

ATTACHMENT C

DISCUSSION

The SVBGSA will be governed by an 11-member Board of Directors; first by an Initial Board that will serve until September 30, 2017, and thereafter by a Permanent Board. Each Director position will have a Primary and an Alternate Director, and each represents a different interest or stakeholder group generally as required by SGMA. As set forth in the Joint Powers Authority agreement forming the SVBGSA, certain Members of SVBGSA will make appointments to the Director positions. The Director positions will have three-year terms (except a Director representing CPUC regulated entities that will have a two-year term), but no term limits.

The JPA agreement sets forth general qualifications for Directors:

1. General education and/or knowledge, interest in and experience relating to the control, storage, and beneficial use of groundwater;
2. General understanding and knowledge of the Basin and all its beneficial users;
3. Working knowledge and understanding of how to develop strategic plans, policies, programs, and financing/funding mechanisms;
4. Genuine commitment to collaboratively work together to (a) achieve groundwater sustainability through the adoption and implementation of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the Salinas Valley Groundwater Basin, and all its beneficial users; and (b) provide for the ongoing sustainable management of the basin;
5. General knowledge and understanding of one or more of the different facets (administration, financial, legal, organizational, personnel, etc.) needed for a successful and productive organization;
6. Ability to commit the time necessary, estimated at a minimum 15 – 20 hours per month, to responsibly fulfill their commitment to the organization. This includes, but is not limited to: (a) Board meetings, (b) Board training, (c) analyzing financial statements and technical reports, (d) reviewing Board documents before Board meetings, (e) attending Board meetings, and (f) serving on committees to which they are assigned; and
7. A permanent resident within the Basin, or a representative of an agency with jurisdiction, or a business or organization with a presence, within the Basin.

The County is responsible for the appointments of 7 Director positions: A) one representing Other GSA Eligible Agencies; B) four representing agricultural interests; C) one representing environmental interests; and D) one Public Member representing interests not otherwise represented on the Board. Each of these Director positions has specific qualifications:

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A. Other GSA Eligible Agency position: Must be a representative of a GSA Eligible Agency (a local agency with land use authority, a water provider, or with water management authority) but not including the cities of Salinas, Gonzales, Soledad, Greenfield and King. These would include the County, Water Resources Agency, and the Monterey Regional Pollution Control Agency;

B. Agriculture positions (4 positions): Must be an individual that i) is engaged in, and derives a majority of gross income or revenue from, commercial agricultural production or operations; or ii) is designated by an entity that is engaged in commercial agricultural production or operations, and the individual derives a majority of gross income or revenue from agricultural production or operations, including as an owner, lessor, lessee, manager, officer, or substantial shareholder of a corporate entity.

C. Environment position: Must be a representative of an established environmental organization that has a presence or is otherwise active in the Basin.

D. Public Member: Must be: i) a rural residential well owner; ii) an industrial processor; iii) a Local Small or State Small Water System (pubic water systems with more than 1 but less than 16 connections); or iv) a mutual water company serving residential or agricultural connections, or both.

For the Permanent Board, various stakeholder and interested party groups will make nominations to the Board of Supervisors for these Director positions, except the Public Member which will be chosen following an application process. The Initial Board Director positions, which are before the Board today, do not necessarily follow the nomination process unless the nominating groups have timely submitted nominations. The Water Resources Agency and Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency have submitted names for the Other GSA Eligible Entity Director position, and Supervisor Luis Alejo has expressed his interest in serving for the County in that position. The Salinas Basin Agricultural Water Association has submitted names for each of the 4 Initial Agricultural Director positions indicating a preference for Primary and Alternate Director. These Director positions will each represent the various sub-basin areas in the overall Salinas Valley Groundwater Basin; the Eastside/Langely Sub-basin area, the Forebay Sub-basin area, the Pressure Sub-basin area, and the Upper Valley/Paso Robles Sub-basin area. The environmental caucus has not submitted nominations but has indicated that 2 individuals are prepared to serve in the Initial Environment Director position. The County has received several applications for the Initial Public Member Director position, which have been screened by staff. Staff set a deadline of Friday, February 17, 2017, to submit applications. One application, for Steve Tansey, was received late due to the severe weather experienced that day and a loss of power which prevented the timely submission of the application. The Board could determine to waive the deadline and consider his nomination.

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A matrix of the Initial Director positions with the nominees/applicants is enclosed as Attachment D. Applications for the Public Member position (with certain personal information redacted) are enclosed as Attachment E. We recommend that the Board take up the appointments one at a time for each Director position.

A matrix showing the appointees for Initial Director positions by other appointing authorities is enclosed for information as Attachment G.