

TEHAMA COUNTY GROUNDWATER COMMISSION



Board Chambers
Tehama County Board of Supervisors Chambers
727 Oak Street, Red Bluff, CA 96080
<https://tehamacounty.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

AGENDA FOR WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2025

8:30 AM

Commissioners: Martin Spannaus, City of Corning; Jeff Godwin, City of Red Bluff;
Hal Crain, City of Tehama; Kris Lamkin, El Camino Irrigation District;
Todd Hamer, Los Molinos Community Services District; Martha Slack, Rio Alto Water District;
Liz Merry District 1; Adam Englehardt, District 2;
Seth Lawrence, District 3; Michael Ward, District 4; David Lester, District 5

; Justin Jenson, Flood Control/Water Resources Manager

This meeting conforms to the Brown Act Open Meeting Requirements, in that actions and deliberations of the Groundwater Commission, created to conduct the people's business are taken openly; and that the people remain fully informed about the conduct of its business. Any written materials related to an open session item on this agenda that are submitted to the Clerk less than 72 hours prior to this meeting, and that are not exempt from disclosure under the Public Records Act, will promptly be made available for public inspection at Tehama County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, 1509 Schwab Street, Red Bluff, CA 96080 during normal business hours.

1. **Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance / Introductions**

2. Public Comment

This time is set aside for citizens to address this Board on any item of interest to the public that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of this Board provided the matter is not on the agenda or pending before this Board. Each agenda item will have an opportunity for public comment at the time the item is called. Persons wishing to provide public comment are asked to address the Board from the podium. The Chair reserves the right to limit each speaker to three (3) minutes. Disclosure of the speaker’s identity is purely voluntary during the public comment period.

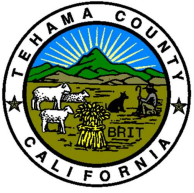
For audio and real-time commenting via phone:
(530) 212-8376, conference code 142001. Press 5* on your phone keypad to raise your hand to comment.

For live audio of the meeting:
Go to: <https://tehamacounty.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

- 3. Appointment of Chair and Vice Chair 25-0198**
- 4. Presentation by LSCE on proposition 68 round 2 Grant status 25-0178**
- 5. Presentation regarding addition of language to streamline the well screening ordinance “in kind” replacement exception 25-0181**
Attachments: Reso 1-2025 Streamling of regulation appeals process
- 6. Resolution 8-2024 repeat for clarification 25-0182**
Attachments: Resolution No. 8-2024 Conditions for Groundwater Wells in Focus Areas - Format Revision
- 7. Well Mitigation overview and request to begin working with Farm Bureau and Tia on program details 25-0184**
- 8. Demand Management working group update 25-0185**
- 9. Commission Matters**

Adjourn

The County of Tehama does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission to, access to, or operation of its buildings, facilities, programs, services, or activities. Questions, complaints, or requests for additional information regarding the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) may be forwarded to the County's ADA Coordinator: Tom Provine, County of Tehama, 727 Oak St., Red Bluff, CA 96080, Phone: (530) 527-4655. Individuals with disabilities who need auxiliary aids and/or services or other accommodations for effective communication in the County's programs and services are invited to make their needs and preferences known to the affected department or the ADA Coordinator. For aids or services needed for effective communication during Groundwater Sustainability Agency Groundwater Commission meetings, please contact the ADA Coordinator prior to the day of the meeting. This notice is available in accessible alternate formats from the affected department or the ADA Coordinator.



Tehama County

Agenda Request Form

File #: 25-0198

Agenda Date: 2/12/2025

Agenda #: 3.

Appointment of Chair and Vice Chair

Requested Action(s)

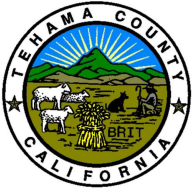
Nomination and appointment.

Financial Impact:

[Click here to enter Financial Impact.](#)

Background Information:

By laws require appointment of chair and vice chair at the first meeting of every year.



Tehama County

Agenda Request Form

File #: 25-0178

Agenda Date: 2/12/2025

Agenda #: 4.

Presentation by LSCE on proposition 68 round 2 Grant status

Requested Action(s)

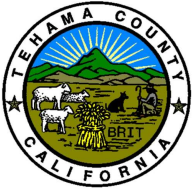
Click here to enter Requested Action(s).

Financial Impact:

Click here to enter Financial Impact.

Background Information:

Click here to enter Background Info.



Tehama County

Agenda Request Form

File #: 25-0181

Agenda Date: 2/12/2025

Agenda #: 5.

Presentation regarding addition of language to streamline the well screening ordinance “in kind” replacement exception

Requested Action(s)

to recommend addition

Financial Impact:

Click here to enter Financial Impact.

Background Information:

Based on request from Commission

Resolution No. 1-2025

A RESOLUTION OF THE TEHAMA COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS AUTHORIZING THE GROUNDWATER COMMISSION TO APPROVE NOTICES OF EXEMPTION RELATED TO AN IN-KIND REPLACEMENT OF A GROUNDWATER WELL.

WHEREAS, groundwater and surface water resources within Tehama County are vitally important resources for all beneficial users, and to maintain the economic viability, prosperity, and sustainability of the County; and

WHEREAS, in 2014 the California Legislature passed a statewide framework for sustainable groundwater management, known as the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, California Water Code § 10720-10737.8 (SGMA), pursuant to Senate Bill 1168, Senate Bill 1319, and Assembly Bill 1739, which was approved by the Governor on September 16, 2014. and went into effect on January 1, 2015; and

WHEREAS, on August 15, 2024, Tehama County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (the "District") adopted Resolution 11-2022 which regulated screening and sealing depths for groundwater well within the groundwater basins located in Tehama County Executive; and

WHEREAS, Resolution 11-2022 provides for a process by which an applicant for a groundwater well can appeal to the Groundwater Commission (the "Commission") the application of the well regulations to their proposed groundwater well; and

WHEREAS, the appeals process requires that if the Commission finds that an exception to the regulations would be prudent given an applicants particular circumstances, then the District must consult determine in consultation with the County what, if any, CEQA proceedings may be required; and

WHEREAS, the District currently retains all authority to approve any CEQA determinations; and

WHEREAS, the County CEQA review policy requires the government body responsible for approving the project determine whether

WHEREAS, the District wishes to streamline the appeal process for applicants of in-kind replacements of groundwater wells, where the facility is located on the same site and will have the same capacity and purpose as a facility that is demolished; and

WHEREAS, delegating the authority to approve Notices of Exemption when issued for the replacement of a groundwater well "in-kind" would allow the process to be more streamlined.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the the foregoing recitals are true and accurate and in consideration of the conditions contained therein, the District authorizes the Commission to approve Notices of Exemption for exceptions to the groundwater well

regulations when it determines that the facility is located on the same site and will have the same capacity and purpose as a facility that is or will be destroyed at or near the time of completion of the replacement facility for which an exception to the regulations has been made;; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, District staff may consult with the County to determine what, if any, CEQA proceedings may be required if an exception to the groundwater well regulations is approved prior to bringing an appeal to the Groundwater Commission.

This resolution shall become operative upon adoption and remain in full force and effect until modified by a subsequent Resolution adopted by the Board.

The foregoing Resolution was offered by Director _____, and seconded by Director _____ on _____ and adopted by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT OR NOT VOTING:

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)

)

COUNTY OF TEHAMA)

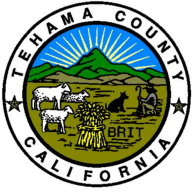
I, SEAN HOUGHTBY, County Clerk and ex-officio Clerk of the Board of Directors of the Tehama County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, State of California, hereby certify the above and foregoing to be a full, true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by said Board of Directors on the _____ day of _____.

Dated: _____

SEAN HOUGHTBY, County Clerk and ex-officio
Clerk of the Board of Directors of the Tehama
County Flood Control and Water Conservation District,
State of California

By: _____
Deputy

DRAFT



Tehama County

Agenda Request Form

File #: 25-0182

Agenda Date: 2/12/2025

Agenda #: 6.

Resolution 8-2024 repeat for clarification

Requested Action(s)

Click here to enter Requested Action(s).

Financial Impact:

Click here to enter Financial Impact.

Background Information:

Review of executive order and how it effects resolution 8-2024

Resolution No. 8-2024

A RESOLUTION OF THE TEHAMA COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS ADOPTING CONDITIONS FOR ANY NEW GROUNDWATER WELLS OR ALTERATIONS TO EXISTING GROUNDWATER WELLS WITHIN A FOCUS AREA.

WHEREAS, groundwater and surface water resources within Tehama County are vitally important resources for all beneficial users, and to maintain the economic viability, prosperity, and sustainability of the County; and

WHEREAS, in 2014 the California Legislature passed a statewide framework for sustainable groundwater management, known as the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, California Water Code § 10720-10737.8 (SGMA), pursuant to Senate Bill 1168, Senate Bill 1319, and Assembly Bill 1739, which was approved by the Governor on September 16, 2014. and went into effect on January 1, 2015; and

WHEREAS, Governor Gavin Newsom signed Executive Order N-7-22 into effect on March 28, 2022, paragraph 9. of which mandated the following:

9. To protect health, safety, and the environment during this drought emergency, a county, city, or other public agency shall not:

a. Approve a permit for a new groundwater well or for alteration of an existing well in a basin subject to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act and classified as medium- or high-priority without first obtaining written verification from a Groundwater Sustainability Agency managing the basin or area of the basin where the well is proposed to be located that groundwater extraction by the proposed well would not be inconsistent with any sustainable groundwater management program established in any applicable Sustainability Plan adopted by that Groundwater Sustainability Groundwater Agency and would not decrease the likelihood of achieving a sustainability goal for the basin covered by such a plan; or

b. Issue a permit for a new groundwater well or for alteration of an existing well without first determining that extraction of groundwater from the proposed well is (1) not likely to interfere with the production and functioning of existing nearby wells, and (2) not likely to cause subsidence that would adversely impact or damage nearby infrastructure.

This paragraph shall not apply to permits for wells that will provide less than two acre-feet per year of groundwater for individual domestic users, or that will exclusively provide groundwater to public water supply systems as defined in section 116275 of the Health and Safety Code; and

WHEREAS, in February of 2023 Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-3-23 continued the imposition of the above language and added that the requirements would not be imposed on permits for wells “that are replacing existing, currently permitted wells with new wells that will produce an equivalent quantity of water as the well being replaced when the existing well is being replaced because it has been acquired by eminent domain or acquired while under threat of condemnation and

WHEREAS, The Tehama County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (the District) is the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for Tehama County (the County); and

WHEREAS, the District, as the GSA, has submitted Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs) that define areas that have experienced undesirable results; and

WHEREAS, Focus Areas by definition, are areas that have experienced what is now considered undesirable results; and

WHEREAS, there is a very high likelihood that a new or altered groundwater well within a Focus Area, as shown in Exhibit A, could interfere with the production and functioning of nearby wells; and/or

WHEREAS, groundwater extraction by a new or altered well in a Focus Area is very likely to be inconsistent with sustainable groundwater management programs in Groundwater Sustainability Plans adopted by the GSA; and

WHEREAS, groundwater extraction by a new or altered well in a Focus Area will decrease the likelihood of achieving a sustainability goal for the basin covered by such a plan; and

WHEREAS, replacement of an existing well, with a new well of the same capacity is likely to be consistent with GSA adopted Sustainability Plans.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, in consideration of the conditions contained herein and these Recitals, which are hereby incorporated herein by this reference, the District, acting as the GSA, shall not provide written verification that groundwater extraction by a proposed new or altered groundwater well in the Focused Areas, attached in Exhibit A, of any basin would not:

- a) be inconsistent with any sustainable groundwater management program established in any applicable Groundwater Sustainability Plan adopted by that Groundwater Sustainability Agency; or
- b) decrease the likelihood of achieving a sustainability goal for the basin covered by such a plan;

unless an application for a permit for said proposed new well or alteration to existing well includes:

- a) a complete study:
 - 1) done in consultation with a State certified Hydrogeologist, stamped and certified by a Professional Engineer licensed in the State of California, confirming that extraction from the well would not be inconsistent with any sustainable groundwater management program established in any applicable Groundwater Sustainability Plan adopted by that Groundwater Sustainability Agency and would not decrease the likelihood of achieving a sustainability goal for the basin covered by such a plan; and
 - 2) for which the costs to the lead agency associated with any CEQA process related to the proposed new or altered well have been paid;

OR

- b) alteration of an existing well done solely to restore the functionality of that well, with no changes to capacity;

OR

- c) a permit application to destroy an existing well, on the same Assessors Parcel, with the same capacity, depth, and use as the intended new well. The new well permit is marked as a replacement well, and the well destruction is completed prior to final inspection of the new well.

This resolution shall become operative upon adoption and remain in full force and effect until modified by a subsequent Resolution adopted by the Board.

The foregoing Resolution was offered by Director Hansen, and seconded by Director Carlson on September 16, 2024 and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Directors Carlson, Hansen, Leach, Moule, Nolen

NOES: None

ABSENT OR NOT VOTING: None

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)

)

COUNTY OF TEHAMA)

I, SEAN HOUGHTBY, County Clerk and ex-officio Clerk of the Board of Directors of the Tehama County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, State of California, hereby certify the above and foregoing to be a full, true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by said Board of Directors on the 16th day of September 2024.

Dated: September 16, 2024

SEAN HOUGHTBY, County Clerk and ex-officio
Clerk of the Board of Directors of the Tehama
County Flood Control and Water Conservation District,
State of California

By: _____

Deputy

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'S. Houghtby', written over a horizontal line.



Tehama County

Agenda Request Form

File #: 25-0184

Agenda Date: 2/12/2025

Agenda #: 7.

Well Mitigation overview and request to begin working with Farm Bureau and Tia on program details

Requested Action(s)

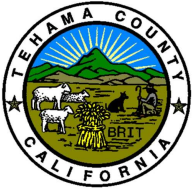
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Financial Impact:

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Background Information:

Click here to enter Background Info.



Tehama County

Agenda Request Form

File #: 25-0185

Agenda Date: 2/12/2025

Agenda #: 8.

Demand Management working group update

Requested Action(s)

Click here to enter Requested Action(s).

Financial Impact:

Click here to enter Financial Impact.

Background Information:

Click here to enter Background Info.