

LASSEN COUNTY AND MODOC COUNTY APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE BIG VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The purpose of the Big Valley Groundwater Basin Advisory Committee (BVAC) is to advise Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) staff and governing bodies (County Boards of Supervisors) on the preparation of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for the Big Valley Groundwater Basin. BVAC members will be expected to communicate regional perspectives at a level beyond that of their individual interests and provide insight on regional water management issues, goals, plans, and projects, and the implementation of those items. All meetings of the BVAC will convene within the boundary of the Big Valley Groundwater Basin. For more information on the qualifications, roles, and responsibilities of the BVAC, see the BVAC Memorandum of Understanding signed June 11, 2019 (available from the Modoc or Lassen County Clerk of the Board or from the Lassen County Department of Planning and Building Services).

Name _____

Home Address _____

Mailing Address (if different) _____

Business Address _____

Business Phone _____ Cell or Home Phone _____

Email Address _____

Business, occupation, profession _____

FOR THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS, ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS AS NECESSARY.

Do you reside in or own property in the Big Valley Groundwater Basin¹? ☐ Yes ☐ No

In which county(ies) do you reside or own property? (select all that apply) ☐ Lassen ☐ Modoc

Identify property located in the Basin by street address or Assessor's Parcel No. if different than home address: _____

For which county are you applying as a committee member? (select only one) ☐ Lassen ☐ Modoc

Explain why you would like to serve on the BVAC.

¹ Public members of the BVAC must reside or own property within the Lassen or Modoc County portion of the Big Valley Groundwater Basin (BVGB) to be eligible for participation. A map of the BVGB is available at: <https://gis.water.ca.gov/app/bbat/>

Describe your education, work experience, volunteer positions, and/or training that relate to water resources management.

Do you represent an agency, organization, tribe, academia, or interest that is under-represented in the region (e.g. disadvantaged communities or unincorporated areas)?

☐ Yes ☐ No Please describe: _____

Describe your ability to objectively articulate a perspective beyond that of your individual interest and represent the interests of all stakeholders in the Big Valley region.

What is your current level of knowledge of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)?

☐ None ☐ A little ☐ Some ☐ Substantial ☐ Extensive

Comments: _____

What is your current level of knowledge of groundwater in the Big Valley Groundwater Basin?

☐ None ☐ A little ☐ Some ☐ Substantial ☐ Extensive

Comments: _____

If appointed, are you willing to attend meetings of the BVAC held on a monthly basis or at such other times as determined by the BVAC, and if necessary participate in related meetings or subcommittees?

☐ Yes ☐ No Comments: _____

Describe your education, work experience, volunteer positions, and/or training that demonstrates your ability to work collaboratively with others of differing viewpoints and achieve good faith compromise.

Please note that this application is a public document and open for inspection.

Signature of Applicant

Date

Are you a registered voter in: Lassen County: ☐ Yes ☐ No Modoc County: ☐ Yes ☐ No

For Clerk's Use Only: VR# _____ Prec# _____

Application should be returned to the contacts below:

Lassen County

Julie Bustamante
220 South Lassen Street
Susanville, CA 96130
530-251-8217

Modoc County

Tiffany Martinez
204 South Court Street
Alturas, CA 96101
530-233-6201

Big Valley Groundwater Basin Advisory Committee Application Supplement

(Informational Only – No Action Required)

The Big Valley Groundwater Basin Advisory Committee Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) provides the following information pertaining to Advisory Committee membership. The MOU, in its entirety, is available from the Modoc or Lassen County Clerk of the Board or from the Lassen County Department of Planning and Building Services.

As contained in Section 7, Committee members shall demonstrate:

1. Current level of knowledge regarding the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act;
2. Knowledge of groundwater in the Big Valley Basin;
3. Their ability to commit to attending meetings of the Advisory Committee;
4. Committee members should have demonstrated ability to work collaboratively with others of differing viewpoints and achieve good faith compromise.

As contained in Section 6: Members of the Advisory Committee (“members”) collectively represent the diversity of beneficial groundwater uses and users in the Big Valley groundwater basin. Committee members commit to:

- Serve as strong, effective advocates and educators for the interest group (constituency) represented;
- Nominate and confirm a committee chair and vice chair every year;
- Arrive at each meeting fully prepared to discuss all agenda items and relevant issues. Preparation may include, but is not limited to, reviewing previous meeting summaries, draft and final GSP chapters, and other information distributed in advance of each meeting;
- Develop an innovative problem-solving approach in which the interests and viewpoints of all members are considered;
- Explore all options to resolve disagreements, including, as needed, one-on-one discussions with GSA staff, or, at Advisory Committee meetings, interest-based caucuses or small group discussions;
- Act as liaisons throughout the GSP development and implementation process to educate, inform and solicit input from the wider local community and interested constituencies not represented on the committee;
- Present constituent views on the issues being discussed and commit to engage in civil, respectful and constructive dialogue with other members, as well as GSA staff, technical team members and potentially a facilitator;
- Ensure accuracy of information dissemination during or outside meetings, and correct false information as needed or appropriate;
- Avoid representing individual viewpoints as those of the committee and respect confidential conversations;
- Work collaboratively to ensure broad constituent understanding and support for any advice and recommendations that the committee shares with the Lassen and Modoc GSA Boards;

- Coordinate with Lassen and Modoc GSA staff regarding recommendations for any additional committee tasks that should be undertaken by the committee, and which items shall be presented to the GSA Boards for its review and approval;
- Operate at all times in compliance with the Brown Act;
- Attend meetings consistently – participation in 75% of the meetings is the minimum expectation. *(Given the volume of information to be considered and discussed, it is essential that members actively participate in committee meetings on a consistent basis. It is understood that professional and personal commitments may at times prevent members from attending committee meetings. In such cases, members shall notify Lassen GSA staff no less than 24 hours in advance to be excused from attending any given committee meeting. As needed, staff will reach out to members who are not actively participating to give them the opportunity to explain their absence and reaffirm their interest to participate on the committee, and thus not lose their seat. Members who do not meet the threshold for active participation, and have not expressed an interest to continue participating, will, at the recommendation of Lassen and Modoc GSA staff, be automatically removed by the appropriate GSA Board from the committee. Alternates may attend in the absence of a committee member but must alert the Lassen and Modoc GSA staff prior to the meeting.);* and
- Recuse him/herself from discussion and voting if he/she has a personal interest or stake in the outcome [BVAC members are subject to recusal due to conflicts of interest (as that term is defined by the Political Reform Act) in accordance with *Government Code Title 9, Political Reform; Chapter 7, Conflicts of Interest*].

Through its public meetings, the committee shall serve as an additional forum for public dialogue on SGMA and GSP development. Finally, with approval by the Lassen and Modoc GSA's, committee tasks may be amended, repealed, or additionally added at any time with the intent to comply with SGMA related activities provided said activities comply under the authorities granted by SGMA law. Alternates may vote on all matters before the BVAC in the absence of the appointed member. Each alternate shall be informed of the business of the BVAC and the actions to be taken when acting on behalf of a member.

The following are desired attributes for BVAC members:

- Have knowledge and experience in water resources management.
- Represent an agency, organization, tribe, academia, or interest that is under-represented in the region (e.g., disadvantaged communities or unincorporated areas).
- Have the ability and desire to objectively articulate the perspective of his/her BVAC seat and caucus at a level beyond that of his/her individual interest.
- Have the ability to provide recommendations with the best interests of the entire Big Valley region in mind.