

**Minutes of the
San Gorgonio Pass Subbasin Stakeholder Advisory Committee Meeting
January 26, 2021**

The fourth meeting of the Stakeholder Advisory Committee of the San Gorgonio Pass Subbasin was called to order by Kait Palys Bautista of Provost & Pritchard Engineers, at 9:00 am on Tuesday, January 26, 2021. The meeting was held virtually via Microsoft Teams.

Members of the Stakeholder Advisory Committee participating included Larry Ellis of the Banning Bench Community of Interest and Rob Taylor of the US Forest Service. Also participating were SGPWA General Manager Lance Eckhart, former General Manager Jeff Davis, Pakiza Chatha of the Department of Water Resources, Madeline Blua of the Yucaipa Valley Water District, and Terry Erlewine and Kait Palys Bautista of Provost & Pritchard.

There were no members of the public who wished to address the Committee.

Kait Bautista reviewed the minutes of the November 10, 2020 Stakeholder Advisory Committee meeting and the items discussed at that meeting with the attendees. Rob Taylor moved, seconded by Larry Ellis, to approve the minutes of the meeting. The motion was passed unanimously.

After introductions, Kait Bautista began discussion of the Apple Fire impacts on the development of the GSP. This subject was brought up at a previous Advisory Committee meeting. She noted that the fire could impact the water budget as well as sustainable management criteria. Provost & Pritchard met with the City of Banning and Banning Heights Mutual Water Company on December 17, 2020 and discussed potential impacts. As a result of that meeting, a recommendation was made to proceed with the original strategy for projections, and to use future annual reports or five-year GSP updates to note any significant changes to these projections as a result of the fire or delayed repairs to the Whitewater flume. Larry Ellis of the Banning Heights Community of Interest noted that some hazardous trees have already been removed from Flowline 1 and that repairs to the flume are anticipated to begin in the Spring. He expressed hope that SCE could replace the flume with pipe instead of repairing in kind.

Terry Erlewine summarized the work to date on Sustainable Management Criteria. He noted that lowering of groundwater levels and reduced storage are the only two impacts applicable to the subbasin. He showed hydrographs for two wells in the subbasin—one in the Upper Banning Canyon and one in the West Cabazon Basin—that showed examples of potential minimum thresholds and measurable objectives. These are under consideration at this time and will be discussed in more detail by the GSP Working Group. He noted that the subbasin is in the throes of a 20-year dry cycle, which is very unusual. He indicated that P&P has met with the City of Banning, who has wells in both basins described, to discuss the draft proposed minimum threshold and measurable objective.

Mr. Erlewine then summarized the work to date on the modeling, noting that this has been a major effort. He summarized the history of the models used to get to our current state, beginning with a USGS streamflow model, which routs runoff to the upper model, from which water then recharges the lower model. He indicated that, due to an indefinite boundary between the adjudicated Beaumont Basin and the Banning Basin, the model covers much of the Beaumont Basin, even though it is exempt from SGMA. He also described the updated pumping and rainfall data that had to be added, since the original USGS model only used data through 2010. He summarized the next steps as assessing the calibration of the model, developing a 50-year predictive model using historical data, and using the model for Sustainable Management Criteria and other GSP purposes.

Mr. Erlewine then summarized the GSP schedule, noting that an administrative draft GSP is expected in the June-July time frame, followed by a draft GSP in October. He was confident that the final GSP would be approved by the January 2022 deadline.

Kait Bautista discussed the key issues to be discussed over the next few months, including continuing development of sustainable management criteria, verifying a representative monitoring network, finalizing contouring, developing a water budget and a future water budget, and identifying potential projects and management actions.

The next meeting of the Advisory Committee was set for Tuesday, April 6, at 9:00 am. That meeting is expected to include discussions of sustainable management criteria, model results, a water budget, and potential management actions related to the San Jacinto Tunnel.

General Manager Eckhart adjourned the meeting at 10:10 am.