

Merquin County Water District

Minutes of the Regular Meeting

Of the Board of Directors

Wednesday, January 26, 2022

The Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Merquin County Water District called to order in regular session at 19684 Second Ave., Stevenson, California at 6:00 p.m.

Present were, President Freddy Oliveira, Director Rosemary Ouse, Director Danny Drumonde, Director Phil Dores, absent Director Adam Azevedo.

MOTION APPROVING MINUTES of JANUARY 11, 2022

Moved by Director Danny Drumonde, seconded by Director Phil Dores to approve the minutes of January 11, 2022

Motion Carried Unanimously

MOTION APPROVING LIST OF WARRANTS

Moved by Director Phil Dores, seconded by Director Rosemary Ouse, approving the list of warrants \$19,791.08.

Motion Carried Unanimously

MOTION ACCEPTING CHECKING ACCOUNT EXPENDITURES

None

Motion approving Financial Report for December 2021

Moved by Director Rosemary Ouse, seconded by Director Phil Dores approving the Financial Report for December 2021.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Correspondence:

None

Discuss 2022 Water Rates

Jimmy presented the water rate from CCID which will be \$20/AF. Eric Swenson had given Freddy costs on out of season pump water this included utilities, repairs and replacing two wells per year the total was \$49.80. The tax assessment credit will be considered before a final figure can be decided on. Meeting of February 8, 2022 the finals for the water prices will be completed.

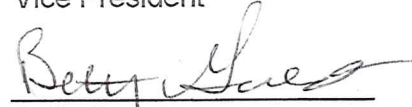
MATTERS FOR THE GOOD OF THE DISTRICT

Dave Nervino reported on the GSA meeting on January 13, 2022. The main focus was on repurposing and payment to fallow ground. A possible 218 vote to pay for fallow ground. Dave


Freddy Oliveira
President

Adam Azevedo

Vice President


Betty Guest
Secretary

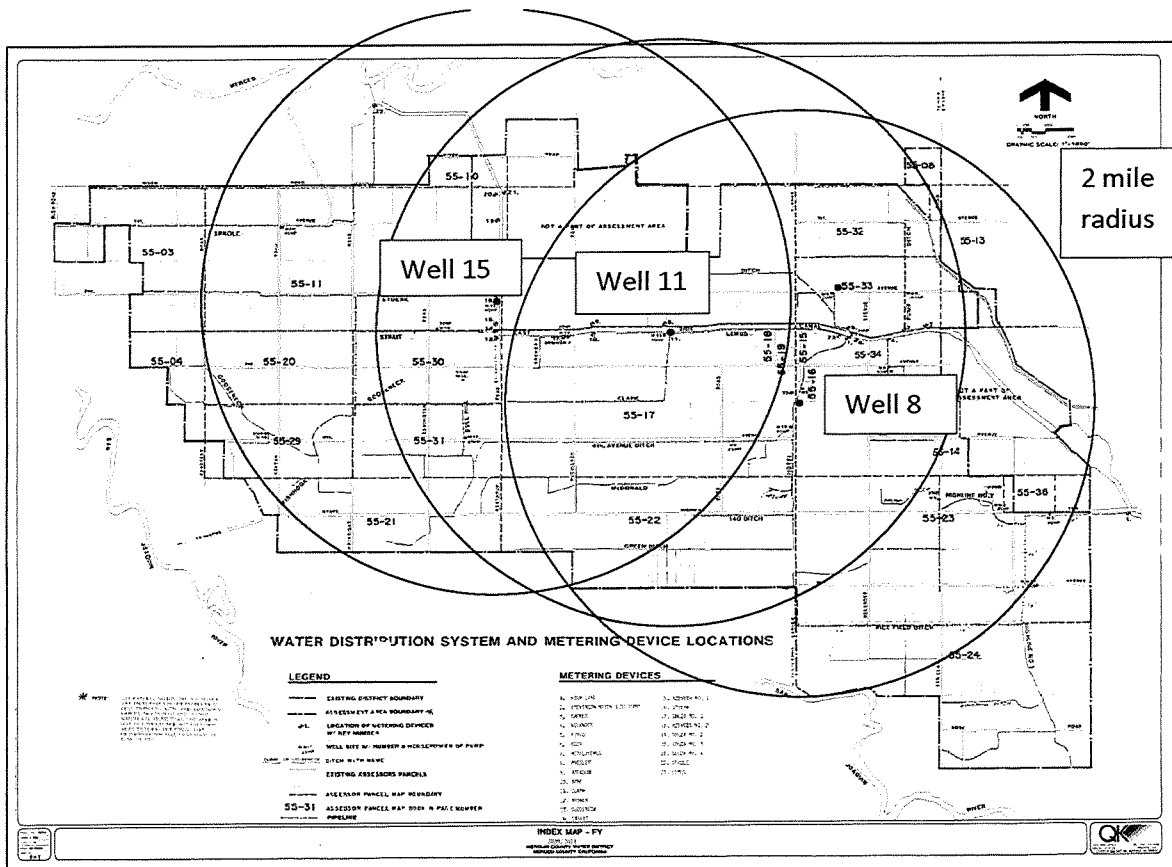
District Engineer Background Report for February 8, 2022 Board Meeting

OPEN SESSION

1. Discussion/Action: Comparison of two telemetry systems and potential selection of system for implementation in 2022.

The District Engineer has obtained quotations on two different telemetry systems that would provide well flow, totalized flow, and the ability to turn wells on and off. Data access to wells could be through a cellular phone or computer. One system uses a cellular phone data connection and one uses a private radio system the District would own. The main difference between the two systems is that the cellular phone system would cost \$300 per year plus \$300 per year per remote unit.

Remote units at wells would need to be located within 2 miles of each other. Well 11 is a good location for a central unit that other units could communicate with. Each remote unit to can relay data to the adjacent remote unit.



Estimated costs follow for 5 and 2 unit remote systems:

Wisconn Engineering			
		5 Units	2 Units
	\$		
RF-X1 Gateway Node	1,650.00		
	\$		
EXP-Relay LA	160.00		
	\$		
Misc. electrical	700.00		
	\$		
High Gain Antenna	200.00		
	\$		
Output Relay	200.00		
	\$	\$	\$
Subtotal	2,910.00	14,550.00	5,820.00
	\$	\$	\$
One year Data Plan	300.00	300.00	300.00
	\$	\$	\$
One year Software	300.00	1,500.00	600.00
	\$	\$	\$
Subtotal	600.00	1,800.00	900.00
		\$	\$
Total		16,350.00	6,720.00

Concepts in Control			
		5 Units	2 Units
	\$	\$	\$
Base	2,200.00	2,200.00	2,200.00
	\$	\$	\$
Labor	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00
	\$	\$	\$
RTU	1,850.00	9,250.00	3,700.00
		\$	\$
Subtotal		13,950.00	8,400.00
		\$	
Well 11 RTU		1,850.00	
		\$	
Total		15,800.00	

2. Discussion: Analysis of 2021 water season pumping costs for MCWD.

- Total groundwater pumped by MCWD in 2021 = 7,144 AF
- Total PG&E pumping cost in 2021 = \$341,889
- Electrical cost/AF = \$47.86

3. Discussion: Update on status of Coelho Well and proposed action by Merced County Board of Supervisors *Ordinance Relating to Groundwater Mining and Export*.

The District Engineer requested that the application for the Coelho Well be changed to “backup”. Merced County Planning called and stated that “backup” wells could be approved for individual farmers, but not for Water Districts. On Tuesday, February 7th, the County Board of Supervisors will hear the second reading of the new *Ordinance Relating to Groundwater Mining and Export with a proposed implementation date of May 1, 2021*.

4. Discussion: Need to identify additional locations for new/replacement wells.

Even though work will continue to get a permit to drill the Coelho Well, more replacement wells are needed. Can MCWD Board members contact people they know in the community that might allow District Irrigation wells to be drilled on their properties?

5. Discussion/Action: Proposed work to provide soil cover over Highline Lateral upstream of Van Clief Avenue and designate a vehicle crossing zone.

On January 26, 2022, Jimmy, the District Engineer met with Mario, Bobby, and Rex from SWD. Much of this discussion was about water ordering. Bobby brought up the need to cover the Highline Lateral east of Van Clief where it is currently exposed. He proposed providing additional soil cover, planting a cover crop, and restricting vehicle crossings to a specific area and protecting the pipeline at this crossing location. The District Engineer recommends that this work proceed prior to start of the 2022 water season.

6. Discussion: Required minimum surface water deliveries from SWD.

The following flows result from the minimum contract deliveries from SWD:

Month	AF	Min. Flow	AF/month	Max. Flow	AF/month	Days/Mn
Column1	Column2	Column3	Column4	Column5	Column6	Column7
April	1,500	20	1,190	40	2,380	30
May	2,000	32	1,967	55	3,381	31
June	2,611	42	2,499	70	4,164	30
July	2,950	45	2,766	70	4,303	31
August	2,950	45	2,766	70	4,303	31
September	2,200	35	2,082	55	3,272	30
Totals	14,211		13,270		21,803	

7. Discussion: Update on Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) activities.

The following actions are scheduled for GSA Board action on February 10th:

A. SGMA Implementation/Planning and Project Grant Resolution

Preliminary Project Selection (1 of 3)

Original Rank	Updated Rank	Project Name	Submitting Agency	Project Cost	Score	Initial Grant Request	Updated Grant Request	Cumulative Grant Request	ERIC'S SCORE
1	1	LeGrand-Athlone Water District Intertie Canal - Phase 2	LeGrand-Athlone WD	\$11,100,000	25.6	\$2,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	23
2	2	Merced Subbasin Integrated Managed Aquifer Recharge Evaluation Tool (MercedMAR)	Basinwide Project	\$925,000	24.8	\$925,000	\$725,000	\$1,725,000	23
4	3	Vander Dussen Subsidence Priority Area Flood-MAR Project	Sandy Mush MWC	\$798,735	24.2	\$798,735	\$798,735	\$2,523,735	24
3	4	Vander Woude Storage Reservoir	Sandy Mush MWC	\$980,000	24.4	\$980,000	\$300,000	\$2,823,735	26
5	5	Filling Data Gaps Identified in Data Gaps Plan	Basinwide Project	\$40,000 - shallow well \$80,000 - deep well (Can be scaled)	22.2	\$400,000	\$400,000	\$3,223,735	15
6	6	Amsterdam Water District Surface Water Conveyance and Recharge Project	Amsterdam WD	\$1,981,175	22	\$1,981,175	\$100,000	\$3,323,735	22
7	7	GSP Project 31: Crocker Dam Modification	MID	\$30,600,000	21.75	\$2,000,000	\$1,500,000	\$4,823,735	24



Preliminary Project Selection (2 of 3)

ERID's Score

Original Rank	Updated Rank	Project Name	Submitting Agency	Project Cost	Score	Initial Grant Request	Updated Grant Request	Cumulative Grant Request	
13	8	G Ranch Groundwater Recharge, Habitat Enhancement & Floodplain Expansion Project - Planning	La Paloma MWC	\$250,000	17.8	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$5,073,735	15
9	9	Merquin County Water District (MCWD) Sustainable Yield Management Plan and Plan Implementation	Merquin County WD	\$66,000	20.6	\$66,000	\$66,000	\$5,139,735	20
10	10	Purdy Project (E. Purdy, W. Purdy, and Kevin Recharge Basins) (Project No. 38)	Stevinson WD; Merquin County WD	\$110,400	20.4	\$110,400	\$110,400	\$5,250,135	23
11	11	Purdy Project (East Pike Recharge Basin) (Project No. 37)	Stevinson WD; Merquin County WD	\$73,750	20.2	\$73,750	\$73,750	\$5,323,885	23
12	12	Buchanan Hollow Mutual Water Company Floodwater Recharge Project	Buchanan Hollow MWC	\$26,000	19.4	\$26,000	\$26,000	\$5,349,885	10
8	13	G Ranch Groundwater Recharge, Habitat Enhancement & Floodplain Expansion Project - Implementation	La Paloma MWC	\$5,336,650	20.6	\$5,336,650	\$750,000	\$6,099,885	21
16	14	Turner Island Water District (TIWD) Water Conservation	TIWD	\$2,000,000	12.2	\$2,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$7,099,885	11



Preliminary Project Selection (3 of 3)

ERIC'S SCORE
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Original Rank	Updated Rank	Project Name	Submitting Agency	Project Cost	Score	Initial Grant Request	Updated Grant Request	Cumulative Grant Request	
17	15	TIWD Shallow Well Drilling	TIWD	\$500,000/well	11	\$2,500,000	\$500,000	\$7,599,885	11
14	16	MIUGSA Groundwater Extraction Measurement Program	MIUGSA	\$4,000,000	16	\$2,000,000	\$1,500,000	\$9,099,885	\$7.6M
15	17	Deadman Creek Canal Off Stream Storage and Recharge	Lone Tree MWC	\$3,410,000	15	\$3,410,000	\$1,000,000	\$10,099,885	15
18	18	Tri City's Water Recharge/Underground Storage Feasibility	MSGSA, MIUGSA	\$3,500,000	8.6	\$3,500,000	\$3,500,000	\$13,599,885	\$10M



- B. Land Repurposing Program Development
- C. Proposition 218 Proceeding Timeline and Fee Study
- D. Well Consistency Determination Policy

E. Surface Water Sales Within the Merced Basin Resolution:

**MERCED SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
RESOLUTION NO. 2022-02**

**F. RESOLUTION OF THE MERCED SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY ON
ENCOURAGING SURFACE WATER SALES WITHIN THE MERCED**

G. BASIN

- H. WHEREAS, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) was signed into law on September 16, 2014 and adopted as California Water Code, section 10720, et seq.; and
- I. WHEREAS, the purpose of SGMA is to provide sustainable management of groundwater basins and enhance local management of the groundwater through empowering local management agencies with authority necessary to sustainably manage groundwater; and
- J. WHEREAS, the Merced Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (Merced GSA) was formed on March 15, 2017 as a joint powers authority pursuant to Government Code section 6500, et seq., by agencies that qualify to be groundwater sustainability agencies; and
- K. WHEREAS, three GSAs in the Merced Groundwater Subbasin (Basin Number 5-22.04) have coordinated on the development of a single Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) pursuant to Water Code section 10727(a) and submitted that GSP to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) on January 28, 2020; and
- L. WHEREAS, DWR has designated the Merced Subbasin as in critical condition of overdraft and the consumptive use of groundwater in the basin exceeds the available sustainable yield (Merced Subbasin GSP section 2.3.5); and
- M. WHEREAS, maintaining and expanding the availability of surface water in the Merced Subbasin is a critical part of the solution to reducing groundwater consumption and overdraft; and
- N. WHEREAS, the Merced GSA has identified the conjunctive management of surface water and groundwater resources, and expanding the availability of surface water in the Merced Subbasin, as important methods available to achieving the necessary reduction of groundwater consumption within the GSA to achieve sustainability goals; and
- O. WHEREAS, the Merced GSA and certain member agencies have already demonstrated their commitment toward additional surface water use through the partnership and cost share in an "Application to Appropriate Water from the Merced River and 11 other Streams in Eastern Merced County", submitted to the California State Water Resources Control Board on May 28, 2020.
- P. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Governing Board of the Merced GSA strongly encourages all surface water right holders within the Merced Subbasin to pursue surplus surface water sales within the Merced Basin rather than exporting surplus surface water outside the basin,

Merquin County Water District

Q. MERCED SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY RESOLUTION NO. 2022-02

- R. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Merced GSA and its member agencies are willing to acquire any surface water supplies available for sale in the Merced Subbasin, and request that all surface water right holders negotiate first with the Merced GSA when surplus surface water supplies are deemed available rather than negotiate for sale of such supplies outside of the basin.

AYES: NOES:

ABSTAINING:

ABSENT:

MERCED SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER
SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

Lloyd Pareira, Jr., Chair

ATTEST:

Mark Hendrickson, Secretary

- S. PASSED AND ADOPTED at a special meeting of the Governing Board at Merced, California, this 10th day of February 2022, by the following vote: