



AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
CARPINTERIA GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

CARPINTERIA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT
BOARDROOM
1301 SANTA YNEZ AVE
CARPINTERIA, CA 93013

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Case Van Wingerden
Chairperson
Casey Balch
Vice Chairperson

Polly Holcombe
Patrick O'Connor
Matthew Roberts

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Kelley Dyer

Wednesday, September 9, 2026 at 5:35 p.m.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84850327017?pwd=puZ5htqU1Qb29GaPKG3XpNcIrl1Na.1>

Meeting ID: 848 5032 7017

Passcode: 345295

or

Dial by Phone: 1-669-444-9171

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. AGENDA CONFIRMATION: Executive Director Dyer**
- 3. PUBLIC FORUM (Any person may address the Board of Directors on any matter within its jurisdiction which is not on the agenda).**
- 4. CONSENT AGENDA**
 - A. **Minutes for the Meeting of the Board held on July 22, 2026**
- 5. NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. **Discussion of Proposed Modifications to Well Registration and Metering Policy (for information, Executive Director Dyer)**
- 6. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORTS (for information) – none**
- 7. ADJOURNMENT.**

The above matters are the only items scheduled to be considered at this meeting.

**Indicates attachment of document to agenda packet.

Note: The above Agenda was posted at Carpinteria Valley Water District Administrative Office in view of the public no later than 5:00 p.m., September 6, 2026. The Americans with Disabilities Act provides that no qualified individual with a disability shall be excluded from participation in, or denied benefits of, the District's programs, services, or activities because of any disability. If you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the District Office at (805) 684-2816. Notification at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the meeting will enable the District to make appropriate arrangements. Materials related to an item on this Agenda submitted to the Board of Directors after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection in the Carpinteria Valley Water district offices located at 1301 Santa Ynez Avenue, Carpinteria during normal business hours, from 8 am to 5 pm.

**Indicates attachment of document to agenda packet.

	MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS	
	CARPINTERIA GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY	
	July 22, 2026	
	Chairman Van Wingerden called the Regular meeting of the Carpinteria Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board of Directors held in the Carpinteria City Hall Chamber to order at 6:44 p.m., Wednesday July 22, 2026.	
	Directors Present: O'Connor, Holcombe, Balch, Roberts and Van Wingerden	
	Others Present: Kelley Dyer	
	Michael Pellegrini Norma Rosales Lisa Silva	Scott Van Der Kar Chris Malejan Michael Miller Emma Schuman Shirley Johnson
AGENDA CONFIRMATION	Executive Director Dyer reported no changes to the agenda.	
PUBLIC FORUM	No one from the public addressed the Board.	
CONSENT AGENDA A. Minutes B. Disbursement Report C. Annual Vendor Report D. Director's Quarterly Compensation Report	Director Holcombe moved, and Director O'Connor seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion carried by a 5-0 vote. The motion was approved by roll call as follows; Ayes: O'Connor, Holcombe, Balch, Roberts and Van Wingerden Nayes : none Absent: none Scott Van Der Kar addressed the Board confirming the private parties listed on the Annual Vendor Report were for appeals refund.	
TWO TRUMPETS COMMUNICATIONS ON- CALL CONTRACT	Executive Director Dyer presented to Authorize a Fiscal Year 2026-2027 On-Call Contract with Two Trumpets Communications in an amount not to exceed \$20,000 for GSA Public Communication Services. Director Holcombe moved, and Director Balch seconded the motion to authorize an On-Call Contract with Two Trumpets Communications in an amount not to exceed \$20,000. The motion carried by a 5-0 vote. The motion was approved by roll call as follows; Ayes: O'Connor, Holcombe, Balch, Roberts and Van Wingerden Nayes : none Absent: none	

WELL REGISTRATION AND METERING POLICY UPDATE	Executive Director Dyer presented an Update on Well Registration and Metering Policy. Scott Van Der Kar addressed Board making a general comment on the update. For Information.
CLOSED SESSION	Chairman Van Wingerden adjourned the meeting at 7:03 p.m. to convene the Board into closed session for the following matters: A. [CLOSED SESSION]: CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL—ANTICIPATED LITIGATION PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF SUBDIVISION (d) OF GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.9 BASED ON FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH (1) OF SUBDIVISION (E) OF GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.9: ONE OR MORE POTENTIAL CASES
BOARD RECONVENED TO OPEN SESSION	At 7:56 p.m. Chairman Van Wingerden reconvened the Board meeting with the following reportable actions: A. Direction was given to General Counsel and Executive Director.
ADJOURNMENT	Chairman Van Wingerden adjourned the meeting at 7:56 p.m. Lisa Silva, Board Secretary



To: CGSA Board of Directors
From: Kelley Dyer, Executive Director
Date: September 9, 2026

For Consideration: Proposed Modifications to the Well Registration and Metering Policy

Purpose and Background

The Carpinteria Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CGSA) is responsible for managing the Carpinteria Groundwater Basin, a high-priority basin under California's Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). In response to legislative requirements and community input, the CGSA developed a Well Registration and Metering Policy (Policy) to improve groundwater management, ensure equitable cost distribution, and enhance the accuracy of groundwater extraction data.

The Well Registration and Metering Policy was adopted by the Board of Directors on August 13, 2025, and later revised on March 11, 2026. The Policy provides for a transition from estimated groundwater extraction to actual metered groundwater data for the calculation of groundwater management fees and includes implementation of Automated Metering Infrastructure (AMI) for groundwater monitoring and reporting.

Staff has been working on implementation of the Policy through public outreach, answering questions, assisting well owners with the required forms, and coordinating meter and AMI installation. As implementation has progressed, staff has identified the need for additional time for AMI installation and programming.

While the initial installation and setup will take time to complete, the AMI system will be more efficient with data collection than manual meter reads, saving time for pumpers and staff in the long-term. The use of AMI technology is innovative and cutting edge for groundwater management. Currently, the CGSA is one of only a few known groundwater management agencies advancing this approach for all metered groundwater pumping.

Analysis:

The current implementation schedule anticipates transitioning to metered groundwater pumping as the basis for fees beginning September 1, 2026. The Policy allows for various types of meters, which have been installed with different configurations for measurement units, resolution of data, and intervals of data transmission. This requires case-by-case review of the installation. In some cases, additional programming is needed for the data to be transmitted correctly.

Staff recommends extending the implementation schedule by an additional four months to allow additional time for AMI installation, programming, and troubleshooting. Under the proposed schedule, the fees for Fiscal Year (FY) 2027-2028 would be based on estimated groundwater pumping using latest 2025 aerial imagery (similar to the methodology used in prior years). Metered pumping from January 1, 2027 through December 31, 2027, would be used as the basis for fees for the July 2028–June 2029 fiscal year. Staff believes transitioning to a calendar-year period for metered groundwater pumping will be easier for well owners to understand, track, and report.

The proposed schedule revisions are provided in Attachment 1.

In addition to schedule revisions, the following Policy modifications are recommended. Currently, these modifications are proposed for initial discussion and feedback, and staff will return to the Board with more detailed policy language, forms, and information necessary for implementation.

- While the AMI data is being configured and tested for each well that has an installed meter, staff is recommending that well owners report manual meter reads for collection of groundwater pumping data during the transition to AMI. The manual meter reads will help to provide an additional quality control check and ensure actual pumping data is used for fees as early as possible. Staff is recommending that manual reads be recorded monthly on a form provided by the CGSA beginning January 1, 2027, and the forms be provided to the CGSA on a quarterly basis. The proposed revisions to the schedule would allow time for additional outreach regarding the proposed reporting of manual meter reads.
- The Policy currently states that if there is a well record on a property and the property owner contests its presence, they must coordinate a site visit with GSA staff to walk the property to look for the well. If, after reasonable efforts, the well is not located, the property owner may sign an Unknown, Missing, or Lost Abandoned Well Affidavit and the well will be marked as a “Lost” well for future reporting years. Staff suggest adding language that clarifies that once paperwork is signed and it is recognized as a “Lost” well that they are not subject to the fees outlined in the Policy Appendix A and do not have annual paperwork requirements.
- The Policy currently requires Inactive wells to submit Southern California Edison bills along with their Annual Well Flowmeter Exemption Form to confirm the well is not being used. The majority of Inactive wells registered have been unable to supply Edison bills demonstrating this; most of the inactive wells do not have power to them or the inactive well is connected to an electrical meter that is in use by other buildings, active wells, or equipment on the property. After reviewing the few submitted electrical bills, staff is not able to make determinations regarding well status due to other electrical use on the Edison meter. Therefore, it is recommended that this requirement be changed to an affidavit in which the well owner declares that the well is not in use.
- There are currently no Policy requirements regarding the units used for meter reads (e.g. gallons, acre-feet) nor any requirements for pulse configuration related to the endpoints. A pulse is the signal to collect a meter read after a certain volume has been registered. In order to be compatible with the pulse AMI endpoints, the meter reads must be in the same units as the

endpoint pulse configurations. In addition, the pulse resolution must be factor of 10 (e.g., 1,000, 100, 10, 1, 0.1 0.001, 0.0001) for a supported pulse increment. Pulse resolutions must also be appropriate for the water use on the property, so that data is sent at regular intervals to the CGSA. For example, a meter with units in acre-feet should not have pulse resolutions of 1,000, 100, 10, or 1 because these would only report a summary of their water use every 1,000 acre-feet, 100 acre-feet, 10 acre-feet, or 1 acre-feet, respectively. Meters reporting in acre-feet should have resolutions of 0.001 or 0.0001 so that these would report a summary of their water use every 0.001 acre-feet (326 gallons) or 0.0001 acre-feet (33 gallons). Therefore, some installed meters and/or endpoints may need to be reprogrammed for compatibility with the AMI system. Staff is recommending a new requirement be added for supported units of meter reads and pulse configurations.

Recommendation:

Staff is requesting the Board provide initial feedback regarding the proposed schedule and policy revisions. Pending Board direction, staff will return with a resolution amending the Well Registration and Metering Policy.

Attachments:

1. Proposed Well Registration and Metering Policy Implementation Schedule

ATTACHMENT 1
PROPOSED SCHEDULE FOR CGSA FEES
September 9, 2026
For Discussion Purposes Only

Fiscal Year (FY) July 2027-June 2028

- **Basis of Fees: Estimated Pumping based on FY 2025 Aerial Imagery**
- October 2026: Calculate estimated pumping based on identified crops
- November 2026: Send letters to pumpers regarding estimated FY 2025 pumping
- February 2027: Deadline for requested changes/revisions
- March 2027: Cost of Service Study and Mail Prop 218 Notices
- June 2027: Public Hearing
- July 2027: Submit Assessments to County Tax Roll

Fiscal Year July 2028- June 2029

- **Basis of Fees: Metered Pumping January 1, 2027-December 31, 2027**
 - AMI
 - Self-Reported Manual Reads
- November 2026: Send letters to pumpers regarding self-reporting requirement
- **January 1, 2027: First reads taken on meters**
- October 2027: For wells without meters, calculate estimated pumping based on FY 2026 aerial imagery and highest crop factor (penalty for non-compliance)
- November 2027: Send letters to well owners without meters regarding estimated pumping based on highest crop factor (penalty for non-compliance)
- **December 31, 2027: Final meter reads for annual usage**
- February 2028: Deadline for requested changes/revisions to Estimated Pumping
- March 2028: Cost of Service Study and Mail Prop 218 Notices
- June 2028: Public Hearing
- July 2028: Submit Assessments to County Tax Roll