

To: Cosumnes Subbasin Working Group

From: Austin Miller, Sloughhouse RCD  
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On behalf of the Cosumnes Subbasin Long-Term Governance Committee

Date: October 4 2021

Subject: Cosumnes Groundwater Authority Joint Powers Authority Agreement Adoption – Recommended Timeline and Authority’s First Steps for Working Group Consideration

**Background:**

At the September 23, 2021, Long-Term Governance Committee, participants discussed a possible timeline for the Working Group and GSAs to discuss and consider adoption of a Joint Powers Authority and supporting documents. Below is a memorandum summarizing the ideas discussed at the Committee. These recommendations are put forward for the Working Group’s discussion and consideration.

**Discussion:**

We have been tasked with laying out the next steps in finalizing the Cosumnes Groundwater Authority Joint Powers Authority (JPA) Agreement and laying out the initial tasks of the JPA. Below is a list of meeting dates between now and the finalization of the JPA and supporting documents (JPA package), a list of meeting dates in November that the individual GSAs intend to adopt the JPA, and a draft list of items that the new JPA Board will likely want to consider at their initial meeting.

Based on Long-Term Governance Committee discussions to-date, the JPA package consists of four parts. Those parts being 1) Joint Powers Agreement, 2) Initial Year Funding Agreement, 3) an agreement between Sloughhouse Resource Conservation District (SRCD) and the JPA for administrative support to the JPA, and 4) an agreement between the Southeast Sacramento County Agricultural Water Authority (SSCAWA) and the JPA for technical support provided by the Watershed Coordinator. While it is the intent of the Committee to provide transparency on the agreement between the JPA and SRCD and the agreement between the JPA and SSCAWA, it should be noted that those agreements will need to ultimately be approved by the JPA Board, not the Working Group.

Below is our suggested timeline based on Committee discussions to-date. Again, we put them forward for Working Group consideration.

**JPA Package Development Calendar**

- October 6, 2021: Present draft recommended JPA package to Working Group
- October 12, 2021: Present draft SSCAWA/JPA Agreement to SSCAWA Board
- October 13, 2021: Present draft SRCD/JPA Agreement to SRCD Board
- October 20, 2021: Working Group consideration of JPA package

### JPA Package Adoption Calendar

- November 9, 2021: Galt Irrigation District considers JPA package
- November 10, 2021: SRCD considers JPA package
- November \_\_, 2021: Amador County considers JPA package
- November \_\_, 2021: Clay Water District considers JPA package
- November 16, 2021: City of Galt, County of Sacramento, OH Water District

### JPA Implementation Calendar

In order to meet SGMA requirements/timelines (Annual Report, long-term funding needs, etc.), it is our recommendation that the newly formed JPA Board of Directors meet the week of November 29, 2021, and should consider the following as soon as possible:

- Elect Officers
- <<Other Establishment of a New Organization Initial Decisions>>
- Initial Policies and Procedures
  - Simple Bylaws
  - Contracting Policy
  - Conflict of Policy
- Initial Funding
- SRCD/JPA Agreement
- SSCAWA/JPA Agreement
- EKI Contract for Annual Report
- Facilitation Support Services Grant Application
- Committees
  - Executive
  - Long Term Funding
  - Citizen Advisory Committee
- Future Meetings

We look forward to the upcoming Working Group discussions. Please feel free to reach out with any questions, comments, or concerns.