



# Corning Subbasin Advisory Board



Tehama County Flood Control and Water Conservation District

### Members

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

**Corning Subbasin Advisory Board**  
**September 6, 2023 | 1:30 p.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 1:32 p.m.

### 2. Roll Call

Tehama County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (TCFCWCD)		Corning Sub-basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CSGSA)	
x	Steven Gruenwald	x	Grant Carmon
x	Dave Lester	x	Brian Mori
x	Matt Hansen	x	Julia Violich
x	Ian Turnbull (Alternate)	x	John Amaro (Alternate)

Other participants: Lisa Hunter (Glenn County Water Resources Coordinator), Justin Jenson (Tehama County Deputy Director of Public Works – Water Resources), Nichole Bethurem (Tehama County), Kaitlyn Murray (Glenn County), Latisha Miller (Paskenta Band of Nomlaki Indians), Del Reimers (landowner), Brandon Davison (Department of Water Resources), Ryan Fulton (LWA), Marisa Perez-Reyes (Stantec), Jenny Scheer (Water and Land Solutions), Martin Spannaus (landowner)

### 3. Meeting Minutes

#### a. \*Approval of July 5, 2023 meeting minutes

Motion by Member Mori second by Member Gruenwald to approve the July 5, 2023 meeting minutes as presented.

Ayes: Members Gruenwald, Lester, Hansen, Carmon, Mori, Violich

Noes: None

Absent: None

#### b. \*Approval of August 2, 2023 meeting minutes

Motion by Member Carmon second by Member Gruenwald to approve the August 2, 2023 meeting minutes as presented.

Ayes: Members Gruenwald, Lester, Hansen, Carmon, Mori, Violich

Noes: None  
Absent: None

**4. Period of Public Comment**

Del Reimers shared correspondence from the California Cattlemen’s Association, Butte County Cattlemen's Association, Glenn-Colusa Cattlemen's Association, and Tehama County Cattlemen's Association Boards of Directors. The letter discusses concerns with the Groundwater Sustainability Agency fee structures in the region, specifically dry land farmers being charged the same as pumpers.

Mr. Reimers and the CSAB members discussed the Orland Unit Water Users not being members of the CSAB.

**5. Groundwater Sustainability Agency Updates**

Mr. Jenson provided the following report on the TCFCWCD:

- The Request for Qualifications for annual reports for all five subbasins in Tehama County, response to GSP comments from DWR, and implementation of Proposition 68 funding has been posted online, with responses due September 28, 2023.

In response to Member Hansen, Mr. Jenson stated representatives from Glenn and Tehama counties will be part of the consultant interview process.

- In response to Mr. Reimers, Mr. Jenson stated Tehama County is continuing to work on a fee structure.

**6. Approve 2024 Corning Subbasin Advisory Board Meeting Schedule**

Member Carmon spoke in support of bi-monthly meetings and scheduling special meetings as needed.

In response to Member Mori, Mr. Jenson stated there may be times when more frequent meetings are needed. Mr. Mori expressed support of option 2, with the ability to schedule additional workshops and meetings as needed.

Motion by Member Mori second by Member Carmon to approve meeting schedule option 2 (bi-monthly meetings).

Ayes: Members Gruenwald, Lester, Hansen, Carmon, Mori, Violich

Noes: None

Absent: None

**7. Facilitation Support Services for the Corning Subbasin**

**a. Receive a presentation on Draft Corning Subbasin Operations Plan**

Marisa Perez-Reyes (Ms. Perez-Reyes) provided a recap of the Facilitation Support Services program and the draft Corning Subbasin Operations Plan.

Ms. Perez-Reyes gave a presentation on the draft Corning Subbasin Operations Plan. The presentation included the following slides: How This Plan Will be Used, Draft Operations Plan is Ready for Your Review, Options for Providing Feedback, and Questions or Concerns.

Ms. Perez-Reyes stated comments on the draft plan will be compiled and shared with the CSAB at the October meeting.

In response to the presentation, Member Mori asked how the Operations Plan will encapsulate implementation and the direction ahead versus focusing on GSP development. Ms. Perez-Reyes responded that the plan is currently written to be operational for implementation, but would enjoy having feedback on what content should be included and if there is a desire to include development activities.

Member Mori stated the importance of communication to the public and quantifiable and tangible results, which give legitimacy to the process. Member Mori emphasized the public is less about the process and more about results.

Member Carmon asked how disputes will be resolved if the GSAs are at odds. In response, Mr. Jenson stated the intention is to follow past practice in which Corning Subbasin-specific items are presented to the CSAB, then the respective GSA Boards and disagreements at the GSA level come back to the CSAB for discussion.

Discussion ensued regarding the need to clearly define the dispute resolution process.

**8. Discussion: Prioritization of basin-wide tasks**

Mr. Jenson stated a list of landowners interested in project partnerships is being developed and staff hopes to have the start of a list developed for the consultant at the time of onboarding.

Mr. Jenson encouraged CSAB members to direct landowners with existing water rights to staff to discuss partnership opportunities. Member Mori discussed opportunities to engage with water districts, including smaller, lesser-known ones and their members.

Staff and CSAB members discussed the various types of projects, focus on recharge activities, enhancing the monitoring network, enhancing public outreach, filling data gaps, and potential information packets for interested landowners.

Member Gruenwald discussed hurdles in the first year of Glenn County's recharge project and asked if Tehama County has prepared for when high water is available. Mr. Jenson discussed the challenges and length of time to develop relationships with larger purveyors. Member Mori highlighted work done by Orland-Artois Water District and other Tehama Colusa Canal districts. Member Carmon stated there have been challenges with getting some on board, but it has been quite successful with two projects still going. Discussion ensued on various recharge projects and logistics necessary for success.

Member Mori discussed the public relations perspective for agricultural users participating in recharge programs.

Staff, CSAB members, and the public engaged in discussion about excess flows, short-term water rights, and conveyance issues.

Latisha Miller, Paskenta Band of Nomlaki Indians Tribal Vice Chairwoman, discussed Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) projects near Chico and partnerships with California Open Lands and Resource Conservation District of Tehama County.

Ian Turnbull requested to see information on where Arundo has been treated in the way described by using TEK that has not come back and discussed historical invasive species issues on Stony Creek.

Member Gruenwald spoke of The Nature Conservancy herbicide projects on Arundo, noting the problems with scaling projects.

Following discussion, it was requested a TEK presentation be made at a future CSAB meeting.

Discussion ensued about the fees and labor associated with stock pond projects, various permitting requirements, the potential to streamline the process, and provide assistance to applicants.

**9. Corning Subbasin Advisory Board Member Reports and Comments**

Brandon Davison, Department of Water Resources, discussed the Sonoma Valley GSA [Groundwater Users Information Data Exchange \(GUIDE\)](#) which shows groundwater levels on properties and includes the option for landowners to update information if it's incorrect.

**10. Next Meeting**

The next CSAB meeting will be on October 4, 2023 at 1:30 p.m.

**11. Adjourn**

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:35 p.m.