



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
(805) 568-2240

**Department Name:** Water Agency  
**Department No.:** 054  
**For Agenda Of:** February 11, 2020  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimated Time:** N/A  
**Continued Item:** No  
**If Yes, date from:**  
**Vote Required:** Majority

---

**TO:** Board of Directors, Water Agency

**FROM:** Department Scott D. McGolpin, Public Works Director, 568-3010  
Director(s)  
Contact Info: Thomas D. Fayram, Deputy Public Works Director, 568-3436

**SUBJECT:** Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Intra-Basin Administrative Agreement; Third, Fourth, and Fifth Supervisorial Districts

---

**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: N/A

**Other Concurrence:** Risk Management

As to form: Yes

**Recommended Actions:**

- a) Approve and authorize the Chair to execute the “Intra-Basin Administrative Agreement For Implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act In the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin”; and
- b) Determine that the proposed action is not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act, pursuant to Guidelines Section 15378(b) (5), organization or administrative activities that will not result in a direct or indirect physical change in the environment.

**Summary Text:**

This item is on the agenda to request Board approval of an Intra-Basin Administrative Agreement for Implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act in the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin (Agreement). The Agreement is intended to provide a framework for cooperation among the three Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) in the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin (Basin) as they work to develop and implement Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSP) pursuant to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). The Agreement includes provisions for coordination of GSP preparation, development of a California Department of Water Resources (DWR) compliant coordination agreement, grant funding, cost sharing, and dispute resolution. The GSA Committees governing each of the three GSAs have endorsed the Agreement for acceptance by the various GSA member agencies.

**Background:**

SGMA was signed into law by Governor Brown in 2014. SGMA provides a framework for the sustainable management of groundwater supplies by local agencies and provides tools, authority, and a timeline for local agencies during the 20-year implementation period. Public agencies in the Basin created three GSAs representing the three main areas of the Basin (Western, Central, and Eastern Management Areas; see Attachment B) based on jurisdictional and hydrogeological differences.

The Western Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency (WMA GSA) consists of the City of Lompoc, the Vandenberg Village Community Services District, the Mission Hills Community Services District, the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District (SYRWCD), and the Santa Barbara County Water Agency (Water Agency). The Central Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CMA GSA) consists of the City of Buellton, the SYRWCD and the Water Agency. The Eastern Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency (EMA GSA) consists of the City of Solvang, the SYRWCD, SYRWCD Improvement District No.1, and the Water Agency.

Each GSA is responsible for developing a GSP for its portion of the Basin. The DWR regulations to guide local GSP development were approved by the California Water Commission on May 18, 2016 and went into effect June, 2016. GSPs in the Basin must be adopted by January 31, 2022.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: Yes

**Fiscal Analysis:**

Narrative:

Staff time associated with SGMA activities was included in the Adopted 2019-20 budget in the Water Resources Division of the Public Works as shown on page D-305 in the budget book. For future fiscal years, costs will likely be met from financing options available to the GSA, as authorized by SGMA. There are no General Fund monies associated with this Board action.

**Special Instructions:**

Direct the Clerk of the Board to return seven signed originals of the Water Agency signature page of the Intra-Basin Administrative Agreement and the minute order of these actions to the Water Agency office:  
Attn: Christina Lopez.

An original of the Intra-Basin Administrative Agreement signed by the other participants will be returned to the COB's office once all other agencies have approved and executed the agreement.

**Attachments:**

- Attachment A – Intra-Basin Administrative Agreement For Implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act In the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin (eight signature pages)
- Attachment B – Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Map

**Authored by:**

Matt Young, Water Resources Program Manager, 568-3546