

**EAST TURLOCK SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY  
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY**



**The Agenda of the Regular Meeting  
of the Board of Directors of  
East Turlock Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency**

**Thursday, October 24, 2024 – 9:00 a.m.**

**CORTEZ HALL  
12937 North Cortez Avenue  
Turlock, California 95380**

**The public can also access the meeting as follows:**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6488069477>

**Meeting ID: 648 806 9477**

**No Passcode Required**

**One tap mobile**

**+16699006833,,6488069477# US (San Jose)**

**Dial in by phone**

**Meeting ID: 648 806 9477**

**No Passcode Required**

**+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)**

The public may participate in this meeting as otherwise permitted under the Brown Act by joining this video/conference call.

**BOARD MEMBERS**

Ward Burroughs, Eastside Water District Chairman  
Tim Johnson, Eastside Water District Alternate and Treasurer  
Dirk Ulrich, Ballico-Cortez Water District and Vice Chairman  
Dennis Yotsuya, Ballico Cortez Water District Alternate  
Lloyd Pareira, Merced County  
Lacey McBride, Merced County Alternate  
Hicham ElTal, Merced Irrigation District  
Matt Beaman, Merced Irrigation District Alternate  
Vito Chiesa, Stanislaus County  
Christy McKinnon, Stanislaus County Alternate

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTION OF BOARD MEMBERS**

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Members of the Public will be given up to three minutes (3 minutes) to address the Board on any item not on the agenda, but within the subject matter of the Board's jurisdiction. The Board is prohibited from taking action on public comments and as appropriate, matters raised during this period may be referred to appropriate parties or added to the agenda of an upcoming Board meeting (Gov. Code § 54954.3(a)).

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**AGENDA ITEMS**

Members of the public may directly address the Board on any item of interest to the public within the Board subject matter before or during the Board consideration of the item. Members of the Public will be given up to three minutes (3 minutes).

**3. CONSENT AGENDA**

- a. Action to approve the minutes of the September 26, 2024, East Turlock Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Regular board meeting.
- b. Action to accept the Treasurer's Report and monthly budget report.
- c. Action to approve the payment of the October 2024 bills, including MLRP grant bills as presented.
- d. Action to retroactively approve the submission of a letter of support submitted to the Bureau of Reclamation for a WaterSMART Drought Response Program: Drought Resilience Project grant application for TID's Lateral No. 5 Regulating Reservoir Project, which is one of the projects in the revised GSP adopted by the Board.

**4. PARCEL RECLASSIFICATION FOR FY 2023/2024 SGMA OPERATIONAL ASSESSMENT**

- a. Update regarding the supplemental Fiscal Year 2023/2024 assessment, applications to recategorize parcels from irrigated to non-irrigated status and non-irrigated to irrigated status, and classification corrections of other parcels.
- b. Possible approach to administrative parcel splits to support assessment of partially irrigated parcels in Merced County.

**5. DEVELOPMENT OF PROPOSED GROUNDWATER USE FEE**

Update regarding the status of development of a Groundwater Use Fee, upcoming workshop agenda and outreach activities. Proposed outreach to small farm owners.

**6. GROUNDWATER ACCOUNTING PLATFORM AND FEE CALCULATOR PROPOSAL**

- a. Update on the ETSGSA groundwater accounting platform.
- b. Action to approve ESA's proposal to develop a Fee Calculator that considers fee structures at increasing depth thresholds; and a Grower-led Following scenario to later support MLRP or other scenarios. The cost of the Scope will be divided evenly between the MLRP grant and the ETS GSA Prudent Reserve, in an amount not to exceed \$18,000 for each funding source.

**7. POLICIES, RULES, AND REGULATIONS SUPPORTING THE PUMPING MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK**

Update on Ad Hoc Committee and Agricultural Advisory Committee to support development of policies, rules, and regulations to support the Pumping Management Framework and coordination with development of a Groundwater Use Fee.

**8. UPDATE ON MULTI-BENEFIT LAND REPURPOSING PROGRAM (MLRP) BLOCK GRANT IMPLEMENTATION**

Update on the status of Multibenefit Agricultural Land Repurposing Plan (MALRP) development. Action to approve a proposal from Self Help Enterprises to conduct community outreach and engagement for MALRP plan development and MLRP implementation. The estimated cost is \$250,000, which is within the allocated MLRP budget.

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**9. GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN (GSP) IMPLEMENTATION PLANNING AND UPDATES**

At this time, Board members will discuss and may take action on other GSP matters of concern, including, but not necessarily limited to, the following:

- a. Tracking of Grant Pursuits
- b. Replenishment Water and other Project Updates
- c. Update regarding the Groundwater Monitoring Program
- d. Development of Land Retirement Program and possible action to approve an eligibility start date for fallowing eligible for consideration for incentive payments

**10. CLOSED SESSION: CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL—POTENTIAL LITIGATION**

Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9: (1 case).

**11. LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT – BAKER MANOCK & JENSEN**

Lauren Layne/Kaitlin Burse will provide a report to the board on legal items that could affect the agency and its member entities. Discussion item only.

**12. COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD**

Board Members may provide a brief report on notable topics of interest. The Brown Act does not allow discussion or action by the Legislative Body.

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

The next scheduled board meeting is the Special Board Meeting on Thursday, November 21, 2024, 11:00 a.m. at Cortez Hall.

**Any materials related to items on this agenda distributed to the Board of Directors of the East Turlock Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Joint Powers Authority before the public meeting is available for inspection by contacting the Board Secretary at 209.626.5523 or [kareneastsidewater@att.net](mailto:kareneastsidewater@att.net).**

**ACCOMMODATIONS FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES**

**A person with a qualifying disability under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 may request the Agency to provide a disability-related modification in order to participate in any public meeting of the Agency. Such assistance includes appropriate alternative formats for the agendas and agenda packets used for any public meeting of the Agency. Requests for such assistance and for agendas and agenda packets shall be by telephone or written correspondence by contacting the Board Secretary at 209.626.5523 or e-mailing her at [kareneastsidewater@att.net](mailto:kareneastsidewater@att.net) at least 48 hours before the public meeting.**