

SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA

December 10, 2020

2:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89638462192?pwd=ZlBkZzJnWVhudUtGTHJGZHIxaGVtQT09>

Meeting ID: 896 3846 2192

Dial in: +1 669 900 6833

Passcode: 762071

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Due to the ongoing COVID-19 Crisis, and as authorized by the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20, Board Members will participate in this meeting offsite via conference call. Members of the public who wish to provide comment or observe the meeting may join the conference call.

Bob Kelley, Stevinson Water District

Chair

Nic Marchini, Western White Area Representative

Vice Chair

George Park, Lone Tree Mutual Water Company
Lloyd Pareira, County of Merced

Kole Upton, Le Grand-Athlone Water District
Michael Gallo, Eastern White Area Representative

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Public opportunity to speak on any matter of public interest within the Board's jurisdiction including items on the Board's agenda. Testimony limited to three minutes per person.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Action to approve the meeting minutes from the Governing Board meeting on October 8, 2020.

4. AMENDMENT #3 TO WOODARD AND CURRAN CONTRACT

Action to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign a third amendment to the contract with Woodard and Curran Inc., authorizing Woodard and Curran to prepare a GSP Data Gaps Plan and develop a remote sensing decision support tool, develop a Water Year 2020 Annual Report, and prepare a Proposition 68 Implementation Round 1 Grant Funding application.

5. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT IMPLEMENTATION GRANT APPLICATION

Adopt a resolution authorizing the Merced Subbasin GSA, in coordination with MIUGSA and Turner Island GSA-1, to apply for a Sustainable Groundwater Management Implementation – Round 1 grant and enter into a grant agreement with the California Department of Water Resources.

6. BOARD REPORTS

7. NEXT REGULAR MEETING

8. ADJOURNMENT

Alternate formats of this agenda will be made available upon request by qualified individuals with disabilities. Appropriate interpretive services for this meeting will be provided if feasible upon advance request by qualified individuals with disabilities. Please contact the Secretary at (209) 385-7654 for assistance and allow sufficient time to process and respond to your request. Copies of agendas and minutes will be available at the Merced County Community and Economic Development Department and at www.countyofmerced.com/MercedSubbasinGSA.

**MERCED SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY JOINT POWERS
AUTHORITY (JPA)
GOVERNING BOARD**

MINUTES FOR MEETING OF OCTOBER 08, 2020

The agenda, original minutes, and all supporting documentation (for reference purposes only) of the Merced Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Governing Board meeting of October 08, 2020 are available online at www.countyofmerced.com/MercedSubbasinGSA.

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The special public meeting of the Merced Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Joint Powers Authority Governing Board was called to order at 2:03 p.m., on October 08, 2020, at the Merced County Administration Building 2222 M Street, Board Room, Merced, CA 95340.

II. ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS

Board Members Present:

Bob Kelley	Chairman (Stevinson Water District)
Nic Marchini	Vice-Chair (Western White Area)
Brad Robson	Alternate (Le Grand-Athlone Water District)
Michael Gallo	Eastern White Area Representative
Supervisor Rodrigo Espinoza	Alternate (Merced County)

Board Members absent:

George Park	(LoneTree Mutual Water Co.)
Kole Upton	(Le Grand-Athlone Water District)

Staff Present:

Mark Hendrickson	Secretary
Ana Muniz-Laguna	Acting Recording Secretary
Greg Young	Consultant Tully and Young

III. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Mr. Mark Hendrickson informed the public that, in efforts to comply with social distancing requirements, meetings are available to view via audio/video broadcast and public comments can be submitted by email at sgma@countyofmerced.com.

No Public Comment

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

No Public Comment

M/S MARCHINI- ESPINOZA AND CARRIED BY A VOTE OF 5-0, THE BOARD APPROVES THE MEETING MINUTES FROM THE GOVERNING BOARD MEETINGS OF JULY 9, 2020 AND SEPTEMBER 22, 2020.

V. 2021 GOVERNING BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

Mr. Mark Hendrickson proposed dates for the 2021 GSA Board meeting schedule to remain consistent with the current meeting calendar of the second Thursday of each quarter at 2:00 p.m. at the Merced County Board Chambers. The dates for the 2021 regular schedule are January 14, 2020, April 08, 2020, July 08, 2020, and October 14, 2020. Mr. Hendrickson informed that special meetings can be requested in addition to these dates, if the GSA determines they are needed.

Board member Espinoza suggested the meeting times be held at 3:00 p.m.

Vice-Chair Marchini stated that it was beneficial for this Board to keep the same meeting schedule as the past year as some meetings might have more action items and run longer.

No Public Comment.

M/S MARCHINI- GALLO AND CARRIED BY A VOTE OF 5-0, THE BOARD APPROVES THE 2021 GSA BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE AS PROPOSED.

VI. STAFF REPORT

Mr. Greg Young, consultant with Tully and Young, provided an informational staff report. He informed that the Amsterdam Water District signed the agreement that allows them to participate in the JPA as a non-voting, non-paying member. This document would also need to be signed by the GSA Board.

Mr. Young also updated on the Cost Share Agreement approved at the previous GSA meeting stating that signature pages are being collected from all participating water agencies. He informed that when all agencies sign the document, it will be forwarded to MID.

Mr. Young also updated on a scope of work being drafted for consultants Provost and Pritchard to work on Sustainability Zones and present these to the Technical and Advisory Committee for input. Subsequently it would be presented to the GSA Board at their January 2021 meeting.

Mr. Young discussed the project to expand the monitoring well network stating that ongoing work is being done to identify more wells to incorporate into the monitoring well system. More discussion will be had in the future with the GSA to

help identify who and how this will be done.

Mr. Young updated on the GSA ad hoc committee meeting along with MIGUSA and Turner Island's representatives which had various topic discussions including commonalities in GSP action. Also discussed between the group was the establishment of an MOU regarding items like a 5-year target for demand reduction, the establishment of baselines, a methodology of measurement, the discussion of deliverable water vs natural water among other topics. Mr. Young mentioned that additional meetings will need to be programmed within the GSA's ad hoc members to discuss these topics and bring them to the GSA Board for additional input.

Mr. Young updated that the Coordination Committee is working on scheduling an upcoming meeting between October and November facilitated by consultants Woodard and Curran.

Chairman Kelley asked about status of Proposition 68 funding as it relates to monitoring well construction. Mr. Young did not have an update on the funds, but informed that some other projects were also to be funded out of those monies and stated that he would inquire on an update and circle back with an answer for the GSA Board at a future meeting.

Boardmember Robson asked if there were any specifications what a monitoring well should be. Mr. Young informed that the State recommends the wells used be included in the CASGEM networks. He stated the more data and information had on existing or new wells, will help to better understand the information to determine if it is useful.

No Public Comment.

VII. BOARD REPORTS

None

VIII. NEXT REGULAR MEETING

January 14, 2021

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2.29 p.m.

BOARD ACTION ITEM

TO: MEMBERS OF MERCED SUBBASIN GSA GOVERNING BOARD
FROM: MARK HENDRICKSON, SECRETARY
DATE: DECEMBER 10, 2020

SUBJECT: AMENDMENT #3 TO WOODARD AND CURRAN CONTRACT

SUMMARY:

This item considers approval of a third amendment to the contract with Woodard and Curran Inc. The original contract with Woodard and Curran was for the development of the Merced GSP, it has been amended twice to approve the development of the Proposition 68 Planning Grant application and to prepare the first annual report. The Woodard and Curran contract is signed by the Merced Subbasin GSA, the Merced Irrigation Urban GSA and the Turner Island Water District GSA-1.

This third amendment approves four additional tasks to be added to the Woodard and Curran contract.

New Tasks 17 and 18 are to Address GSP Data Gaps and to Develop a Remote Sensing Decision Support Tool for Subbasin. The Proposition 68 Sustainable Groundwater Management Planning Grant award funds the Merced Subbasin to evaluate and prioritize data gaps identified in the Merced Subbasin GSP, resulting in a strategy to address the most critical data gaps in the form of a Data Gap Plan. The Development of a Remote Sensing Decision Support Tool will combine actual evapotranspiration with local parcel maps and water supply records to calculate net groundwater contribution. The tool will support the capacity to develop water budgets at multiple levels of refinement and will establish a better understanding of groundwater use across the subbasin. These two tasks are funded by the Proposition 68 award in the amounts of \$73,829 for the Data Gaps Plan and \$117,064 for the Decision Support Tool.

New Task 19 is to prepare the Water Year 2020 Annual Report. The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act regulations require GSAs to submit annual reports to the California Department of Water Resources. The report includes updated information in three key sections: general information, basin conditions and GSP implementation progress. This task is accomplished for the amount of \$84,786, shared by the three Merced GSAs.

The final two new Tasks 20 and 21, under this amendment, are for the coordination and preparation of a Proposition 68 Sustainable Groundwater Management Implementation Grant – Round 1 application. The Prop. 68 Implementation grant is open to critically overdraft basins to fund the implementation of GSP projects. The GSAs have identified two projects to include in the application: the Le Grand-Athlone Water District Intertie Project – Phase 1 and the El Nido Conveyance System Improvements, a project of MID. The application will request total funding of approximately \$5 million for these projects. The LAWD Intertie Project is located within the Merced Subbasin and will include a canal from the MID Canal to Dutchman Creek, facilitating the conveyance of water in the southern portion of the basin, it will also include a recharge basin within the Le Grand-Athlone Water District. The application is due January 8, 2020, draft

awards for Round 1 are projected to be announced in March 2021 with final awards projected in May 2021. The cost of the coordination and preparation of the grant application is \$49,741. The Coordination Committee is recommending costs be shared proportionally between the GSAs according to the included projects.

The Coordination Committee has unanimously recommended that the GSA boards approve this third amendment with Woodard and Curran.

REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION/ACTION NEEDED:

Approve and authorize the Chairman to sign a third amendment to the contract with Woodard and Curran Inc., authorizing Woodard and Curran to prepare a GSP Data Gaps Plan and develop a remote sensing decision support tool, develop a Water Year 2020 Annual Report, and prepare a Proposition 68 Implementation Round 1 Grant Funding application.

**Amendment No. 3
to the Agreement between
Merced Irrigation-Urban Groundwater Sustainability Agency (MIUGSA), Merced Subbasin GSA,
and Turner Island Water District GSA - 1 (collectively, "Client") and
Woodard & Curran, Inc. ("W&C")
dated October 9, 2017 (the "Agreement")**

This Amendment No. 3 ("Amendment No. 3") to the Agreement is entered on **December 2, 2020**.

RECITALS

WHEREAS, Client and W&C entered into the Agreement dated as of October 9, 2017 under which W&C shall provide certain services to Client related to preparation of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan;

WHEREAS, Client and W&C executed a First Amendment to this Agreement on September 24, 2019 to include work to prepare a Prop 68 grant application;

WHEREAS, Client and W&C executed a Second Amendment to this Agreement on January 29, 2020 to include work to prepare a first annual report for the Merced Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan;

WHEREAS, the parties desire to amend the Agreement to include the work to prepare a GSP Data Gaps Plan and develop a remote sensing decision support tool, develop a Water Year 2020 Annual Report, and prepare a Proposition 68 Implementation Round 1 Grant Funding application as outlined in the attached Scope and Fee.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises and of the mutual promises of the parties, Client and W&C hereby agree to amend the Agreement as follows:

See attached Scope and Fee.

All other terms and conditions of the Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.

[Signatures on Next Page]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, each party hereto has caused this Amendment to be executed by its duly authorized representative on the day and year set forth below.

Woodard & Curran, Inc.

By: Alyson Watson _____

Sign: Alyson Watson _____

Date: _____

Merced Irrigation-Urban Groundwater Sustainability Agency (MIUGSA)

By: _____

Sign: _____

Date: _____

Turner Island Water District GSA - 1 (TIWD GSA-1)

By: _____

Sign: _____

Date: _____

Merced Subbasin GSA (MSGSA)

By: _____

Sign: _____

Date: _____

SCOPE

Note regarding task numbering: When Phase 2 began in March 2018, tasks were re-numbered from the order in the Agreement to match the order of tasks in the submitted Prop 1 Grant Application to better align with the anticipated DWR Grant Agreement. When Amendment 1 for preparation of the Prop 68 grant application was executed, two new tasks (Tasks 14 and 15) were added. When Amendment 2 for preparation of the Annual Report was executed, one new task (Task 16) was added. Upon approval of Amendment 3, the authorized task numbers will be:

Task 1 – PM and Coordination

Task 2 – Plan Area and Authority

Task 3 – Data Management System

Task 4 – Data, Plan Area, and Basin Setting

Task 5 – Sustainability Criteria

Task 6 – Monitoring Networks

Task 7 – Sustainability Thresholds

Task 8 – Water Accounting Framework

Task 9 – Management Program

Task 10 – GSP Implementation

Task 11 – GSP Compilation and Preparation

Task 12 – Coordination and Outreach

Task 13 – Interbasin Agreements and Coordination

Task 14 – Coordination with Merced GSAs

Task 15 – Preparation of Grant Application and Submittal to DWR

Task 16 - Preparation of First Annual Report

Task 17 – Address GSP Data Gaps (*new task added under Amendment 3*)

Task 18 - Develop Remote Sensing Decision Support Tool for Subbasin (*new task added under Amendment 3*)

Task 19 – Preparation of Water Year 2020 Annual Report (*new task added under Amendment 3*)

Task 20: Prop 68 Implementation Grant Round 1 Coordination with Merced Subbasin GSAs (*new task added under Amendment 3*)

Task 21: Preparation of Prop 68 Implementation Grant Round 1 Application and Submittal to DWR (*new task added under Amendment 3*)

New tasks 17 and 18 (with their respective subtasks) map to the draft DWR Prop 68 planning grant agreement as follows:

W&C Task #	W&C Task Name	W&C Subtask #	W&C Subtask Name	DWR Grant Agreement Component	DWR Grant Agreement Category
17	Address GSP Data Gaps	17.1	Project Management and Communications	6 Addressing GSP Data Gaps	(a) Component Administration
		17.2	Stakeholder Engagement and Outreach		(b) Stakeholder Engagement/Outreach
		17.3	Development of a Plan to Address Data Gaps		(c) GSP Development
18	Develop Remote Sensing Decision Support Tool for Subbasin	18.1	Project Management and Communications	7 Remote Sensing Decision Support Tool	(a) Component Administration
		18.2	Stakeholder Engagement and Outreach		(b) Stakeholder Engagement/Outreach
		18.3	Development of a Remote Sensing Decision Support Tool		(c) GSP Development
		18.4	Create Document Summarizing the Uses and Limitations of the Remote Sensing Decision Support Tool		

Task 17 – Address GSP Data Gaps

Subtask 17.1 – Project Management and Communications

Subtask 17.1 includes project management activities associated with the creation of the data gaps plan and overall stakeholder engagement and outreach for Merced Subbasin GSAs to provide information and solicit input with Subbasin communities in addressing GSP Data Gaps. Management activities include contract administration, invoicing, and progress reporting. Also included in this task are budget and schedule tracking and general project team communications.

Deliverables:

- Summaries of activities included in monthly Progress Reports
- Up to 6 conference calls with GSA staff

Subtask 17.2 – Stakeholder Engagement and Outreach

This subtask will involve outreach by the Merced GSAs to subbasin communities, especially those located in areas which lack sufficient groundwater monitoring. It is anticipated that the GSP’s existing Stakeholder Committee will be consulted to provide input on Subbasin priorities in addressing data gaps. Spanish translation services will be provided during public meetings. This work also includes outreach to well owners as needed to carry out activities under Subtask 17.3 and updates to the MercedSGMA.org website on progress on addressing GSP data gaps.

Deliverables:

- Up to 4 presentations at public meetings, including meeting agendas and materials, presentations, and meeting notes
- Spanish Translation services during meeting presentations
- MercedSGMA.org website links
- Full documentation of outreach and coordination activities to be included in final proposal report

Assumptions:

- Meetings will be virtual.
- Public meeting outreach materials will be provided in electronic format.

Subtask 17.3 – Data Gap Plan Development

Subtask 17.3 involves the evaluation and prioritization of data gaps identified in the Merced Subbasin GSP. This would result in a near-term strategy to cost-effectively address the most critical data gaps in the form of a Data Gaps Plan. The plan would target

data gaps in areas that lack sufficient monitoring (geographical areas with no data), and especially areas that will provide information that will benefit Disadvantaged Areas (SDAC, DAC, and EDAs). Creating the plan includes prioritizing which data gaps to address first and creating a timeline. The plan will look for opportunities to address multiple needs (e.g. water level, water quality, subsidence) through strategically placed wells or data collection. This includes creating an estimate of the number of wells needed to provide coverage beyond the minimum DWR density recommendation to better respond to needs of the Subbasin. The plan would evaluate data gaps related to sustainability indicators and also consider data needs to support Task 18 – remote sensing, which could include additional CIMIS stations in the basin. Subtask 17.3 will provide information to support the GSAs' upgrade and incorporation of existing wells into the monitoring network.

A draft Data Gaps Plan will be prepared for the review by the GSAS. Comments will be incorporated into a final Data Gaps Plan which will be distributed electronically (PDF).

Deliverables:

- Draft and Final Data Gaps Plan

Assumptions:

- Does not include any scope related to identification of existing wells within the basin that do not currently meet the requirements for use as representative GSP monitoring wells, or coordination with well owners in priority data gaps areas, or update and incorporation of existing wells into the monitoring network or DMS.

Task 18 – Develop Remote Sensing Decision Support Tool for Subbasin

Subtask 18.1 – Project Management and Communications

Subtask 18.1 includes project management activities associated with the development of a remote sensing decision support tool for the Subbasin. Management activities include contract administration, invoicing, and progress reporting. Also included in this task are budget and schedule tracking and general project team communications.

Deliverables:

- Summaries of activities for inclusion in Progress Reports

Subtask 18.2 – Stakeholder Engagement and Outreach

Subtask 18.2 includes conducting stakeholder engagement and outreach related to development and deployment of a remote-sensing decision support tool quantifying groundwater use in the Subbasin. This task includes funding for Spanish translation services to be provided at public meetings. Outreach will include presentations at public meetings to be organized and coordinated by the Merced Subbasin GSAs and local community representatives. Information will also be provided through updates to the Merced SGMA and GSA websites. Outreach is anticipated to include holding dedicated workshops within disadvantaged communities. These outreach efforts will be conducted in coordination with other GSP related outreach as appropriate. A key communication piece associated with this component will be the creation of a brochure/fact sheet on the decision support tool based on the technical memorandum prepared under subtask 18.4 that will summarize the uses and limitations of the decision support tool in clear and understandable language for general audiences.

Deliverables:

- Up to 3 presentations at public meetings, including meeting agendas and materials, presentations, and meeting notes.
- Spanish Translation services at outreach meetings
- Remote-sensing decision support tool informational brochure/fact sheet in English and Spanish

Assumptions:

- Meetings/presentations will be virtual. Public outreach meetings for this task may be combined with outreach meetings for Data Gaps Plan if appropriate.
- Public meeting outreach materials will be provided in electronic format.

Subtask 18.3 – Development of a Remote Metering Decision Support Tool

An integrated GIS tool will be developed to combine actual evapotranspiration with local parcel maps and water supply records to calculate net groundwater contribution. This task includes purchasing 2 years (2018/2019) of METRIC™ evapotranspiration data for the Merced Subbasin for establishing a baseline and for use in creating the decision support tool, plus the additional purchase of 2020, and 2021 data when available. The tool will account for all major water budget components entering and leaving the root-zone and will incorporate soil moisture tracking on a monthly timestep. By utilizing continuous GIS datasets, the decision support tool will allow for analysis to be completed at variable resolutions from GSA-level to parcel-level, only limited by the resolution of surface water delivery records. This tool will support the capacity to develop water budgets at multiple levels of refinement, particularly focused on the parcel level. This will establish a better understanding of groundwater use across the Subbasin and will inform decisions for sustainable groundwater management including demand management measures.

Deliverables:

- Documentation of purchase of 4 years of METRIC™ evapotranspiration data for Merced Subbasin (2018-2021)
- Remote Metering Decision Support Tool (excel and GIS files)

Subtask 18.4 – Create Document Summarizing the Uses and Limitations of the Remote Sensing Decision Support Tool

This task involves preparing a Technical Memorandum summarizing the use and inherent limitations of the decision support tool including uncertainties and limitations of METRIC™ and the other data inputs to the tool. This document will focus on the product methodology, sensitivity, and uncertainty. It will serve as a user's guide and provide sufficient technical detail for the GSAs to continue utilizing it as additional METRIC™ datasets become available. The brochure/fact sheet developed in subtask 18.2 will be based on this technical memorandum.

Deliverables:

- Technical Memorandum summarizing use and limitations of Merced Subbasin Remote-Sensing Decision Support Tool
- Summary of monthly estimates of net groundwater use for Merced Subbasin at GSA-level for 2018-2021

Task 19 - Preparation of Water Year 2020 Annual Report

The Water Year (WY) 2020 Annual Report for the Merced Subbasin GSP will be due on April 1, 2021. Per California Code of Regulations §356.2 (SGMA regulations), annual reports must include three key sections: 1) General Information, 2) Basin Conditions, and 3) Plan Implementation Progress. Completion of the water year 2020 annual report is broken into the five subtasks below:

Subtask 19.1 – Project Management and Coordination

This subtask includes project management throughout the development of the WY 2020 Annual Report. Tasks will include implementing QA/QC protocols, providing timely progress reports and billing statements, and providing overall program management and management of subconsultants. In addition, this task includes up to 4 conference calls with GSA staff members for coordination on compilation and completion of the second annual report.

Deliverables:

- Up to 4 conference calls with GSA staff (December through end of March).
- Monthly progress reports and invoices

Assumptions:

- Meeting information will be provided electronically.

Subtask 19.2 – Collect, Compile, and Analyze Data

The Basin Conditions section of the annual report will describe the current groundwater conditions and monitoring results, described further in the bullets below.

Woodard & Curran will work with the GSAs to develop a list of each necessary dataset, the responsible agency, and due dates for data collection (see "Schedule" section at end of Scope). Data will be compiled and reviewed for basic quality control (e.g. duplicate

data or flagging data expected to have errors). Separately, note that groundwater elevation and groundwater quality data will be compiled and imported into the Merced Subbasin Data Management System (DMS) in Subtask 19.3. Data will be analyzed and presented for each data type as follows:

- Groundwater Elevation
 - Woodard & Curran will add new groundwater elevation data reported to the SGMA Portal to an existing groundwater elevation database used during GSP development and the First Annual Report and develop groundwater elevation contour maps for each principal aquifer that illustrate seasonal high and seasonal low groundwater conditions for water year 2020. Specifically, this will include the following maps:
 - Groundwater elevation contour maps for seasonal high and seasonal low (for water year 2020, totaling 6 maps, two per principal aquifer)
 - 1-year groundwater elevation change from WY 2019 to WY 2020 (three maps, one per principal aquifer)
 - Hydrographs will also be compiled for each monitoring well, showing available historical groundwater elevations through WY2020 with reference to water year type.
- Groundwater Extraction
 - Groundwater extraction estimates will be presented in a table, as required by DWR, summarizing groundwater extractions by water use sector, with identification of the method of measurement (direct or estimate) and accuracy of measurements. It is anticipated that estimates will be based on MercedWRM model runs.
 - An accompanying map will illustrate the general location and volume of groundwater extractions per square mile.
- Surface Water Supply and Use
 - Surface water supply used or available for use (for groundwater recharge or in-lieu use) will be summarized in tabular form, describing the annual volume and sources for WY 2020. Surface water supplies include precipitation, streamflow, and local surface water. Precipitation and streamflow data will be obtained from public sources. Local surface water deliveries are assumed to be provided directly by the GSAs and other local agencies where applicable.
- Total Water Use
 - Total water use will be calculated based on groundwater extraction and surface water use data and summarized by water use sector and water source type, along with measurement method and accuracy of measurements, as required by DWR.
- Annual Water Budget and Change in Groundwater Storage
 - The MercedWRM will be updated to establish a water budget for WY 2020 based on the updated groundwater elevation, surface water delivery data, evapotranspiration, and land use.
 - The MercedWRM will be used to generate an estimated change in storage for each principal aquifer. A map will be generated to show the location of change in storage, as well as graphical figures showing year type, groundwater use, the annual change in groundwater in storage, and the historical cumulative change in groundwater in storage from 1995 through WY 2020.
- Land Subsidence
 - Woodard & Curran assumes that the latest land surface elevation data for USBR San Joaquin River Restoration Program control points will be readily available from the public website for the program. If so, updated subsidence maps will be prepared, similar to the subsidence maps presented in the Current & Historical Conditions section of the GSP. Specifically, this is expected (depending on data availability) to include a total of two (2) maps, as follows:

- Map showing average subsidence from July 2012 - July 2020 OR December 2011 - December 2020
- Map showing total subsidence July 2015 - July 2020 OR December 2015 - December 2020
- Groundwater Quality
 - While annual reporting of groundwater quality is not specifically required by DWR (outside of measuring progress against upcoming interim milestones), the GSAs have committed to providing an annual summary of ongoing water quality coordination activities. Woodard & Curran will support this task by completing the following activities:
 - Woodard & Curran will review data submitted to public water quality databases, such as the Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR), Division of Drinking Water (DDW), Department of Toxic Substances Control (EnviroStor), and GeoTracker as part of the Groundwater Ambient Monitoring and Assessment (GAMA) database. New data will be compiled and imported into Merced Subbasin DMS in Subtask 19.3.

Subtask 19.3 – Merced Subbasin Data Management System Update

This subtask includes time spent formatting and importing groundwater level and water quality data that will be downloaded and compiled in Subtask 19.2 into the DMS. The DMS will also be used to generate output reports that will be uploaded to DWR's SGMA Portal as part of annual reporting submission requirements using DWR templates.

Subtask 19.4 – Document Plan Implementation Progress

The Plan Implementation section of the annual report will describe the progress made towards achieving interim milestones as well as implementation of projects and management actions.

Woodard & Curran will work with the GSAs to evaluate and report on the progress towards implementing the GSP, including the status of the shortlisted projects and ongoing development of management actions. Shortlisted projects will be summarized in tabular format. Management actions will be summarized in paragraph form.

Subtask 19.5 – Prepare Annual Report

The results of Subtasks 19.2, 19.3, and 19.4 will be used to develop the WY 2020 Annual Report, including an executive summary that highlights the key content of the annual report. The following sections will be included:

1. Executive Summary
2. Introduction
3. Basin Setting
 - a. Groundwater Elevations
 - b. Groundwater Extractions
 - c. Surface Water Supply
 - d. Total Water Use
 - e. Change in Groundwater Storage
 - f. Land Subsidence
 - g. Groundwater Quality
4. Plan Implementation Progress
5. References

A Draft Report will be prepared for review by the GSAs. Comments will be incorporated into a Final Report which will be distributed electronically (PDF). Woodard & Curran will also upload the final second annual report and supporting documentation to the SGMA Portal.

Woodard & Curran will also provide the GSAs a copy of the digital files for supporting data, such as Excel spreadsheets and GIS maps/shapefiles.

Task 20: Prop 68 Implementation Grant Round 1 Coordination with Merced Subbasin GSAs

W&C will coordinate with the Merced Subbasin GSAs to determine what projects and activities to include in the grant proposal. The Merced GSP identified several high-priority near term projects and activities that need to be completed in the first five years of the GSP. Using these lists as a starting point, W&C will meet with GSA staff and/or a Coordination Committee ad hoc group (if formed) to determine what to include in the grant application based on Subbasin priorities, grant preferences, and scoring considerations.

W&C will work with MID as the designated proposal applicant for the grant application; review the work plans, budgets, and schedules to be included in the Implementation Round 1 Grant Application; and determine how the required funding match will be met.

This scope assumes that W&C will hold an initial Kick Off meeting with representatives from the GSA staff or Coordination Committee ad hoc group (if formed) to determine which projects and activities to include in the grant and discuss grant application data needs. Given the anticipated grant submittal deadlines, working with and soliciting input from the GSAs will take place in November and December. Up to three follow-up meetings will be conducted via conference call to finalize the work plans, budgets, and schedules and the draft grant application. Additional conference calls will be held, as needed, to seek clarification on information received and/or to follow up on additional data needs. W&C will also conduct ongoing project management and preparation of monthly progress reports and invoices under Task 20.

Task 20 Assumptions

- W&C would participate in one initial virtual Kick Off meeting and conduct up to three additional virtual meetings in continued collaboration with GSA staff or Coordination Committee ad hoc group.

Task 21: Preparation of Prop 68 Implementation Grant Round 1 Application and Submittal to DWR

W&C will complete the Implementation Round 1 Grant Application and will submit the application to DWR through the online GRanTS system. This task consists of three subtasks required for preparation, review, and submittal of a completed application.

Subtask 21.1 – Prepare Draft Application

A draft grant application will be prepared to address the various requirements for Implementation Round 1 funding as documented in DWR's final PSP and to track completion of the required attachments. Work items to be conducted in preparing the application include the following:

- Review of GRanTS checklist - W&C will compile the required information for DWR's GRanTS Checklist. The Checklist includes all information beyond the application attachments that needs to be submitted electronically to DWR via the online GRanTS system.
- Review of final grant solicitation materials, including project qualification requirements, authorization and eligibility requirements, and preparation of the grant application outline and list of data needs.
- Preparation of Authorization (grant Attachment 1) and Eligibility (grant Attachment 2) Documentation – W&C will coordinate with all Merced Subbasin GSAs to draft the required authorizing resolution and to compile the required eligibility documentation, including documentation of compliance with the required state programs. These items will be incorporated into the Authorizing Documentation and Eligibility Documentation attachments, respectively.
- Preparation of the Work Plan (grant Attachment 3) – The Work Plan attachment, to be prepared by W&C, will be consistent with and support the Budget and Schedule attachments and be prepared using the Work Plan template provided on DWR's SGM webpage. Project description, including project benefits, and technical need; project details; scope of work and deliverables; and project support will be described in the Work Plan attachment. If additional funding is being requested for a previously funded task(s), justification will be provided.
- Preparation of the Budget (grant Attachment 4)– The Budget attachment, to be prepared by W&C, will include the estimated costs for the project with a written description of how costs were derived and use templates for tables provided by DWR in the PSP. This attachment will include the two following sub-sections: Grant Proposal Summary Budget Table and Proposal/Component Detailed Budget Table. Costs will be broken down consistent with how tasks and subtasks are presented in the Work Plan attachment. Grant funding request and funding matches will also be documented in this attachment.

- Preparation of Schedule (grant Attachment 5) – Two schedules for (1) each component showing the sequence and timing of each task as well as (2) a schedule for the implementation of the proposal showing the sequence and timing of each of the proposed components will be prepared by W&C for the Schedule attachment, consistent with the templates provided by DWR in the PSP. The Schedule attachment will be consistent with the Work Plan and Budget attachments where the proposal completion dates presented will have an end date of no later than April 30, 2024.
- Preparation of the Underrepresented Community Document (grant Attachment 6)– W&C will update mapping developed for the GSP and prior grant applications through a GIS analysis to demonstrate the presence of Severely Disadvantaged Communities (SDACs), Disadvantaged Communities (DACs), Economically Distressed Areas (EDAs), Environmentally Disadvantaged Communities (EnvDACs), and Fringe communities in the Merced Subbasin and their location relative to project benefit area(s), which could be used to apply for a funding match reduction, if desired. Information that demonstrates support for the project by SDACs, DACs, EDAs, EnvDACs, and Fringe communities, such as letters of support from these communities, will be provided to DWR.

Once the required GRanTS information has been compiled and the required attachments drafted, a draft application will be prepared and submitted to the Merced Subbasin GSAs for review and comment.

Subtask 21.2 – Prepare Final Application

Following review and comment on the draft attachments of the grant application listed above, W&C will finalize all documents. A compiled screencheck final grant application will be provided for final review.

Subtask 21.3 – Submit Application via GRanTS

Once the final grant application has been completed and the screencheck version approved, the application will be submitted to DWR via the GRanTS website.

Deliverables for Task 21 will consist of draft electronic (Word and PDF) files of the Implementation Round 1 Grant Application (including a summary of information to be directly entered into the GRanTS website), and final electronic (Word and PDF) files for the Implementation Round 1 Grant Application.

Overall Task 21 Assumptions

- Project proponents for projects selected for inclusion in application will provide a scope of work, budget, and schedule for inclusion in their respective attachments by December 7th.
- Client will coordinate the outreach for letters of support and provide signed electronic copies to W&C for inclusion in grant application by January 5th.
- W&C will be responsible for overall coordination and production of the grant application, as well as submittal of the final grant application to DWR via GRanTS.

Estimated Schedule

The estimated schedule for Tasks 17 and 18 is shown below.

Task 17: Address GSP Data Gaps	Start	End
17.1 Project Management and Communications	12/1/2020	12/29/2022
17.2 Stakeholder Engagement and Outreach	12/1/2020	12/29/2022
17.3 Development of a Plan to Address Data Gaps	12/1/2020	2/22/2021
Task 18: Develop Remote Sensing Decision Support Tool for Subbasin	Start	End
18.1 Project Management and Communications	12/1/2020	12/29/2022
18.2 Stakeholder Engagement and Outreach	12/1/2020	12/29/2022
18.3 Development of a Remote Sensing Decision Support Tool	2/23/2021	8/9/2021
18.4 Create Document Summarizing Uses and Limitations of METRIC™ Remote Sensing Tool	8/10/2021	11/1/2021

The estimated schedule for Task 19 (Water Year 2020 Annual Report) is shown below:

Week Starting	11/30	12/7	12/14	12/21	12/28	1/4	1/11	1/18	1/25	2/1	2/8	2/15	2/22	3/1	3/8	3/15	3/22	3/29
Develop Data Request																		
Collect required data																		
Compile and QC required data																		
Prepare annual report																		
GSA's review draft annual report																		
Incorporate comments																		
Approve annual report																		
Submit annual report																		
Project Management																		

The estimated schedule for Tasks 20 (Prop 68 Implementation Grant Round 1 Coordination with Merced Subbasin GSAs) and 21 (Preparation of Prop 68 Implementation Grant Round 1 Application and Submittal to DWR) is shown below.

This schedule is based on the schedule in the final PSP. W&C proposes to complete the draft grant application by December 14th and have ready for the Merced GSAs to review from December 14th to the 24th. The final application for submittal would be the week of January 4th (due to DWR via GRanTS by January 8, 2021 at 5pm).

Client deadlines include:

- 11/30/2020: Project list is finalized
- 12/7/2020: Project information is provided to W&C
- 12/24/2020: Comments on draft submittal provided to W&C
- 1/5/2021 at 5 PM: All letters of support are received
- 1/7/2021 at 5 PM: Screencheck comments received

Week	16-Nov	23-Nov	30-Nov	7-Dec	14-Dec	21-Dec	28-Dec	4-Jan
Notice to Proceed; Develop Outline								
Client Coordination to select projects								
<i>CLIENT to Provide Materials</i>								
W&C to Prepare Draft Submittal								
<i>CLIENT to Review Draft Submittal</i>								
W&C to Produce Final Submittal								
<i>W&C to Submit via GRanTS</i>								



**Merced Irrigation District
Merced Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan**

Tasks	Labor											Total Hours	Total Labor Costs (1)	Outside Services		ODCs		Total Fee	
	PIC	Project Manager	Planner	Planner	Senior Technical Manager	Project Engineer	Modeling / Technical Analysis	Software Engineer	Engineer 1	Graphics	Admin.			Subtotal	Sub Consultant Total Cost (2)	ODCs	Total ODCs (3)		
																			Catalyst + Translation Services
Phase 17: Address GSP Data Gaps	\$320	\$289	\$227	\$217	\$289	\$242	\$227	\$151	\$166	\$121	\$113								
17.1 Project Management and Communications	8	14	24								24	70	\$14,766	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$14,766		
17.2 Stakeholder Engagement and Outreach	4	10		30					23	4		71	\$14,982	\$8,304	\$8,304	\$9,134	\$24,116		
17.3 Development of a Plan to Address Data Gaps	8	26	38	38	6	6			24	5	2	153	\$34,947	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$34,947		
Subtotal Task 17:	20	50	62	68	6	6	0	0	47	9	26	294	\$64,695	\$8,304	\$8,304	\$9,134	\$73,829		
Phase 18: Develop Remote Sensing Decision Support Tool for Subbasin																			
18.1 Project Management and Communications	6	10	16								20	52	\$10,702	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$10,702		
18.2 Stakeholder Engagement and Outreach	2	10		11						4		27	\$6,401	\$9,350	\$9,350	\$10,285	\$16,686		
18.3 Development of a Remote Sensing Decision Support Tool	3	6	12	10	8	45			47			131	\$28,592	\$0	\$0	\$50,000	\$78,592		
18.4 Create Document Summarizing Uses and Limitations of METRIC™ Remote Sensing Tool	2	4	6		4	16			16	2		50	\$11,084	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$11,084		
Subtotal Task 18:	13	30	34	21	12	61	0	0	63	6	20	260	\$56,779	\$9,350	\$9,350	\$10,285	\$50,000	\$117,064	
Phase 19: Description																			
19.1 Project Management and Coordination	2	12	13								5	32	\$7,624	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$7,624		
19.2 Collection, Compile, and Analyze Data	2	8	63		8		140					221	\$51,345	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$51,345		
19.3 Merced Subbasin Data Management System Update			4		10			42				56	\$10,140	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$10,140		
19.4 Document Plan Implementation Progress	2	2	4									8	\$2,126	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,126		
19.5 Prepare Annual Report	4	20	26							3	2	55	\$13,551	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$13,551		
Subtotal Task 3:	10	42	110	0	18	0	140	42	0	3	7	372	\$84,786	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$84,786		
Phase 20: Description																			
20.1 Kickoff Meeting		8		8								16	\$4,048	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$4,048		
20.2 Conference Calls	4	4		4								12	\$3,304	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,304		
20.3 On-going Coordination and Project Management	1	4		2						2		9	\$2,152	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,152		
Subtotal Task 4:	5	16	0	14	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	37	\$9,504	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$9,504		
Phase 21: Description																			
21.1 Draft Application	2	28		112						8		150	\$34,004	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$34,004		
21.2 Final Application	2	4		16						2		24	\$5,510	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$5,510		
21.3 Submittal to GRanTS		1		2								3	\$723	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$723		
Subtotal Task 5:	4	33	0	130	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	177	\$40,237	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$40,237		
TOTAL	52	171	206	233	36	67	140	42	110	30	53	1140	\$256,001	\$17,654	\$17,654	\$19,419	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$325,420
													Budget previously authorized for Tasks 1-16 including contingency		\$1,748,306				
													Total authorized budget		\$2,073,726				

- The individual hourly rates include salary, overhead and profit.
- Subconsultants will be billed at actual cost plus 10%.
- Other direct costs (ODCs) such as reproduction, delivery, mileage (rates will be those allowed by current IRS guidelines), and travel expenses, will be billed at actual cost.
- W&C reserves the right to adjust its hourly rate structure and ODC markup at the beginning of the calendar year for all ongoing contracts.

BOARD ACTION ITEM

TO: MEMBERS OF MERCED SUBBASIN GSA GOVERNING BOARD
FROM: MARK HENDRICKSON, SECRETARY
DATE: DECEMBER 10, 2020

**SUBJECT: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A
SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT
IMPLEMENTATION GRANT APPLICATION**

SUMMARY:

The Coordination Committee has unanimously recommended that the GSA Boards approve submitting a Proposition 68 Sustainable Groundwater Management Implementation grant application. The California Department of Water Resources is administering the SGM Implementation-Round 1 grant solicitation for projects that address drought and groundwater challenges to achieve regional sustainability. The projects funded must include activities and/or tasks that consist of the development of groundwater recharge projects with surface water, storm water, recycled water and other conjunctive use projects. There is \$21 million available for critically overdraft basins, the minimum award is \$2 million and the maximum award is \$5 million.

The Merced Subbasin's project, the Southern Merced Subbasin Groundwater Recharge Program, consists of two components, the Le Grand-Athlone Water District Intertie Project – Phase 1 and the El Nido Conveyance System Improvements projects, with MID as the project proponent. The Merced application will request a total of approximately \$5 million for these components. The application will submit a cost share waiver based on the Underrepresented Communities in the basin benefitting from these projects.

The action for consideration is adoption of a required resolution authorizing the Merced Subbasin GSA, in coordination with MIUGSA and Turner Island Water District GSA-1 to apply for a Sustainable Groundwater Management Implementation–Round 1 grant. As with the two previous Sustainable Groundwater Management grant awards, this grant will be administered by Merced Irrigation District on behalf of the three GSAs. The cost of the application will be shared by the GSA's according to project proportion. The Le Grand-Athlone Water District Intertie Project- Phase 1 and accompanying recharge basin is requesting approximately 82% of the grant funding.

REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION/ACTION NEEDED:

Adopt a resolution authorizing the Merced Subbasin GSA, in coordination with MIUGSA and Turner Island GSA-1, to apply for a Sustainable Groundwater Management Implementation – Round 1 grant and enter into a grant agreement with the California Department of Water Resources.

**MERCED SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
RESOLUTION NO. 2020-02**

**RESOLUTION OF THE MERCED SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A 2020 SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER
MANAGEMENT IMPLEMENTATION GRANT – ROUND 1 APPLICATION**

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

WHEREAS, the Merced Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) was formed as a joint powers authority pursuant to Government Code section 6500, *et seq.*, by agencies that qualify to be groundwater sustainability agencies; and

WHEREAS, the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) is administering the Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Grant Program Implementation Grant – Round 1 using funds authorized by the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018 (Proposition 68); and

WHEREAS, the SGM Grant Program Implementation Grants Proposal Solicitation Package requires eligible applicants for proposals be GSAs for the respective basin and states only one application will be accepted per basin; and

WHEREAS, the three GSAs in the Merced Subbasin have entered into a Coordination MOU to share costs related to basin-wide GSP development and implementation; and

WHEREAS, the three GSAs in the Merced Subbasin have entered into a contract for GSP development with the firm Woodard and Curran, Inc. and received a Round 3 Sustainable Groundwater Management Planning Grant Program award for GSP development and implementation planning from DWR in 2020; and

WHEREAS, the contract and grant award have been administered by Merced Irrigation District on behalf of the three GSAs; and

WHEREAS, the Merced Subbasin GSA intends to submit a joint SGM Implementation Round 1 application with the Merced Irrigation Urban Groundwater Sustainability Agency (MIUGSA) and the Turner Island Water District GSA-1 for Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) implementation in the Merced Groundwater Subbasin (DWR Subbasin No. 5-22.04); and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Board of the Merced Subbasin GSA that an application be made to the California Department of Water Resources by the MIUGSA in coordination with the Merced Subbasin GSA and the Turner Island Water District GSA-1 to obtain a grant under the 2020 Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Grant Program Implementation – Round 1 Grant pursuant to the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access

**MERCED SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
RESOLUTION NO. 2020-02**

For All Act of 2018 (Proposition 68) (Pub. Resource Code section 80000 et seq.), and to enter into an agreement to receive a grant for the: Southern Merced Subbasin Groundwater Recharge Program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Merced Subbasin GSA authorizes and directs the Merced Irrigation District of the MIUGSA, or designee, to prepare the necessary data, conduct investigations, file such application, and execute a grant agreement, and any future amendments (if required), with the California Department of Water Resources.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a special meeting of the Governing Board at Merced, California, this 10th day of December 2020, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAINING:

ABSENT:

MERCED SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER
SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

By: _____
Chair

ATTEST:

Secretary