

**D-R-A-F-T**  
**MINUTES**

**Seaside Groundwater Basin Watermaster  
Technical Advisory Committee Meeting  
October 20, 2021  
(Meeting Held Using Zoom Conferencing)**

**Attendees: TAC Members**

City of Seaside – Scott Ottmar  
California American Water – Tim O’Halloran  
City of Monterey – Cody Hennings  
Laguna Seca Property Owners – Wes Leith  
MPWMD – Jon Lear  
MCWRA – Tamara Voss  
City of Del Rey Oaks – John Gaglioti  
City of Sand City – Leon Gomez  
Coastal Subarea Landowners – No Representative

**Watermaster**

Technical Program Manager - Robert Jaques

**Consultants**

Montgomery & Associates - Pascual Benito

**Others**

MCWD – Patrick Breen  
City of Seaside – Nisha Patel

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The meeting was convened at 1:04 p.m.

Note: The Zoom conferencing service crashed during the meeting. The meeting was resumed using a different remote meeting service after a quorum of attendees was re-established.

**1. Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

**2. Administrative Matters:**

**A. Approve Minutes from the June 9, 2021 Meeting**

This item was skipped in order to shorten this meeting to avoid a conflict with another meeting that some of the participants need to attend. It will be deferred to the next TAC meeting.

**B. Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Update**

This item was skipped in order to shorten this meeting to avoid a conflict with another meeting that some of the participants need to attend. It will be deferred to the next TAC meeting.

**3. Discuss Assumptions and Answers to Questions for Montgomery & Associates to Use When Performing Replenishment Water Modeling**

Mr. Jaques summarized the agenda packet materials for this item. Mr. Benito then provided a PowerPoint presentation and solicited questions and comments from the TAC members.

Mr. Ottmar had some comments and questions with regard to operation of the ASR project. Mr. Lear responded to them. He noted that 20 acre-feet per day is the assumed ASR injection rate, based on existing infrastructure.

In response to a question, Mr. O'Halloran said he was not sure 700 acre foot per year over pumping repay back program by Cal am will be implemented.

Mr. Gaglioti asked Mr. Benito to describe what the model output will show. Mr. Benito responded that it will show how long it will take, and how much water will be needed, to replenish the Basin to achieve protective groundwater levels.

Mr. Gaglioti asked Mr. Benito if it would be easy to determine how much water will be needed from the desalination project to provide sufficient water to replenish the basin. He noted that more water than can be supplied by the pure water Monterey expansion Project will be needed. Mr. Benito responded that the model will only show how much water will be needed. The model will not analyze how the replacement water can or should be provided.

Mr. Lear reported that the growers have not yet opted-in to there being a drought reserve under the Pure Water Monterey Project, so it is not currently being used. Ms. Voss said she did not know what the growers might decide to do on this in the future. Mr. Gaglioti and Ms. Voss reported it was their understanding that this and related source of water issues are still under discussion.

Mr. Lear reported that an operating reserve which contains approximately three months of needed water supply which approximates 1,500 acre-feet of water is being used in the Pure Water Monterey Project.

Ms. Voss, Mr. Lear, and Mr. Gaglioti felt that the modeling should be based on current CSIP operating conditions. If desired as an additional scenario, the scope of the modeling work could be expanded to reflect the impacts of providing additional water to the CSIP if the growers want to do that. Mr. Jaques pointed out it would be necessary to increase the scope and cost of the current modeling contract, which means it would need to receive TAC and Board approval before an additional scenario such as that could be modeled. The additional CSIP water under that scenario would be for a potential expansion of the CSIP service area so that it could serve more irrigated acres. This is one of the projects being considered in the 180/400-foot Aquifer Subbasin GSP, and could potentially reduce the amount of water that could be delivered to the Seaside Basin by the Pure Water Monterey Project.

Mr. O'Halloran reported that all of the parties have agreed to sign the new Water Purchase Agreement related to the Pure Water Monterey Expansion Project. However it still needs to actually get signed and approved by the respective boards of directors, and then by the Public Utilities Commission, to finalize the approval process.

Mr. Ottmar said he did not anticipate the Seaside Municipal Water System to appreciably decrease or increase its pumping in the near future. Mr. Lear suggested keeping the pumping rate for the Seaside Municipal System at its current pumping rate.

In response to a question with regard to the SNG well, Mr. Lear reported that it was his understanding that the SNG project is currently bogged down in a land dispute.

Mr. Ottmar said that design is in progress to enable the Seaside golf courses to be irrigated with reclaimed water from the Pure Water Monterey Project, rather than from its own wells, but they are not yet being irrigated with reclaimed water.

Mr. Ottmar reported that will probably be necessary to build a new well to supplement Seaside Municipal System Well #4. There was some discussion about recommending what aquifer it should draw from. Mr. Lear suggested that the city proceed with developing a new well in which ever aquifer the city desires, either the Paso Robles or the Santa Margarita. Mr. Ottmar said the city would probably seek to have the well draw from the Santa Margarita aquifer, but that it would be by the end of 2023 before a new well could be installed. He went on to say that the Campus Town Project will be a new demand that will need about 301 acre-feet per year of water, and he anticipated that it would not come online until the 2024/2025 time frame. He felt the city would use the rest of the golf courses' 540 acre-foot-per- year allotment for other future projects.

In response to a request from Mr. Jaques, Mr. Ottmar said he would do some research and prepare a synopsis of this information and send it to him, so it could be included in this meeting to refine Mr. Ottmar's comments.

Mr. Benito described the various risk aversion levels related to modeling the impacts of sea level rise. After some discussion there was consensus to use the 1 in 20 risk aversion level, which is higher than the lowest risk level and more at the medium risk aversion level.

Mr. Lear made a motion to have Mr. Jaques send out to TAC members via email a listing of the assumptions to be used in performing the replenishment water modeling, showing Mr. Jaques' understanding of what the TAC had agreed upon at today's meeting. The purpose of that email would be to get feedback regarding concurrence with that listing via email in order to avoid the need to have another TAC meeting on this issue. Ms. Voss seconded this motion, and it passed unanimously by those TAC members that were still in the meeting and had not had to leave to attend another meeting.

#### **4. Schedule**

This item was skipped in order to shorten this meeting to avoid a conflict with another meeting that some of the participants need to attend. It will be deferred to the next TAC meeting.

#### **5. Other Business**

This item was skipped in order to shorten this meeting to avoid a conflict with another meeting that some of the participants need to attend. It will be deferred to the next TAC meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 2:40 PM.