

**AGENDA**  
**WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE**  
**Tuesday, March 1, 2022, at 9:00 a.m.**  
**UNITED WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**  
**Boardroom, 1701 N. Lombard Street, Oxnard CA 93030**

**Meeting attendees should be aware that the meetings of the Committee are, as required by law, open to the public and the District has very limited powers to regulate who attends Committee meetings. Therefore, attendees must exercise their own judgement with respect to protecting themselves from exposure to COVID-19, as the District cannot ensure that all attendees at public meetings will be free from COVID-19.**

**OPEN SESSION:**

**1. Public Comment**

The public may address the Water Resources Committee on any matter on the agenda or within the jurisdiction of the Committee. All comments are subject to a five-minute time limit.

**2. Approval of Minutes - Motion**

The Committee will review and consider approving the minutes from the Water Resources Committee meeting of January 4, 2022.

**3. A Path to Achieving Water-Supply Sustainability in the OPV Basins (20 minutes: Mr. Lindquist)**

Staff will detail recent work to model a combination of new water supply projects in the OPV basins to achieve sustainable conditions before 2030, without ramp downs.

**4. Santa Paula Basin Annual Report for 2020 (20 minutes: Ms. Kuepper)**

Staff will provide an update on Santa Paula basin conditions as detailed in the 2020 annual report, and discuss aspects of basin water budget from United's Regional Model and previous studies.

**5. Update on ongoing Groundwater Model Development Tasks (20 minutes: Dr. Sun)**

Staff will provide an update on recent model development tasks including chloride transport with groundwater flow in the southern Oxnard basin, boundary updates for the Coastal Plain model, and planned work related to land subsidence in the Coastal Plain basins and a break-out model for shallow groundwater flow in the Mugu area.

**6. Water Resources Department Update (10 minutes: Mr. Detmer)**

Staff will provide an update to the Committee on recent Water Resources Department activities and projects, and provide a brief update on hydrologic conditions in the District.

**7. Groundwater Sustainability Agencies Update (10 minutes: Mr. Detmer)**

The Committee will receive an update on GSA activities and schedules for the Fillmore and Piru Basins, Mound Basin and Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency (Oxnard, Pleasant Valley and Las Posas Valley basins).



**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

**ADJOURNMENT**

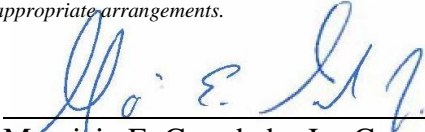
**Directors:**

Daniel C. Naumann, Chair  
Lynn E. Maulhardt  
Edwin T. McFadden III

**Staff:**

Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr.	Dr. Maryam Bral
Dan Detmer	Eric Elliott
Dr. Zachary Hanson	Kathleen Kuepper
John Lindquist	Murray McEachron
Dr. Bram Sercu	Dr. Jason Sun

*The Americans with Disabilities Act provides that no qualified individual with a disability shall be excluded from participating in, or denied the benefits of, the District's services, programs or activities because of any disability. If you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, or if you require agenda material in an alternative format, please contact the District's offices at (805) 525-4431. Notification of at least 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the District to make appropriate arrangements.*

Approved:   
Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr., General Manager

  
Dr. Maryam Bral, Chief Engineer

**Posted: (date) February 24, 2022**

**(time) 4:45 p.m.**

**(attest) *Destiny Rubio***

**At: UWCD Headquarters, 1701 N. Lombard Street, Oxnard, CA 93030**

**Posted: (date) February 24, 2022**

**(time) 5:00 p.m.**

**(attest) *Destiny Rubio***

**At: [www.unitedwater.org](http://www.unitedwater.org)**

**MINUTES**  
**WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE**  
**Tuesday, January 4, 2022, at 9 a.m.**  
**UNITED WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**  
**Boardroom, 1701 N. Lombard Street, Oxnard CA 93030**

**Committee Members Present:**

Chair Edwin McFadden  
Director Lynn Maulhardt  
Director Daniel Naumann

**Staff Present:**

Mauricio Guardado, Jr., general manager  
Anthony Emmert, assistant general manager  
Dr. Maryam Bral, chief engineer  
Dr. Zachary Hanson, hydrogeologist  
Kathleen Kuepper, hydrogeologist  
John Lindquist, senior hydrogeologist  
Murray McEachron, principal hydrologist  
Josh Perez, chief human resources officer  
Zachary Plummer, IT administrator

**Public Present:**

None

**OPEN SESSION:** 9:00 a.m.

Chair McFadden called the Water Resources Committee Meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**1. Public Comment**

Chair McFadden asked if there were any public comments for the Water Resources Committee. None were offered.

**2. Approval of Minutes - Motion**

Motion to approve the December 6, 2021, Water Resources Committee meeting minutes, Director McFadden; Second, Director Naumann. Voice vote: three ayes (Maulhardt, McFadden and Naumann); none opposed; motion carries 3/0.

**3. UWCD Project Proposals for DWR SGM Grant Funding**

Senior Hydrogeologist John Lindquist provided updates and slides (see attached) on the projects submitted to Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency (FCGMA) as part of the Department of Water Resources (DWR) Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Grant Program. Director Maulhardt inquired about the criteria for the grant program. Mr. Lindquist stated that the \$15.2 million will be divided between the two basins (Oxnard and Pleasant Valley) and will be administered through the agency. Director Maulhardt then asked if FCGMA has approved these projects. Director Naumann stated United approved these projects through a Resolution and as a result FCGMA has added these projects to its list.



General Manager Mauricio Guardado stated that the objective of the Resolution was to identify projects that could be added to FCGMA's amended Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP).

Director Maulhardt asked what United has done to gain the support of FCGMA for the projects. Mr. Lindquist stated that FCGMA requested project proposals from United, Pleasant Valley, Oxnard and Camrosa.

Chair McFadden asked if presenting a project as part of the annual report is something that DWR considers to be an addition. Mr. Lindquist stated that it is an acceptable way of adding a project to the GSP.

#### **4. Water Resources Department Update**

Mr. Lindquist provided an update on recent departmental activities. He stated that work continues on the MODFLOW-USG model and that staff participated in Oxnard High School's STEAM Day (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) by providing a hands-on learning experience for students.

Mr. Lindquist then asked Principal Hydrologist Murray McEachron to provide an update (see attached slides) on recent rains and surface-water flow events. Mr. McEachron stated that flows in the Santa Clara River peaked at 8,000 cfs. Director Naumann asked if Mr. McEachron had an estimate on future Article 21 water, to which Mr. McEachron responded that lakes are still 1/3 full and the water will not be coming right away.

#### **5. Groundwater Sustainability Agencies Update**

Mr. Lindquist provided updates on GSA activities and schedules for the Fillmore and Piru Basins, Mound Basin and Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency (Oxnard, Pleasant Valley and Las Posas Valley basins). He stated that FCGMA approved a contract with Dudek for GSP support related to the SGM grant. Also, FPBGSA adopted its GSP and is working with DWR to build monitoring wells within the basins. In addition, the annual Santa Paula Basin report (required for adjudicated basins) is nearly complete.

### **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair McFadden adjourned the meeting at 10:05 am.

I certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the UWCD Water Resources Committee Meeting of January 4, 2022.

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Chair Edwin McFadden



# UWCD Project Proposals for DWR SGM Grant Funding

Presented by John Lindquist, Senior Hydrogeologist  
Water Resources Committee Meeting  
January 4, 2022



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## KEY POINTS

1

\$7.6 million available each for Oxnard and Pleasant Valley basins under California DWR's "Sustainable Groundwater Management"(SGM) Grant Program



- ✓ Projects must be completed by mid-2025
- ✓ Projects must be included in basin's GSP or an annual update to the GSP
- ✓ Fox Canyon GMA coordinating proposal preparation and project selection



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## KEY POINTS

2 United submitted four (4) projects for SGM Grant consideration



✓ Also submitted Extraction Barrier and Brackish Water Treatment as “new” project for Oxnard and PV basins

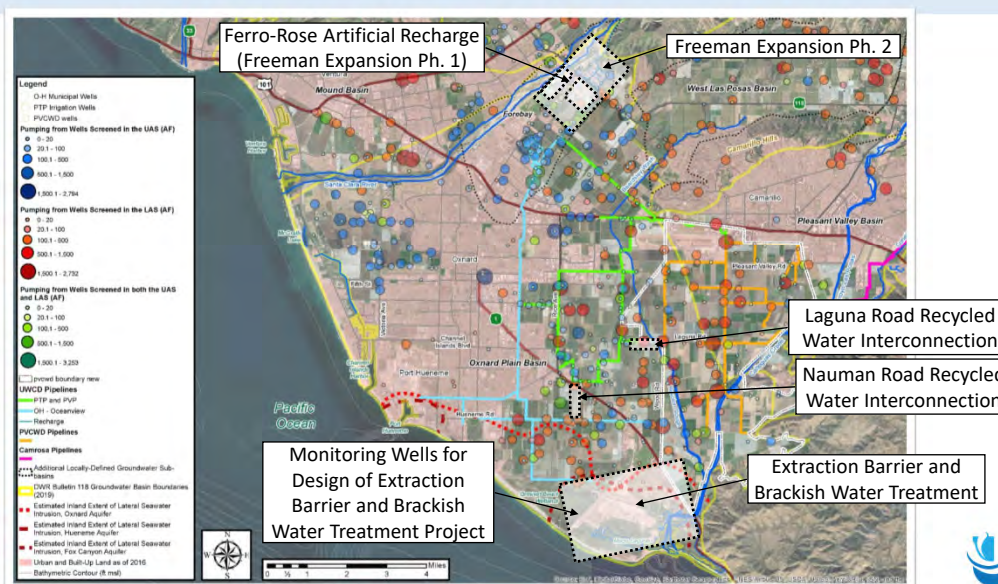


✓ Also recommended adding Freeman Expansion Phase 2 as “new” project for PV basin



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## PROPOSED PROJECT LOCATIONS



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## PROJECTS DISCUSSED BY OTHER AGENCIES



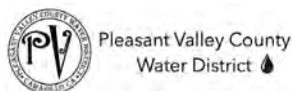
- ✓ Aquifer storage and recovery (ASR)



- ✓ Stormwater recharge projects (timing a concern)



- ✓ Feasibility study for expanded storage of Conejo Creek water



- ✓ PV-side of Laguna Road recycled water interconnection project



5

## PATH FORWARD



Agencies submitted their projects to FCGMA on Dec 17, 2021



Dudek and Kennedy/Jenks (FCGMA consultants) to conduct an initial “strawman rating” of submitted projects



Final review and scoring to be conducted by ad-hoc projects committee of the OPV Stakeholder Group



New projects to be added to Oxnard and Pleasant Valley GSP annual reports at January FCGMA meeting (01/26/22)



SGM Grant proposal submittal targeted for 01/31/22

- DWR due date is 02/18/22



Some uncertainty remains with regard to how the grant will be administered



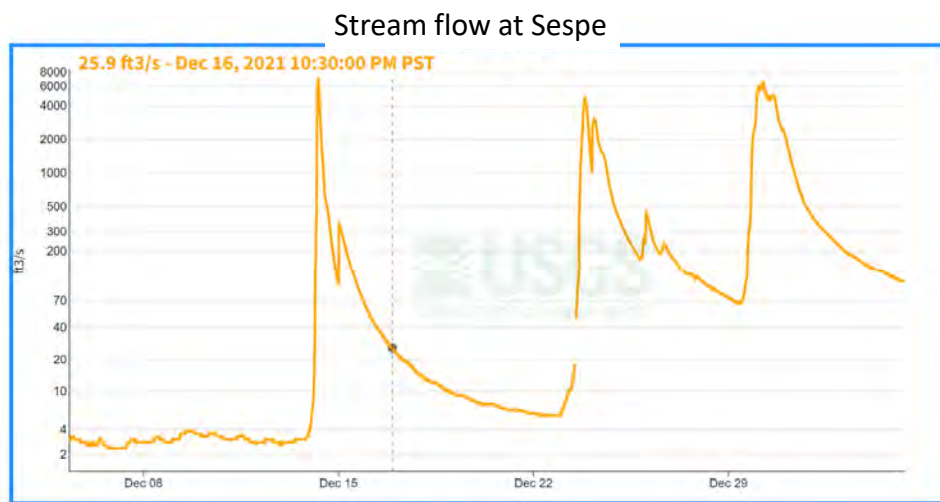
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Very wet December with 3 significant storm events. Current seasonal rainfall 12" in Santa Paula (11" in December, December avg = 4.8", annual average = 16.9"). Probably close to top 5 wettest December.

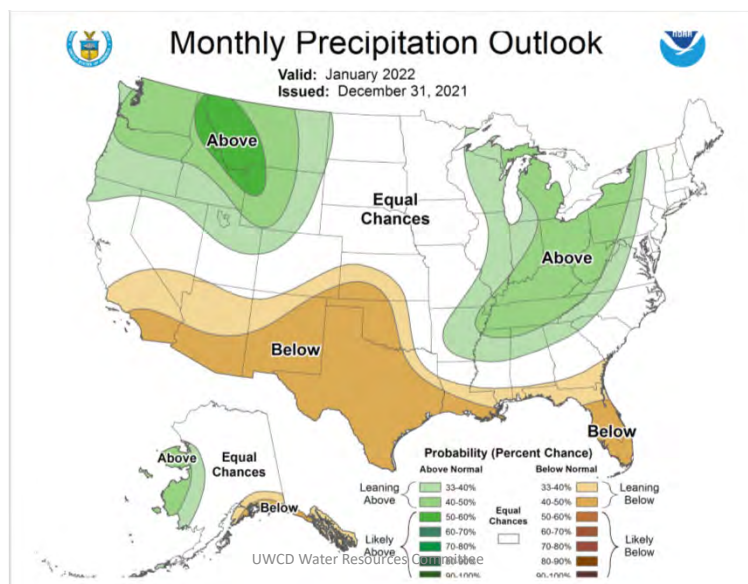


1/4/2022

UWCD Water Resources Committee

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However, no guarantee that wet pattern will continue, still in La Nina pattern and below normal rainfall predicted by NWS-climate prediction center.



1/4/2022

UWCD Water Resources Committee

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Diverted 5,500 AF at Freeman to date, approx. 1,900 AF to El Rio recharge, 3,600 AF to Saticoy recharge.

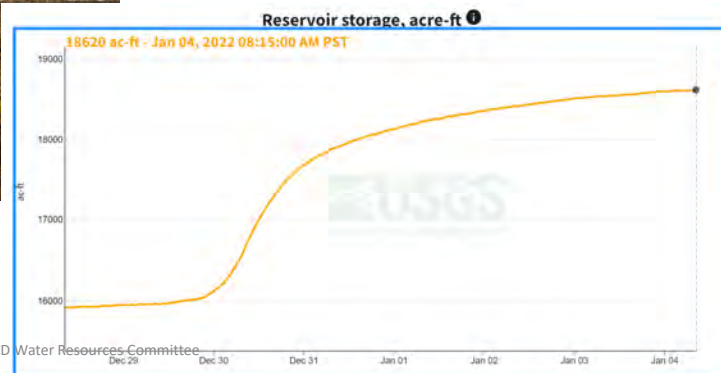


1/4/2022

UWCD Water Resources Committee

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Lake Piru increased by 10 feet (+4,500 AF) in December (includes State Water imports of 1400 AF). We did increase habitat releases to 15 cfs due to exceedance of rainfall trigger.



1/4/2022

UWCD Water Resources Committee

4

DWR has stored approximately 4,000 AF of flood flows in Castaic.



1/4/2022

WCD Water Resources Committee



### **Staff Report**

**To:** Water Resources Committee

**Through:** Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr., General Manager

**From:** Maryam Bral, Chief Engineer  
Dan Detmer, Water Resources Manager

**Date:** February 23, 2022 (March 1, 2022 Committee Meeting)

**Agenda Item:** 6. **Monthly Water Resources Department Report**  
**Information Item**

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#### **Staff Recommendation:**

Receive a summary report on various Water Resources Department activities.

#### **Discussion:**

#### **Staff Activities**

In addition to the Department's routine, ongoing groundwater monitoring and reporting programs and its support of Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (summarized in a separate staff report), notable efforts and activities conducted by staff during the past month included the following:

- Groundwater Modeling:
    - Staff has converted the 2018 version of the groundwater flow model (Coastal Plain Model) to a new software version MODFLOW-USG-Transport that allows for the simulation of salinity and water density changes associated with seawater intrusion in the coastal areas surrounding Point Mugu and Port Hueneme. Staff used the new model to simulate various extraction barrier scenarios near Point Mugu as part of a feasibility study for the Extraction Barrier and Brackish Water Treatment Project. That work was funded by a Prop 1 Round 2 grant. The model is also being used to estimate the inland extent of chloride impacts in the primary production aquifers of the Oxnard basin. Staff is working to update the Coastal Plain Model to include the years 2016-2019.
    - Staff continue to model alternatives for integrating (optimizing) new and existing water-supply and conjunctive-use projects to increase sustainable yield and provide sufficient water to meet current and future water demands in the Oxnard and Pleasant Valley (OPV) basins, which are classified as "critically overdrafted" by CA Department of Water Resources. This effort incorporates both surface-water-distribution modeling and groundwater modeling to evaluate different combinations of
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**Agenda Item: 6. Monthly Water Resources Department Report  
Information Item**

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water-supply and conveyance infrastructure to maximize sustainability, resiliency, and environmental benefits while keeping potential project costs reasonable.

Staff have updated simulated extraction-well locations and pumping rates in the basin-wide optimization model to maintain consistency with simulated locations selected during the Prop 1, Round 2 grant modeling described above. In addition, the optimization modeling has been updated to incorporate United's new understanding of the inland extent of seawater intrusion in each aquifer near the coast. To date, scenarios that assume construction of a 10,000 AF/yr extraction barrier have been modeled (as requested by the FCGMA's *ad hoc* Stakeholder Projects Committee). Currently, scenarios assuming a 20,000 AF/yr extraction barrier are being developed and simulated.

- Staff continue to help the Environmental Services Department (ESD) evaluate effects of existing and potential future surface water flow conditions at the Freeman Diversion.
  - Staff are assisting Environmental Services and Engineering Departments in evaluating fish passage design modifications under consideration for United's Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP), including assisting with physical modeling efforts at the Bureau of Reclamation's facility in Denver.
- Staff continue to assist with planning and coordination for the purchase and release of Table A water and supplemental State Water Project water acquired from City of San Buenaventura and other parties.
- Staff continue to collaborate with the Engineering Department to develop, design, and implement a portfolio of new or improved water-supply projects within the District's service area. The collaborative effort is currently focused on refining the conceptual design of water-supply projects and new conveyance systems so that they yield the best value in terms of sustainable yield for the groundwater basins in United's service area.
  - Staff continue to evaluate conveyance alternatives (for treated water from the Extraction Barrier and Brackish Water Treatment Project [EBB Water]), the potential benefits of pumping optimization scenarios, and other options to achieve sustainability in the OPV basins.
  - Staff assisted with development of site layouts and construction planning for extraction and monitoring wells to be included as Phase 1 of the EBB Water project.
  - Staff assisted with submittal of SGM Grant application materials to the FCGMA for approximately \$6 million in financial aid for the Ferro-Rose Artificial Recharge, Laguna Road Recycled Water Interconnection, and Phase 1 EBB Water projects.

**Outreach and Educational Activities:**

- Staff continue to participate in meetings or phone calls with the FCGMA, State and local government representatives, and other stakeholders to provide information regarding sustainability issues and water-supply projects, as requested.

**Agenda Item: 6. Monthly Water Resources Department Report  
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- Staff gave a presentation titled “Update On Water Supply And Demand Trends in the Oxnard and Pleasant Valley (OPV) Basins” to the AWA-Ventura County Water Issues Committee at their February 15 meeting.
- Staff gave a presentation titled “A Path to Achieving Water-Supply Sustainability in the OPV Basins before 2030, without Ramp Downs” to the Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency’s Board of Directors at their February 23 meeting.
- Staff attended a GRAC Webinar titled “SGMA Implementation: Using an Integrated Hydrologic Model to “Monitor” and Manage Stream Depletion Due to Groundwater Pumping.”



### **Staff Report**

**To:** Water Resources Committee

**Through:** Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr., General Manager

**From:** Maryam Bral, Chief Engineer  
Dan Detmer, Water Resources Manager

**Date:** February 23, 2022 (March 1, 2022 Committee Meeting)

**Agenda Item:** 7. **Update on Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) and Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Information Item**

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#### **Staff Recommendation:**

Receive a summary report on the monthly activities of the three local Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency, Fillmore and Piru Basins GSA, and Mound Basin GSA), for which District board members serve as member directors, and the Santa Paula basin (adjudicated) Technical Advisory Committee, for which District staff serve as members. Staff may also report on state-wide issues related to the implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014.

#### **Discussion:**

##### **Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency (FCGMA)**

Staff continue to monitor and, where appropriate, participate in the FCGMA's groundwater sustainability planning and implementation efforts in the Oxnard, Pleasant Valley, and Las Posas Valley basins. United staff continue to meet periodically with FCGMA staff to develop analyses of benefits and impacts of water-supply projects and different variations of those projects in support of developing a sustainable, resilient water-supply portfolio for the service areas of both agencies.

In February, staff from United and other water agencies in the Oxnard and Pleasant Valley basins assisted the FCGMA's effort to finalize and submit project proposals to include in the California Department of Water Resources' (DWR) Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Grant Program, with \$7.6 million reserved for each critically overdrafted (COD) basin. The Oxnard and Pleasant Valley basins are COD basins. Grant funding can be used for project planning, design, and implementation activities. It is our understanding that the FCGMA submitted the proposal by

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**Agenda Item: 7. Update on Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) and Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)  
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the February 28, 2022, deadline, with a recommendation to provide approximately \$6.5 million in funding for three United projects, including:

- Ferro-Rose Artificial Recharge of Groundwater
- Laguna Road Recycled Water Interconnection
- Monitoring Well Construction and Design of Extraction Barrier and Brackish Water Treatment (EBB Water).

Also in February, staff attended meetings with City of Oxnard representatives to discuss results of modeling potential recycled water credit recovery pumping alternatives under consideration by the City. Specifically, the modeling was conducted to forecast potential effects on groundwater elevations and flow rates in selected areas of the Oxnard basin. It is expected that staff will meet with representatives from the City and FCGMA in the near future to further discuss the modeling results.

United staff also attended and, where appropriate, contributed to FCGMA Board and Committee meetings, as follows:

*Board of Directors meetings* – The FCGMA Board held a special meeting on January 5. The main topic of discussion during the closed session was existing litigation with the Las Posas Valley Water Rights Coalition.

The FCGMA Board held its regular meeting on February 23 at 1:30 pm. Notable topics included:

- The Board adopted amended Resolution No. 2020-03 delegating authority to the Executive Officer to adjust prescribed civil penalties for certain non-reporting violations of owners or operators applying for extraction allocation founded on those non-reported extractions based on factors set forth in the Resolution.
- The Board received a report on the agency’s budget performance through the second quarter of Fiscal Year 2021-2022.
- A presentation by United staff, John Lindquist, entitled *Path to achieving water-supply sustainability in the OPV basins before 2030, without ramp downs*.

*OPV Variance Review Committee meeting* – There were no committee meetings in January.

*OPV Projects Committee meeting* – There were no committee meetings in February.

*Fiscal Committee meeting* – The FCGMA Fiscal Committee has not met since May 18, 2021.

*Operations Committee meeting* – The FCGMA Operations Committee has not met since May 19, 2021.

The Legal *Ad Hoc* Committee of the OPV Core Stakeholder Group has not met since June 11, 2021. Discussions by this committee are subject to a non-disclosure agreement.

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**Agenda Item: 7. Update on Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) and Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)  
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**Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Agency (FPBGSA)**

Staff continue to participate in FPBGSA activities supporting SGMA compliance and GSP preparation for the Fillmore and Piru basins, as follows:

*Board of Directors meetings* – The FPBGSA held a regular Board meeting on February 17. Notable topics included:

- The Board considered potential development of an Agency Governmental Advocacy Platform which includes topics related to water supply, water use efficiency, water quality, land use and funding.

The next regular FPBGSA Board meeting is scheduled for March 17 at 5:00 pm.

*GSP preparation* – The FBBGSA submitted Final GSPs for the Fillmore and Piru basins and provided supporting materials to the DWR web portal as required by the January 31, 2022 deadline. Staff met with representatives from the Sespe Cienega site to discuss ways the agency can potentially support restoration efforts, especially during periods of drought.

*Data Resources* - A web-based data management and mapping system that includes well construction information and available water level and water quality records for wells within the Piru and Fillmore basins remains available on the agency website, as are numerous technical references relating to the basins and development of the GSPs.

*New Monitoring Wells* – Staff is helping coordinate land access agreements with area landowners in opportune locations for new monitoring wells funded by a DWR Technical Support Services (TSS) grant. Staff is assisting with the preparation of a monitoring plan and other grant submittal documents as part of the TSS grant agreement with DWR.

**Mound Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (MBGSA)**

Staff continue to participate in MBGSA activities supporting SGMA compliance and GSP implementation for the Mound basin, as follows:

*Board of Directors meetings*

The regular Board meeting scheduled for February 17 was cancelled.

The next regular MBGSA Board meeting is scheduled for March 17, at 1:00 pm.

*GSP implementation* – The MBGSA submitted the Final GSP and provided supporting materials to the DWR web portal as required by the deadline January 31, 2022. United staff assisted the MBGSA with preparation of the first annual GSP update report, due April 1, 2022. Staff has agreed to instrument a few existing monitoring wells in the vicinity of the Santa Clara River estuary with pressure transducers to better document surface water-groundwater interaction in that vicinity.

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**Agenda Item: 7. Update on Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) and Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)  
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**Santa Paula Basin Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)**

Staff continue to participate in the Santa Paula basin TAC in support of the Santa Paula Basin Judgment and in conformance with SGMA reporting requirements for adjudicated basins, as follows:

- Staff worked with the TAC to finalize the 2020 Annual Report of groundwater conditions within the Santa Paula Basin adjudicated area and submit the report to the court and to DWR.