



Corning Subbasin Advisory Board



Tehama County Flood Control
and Water Conservation District

Members

Matt Hansen -- Dave Lester -- Steve Gruenwald -- Ian Turnbull (Alternate)
John Amaro -- Brian Mori -- Jim Yoder -- Grant Carmon (Alternate)

Corning Subbasin Advisory Board

April 2, 2025 | 1:30p.m.

**Location | 794 Third Street, Corning, CA 96021
And Teleconference**

Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order

Member Hansen called the Corning Subbasin Advisory Board (CSAB) meeting to order at 1:33 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Tehama County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (TCFCWCD)	Corning Sub-basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) (CSGSA)
X Matt Hansen	John Amaro
X David Lester	X Brian Mori
X Steve Gruenwald	Jim Yoder
X Ian Turnbull (Alternate)	Grant Carmon (Alternate)

Other participants: Lisa Hunter (Glenn County), Justin Jenson (Tehama County), Lena Sequeira (Tehama County), Eddy Teasdale (Luhdorff & Scalmanini Consulting Engineers (LSCE)), Will Anderson (LSCE), Maddie Munson, Michael Ward, Martin Spannaus, Karen Jones, Bill Davis, *Todd Turley, *Pete Dennehy, *Jaime Lely * = Online Participant

3. Period of Public Comment

There was no public comment.

4. Presentation: Corning Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan Approval

Eddy Teasdale with LSCE presented DWR's comments on the approved Corning Subbasin GSP as well as recommended corrective actions.

During the comments on Degraded Water Quality Member Lester commented that the Irrigated Lands Program requires water well testing and suggested utilizing that data rather than duplicating efforts; whereby, Mr. Teasdale indicated the data is not readily accessible by the public.

Member Mori asked how this quantifies seasonal streams during the comments of Stream Depletion. Discussion ensued on how little control a GSA has over surface water flows, for instance the Sacramento River headwaters, and downstream impacts. There was some disagreement with the criteria for DWR evaluation. There was additional discussion relating to stream depletion, water

rights, stream gaging, and recharge. It was also noted that there is a stream gage and some monitoring relating to Thomas Creek. Mr. Teasdale discussed grant funding available for more well monitoring and stream gages. Mr. Jenson shared information relating to funding approval for stream gages, some of which are at higher elevations.

5. Presentation: Corning Subbasin Water Year 2024 Annual Report

Eddy Teasdale with LSCE presented the results of the Water Year 2024 Annual Report. The presentation consisted of an overview of Groundwater Conditions, Water Supply and Water Use (Water Budget), Progress Towards GSP Implementation, where we are currently, and where we are headed.

There were clarification and discussion on groundwater elevations, minimum thresholds, short-term and long-term groundwater trends and storage, and the effects that late spring rain has on delayed irrigation and available groundwater, modeling, monitoring, estimated crop water use, and land subsidence. There was significant discussion on groundwater level averages and trendlines and concerns relating to the current calculation method.

6. Groundwater Sustainability Plan Implementation

a. Well Mitigation Program

1. Updates from CSGSA

Ms. Hunter stated The CSGSA Ad Hoc is looking at an application process being used in another area as an example. They are also looking to schedule a meeting with the Tehama County group to compare and collaborate.

2. Updates from Tehama County GSA

Mr. Jenson stated they put together a database of well mitigation programs across the state to see what others are doing. The team requested a couple more meetings before taking to the bigger group.

3. *Discussion on potential coordination of programs and/or recommendations to the GSA's

There was discussion on getting both Ad Hoc groups together and how that will be helpful.

b. Demand Management Program

1. Updates from CSGSA

CSGSA has a coordinating members group which is similar to an Ad Hoc. The group met a few times and is scheduling a meeting with Tehama County to coordinate and go over details. They have also been looking at what framework is being used in the Colusa Subbasin. There has been really great discussion on the topics.

Member Hansen asked if Colusa has a draft and Ms. Hunter replied that they do not and that they are in a similar position.

Member Turnbull asked if the working groups would be getting together, Ms. Hunter responded that they plan to meet soon, and they are having challenges finding a date that works for everyone.

Ms. Hunter further reported that their counsel gave a good presentation talking on the challenges of the water rights systems in California and how it relates to development of Demand Management programs.

2. Updates from Tehama County

Mr. Jenson talked about the Demand Management meeting that took place today. The consultants presented a basic overview outline. They also talked about a STRAW proposal. Mr. Jenson will create a STRAW proposal program and estimates about two months to produce.

Member Hansen asked about the timeline for this in coordination with upcoming events and Mr. Jenson responded that at this time coordination is in a good spot.

Mr. Teasdale added comments about Davids Engineering and ERA helping and reviewed the tentative process that includes Demand Management framework, workplan, and implementation. He then reviewed a Draft Technical Memorandum (Demand Management Framework Outline). Discussion ensued on this topic including funding, timing, legal input, public outreach, and the potential for having a Demand Management program that is mainstream across all the counties as a more regional approach. It is thought that this unity would be easier to manage the programs.

3. *Discussion on potential coordination of programs and/or recommendations to the GSA's

There was discussion on getting both Ad Hoc groups together and how that will be helpful.

c. *Discussion and potential recommendation to GSAs on Corning Subbasin model and options for the periodic evaluation.

Mr. Teasdale discussed the different models that could be used for the periodic evaluation focusing on SVSim and C2VSim. There was also some discussion on models being used in neighboring basins. A bullet point pros and cons list comparing the two models was requested for the next meeting.

d. Update on Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Implementation Grant.

Mr. Teasdale reviewed the grant tasks and spending by task. It was noted there are grant funds available to enhance streamflow monitoring, which will allow the placement of a few shallow wells and additional stream gages.

Will Anderson with LSCE went over recharge data, studies, and results. He shared information relating to the Thomes and Elder Creek Diversions, the Casino's plans for a water storage pond, and the CA Olive Ranch project. He also provided an update on the Stony Creek Diversion project, stating everything was in place and ready to go, but the criteria were not met to divert water.

There was discussion on water rights, permitting for new recharge sites, storing stormwater and triggers being set to alert when the water could be diverted.

LSCE has a draft project ranking matrix in development for use of full-service water allocations. This will rank 16 projects in order to prioritize which projects should be funded first.

There was discussion and clarification on various GSP grant updates.

7. Groundwater Sustainability Agency Updates

Ms. Hunter reiterated that the stream gages funded through CalSIP will be helpful in filling some data gaps. They also got news that the Corning Subbasin Facilitation Support Services, funded by DWR, was approved. This will provide meeting support and support in Well Mitigation and Demand Management development for the entire Corning Subbasin.

Mr. Jenson echoed Ms. Hunter regarding the value of stream gage monitoring paid for by the state. This will benefit both groups to divert water in the future. Mr. Jenson touched on the fact that having facilitation support will be very helpful for Glenn County. Having the meeting support has been helpful for the Tehama group.

8. Corning Subbasin Advisory Board Member Reports and Comments

None.

9. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be June 4, 2025. There will most likely be a special meeting before then with the date TBD.

10. Adjourn

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:57 PM.