

FOX CANYON GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY

A STATE OF CALIFORNIA WATER AGENCY



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FCGMA STRATEGIC ADVISORY GROUP (SAG) MEETING MINUTES October 4, 2007

Minutes of the Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency (FCGMA) **Strategic Advisory Group Meeting** held at 2:30 P.M. on Thursday, October 4, 2007 in the Multi-Purpose Room, at the Ventura County Government Center, Hall of Administration, Main Plaza Level at 800 South Victoria Avenue, Ventura, California.

- A. **Call to Order** – SAG Chairman Gerhardt Hubner called the meeting to order at 2:32 PM.
- B. **Introductions** – There were 21 attendees present.
- C. **Public Comments** – Alternate Director McIntyre mentioned that his comments at the last meeting needed some clarification. His statements about the cost of water in relation to farming did not apply to berry growers, greenhouses, etc. and he wanted to point that out so as not to be misunderstood.

John Mathews announced that the Regional Water Quality Control Board would be honoring Rex Laird at their October Water Quality Awards ceremony.

Tom Smith asked if another Meter Committee meeting could be held to refine some recommendations for the Board, and Chair Hubner agreed that would be a good idea.

- D. **Attending Board Member Comments** – None – Chair Maulhardt & Alternate Director McIntyre in attendance. Director Flynn wanted to attend but had a pressing last minute engagement in Sacramento working toward securing additional funding for the El Rio Groundwater Protection Project.
- E. **Approval of Minutes from the August 29, 2007 SAG Meeting** - Chair Hubner asked if there were any comments or changes to the minutes and hearing none, the minutes were approved.
- F. **Report from Technical Advisory Group** – Dr. Steve Bachman TAG Vice Chair, reported the TAG had agreed public education about water issues was needed, and the Association of Water Agencies (AWA) was taking the lead in this effort. He also mentioned the TAG was refining a matrix to more clearly define the steps and sorting needed for each mgmt. strategy.
- G. **Presentation of Initial Groundwater Management Strategies** –
 - 1) **Importation of State Water** – *Jim Kentosh, UWCD*
Jim presented a slide show describing the 20,000 AFY of State Water Allotment portion available to Ventura County and the plans UWCD has to utilize a portion of that water each year. An additional idea presented to the group was the exportation of State water to other

groundwater basins (other than current proposed). This idea will be explored at future SAG meetings. Jim mentioned UWCD will pursue the importation of the other 15,000 AFY they do not control via an EIR they are just initiating at this time. He proposed the idea that the FCGMA offer 1 AF of credit to anyone who pays for 2 AF of imported State water as an incentive to increase water local supplies. Additional discussion took place as to the role the FCGMA could have in this strategy.

ACTION ITEM: SAG to investigate possibilities of bringing UWCD share, or entire 20,000 AFY through Calleguas to recharge the Las Posas Basins , or some other end-use means, etc.

- 2) **Forebay Pumping Priorities** - *Robert Saperstein, representing the City of Oxnard*
Rob pointed out some concerns about the management and potential use of the Forebay basin as a main hinge in the FCGMA Mgmt. Plan. He suggested a series of tiered limitations on Forebay pumping if groundwater or storage in the basin gets below a certain threshold.

Dr. Bachman suggested water quality as an additional trigger mechanism to consider.

The group discussed how the original 80,000 acre-foot Forebay capacity was derived. The group agreed the 80,000 acre-foot Forebay derivation should be examined by the TAG.

Other suggestions included possible use of reclaimed water to fill the Riverpark Pits, parameters for who gets kicked off of groundwater use if certain threat (drought) levels are reached, etc.

Chair Maulhardt provided some closing remarks on the value of the SAG.

ACTION ITEM: TAG to discuss and develop priority cutback procedures and limitations for the Forebay basin in the event of a severe or prolonged drought. In addition, they will examine the Forebay 80,000 AF capacity issue.

- H. **Next Strategic Advisory Group Meeting Agenda** – The next SAG meeting will be on Thursday – December 6, 2007 from 2:00 till 4:00 PM.
- I. **Adjourn Strategic Advisory Group Meeting** – The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 PM.

Electronic Information and Updates: Additional meeting minutes and general information can be found at: <http://publicworks.countyofventura.org/fcgma>. Online information includes: Board meeting and special meeting schedules, special and general announcements, a list of the Board members and staff, weather station data, general information, and various Agency forms. If you need further information, please contact Christian Laber, the FCGMA Staff Geologist and SAG Secretary at (805) 650-4083, or Sheila Lopez, the FCGMA Engineering Technician at (805) 645-1372.