired back in June. The amendment is looking to extend this project deadline to the end of the year, with a deadline in March of next year for all of the deliverables and reporting.
 - City of Chowchilla
 - Jason R mentioned that the project is still moving forward, and they are about 85% complete. They are expecting to have the project completed by November of this year.

7. Discussion – SGMA Implementation Grant

- Jacob R reported for the various projects going on under this grant on Gretchen H's behalf:
 - For project 1, grant administration continues. The request for project information updates will go out next week for Pay Request & Project Report 9. The DWR payment for Payment Request 8 was received. Root Creek WD received the payment distribution summary on September 16th, and checks should be mailed out by the end of the month:
 - Project 2: \$66,776.75
 - Project 3: \$132,266.37
 - Project 5: \$1,483.95
 - For project 2, the groundwater model update is ongoing.
 - For project 3, they are waiting on the Division of Safety of Dams (DSOD) permit. Work continues on obtaining easements prior to moving forward with finalizing plans/specifications for construction bidding.
 - For project 4, this is complete.
 - For project 5, there is no new information to share.

8. Discussion – Drought Working Group

- Jenny N reported that their upcoming meeting will be on Friday this week, the 27th, at 10 am on Zoom. Jenny also added that they will be taking the Drought Plan to the Board of Supervisors for adoption before the end of this year. Aiming for the November 12th meeting for the Drought Plan adoption.
- Jenny mentioned that for the funding they received under SB 552, Jenny is working on submitting Invoice 2. Jenny is also working with DWR on a monitoring well under this grant in the Madera Ranchos area.

9. Discussion – Hidden Lakes Water Storage Tanks and Fill Line Project

- Fahed M reported that 2 storage tanks have been installed under this project. Last meeting, Fahed reported that they have laid 700-feet of the 10-inch HDPE pipe. As of today, they have about 3,380-feet installed. They are about 50% complete with the overall project. They still have to install the remaining 743-feet of the 10-inch HDPE pipe, 850-feet of the 14-inch pipe, and 640-feet of the 15-inch storm drains. They haven't had any issues with traffic so far with this project. Everything has been going pretty good so far. They are looking to be completing this project by the beginning of December.
 - Bobby M asked if they were successful in transferring the MCFA funding for IRWM to this project, and Fahed mentioned he did get the funding moved over to this project. This project has 3 funding sources supporting it. The funding from IRWM is going to bid item #5 from the contractor's proposal which is for the laying of the 10-inch and 14-inch pipe, the 15-inch storm drains, air release valves, drop inlet storm drain manholes, and a few other items. Bobby also asked if we have been providing the local community updates regarding the funding used to get this project moving forward and completed. Craig W should be providing regular updates to their Property Owners' Association through email. Fahed mentioned he has been handling that communication for the last couple of months. Fahed has not updated them about the funding sources, but he has been updating them about the progress of the project. Bobby will circle back

around about providing an update on the funding sources (particularly the \$590K+ from IRWM). The community still has some funding gaps to get the entire project completed.

10. New/Suggested Members for the Madera RWMG

- No new members suggested. Jacob mentioned that last month he did report that Alviso WD GSA did get back to him, they are interested in joining the group but that is the last he heard. Jacob will follow up with them and see if they are able to attend one of the upcoming Madera RWMG meetings before the end of the year.

11. Future Agenda Items

- Nothing suggested.

12. Next Meeting

- Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 28, 2024, on Zoom

13. The meeting was adjourned at 1:53 pm.