

March 24, 2026

The Stakeholders Committee of the Saucelito Irrigation District GSA met on this day in a regular session. The office is located at 20712 Avenue 120, Porterville, California.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Kisling called the meeting to order at 9:01 am.

ATTENDANCE

STAKEHOLDERS MEMBERS Present:	David Evans	Parker Rous
ZOOM:	Joan Whelan	Lukas Kisling
	Nick Gatti, Mike George	

STAKEHOLDERS MEMBERS ABSENT:	James Jongsma, Nader Malakan
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GSA DIRECTORS PRESENT:	Steven Kisling - Chair
GSA DIRECTORS ABSENT:	Mark Merritt – Vice Chair
OTHERS PRESENT:	Sean P. Geivet, General Manager Diane M. Ennis, Secretary/Treasurer Terren L. Brown – Assistant General Manager, GSA

GUEST:	Andrew Hart – Booth ranches Doug Jackson – Water and Land Solutions, LLC Luis - USAWR
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AGENDA – The Chair reported that the agenda is in order and has been posted as required.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Chair Kisling opened the public comment by asking if anyone from the public wished to comment. With no public input, Chair Kisling stated that if there are no further comments, we will move on to minutes.

MINUTES – Chair Kisling asked whether everyone had read the minutes from the first meeting and invited a motion to approve them.

M/S/U, L Kisling, Evans – to approve the minutes from the stakeholders meeting held on February 18, 2026. With one small correction.

AYE:	Kisling, Evans, Whelan, Gatti, George, Rous
NAY:	None
ABSENT:	Jongsma, Malakan

POLICY ISSUES –

GSA BUDGET – The Manager presented the proposed GSA Budget, detailing the operational expenses and addressing questions regarding funding sources. Management indicated that current GSA expenditures are covered by District reserves, which will require future

replenishment. After evaluating two funding options, the Stakeholders Committee proposed that the GSA Board implement a land-based fee of \$20.00 per acre. This would necessitate a 45-day study process, forgoing a 218 election. Additionally, it was observed that the GSA water year commenced in October 2025 and concluded in September 2026. With the dissolution of ETGSA, growers were not assessed an allocation fee for 2026.

1. GSA extraction fee.
2. 218 elections for the GSA.

DISCUSSION AND REVIEW SECTIONS OF GSP FROM L & S – The Chair indicated that printed copies of the L&S documents had been distributed for review. Due to limited time for stakeholders to examine these materials, a thorough evaluation will be reviewed next month. The Chair asked whether any recent changes had been made to the section detailing 2023 and 2024 pump extraction figures, specifically referencing periods when pumps were turned off and over 70,000 acre-feet of surface water was utilized. The Manager will contact L & S to clarify the unusually high pump extraction numbers. Additionally, a committee member requested that L & S provide a table of contents or further organize the section currently under review.

REPORT ON COORDINATION COMMITTEE MEETING – DRINKING WATER WELL MITIGATION & COST – The Chair reported that the coordination committee discussed having a single GSP initiative and the domestic well mitigation program, with cost to be covered through sub-basin funds administered by Lower Tule River I. D. The estimated cost for Saucelito ID is about \$100,000.00. It was mentioned that Self Help will be part of the process to mitigate domestic wells.

REPORT ON BASINSAFE – Chair Kisling ask staff to give a progress report on the migration of information from ETGSA to SID GSA. Ask to have a notification sent out to growers to review their accounts in both agencies prior to SID GSA to state consuming ET. Discussion ensued.

RULES & REGULATIONS - Chair Kisling stated no discussion needs to be made the Rules and Regulations. Items for further discussion will include penalties and enforcement for non-compliance, well meters requiring repair and maintenance, and calibration reports.

TULE SUBBASIN MULTI-BENEFIT LAND REPURPOSING PROGRAM - Chair Kisling stated that this item is for information only. Discussion ensued.

GEARS REPORTING AND FEES - The Committee discussed the requirement for growers to report 2025 groundwater extraction through the State Water Board's GEARS program by May 1, 2026, and to pay applicable fees. Questions remain regarding stored surface water, over-applied surface water, NSY, and wells that did not pump. It was announced that GEARS workshops would be held online and in PID's boardroom, with another workshop scheduled for Thursday, March 26. The Manager stated the primary goal is to get the Subbasin out of probation so growers will no longer need to report directly to the State. It was also reported that Margaret Orandi has withdrawn from the Stakeholders Committee due to her retirement from farming.

NEXT MEETING DATE – The next Stakeholder Committee Meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 15, 2026, at 9:00 AM.

ADJOURNMENT – Chair Kisling adjourned the meeting at 10:30 AM.

Diane M. Ennis, Secretary