

**Committee Members**

City of Seaside

*Ian Oglesby - Chair*

Monterey Peninsula Water  
Management District

*George Riley*

City of Del Rey Oaks

*John Gaglioti*

**SEASIDE GROUNDWATER BASIN WATERMASTER  
NOTICE  
PUBLIC AWARENESS COMMITTEE MEETING  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2022  
11:00 A.M. – via Zoom Teleconference**

**AGENDA**

**PURSUANT TO AB 361, THE MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED BY VIDEO CONFERENCE. YOU MAY ATTEND AND PARTICIPATE IN THE MEETING AS FOLLOWS: JOIN FROM A COMPUTER OR HAND-HELD DEVICE. (NOTE: ZOOM APP MAY NEED TO BE DOWNLOADED FOR SAFARI OR OTHER BROWSERS PRIOR TO LINKING.)**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84395535212?pwd=cCtGYjY2MlE1TEV0cGMzdEVxcVA1QT09>

**If joining the meeting by phone, dial either of these numbers:**

**+1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose) or +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)**

**If problems are encountered with the link above, try using the following Zoom information**

**Meeting ID: 843 9553 5212 Password: 718474**

**1. Call to Order**

**2. Roll Call**

- 3. General Public Comments:** Members of the public may comment on matters within the jurisdiction of the agency that are not on the agenda. Comments on agenda items should be held until the items are reached. Meeting comments may be submitted by clicking "Raise Hand" in Zoom controls. Comments that are emailed during the meeting and prior to/during public comments on the item will be read into the record and must be limited to 300 words/2 minutes. The Chair may limit the public comment period depending on meeting time constraints.

Written comments on agenda items may be emailed to [watermasterseaside@sbcglobal.net](mailto:watermasterseaside@sbcglobal.net) prior to the meeting and will be included in the public record. Please include the agenda number and topic in the subject line.

**4. Consent Items**

- a. AB361 Staff Report
- b. Consider Approval of the June 14, 2022 Meeting Minutes

**5. Administrative Officer Reports**

- a. Receive draft 3D model of the Seaside Groundwater Basin for Web Page and Public Awareness PowerPoint Presentation and provide any input

**6. Committee Member Reports**

**7. Adjournment to next meeting to be held March 14, 2023**

*If requested, the agenda and documents in the agenda packet shall be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability, as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 12132), and the federal rules and regulations adopted in implementation thereof.*

**SEASIDE GROUNDWATER BASIN WATERMASTER**

**TO:** Public Awareness Committee

**FROM:** Laura Paxton, Administrative Officer

**DATE:** December 13, 2022

**SUBJECT:** Consider finding, pursuant to AB 361, that the COVID-19 pandemic state of emergency declared by Governor Newsom is still in effect; the Executive Committee has reconsidered the circumstances of the state of emergency; and the Monterey County Health Officer continues to recommend social distancing measures for meetings of legislative bodies.

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**RECOMMENDATION:** Watermaster staff recommends that the Public Awareness Committee find, pursuant to AB 361, that the COVID-19 pandemic state of emergency declared by Governor Newsom is still in effect; the Committee has reconsidered the circumstances of the state of emergency; and the Monterey County Health Officer continues to recommend social distancing measures for meetings of legislative bodies.

**BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:** On September 16, 2021, Governor Newsom signed AB 361. This legislation amends the Brown Act to allow meeting bodies subject to the Brown Act to meet via teleconference during a proclaimed state of emergency in accordance with teleconference procedures established by AB 361 rather than under the Brown Act's more narrow standard rules for participation in a meeting by teleconference. AB 361 provides that if a state or local health official recommends social distancing, a legislative body may meet remotely after September 30, 2021, provided that within 30 days of the first meeting after September 30, and every 30 days thereafter, the legislative body finds 1) the Governor's proclaimed state of emergency is still in effect; 2) the legislative body has reconsidered the circumstances of the state of emergency, and 3) either the Monterey County Health Officer continues to recommend social distancing measures for meetings of legislative bodies or the state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet in person.

The Monterey County Health Officer has recommended social distancing measures for meetings of legislative bodies, so the Public Awareness Committee was able to meet remotely the first time after September 30, 2021. In order to continue meeting, the Committee must make the findings outlined above.

Accordingly, staff recommends making the appropriate findings relying on the continuing recommendation by the County Health Officer.

**D-R-A-F-T MINUTES**  
**Seaside Groundwater Basin Watermaster**  
**Public Awareness Committee Meeting**  
**Via Zoom Teleconference**  
**June 14, 2022**

**ITEM 4.b.**  
**12/13/22**

**Attendees: PAC Members**

City of Seaside – Mayor Ian Oglesby, Chair

Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD) - Director George Riley

City of Del Rey Oaks – Councilmember John Gaglioti

Absent: None

**Watermaster**

Administrative Officer (AO) – Laura Paxton

**Others**

Georgina King, Montgomery & Associates

Mike Paxton, 3D designer

David Stoldt, MPWMD

Jon Lear, MPWMD

Josh Stratton, California American Water (CAW)

Maureen Hamilton, Monterey One Water

Melodie Chrislock, Public Water Now

Glen Alder

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1. Call to Order - Chair Oglesby called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.
  2. Roll Call (See above)
  3. General Public Comments - None
  4. **Consent Agenda**
    - a. Accept AB361 Findings for Allowance of Virtual Meetings
    - b. Approval of Minutes of the February 8, 2022 Public Awareness Committee Meeting

**It was moved by Councilmember Gaglioti and seconded by Director Riley to approve the consent agenda as presented. Mayor Oglesby – Aye; Director Riley – Aye; Councilmember Gaglioti – Aye. Motion carried.**

**5. Administrative Officer Report**

- a. Receive preliminary Public Awareness PowerPoint Presentation and provide any input. AO Paxton highlighted her board report, adding that the Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency has received \$7.6 million in grant funding so far, being used for 180/400' Aquifer Subbasin study, primarily of the deep aquifer, and of the feasibility of projects and other management actions. There is more grant funding that will be offered to critical basins fairly soon. Since Watermaster is unable to get grant funding, advocating for SVBGSA funding and projects is the direction the committee felt it should take at its February 8<sup>th</sup> meeting. AO Paxton presented the draft public relations PowerPoint presentation prepared by Georgina King of Montgomery and Associates containing some Watermaster staff edits.

Director Gaglioti was generally pleased with the presentation. The imagery is going to be quite important: it should be simple in defining the outflows, seawater inflow threat, and the unsustainable water deficit in the basin. Director Riley felt direction going forward was missing from the presentation, such as being involved with surrounding groundwater sustainability agencies as plans are implemented. Director Gaglioti felt all could agree on the condition and threats to the basin, not so on the solution; he preferred solutions not be included at this time. Ms. King felt the presentation should encourage public water efficiency and conservation practices. Chair Oglesby clarified that the committee focus is basin threat assessment, not determining a solution. Later the Watermaster board will determine the solution.

AO Paxton presented each slide, noting that the last bullet on the second slide may need to be removed since it is a “solution” item. Director Gaglioti appreciated the slide showing likely intrusion mechanism from the saline waters of the Aromas dunes migrating downward. Director Gaglioti noted that the update to the 2013 modeling that determines annual replenishment needed to reach protective water levels should give a clear picture of the drawdown of the basin.

Ms. King, in response to Ms. Paxton adding the 180/400’ Aquifer reference slide, felt the reason for the that information being included needs to be included. Mayor Oglesby suggested adding 4-5 slides tailored to two different sets of listeners so as not to overexplain to public new to this, and not underexplain to those knowledgeable. Bigger arrows and fewer to simplify the groundwater divide and cone of depression for those new, leave as-is for those in the know. There is room for speaking to different levels of constituents with additional slides.

Director Gaglioti overall is pleased with the presentation, presenting what the Watermaster is. As it gets further along, water boards would appreciate it. Need to determine how to present beyond that. Director Riley: slide #9 instead of 35000 people, basin serves X% and Cal-Am picks up the other % to depict a piece that serves 100,000 people. The neighboring subbasin locations need to be depicted. Options for future should be listed with no time table – approach is public education, work with other agencies, seek solutions that mutually benefit as many people as possible, maximizing conservation and water efficiency. In the description of what groundwater is, Director Gaglioti stressed the difference between groundwater mining problem and surface water (ASR, captured before it becomes groundwater) solution. Mr. Lear explained the ASR water is pumped from groundwater wells in Carmel Valley alluvial aquifer that recharges to full capacity most years except back-to-back drought years; there are no surface water diversions, hasn’t been since 2001. It is beneficial to increase the storage capacity of that alluvial aquifer by pumping it out to the basin. Director Gaglioti stated that needs to be evangelized here – being smart about surface water by using it before it goes to the ocean – conserving it from being unused to the bay – non-native water in-lieu. Director Riley: slide #10 might need to be broken into two slides, one to explain where Carmel River water comes from. The beauty of the basin is that there is no need for a dam, the basin is it! Depict how important the basin is not just as a water source, but a structure/holder of water. Elevate the attention of the basin as a reservoir. Mayor Oglesby noted we want the basin to be full for it to survive, along with needing to address the issue of leakage. Mr. Paxton was asked to simplify the designs to show water coming out and the possibility of seawater intrusion coming in.

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He responded that simple graphics (buckets leaking) can explain the mechanics of drawdown and overdraft, to bring that understanding to a simple simulation of the mechanics as they apply to the basin. Oglesby felt the arrows signifying pressure keeping seawater out would be generally understood, also the wells drawing out, and wells injecting to achieve needed capacity. Director Riley suggested a progression of slides showing groundwater levels lower and lower, the fourth showing the groundwater table below sea level and the impending intrusion threat. In the 80s groundwater levels in the basin were 20' above sea level, now they are sometimes 17' BELOW sea level. Perhaps turn the bottom third of the basin grey to show basin-wide effect of intrusion, not just up the wells.

There was consensus to develop two presentations.

Director Gaglioti wanted the presentation to be simpler without talking below water experts. Oglesby requested a version for the "blue-collar" person. Riley wanted it said that conservation efforts need to continue although not a major point. Building up a reserve by MPWMD contributes to the solution. Shows Watermaster is not standing still but making effort.

Director Gaglioti distilled:

1. What the basin is and where is it located
2. Where the water comes from
3. The percent of what the basin supplies
4. The threats: consumption, leakage, seawater intrusion and how those are connected

The presentation should convey the complexity of the problem and the efforts being made. It should be presented to the full board for determination whether to reach out to water managers and supervisors about working together for solutions.

Melodie Chrislock addressed the committee, stating that the PWM and expansion projects might deserve more mention since together they will supply 2/3 of water demand. Riley pointed out that PWM and expansion doesn't solve the serious problem of basin overdraft faced today. He felt near future impacts were ok to list however the leakage and overdraft and the value of preventing seawater intrusion is of a higher concern than what PWM and expansion deal with. Gaglioti felt the presentation as-is addressed ASR and PWM sufficiently since it is not the singular solution to the 1,500 AF annual overdraft; side conversations outside of the presentation can be had as to solutions. Riley summed up that Watermaster is working on the edges with projects and studies to save the basin – we want the public to know how important the basin is, to them and to Watermaster.

6. There were no reports by committee members.
7. The meeting was adjourned at 12:26 p.m.



**SEASIDE GROUNDWATER BASIN WATERMASTER**

**Item 5.a.  
12/13/22**

TO: Public Awareness Committee (PAC)

FROM: Laura Paxton, Administrative Officer (AO)

DATE: December 13, 2022

SUBJECT: Receive presentation of draft 3D model of the Seaside Groundwater Basin for Web Page and Public Awareness PowerPoint Presentation and provide input

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**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

It is recommended that the committee receive presentation of draft 3D model as web page and for placement in the Public Awareness PowerPoint Presentation and provide input.

**BACKGROUND:**

The committee at its June 14, 2022 meeting reviewed Montgomery and Associates preliminary PowerPoint presentation and a prototype 3D model of the Seaside Basin that staff developed for inclusion in a new web page (yet to be developed) and the PowerPoint presentation. The committee concurred that the approach of the model and the presentation would be to give the public an understanding of:

- What the basin is and where it is located
- What the sources of the potable water supply for the Peninsula are
- The percentage of supply that comes from the basin
- The threats: Consumption, leakage, seawater intrusion
- Inter-dynamics of the threats and other subbasins

The Committee agreed at the June 14<sup>th</sup> meeting that different adaptations of the presentation and possibly the model would need to be developed dependent on the audience it is presented to. Chair Oglesby stated that committee focus is on basin threat assessment, not determining a solution. Once the presentation is deemed complete by the committee, it will be provided to the full board. The board can then consider whether to add basin sustainability solutions to the model and/or presentation.

(See the minutes from the June 14, 2022 PAC meeting included in this packet for more background information.)

**DISCUSSION:**

Mike Paxton, the 3D model developer, has been mastering multiple software platforms since the last PAC meeting to produce the animated model. The model presented demonstrates a significant level of detail and movement attainable. Staff thanks the committee for its patience during the development period and looks forward to constructive input; and plans to further refine and submit a final version of the model and a draft presentation incorporating the model at the March PAC meeting.

**ATTACHMENTS:** None

Model to be presented at the meeting via Zoom screen share