Tehama County Wednesday, May 7, 2025 8:30 AM Groundwater Commission Meeting Minutes



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

Moved from 5/14

8:30 A.M. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance / Introductions

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

Public Comment

No Public Comment

2024 Annual Report by LSCE 2024 Annual Report by LSCE

<u>25-0758</u>

N/A

A presentation on the 2024 annual report was given by Evan with LSC. The report consists of data collected from October 2023-October 2024. This report was presented to DWR in April of 2025.

Commissioner Ward asked if 2012 was when we saw the general decline.

Deputy Director Justin Jenson stated that 2007 is when we started to see the accumulative decline.

Ward asked about groundwater elevations and new data collecting methods.

Evan responded saying that they are looking at new monitoring. The first steps will be in the Antelope and Corning Subbasins.

Commissioner Hamer asked how many of those wells are being installed Evan stated that there are a total of fifteen wells. There will be five in the Antelope Subbasin and ten in the Corning Subbasin.

Commissioner Ward asked about timing for the projects and if new groundwater elevation data is being considered. He also asks for grant updates related to these projects.

Even responded saying that Prop 68 has them looped into RMS network, but enough years of data need to be collected before that data set can be used. As far as the

timing of installation for these wells, that will be done by the end of this year. That consists of everything being installed and equipped.

Hamer states that it is probably more important for shallow wells to get some timeline data on those, in order to see relationships between stream flow and shallow interconnectivity.

Evan agreed and said that would be important for data over time.

A resident asked what made them use data back to 1993.

Evan said that ultimately it is because that is what has been in the annual reports periodically and it is the historical base period to have enough data to look at. The 2015 base period is a regulatory number and the annual reports are just to comparatively look at things, not for setting values to maintain based on the 1990 period.

There is discussion on the data and how far back it goes. It is said that there is data back to the 60's and 70's, but it is unreliable. Data that is more consistent and reliable was collected in the 90's. However, data collected for the GSP's goes back to 2015. Commissioner Hamer states that as they re-did the GPS's the MO's and MT's were reestablished from 2015 on, but they have this data set in order to look back over to 1993.

Appoint a 3rd Recharge Ad Hoc Member

25-0759

Appoint a 3rd Recharge Ad Hoc Member

To appoint a 3rd member to the Recharge Ad Hoc Working Group.

Commissioner Hamer requests volunteers for a third Recharge Ad Hoc Member, Commissioners Lester and Crain are currently in the group.

Commissioner Englehardt volunteered to be the third member to complete the Recharge Ad Hoc.

Deputy Director Jenson talks about setting a meeting date as well as the matrix that has been put in place to prioritize projects.

Standing Agenda Items

25-0755

Standing Agenda Items

- 1. Groundwater Recharge
- 2. Grant Status
- 3. Demand Management Plan Working Group Update
- 4. Well Mitigation Plan Working Group Update
- 5. Annual Report Status
- 6. Outreach

1. Groundwater Recharge:

There has been a matrix created to rate recharge projects. Jenson wants to get input from the Recharge Ad Hoc before moving forward to make sure everyone agrees the projects are rated correctly.

There is discussion on recharge projects and the data for those.

2. Grant Status:

There is one multi-completion monitoring well left to install, all the rest are in place. By the end of the year all new monitoring wells should be completed so we can start collecting data.

Commissioner Hamer asked where the last monitoring well installation site is going to be.

Jenson stated it will be near Cone Grove Park.

The vast majority of all piloting is now complete. This consists of field studies to determine what projects are viable or not viable, and what can move on to the study/design format. This process shows what will and will not be viable for future projects and how they are ranked on the matrix.

3. Demand Management Plan Working Group Update:

Jenson stated that he is in the process of creating a STRAW proposal based on all the talking points they have gone over. The matrix of the STRAW proposal is complete and they are filling in pieces with as much data as possible for the next meeting. In parallel a technical memo about how that could look in Tehama County is being created by a multiple consultant team. They are hoping to have that in by July.

Commissioner Ward states that they will be having a meeting today.

Jenson clarifies that this meeting is Tehama County Ad Hoc to Glenn County Ad Hoc. Essentially this is discussing how Glenn and Tehama Counties are going to work together in Corning.

A resident asked if this is a public meeting.

Jenson stated it is not, but you will be able to hear the outcomes of the meeting when they have the next working group meeting.

4. Well Mitigation Plan Working Group Update:

Commissioner Lawrence stated that the meeting group is going great. They have an outline of a Well Mitigation Program and are ready to take it to the working group. They have one more Ad Hoc to Ad Hoc meeting with Glenn County to see how close they are to being on the same page. He stated that they still have some small things to work out, but overall the big things are all outlined. One example he presented, that they still have to work on is AG wells versus domestic wells and how they are going to deal with those.

Commissioner Slack agrees that the Ad Hoc is going very well, it has been very productive, and they are ready to join the working group.

5. Annual Report Status:

The presentation given by LSCE in today's meeting went over the annual report results.

6. Outreach:

Jenson stated at this time there is nothing new to report. He said that once we get some more details about these plans out to the public, we will see a lift in outreach. He

said that it is hard to give positive outreach until we have something more solidified to present to the public. Jenson predicts that later in the fall we will have a big lift of outreach once we have details on these programs that are going to be coming. Commissioner Englehardt stated that he thinks efforts given earlier this year by Jenson were effective. He said that he has gotten a lot more questions from growers than he had before. He said one question he gets a lot is specifically related to where the specific management zones are, like which polygons are the impacted polygons. He asks if it is possible to get a report on the various special management zones? Jenson responded saying he could put that on the next meeting to go over Englehardt stated that would be helpful for him to be more informed.

Commission Matters

Commissioner Merry stated that the agenda was lacking a call in number. She also asked if she could get well registration data base update.

Justin says yes, we are close to being able to do that and provide a well registration update. Commissioner Ward asks if we can get that uploaded in data viewer

Justin stated it won't have the detail down to parcel by parcel, but thinks it will be more along the lines of well densities.

Ward says he thinks it is important when looking at things on a polygon by polygon basis to see what potential impact is.

Adjourn

9:09 A.M.