

**Cosumnes Groundwater Authority
Board of Directors Meeting**

Agenda Date: April 24, 2023

Agenda Item #: 4

Agenda Item Subject: Identification of Additional Data/Information Needs

To: CGA Projects Committee and Outreach Team

From: CGA Staff

Background:

The Projects and Management Actions (PMA) Committee was formed in March 2022 to develop the Cosumnes Subbasin Priority Projects List, which eventually change to the CA Dept. of Water Resources Sustainable Groundwater Management Grant Application Components, to inform the implementation of groundwater sustainability projects and management actions. The Committee consists of 1 appointee from each member GSA. The Committee consists of:

- Rick Ferriera, Amador County Groundwater Management Authority
- Gary Silva, Clay Water District
- Mike Selling, City of Galt
- Pat Kirby, Galt Irrigation District
- Paul Hensleigh, Omochumne-Hartnel Water District
- Chris Hunley, County of Sacramento
- Barbara Washburn, Sloughhouse Resource Conservation District

The Outreach & Engagement Team was appointed on an ad hoc basis to assist CGA with a variety of outreach efforts. The O&E Team has consisted of volunteers from the PMA and Citizen Advisory Committees appointed by the Chair. The O&E Team currently consists of:

- Barbara Washburn
- Teresa Flewellyn
- Belinda Ellis
- Chris Hunley

To ensure there is a shared understanding of what these committees do and how they function, Committee Charters have been drafted. These charters will help inform the 2023-2024 CGA Annual Workplan.

Attachments:

- Draft Projects and Management Actions Committee Charter
- Draft Outreach and Engagement Committee Charter
- CGA Governance Graphic

Staff Recommendation:

- Provide recommendations on the drafted PMA Committee and O&E Committee Charters.

Cosumnes Groundwater Authority Projects and Management Actions Committee Charter

The Cosumnes Groundwater Authority (CGA) is responsible for implementing the Cosumnes Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) to meet the California Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) requirements for the Cosumnes Subbasin. The sustainability goal of the Cosumnes Subbasin is to ensure that groundwater in the subbasin continues to be a long-term resource for beneficial users and uses including urban, domestic, agricultural, industrial, environmental, and others. Successful implementation for this long-term effort requires broad and ongoing coordination, collaboration, and engagement. More information about the Cosumnes Subbasin GSP can be found at: CosumnesGroundwater.org.

Purpose:

The Projects and Management Actions (PMA) Committee for the Cosumnes Subbasin, as established by the CGA Board of Directors, is convened to provide a productive venue for input from and information-sharing among the subbasin's groundwater sustainability agencies (GSAs). The PMA Committee will serve an advisory role to the CGA Board of Directors, to inform the Board's implementation of the Cosumnes Subbasin GSP.

Anticipated Activities:

- Quarterly meetings
- Provide feedback on the development and implementation of the Cosumnes Subbasin Projects and Management Actions
- Review available data regarding groundwater conditions and progress on the implementation of the Cosumnes Subbasin GSP
- Provide feedback on discussions and technical work related to the Cosumnes Subbasin's monitoring network, Undesirable Results, and Sustainable Management Criteria
- Identify future data/information needs
- Discuss and support public outreach and engagement as applicable

Approach:

- The CGA will share draft materials related to GSP implementation with the PMA Committee. All draft materials will be informed by CGA Board discussions.
- PMA Committee members will review and discuss draft materials and generate feedback and recommendations to be shared with the CGA Board.
- The CGA Board will consider whether and how to incorporate PMA Committee feedback. The CGA Board will regularly update the PMA Committee on how its feedback informed its decision-making.

Discussion Focus:

Each meeting will focus on a topic, or variety of topics, described below. There may be need for additional flexibility on topics.

- Projects and Management Actions
 - Outreach and Engagement
-

- Monitoring Network
- Sustainable Management Criteria

PMA Composition:

The PMA Committee will consist of one representative from each of the 7 GSAs in the Cosumnes Subbasin. These representatives will be appointed by their GSA Board. The PMA Committee is one of several forums for bringing together diverse interests. Not all stakeholders may desire or have the capacity to participate in PMA Committee meetings; therefore, other forums and methods (e.g., other committee meetings, organizational briefings, etc.) are part of the CGA's overall communication and engagement plan strategy ([link to the C&E Plan](#)).

Additionally, to help enhance the PMA Committee's understanding of groundwater sustainability topics, invitations for specific PMA Committee meetings may be extended to other stakeholders and organizations from time to time if relevant topics are planned for discussion at that specific meeting.

Ground Rules:

See the [CGA Governance and Decision-Making Process](#) visual for more information on how the PMA Committee will impact decisions of CGA. The PMA Committee will generally rely on the ground rules outlined in the Cosumnes Groundwater Authority agreement and the Board's policies, with emphasis on these points:

- The PMA Committee is an advisory body. All final decisions regarding CGA work will be made by the CGA Board
- Focus on developing credible and timely information and understanding
- Foster thoughtful exchange of information and perspectives
- Identify areas of common interests and approach
- Consensus seeking

Roles and Responsibilities:

PMA Committee members shall:

- be able to demonstrate a general knowledge of and involvement in the activities of priority interest related to the Cosumnes GSP and SGMA.
- review the PMA Committee Charter (this document), Code of Conduct, the Cosumnes Subbasin GSP website, and other documentation to become familiar with the current issues and their background.
- attend meetings adequately prepared to engage meaningfully in discussions.
- engage in PMA Committee and GSP activities in accordance with the Code of Conduct and other CGA governance documents, as applicable.
- be expected to commit to a 1- or 2-year term. Terms can be extended based on the mutual agreement of the CGA Board, GSA, and PMA Committee member.

Anticipated Work Product/Deliverables:

We anticipate a series of presentations to the CGA Board summarizing the PMA Committee's key perspectives, recommendations, and areas of agreement and divergence on each of main topics discussed.

Cosumnes Groundwater Authority Outreach and Engagement Committee Charter

The Cosumnes Groundwater Authority (CGA) is responsible for implementing the Cosumnes Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) to meet the California Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) requirements for the Cosumnes Subbasin. The sustainability goal of the Cosumnes Subbasin is to ensure that groundwater in the subbasin continues to be a long-term resource for beneficial users and uses including urban, domestic, agricultural, industrial, environmental, and others. Successful implementation for this long-term effort requires broad and ongoing coordination, collaboration, and engagement. More information about the Cosumnes Subbasin GSP can be found at: CosumnesGroundwater.org.

Purpose:

The Outreach and Engagement (O&E) Committee for the Cosumnes Subbasin, as established by the CGA Board of Directors, is convened to provide a productive venue for developing and discussing the CGA's outreach efforts and implementation of the Cosumnes Subbasin Outreach and Engagement Plan. The O&E Committee will serve an advisory role to the CGA Board of Directors, to inform the Board's implementation of the Cosumnes Subbasin GSP.

Anticipated Activities:

- Quarterly meetings
- Provide feedback on updating and implementing the Cosumnes Subbasin Outreach and Engagement Plan
- Discuss and support public outreach and engagement as applicable

Approach:

- The CGA will share draft materials related to GSP implementation and outreach with the O&E Committee. All draft materials will be informed by CGA Board discussions.
- O&E Committee members will review and discuss draft materials and generate feedback and recommendations to be shared with the CGA Board.
- The CGA Board will consider whether and how to incorporate O&E Committee feedback. The CGA Board will regularly update the O&E Committee on how its feedback informed its decision-making.

Discussion Focus:

Each meeting will focus on a topic, or variety of topics, described below. There may be need for additional flexibility on topics.

- Projects and Management Actions
- Outreach and Engagement
- Monitoring Network
- Local Groundwater Conditions

O&E Composition:

The O&E Committee will consist of volunteers appoint by the CGA Board Chair. The O&E Committee is one of several forums for bringing together diverse interests. Not all stakeholders

may desire or have the capacity to participate in O&E Committee meetings; therefore, other forums and methods (e.g., other committee meetings, organizational briefings, etc.) are part of the CGA's overall communication and engagement plan strategy ([link to the C&E Plan](#)).

Additionally, to help enhance the O&E Committee's understanding of groundwater sustainability topics and outreach efforts, invitations for specific O&E Committee meetings may be extended to other stakeholders and organizations from time to time if relevant topics are planned for discussion at that specific meeting.

Ground Rules:

See the [CGA Governance and Decision-Making Process](#) visual for more information on how the O&E Committee will impact decisions of CGA. The O&E Committee will generally rely on the ground rules outlined in the Cosumnes Groundwater Authority agreement and the Board's policies, with emphasis on these points:

- The O&E Committee is an advisory body. All final decisions regarding CGA work will be made by the CGA Board
- Focus on developing credible and timely information and understanding
- Foster thoughtful exchange of information and perspectives
- Identify areas of common interests and approach
- Consensus seeking

Roles and Responsibilities:

O&E Committee members shall:

- be able to demonstrate a general knowledge of and involvement in the activities of priority interest related to the Cosumnes GSP and SGMA.
- review the O&E Committee Charter (this document), Code of Conduct, the Cosumnes Subbasin GSP website, and other documentation to become familiar with the current issues and their background.
- attend meetings adequately prepared to engage meaningfully in discussions.
- engage in O&E Committee and GSP activities in accordance with the Code of Conduct and other CGA governance documents, as applicable.
- be expected to commit to a 1- or 2-year term. Terms can be extended based on the mutual agreement of the CGA Board and O&E Committee member.

Anticipated Work Product/Deliverables:

We anticipate a series of presentations to the CGA Board summarizing the O&E Committee's key perspectives, recommendations, and areas of agreement and divergence on each of main topics discussed.



Cosumnes Groundwater Authority (CGA) Governance and Decision-Making Process

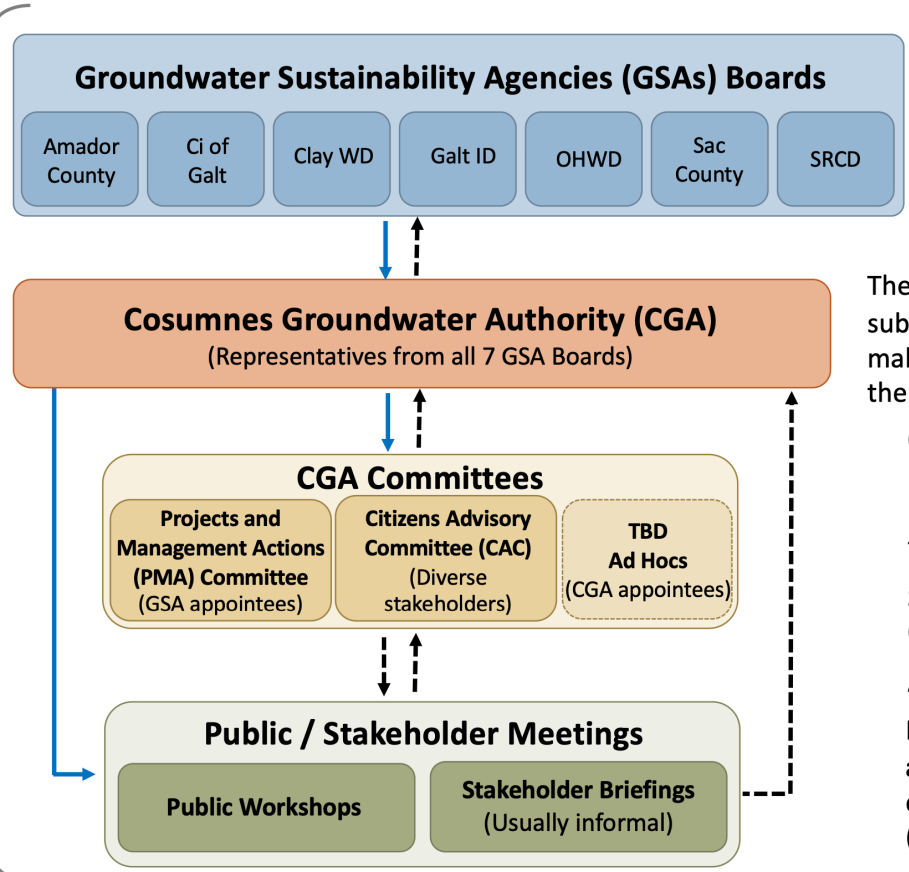
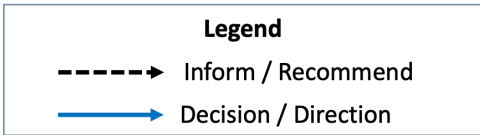
working draft (4/5/22)

Plans/Policies
(updated as needed)
(e.g., Subbasin GSP, Communication & Engagement Plan, governance framework)

Key **plans and policies** serve as the foundation to guide what gets done and how.

CGA Staff & Consultants
(Staff: GSP Manager; Watershed Coordinator)
(Consultants: technical consultants, facilitators, counsel)

CGA staff and consultants support the day-to-day activities. They coordinate with others as needed (partners, experts, stakeholders, etc.) to draft materials.



Individual GSAs: Implementation of CGA decisions within a GSA’s jurisdiction is subject to that **GSA Board’s** approval.

The **CGA** is the main decision-making body for the subbasin. It receives input and recommendations, makes basin-wide decisions, and gives direction to the staff and committees.

Committees help generate and discuss ideas, provide feedback, capture range of perspectives, and develop recommendations to the CGA if possible.

Standing committees to date: **PMA Committee and CAC.**

Ad hoc committees form as needed.

Information is presented at **public workshops and stakeholder-specific briefings**. Input and comments are shared with the other groups (CGA, committees, etc.).

Note: GSA Board, CGA, PMA Committee, CAC, and public workshops are open to the public. Ad hocs and stakeholder briefings will be case by case.