MINUTES of Technical Committee (TC) Meeting  
Water Resources Association of Yolo County  
September 5, 2019, 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.

Committee Members:  
- Elisa Sabatini, Yolo County, TC Chair  
- Barrett Kaasa, DWR  
- Jeanette Wrysinski, Yolo County RCD  
- Heather Brown, City of Davis  
- Carol Scianna, City of Winters  
- Kristin Sicke, YCFC&WCD  
- Max Stevenson, YCFC&WCD  
- Matt Cohen, City of Woodland  
- Tim Busch, City of Woodland  
- Donna Gentile, WRA

Other Attendees:  
- Dave Pratt

Member Agencies Absent:  
- RD 2035  
- UC Davis  
- City of West Sacramento  
- Dunnigan Water District

1. CALL TO ORDER & Introductions at 9:10 a.m. by Max Stevenson, Acting Chair. Elisa Sabatini arrived at 9:15 a.m.

2. APPROVAL AGENDA & Adding Items to Posted Agenda: The agenda was approved.

3. APPROVE TC MEETING MINUTES: Previous meeting minutes emailed to the TC for review with today’s agenda. Comments on the draft 5/2/19 minutes are due by 9/6/19 and will be approved by consensus.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT: No comments.

5. CALIFORNIA DEPT. OF WATER RESOURCES (DWR) Update: Barrett Kaasa, gave an update on DWR topics and answered questions. His summary notes are below.

   Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)  
   Basin Prioritization of Modified Basins  
   - Final Prioritization release expected the end of Summer 2019

   Technical Support Services (TSS)  
   - TSS application period is still open. GSP Initial Notification must be submitted. More information and applications can be found here: [https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management/Assistance-and-Engagement](https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management/Assistance-and-Engagement)  
   - Funds can be used for monitoring well installation, geophysical logging, geologic logging, groundwater level monitoring training, borehole video logging, and other field activities.  
     - Max informed that two Civic Spark grant interns will be starting next week and will be project managing the TSS in support of groundwater activities related to the Yolo SubbasinGroundwater Agency (YSGA)

   Facilitation Support Services (FSS)  
   - GSA’s developing GSPs are eligible to receive funding for identification and engagement of interested parties, meeting facilitation, interest-based negotiation/consensus building, and public outreach facilitation  
   - More information can be found here: [https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management/Assistance-and-Engagement](https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management/Assistance-and-Engagement)
Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Alternative Plans

- Decisions on alternative plans to groundwater sustainability plans were announced July 17th, 2019.
- The assessments consist of a staff report and either a signed findings document, for approved alternatives, or a letter with a concise summary of the deficiencies that result in the alternative not being approved.
- For basins where an alternative is not approved, the release started a 30-day period for those submitting agencies to notify the department in writing if there is information in their original submittal that addresses the deficiencies. This 30-day period is not an opportunity for the submission of new or supplemental data; only information contained in the original (i.e., as of January 1, 2017) submittal will be considered.
- If a written response is submitted to the Department within those 30 days, DWR will review that response and either (a) confirm the original recommendation from the staff report or (b) modify the staff report if information was missed during review. In either case a signed findings document will then be issued no later than 60 days following the close of the 30-day initial response period.
- Assessments, FAQs, and next steps can be found here: https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management/SGMA-Groundwater-Management/Alternatives

Grants

Prop 68 Sustainable Groundwater Management Planning Grants

- The FINAL Guidelines and Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP) released 9/9/19. Templates for the Work Plan, Budget and Schedule are posted. These can all be found here: https://water.ca.gov/Work-With-Us/Grants-And-Loans/Sustainable-Groundwater
- In this round there will be approximately $47.25 Million available to fund GSP completion with prioritization for basins that did not receive prior GSP planning funding. An implementation round will have at least $88 million and the PSP is expected to come out in 2020.
- Please see the updated SGM Grant Program schedule here: https://water.ca.gov/Work-With-Us/Grants-And-Loans/Sustainable-Groundwater

Other

- CV Salts Committee and DWR are still determining whether GSAs will be required to incorporate CV Salts information in their GSPs. Currently the CVSalts program does not have funding, however if this element is incorporated into GSPs they might be able to secure some funding. Max shared that Vickie Kretsinger, Luhdorff & Scalmanini has good suggestions how similar water quality mandates can be coordinated by the CV Salts, SGMA, GSP and Irrigated Lands programs - “coordinate don’t duplicate”.
- DWR’s North Central Region will be re-vamping their in-house water quality groundwater collection program and welcomes any recommendations how the program could improve their collection process

6. FUNDING UPDATES:

- Elisa reported that guidelines for the 4th round of grant funding for Statewide parks will be released in late spring 2020. It is targeted for rural communities. Cities are not eligible to apply, only counties, non-profits, and tribes.
- Jeanette reported on the Yolo County RCD’s 2-year planning grant for Arundo eradication throughout Yolo county. They are applying for Phase 1 implementation funding through the Wildlife Conservation Board’s Stream Flow Enhancement Program (Prop. 1).
- Elisa reported on the Small Communities Flood Risk Reduction Implementation funding ($30 million); guidelines released in October with funding applications due in November 2019. The County is planning on applying for $29.7 million. They are the only applicant with four project studies completed.
- Yolo County was successfully awarded ~$200,000 for their Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) recreational park planning project. They will be initiating an 18-month outreach process to engage the public about the type of park wanted.
7. WATER LEGISLATION, REGULATORY ISSUES & DELTA UPDATE:
Kristin reported that the YCFCWCD’s temporary permit process for their groundwater recharge project is moving forward, which would require compliance with the GSP. She mentioned that agriculture is not supporting SB 1 which would roll back the environmental safety standards to pre-Trump administration standards. This would also impact the Voluntary Agreements and the “Delta water tunnels” project. Elisa mentioned a recent news article that she will forward to Donna after today’s meeting.

8. UPDATE on YOLO SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER AGENCY (YSGA) & Working Group Activities: Kristin Sicke reported that there aren’t any updates from the Working Group because they haven’t met since April. Some work is being done behind the scenes. Hopefully there will be more activity in the next month or two. Kristin answered questions about the status of the YSGA and WRA merging at some point in the future. It has yet to be determined how best to do this.

9. REGIONAL PROJECT UPDATES:
   a) Westside-Sacramento Regional Water Management Group Coordinating Committee (CC) Activities: Jeanette Wrysinski reported that the CC will be meeting in Yolo next week on 9/11 at 10 am at the YCFCWCD and gave highlights of agenda topics. The CC is continuing to support Lake County’s efforts to prepare for their Proposition 1 grant application submission. Jeanette also reported on the activities of the Roundtable of Regions IRWM group.
   b) Yolo FloodSAFE 2.0: Kristin provided history on the first Yolo FloodSAFE project that focused on the Lower Cache Creek Feasibility Study. Yolo FloodSAFE 2.0 has been initiated by Yolo County and the YCFC&WCD to focus on the flooding problems experienced in rural areas of Western Yolo county. This effort is being funded by both agencies. Elisa informed that the County continues to submit grant applications to Cal OES to secure funding for this effort.
   c) Yolo Bypass Salmonid Habitat Restoration Project: Elisa reported on this project that promotes lowering a section of the Fremont Weir to improve outcomes for salmon migration. This long-time Yolo County project was approved last month, and they have entered into a tolling agreement with the State.
   d) Update on Aquifer Storage & Recovery System (ASR) Program: Tim Busch, City of Woodland, gave an update on their ASR program (PPT presentation: http://www.yolowra.org/meeting_technical.html). Tim gave some background on Woodland’s water supply system and the formation of the Woodland Davis Clean Water Agency (WDCWA) in 2009. Starting in 2016 the cities of Woodland and Davis and UC Davis partnered to provide treated surface water from the Sacramento River to their customers as part of the Davis-Woodland Water Supply Project. Tim explained Term 91 water right curtailments that requires water permittees to cease diverting water when the State Water Resources Control Board gives notice that Term 91 is in effect. Term 91 becomes effective when Delta flows are insufficient to meet water quality standards. In addition to their primary water right, WDCWA purchased an additional 10,000 ac-ft senior water right in 2010 to supplement water supplies during the summer months. However, if Lake Shasta Reservoir doesn’t achieve a certain level of storage by March, then WDCWA’s senior water right is subject to Critical Year cutbacks. Their 10,000 ac-ft diversion limit is reduced by 25% during critical year conditions.

Woodland’s ASR Program was instituted more than 5 years ago to ensure that the City can provide adequate water supply and quality for its residents. ASR wells provide an inexpensive way to store large quantities of water underground that involves the direct injection of surface
water supplies into the aquifer for later recovery and use. He illustrated how injection and extraction are conducted through ASR wells with an informative graphic. Woodland is well suited for ASR due to the characteristics of the aquifer and how the water moves underground. Tim explained how they monitor the constituents in the water in Woodland’s distribution system and their geochemical testing process. Water quality is monitored by sampling at designated monitoring and ASR wells during all operational phases. Since starting ASR operation, the City has stored 1.2 billion gallons (target storage volume achieved on June 2, 2019). It is estimated that 30% of the initial injected water is stored in a buffer zone between the native groundwater and the treated surface water stored in the aquifer. The City is determining the best location for additional monitoring wells to store water for future supply demands. He highlighted that the Program has been recognized for its engineering excellence both locally and nationally. Tim answered questions.

10. MEMBER INFORMATION & FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – Elisa reported on SAFCA’s Bryte Landfill Remediation Project. If there is any interest a 30-minute project tour could be arranged.

Future Agenda Items Suggested:
- SEI Update on WEAP model
- DWR/CVFPP Projects Identified in Yolo County
- RD108’s Flow Meter Program
- RD 2035 Sacramento River Joint Intake facility tour

11. NEXT REGULAR TC MEETING DATE: November 7, 2019, 2019, 9 to 10:30 am, Project tour of River Garden Farms, Knights Landing (weather permitting)

12. ADJOURN at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

Donna L. Genile, WRA Secretary and Administrative Coordinator