



**Paso Robles Groundwater  
Basin  
Steering Committee**

Coordinate with  
Stakeholders to Implement  
the Groundwater  
Management Plan to ensure  
the health of the Basin.

EACH SUPERVISOR

RECEIVED COPY

Larry Werner  
Chairperson

[pasobasincommittee@gmail.com](mailto:pasobasincommittee@gmail.com)

Lisa Bodrogi  
Vice Chairperson

Patterson

RECEIVED

Honorable Board of Supervisors  
San Luis Obispo County  
September 24, 2012

SEP 24 2012

Forwarded  
to the  
Clerk Recorder

Dear Sirs,

Board of Supervisors  
San Luis Obispo County

The Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Steering Committee (Committee) was formed in February 2011 with the purpose of implementing the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Management Plan. The Groundwater Management Plan was a joint effort between the City of Paso Robles and the County Flood Control and Water Conservation District to develop goals and strategies to stabilize the groundwater basin. The Groundwater Management Plan was adopted by both entities earlier this year. In March of 2012 the Board of Supervisors recognized the Committee as a "Blue Ribbon" Committee. The Committee is a diverse composition of members, all committed to the same mission: *"coordinate with stakeholders to implement the Groundwater Management Plan to ensure the health of the basin"*.

One of the most important responsibilities of the Committee is to evaluate and propose solutions for the stabilization of the Basin. This has been our primary activity for the last 6 months. Our Solutions Committee has completed significant research and has prepared an analytical method of evaluating proposed solutions to the Basin decline. This ranking system is based on input from County Technical Staff, other Water Agencies and is consistent with the evaluation programs developed by the Federal Bureau of Reclamation. Likewise we have used the list of potential solutions identified in the County's Master Water Plan to be evaluated with the system. The solutions fall into 3 basic categories: Conservation, Supplemental Water, and Management. The proposed Land Use Ordinance your Board is considering on September 25, 2012, falls into the Management category.

The Committee reviewed the proposed Land Use Ordinance during its meetings of June, July, August and September. On September 20, 2012 the Committee voted 9 to 1, with 2 abstentions, to submit a letter for your consideration on the proposed Land Use Ordinance changes, with the following comments:

- The proposed ordinances as a whole appear to provide some positive steps in the stabilization of the Basin.
- We are specifically concerned that the passage of the Land Division Prohibition component of the ordinance, as written, would have a negative impact on our efforts to work collaboratively with all stakeholders to implement the Groundwater Management Plan. We have received very strong opposition of total prohibition of land divisions from the majority of our Committee.

ITEM #23

MEETING DATE: SEPTEMBER 25, 2012

PRESENTED BY: LARRY WERNER

RECEIVED PRIOR TO MEETING

POSTED ON: SEPTEMBER 24, 2012

**Mission Statement**

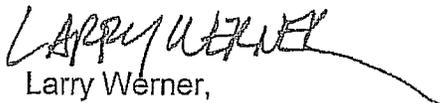
*"The Steering Committee will coordinate with stakeholders to implement the Groundwater Management Plan to ensure the health of the basin"*

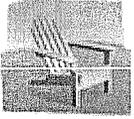
- John Neil  
Jaime Hendrickson, Alternate  
Atascadero Mutual Water Co.
- Kris Beal  
Willy Cunha, Alternate  
Central Coast Vineyard Team
- Russ Thompson  
David Alhey, Alternate  
City of Atascadero
- Christopher Alakai  
Keith Larson, Alternate  
City of Paso Robles
- Courtney Howard  
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Flood Control and Water  
Conservation District
- Robert Johnson  
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Alliance
- Kurt Bollinger  
Ray Allen, Alternate  
San Luis Obispo  
Cattlemen's Association
- Joy Fitzhugh  
Jackie Crabo, Alternate  
San Luis Obispo County  
Farm Bureau
- Rene Salas  
San Miguel CSD
- Jeff Hodge  
Jay Shori, Alternate  
Templeton CSD
- Laura Edwards  
John DeRosier, Alternate  
Upper Salinas-Las Tablas  
Resource Conservation District
- Larry Werner  
Milke Cussen, Alternate  
At-Large
- Sue Luft  
Jim Magill, Alternate  
At-Large
- Dana Merrill  
Don Brady, Alternate  
At-Large
- Claudia Salot-Engel  
Maria Lorca, Alternate  
At-Large

- The potential to reduce groundwater use with the total prohibition of land divisions is extremely small particularly in the short term as well as the long term. Based on staff estimates of 200 parcels being created in the next 20 years there would be an average parcel creation of 10 parcels a year. Residential Rural parcels use approximately 1.7 AFY. 10 parcels would use 17 AFY. With the Basin's annual yield of 96,000 AFY this is an insignificant amount (0.017%) and even after 20 years it would be projected to be 340 AFY or 0.034%.
- Land subdivisions should be treated consistently with the two other elements of the proposed ordinance, General Plan Amendments and Discretionary Permits, specifically the requirement to demonstrate that the action would not result in an increased demand on the Paso Robles Groundwater basin or could by offsets or other means result in neutral or beneficial effects to the Basin.
- The ongoing activities of the Blue Ribbon Steering Committee including:
  - Efforts of the Education Committee to produce and circulate a Water Conservation brochure to 4,000 rural landowners in the basin;
  - Successful solicitation and enrollment of an additional 40 wells in the County's Groundwater Level Monitoring Program;
  - Prioritizing and funding a Groundwater Model Update, and
  - Developing and Solutions Committee with clear analytical objectives for reviewing and promoting potential groundwater improvement solutions,go much further in accomplishing the goals and objectives of the Groundwater Management Plan than the Land Use Ordinance changes proposed at this time.

Thank you for your continued efforts to address the water resources issues in the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin. We look forward to continue to coordinate our efforts with all stakeholders of the basin and most notably with your Board of Supervisors and Water Resources Advisory Committee.

Sincerely,

  
Larry Werner,  
Chairperson



**Fw: Sept 25th Hearing Item #23**

Amber Wilson to: BOS\_Legislative Assistants  
Cc: cr\_board\_clerk Clerk Recorder

09/24/2012 11:12 AM

*Amber Wilson*  
Secretary/Board of Supervisors  
San Luis Obispo County  
805.781.4335  
abwilson@co.slo.ca.us

----- Forwarded by Amber Wilson/BOS/COSLO on 09/24/2012 11:12 AM -----

From: "Lisa Bodrogi" <lbodrogi@pasowine.com>  
To: <abwilson@co.slo.ca.us>  
Date: 09/24/2012 10:57 AM  
Subject: Sept 25th Hearing Item #23

---

Dear Amber:

Please distribute the enclosed letters for the Board's consideration during their hearing tomorrow.

Kind regards,

Lisa Bodrogi  
Government Affairs Coordinator  
Paso Robles Wine Country Alliance  
Ph: (805)937-8474 Cell: (805)260-2461  
lbodrogi@pasowine.com

Notice of Confidentiality: This transmission (including any attachments) contains information that may be confidential and that may also be privileged. Unless you are the intended recipient of the message (or authorized to receive it for the intended recipient), you may not copy, forward, or otherwise use it, or disclose its contents to anyone else. If you have received this transmission in error, please notify us immediately and delete it from your system.



CommenttoBOS9-25-12.doc



LettertoPC-OrdinanceChanges.doc

Honorable Board of Supervisors  
of San Luis Obispo County  
County Government Center  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

September 24, 2012

Re: Item # 23 Land Use Ordinance Changes in the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin

Dear Honorable Board of Supervisors:

The Paso Robles Wine Country Alliance has commented multiple times during the certification of a Level of Severity III of the Resource Capacity Study for the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin. We have continually expressed our position that these efforts are premature until ongoing activities including the UC Extension Vineyard Irrigation Study, Groundwater Management Plan, and Groundwater Monitoring Programs have more fully developed.

These efforts have continued to move forward through the guidance and direction of the Blue Ribbon Stakeholder Committee, which we are a part. Completion of these studies, including the Update to the Groundwater Model authorized by your Board of Supervisors last month, is expected within the next six months. These efforts will provide meaningful data and information to properly deal with the understanding and management of the basin.

In the next 6 months we will know much more than we do today about the state of the Basin and available options for its management. Much time and expense from both the public and private sector have gone into development of these studies and information.

The Alliance does not oppose all of the components of the ordinance, clearly requiring water offsets, and limiting GPAs, and landscape restrictions make sense. We are concerned that your Board's passage of this ordinance may send the shot across the bow. That it could lead to stakeholders to walk away from the table and discontinue efforts to find solutions. Please see the enclosed letter to the Planning Commission dated July 26<sup>th</sup> for a full accounting of our concerns. Of particular importance to note is our concern with the following:

- Adopting ordinance changes that result in land use restrictions will take away from the spirit of cooperation that has been established over the past 16 months through the collective efforts of the Blue Ribbon Steering Committee.

- The Blue Ribbon Committee has made much progress to work cooperatively together with key stakeholders to ensure the health of the basin. We oppose the shift from stakeholder-driven cooperation to a prohibition on all land subdivisions.
- We find the CEQA exemption to be inadequate for the land use changes proposed. The Proposed Ordinance is a project under CEQA and a thorough environmental analysis needs to be conducted. The conclusion of staff that these changes are exempt from CEQA disregards the CEQA process, and more importantly, the public review process.

For any questions or comments please don't hesitate to contact Lisa Bodrogi, Government Affairs Coordinator at 937-8474 or [lbodrogi@pasowine.com](mailto:lbodrogi@pasowine.com).

Sincerely,



Lisa M. Bodrogi  
Government Affairs Coordinator  
Paso Robles Wine Country Alliance

July 26, 2012

Re: Land Use Ordinance Changes in the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin

Dear Honorable Planning Commission:

The Paso Robles Wine Country Alliance has been very active and participatory in the efforts to address the state of the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin over the past three years. We do not question that there has been a showing of decline in the basin, particularly in the area known as the Estrella-Creston area. This decline threatens residential and vineyards alike.

As such, we readily signed on to the Groundwater Basin Management Plan Steering Committee, have participated in encouraging additional wells be added to the Groundwater Monitoring Program, and assisted in the Vineyard Irrigation Study due to be released early next year. Moreover, vineyards are water efficient and programs at both the local at state level continue to develop methods of improvement and performance measures.

Throughout the public hearing process on the Resource Capacity Study, the Alliance commented on the Board's action as premature until these efforts had more fully matured. Of most considerable concern with the land use restrictions is the absolute restriction on all subdivisions, or the creation of new parcels until a LOS I is achieved.

We find this single action egregious and over-reaching for the following reasons:

- There is no evidence that this prohibition will result in a net water savings.
- A thorough and complete analysis should be performed to determine what benefits will be derived through a moratorium on all subdivisions.
- Staff has failed to demonstrate how imposing land use restrictions, particularly prohibiting all land subdivisions, will result in a net reduction of water demand on the basin.
- An outright restriction on all land divisions in the rural area of the basin is over-reaching. There are explicit standards already in place that allow Agricultural Subdivisions so long as they are adequate in size and design to ensure the long term protection of agricultural resources.
- Eliminating agricultural land divisions would not result in a significant change in overall water – for example, 40 acres within 120 acre single parcel vs. 40 acre subdivided parcels would yield relatively the same water usage.
- Land Divisions may be sought for inheritance or estate planning to keep the farm in the family and should not be precluded.

- Unintended consequences could result including: negative land values; reduced investment interest, negative public perception; economic impacts and discouraging collaborative efforts.
- Adopting ordinance changes that result in land use restrictions will take away from the spirit of cooperation that has been established over the past 16 months through the collective efforts of the Blue Ribbon Steering Committee.
- The Blue Ribbon Committee has made much progress to work cooperatively together with key stakeholders to ensure the health of the basin. We oppose the shift from stakeholder-driven cooperation to a prohibition on all land subdivisions.

Moreover, we find the CEQA exemption to be inadequate for the land use changes proposed. The Proposed Ordinance is a project under CEQA and a thorough environmental analysis needs to be conducted. The conclusion of staff that these changes are exempt from CEQA disregards the CEQA process, and more importantly, the public review process.

During the hearings on the Resource Capacity Study, questions were raised whether or not the adoption of the RCS, with incorporated recommendations subject to further action, was subject to CEQA. The response from staff was the adoption of the RCS did not constitute a “project” under CEQA, and on the record assured the public and decision-makers that a full environmental analysis would be performed on any ordinance changes. We object to the finding of staff that these changes are exempt from CEQA. We assert a full environmental analysis and public review vetting is necessary to address potential impacts in the following CEQA categories:

### **Population and Housing:**

An environmental analysis should determine growth inducing impacts on other areas as a result of the ordinance changes. An increase in population within concentrated urban areas should be considered while the reduction of housing type or desirability/marketability need also be assessed.

### **Transportation/Traffic:**

An assessment on transportation and traffic patterns that may result by restricting all land subdivisions in the rural area needs to be conducted. An increase in vehicular trips and effect on Levels of Service within areas where residential development may shift needs to be analyzed.

### **Land Use/Planning**

A full analysis needs to be conducted to consider the overall land use planning consequences as a result of restricting the creation of all new parcels in the rural areas of the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin.

### **Hydrology/Water Quality:**

Shifting residential development from the rural areas to the urban centers fails to recognize that the municipalities withdraw from the same basin. A shift from one area to another, particularly

when that shift is directed towards the areas of highest concentration and use could significantly exacerbate the problem, rather than fix it. A full environmental analysis is necessary to understand the potential impacts to both hydrology and water quality as a result of these ordinance changes which will re-direct development away from the rural areas to more concentrated urban centers.

An adequate environmental review would include an analysis on current groundwater data and actual water savings of the proposed ordinance requirements. A CEQA document should look at the potential for measureable reductions and the ability for other Community Water providers to handle re-directed growth as a result of these land use restrictions.

### **Agricultural Resources:**

Consideration must be given on the environmental consequences to agriculture by restricting all land subdivisions. There are situations where a subdivision may be necessary to keep the family farm in the family or create more manageable parcel sizes for production. The potential environmental effect on agriculture as a resource identified under CEQA must be examined.

### **Utilities/Service Systems:**

Development in the rural areas require support through individual service systems to provide wastewater and water. An analysis should be performed to consider the net effect on public water and wastewater systems to be certain these systems are not overburdened or their capacity is exceeded as a result of these changes.

### **Public Services:**

An analysis should be performed to determine what effect the project may have on the need for new or altered public services including but not limited to fire, police, schools, etc.

### **Aesthetics:**

Aesthetics should be considered and the potential impact to aesthetic qualities found in a rural setting that combines native open spaces, along with ranch homes and homesteads, well-manicured and maintained rural residential and winery development. All of these amenities add to the aesthetic quality of the rural setting that should be considered.

We appreciate the opportunity to continue to work collectively on cooperative groundwater management and continue to remain fully engaged to ensure the health of the basin. For any questions or comments please don't hesitate to contact Lisa Bodrogi, Government Affairs Coordinator at 937-8474 or [lbodrogi@pasowine.com](mailto:lbodrogi@pasowine.com).

Sincerely,

Lisa M. Bodrogi, Government Affairs Coordinator, Paso Robles Wine Country Alliance



**Fw: September 25th meeting**

Board of Supervisors to: BOS\_Legislative Assistants

09/24/2012 03:28 PM

Sent by: Amber Wilson

Cc: cr\_board\_clerk Clerk Recorder

----- Forwarded by Amber Wilson/BOS/COSLO on 09/24/2012 03:28 PM -----

From: Paso BasinCommittee <pasobasincommittee@gmail.com>  
To: boardofsups@co.slo.ca.us  
Cc: Paso BasinCommittee <pasobasincommittee@gmail.com>  
Date: 09/24/2012 03:21 PM  
Subject: September 25th meeting

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Dear Sirs,

Please find attached a letter from the Blue Ribbon Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Steering Committee. I also delivered hard copies to the County this morning.

The Committee reviewed the proposed changes to Land Use Ordinances and have summarized our comments in the letter. While there were some on the Committee that did not agree with our conclusions, the vast majority did. As many of you know, the Committee is a diverse group of Stakeholders. To have the majority of the Committee agree on the points in our letter is significant. We hope that you will take our comments into consideration with your decision making.

We are embarking on a very analytical, well researched endeavor to evaluate all potential solutions to stabilizing the basin. When we have completed this task we will be returning to the Board with our recommendations.

Your patience and support is greatly appreciated.

Unfortunately, I am unable to attend the hearing but there should be several of our Committee members attending.

Respectfully,

Larry Werner  
Chairman



2012-09-24\_BOS LUO.pdf

ITEM #23  
MEETING DATE: SEPTEMBER 25, 2012  
PRESENTED BY: LARRY WERNER  
RECEIVED PRIOR TO MEETING  
POSTED ON: SEPTEMBER 24, 2012



**Paso Robles Groundwater  
Basin  
Steering Committee**

Coordinate with  
Stakeholders to implement  
the Groundwater  
Management Plan to ensure  
the health of the Basin.

Larry Werner  
Chairperson

Lisa Bodrogi  
Vice Chairperson

[pasobasincommittee@gmail.com](mailto:pasobasincommittee@gmail.com)

John Neil  
Jaime Hendrickson, Alternate  
*Atascadero Mutual Water Co.*

Kris Beal  
Willy Cunha, Alternate  
*Central Coast Vineyard Team*

Russ Thompson  
David Athey, Alternate  
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Christopher Alakel  
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Robert Johnson  
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Steve Sinton  
Kent Gilmore, Alternate  
*Paso Robles Imperiled  
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Lisa Bodrogi  
Jerry Reaugh, Alternate  
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Kurt Bollinger  
Ray Allen, Alternate  
*San Luis Obispo  
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Joy Fitzhugh  
Jackie Crabb, Alternate  
*San Luis Obispo County  
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Rene Salas  
*San Miguel CSD*

Jeff Hodge  
Jay Short, Alternate  
*Templeton CSD*

Laura Edwards  
John DeRosier, Alternate  
*Upper Salinas-Las Tablas  
Resource Conservation District*

Larry Werner  
Mike Cussen, Alternate  
*At-Large*

Sue Luft  
Jim Magill, Alternate  
*At-Large*

Dana Merrill  
Don Brady, Alternate  
*At-Large*

Claudia Salot-Engel  
Maria Lorca, Alternate  
*At-Large*

Honorable Board of Supervisors  
San Luis Obispo County  
September 24, 2012

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ITEM #23  
MEETING DATE: SEPTEMBER 25, 2012

PRESENTED BY: LARRY WERNER  
RECEIVED PRIOR TO MEETING

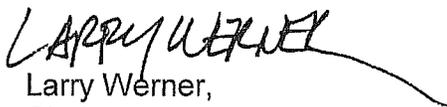
POSTED ON: SEPTEMBER 24, 2012

**Mission Statement**  
*"The Steering Committee will coordinate with stakeholders to implement the  
Groundwater Management Plan to ensure the health of the basin"*

- The potential to reduce groundwater use with the total prohibition of land divisions is extremely small particularly in the short term as well as the long term. Based on staff estimates of 200 parcels being created in the next 20 years there would be an average parcel creation of 10 parcels a year. Residential Rural parcels use approximately 1.7 AFY. 10 parcels would use 17 AFY. With the Basin's annual yield of 96,000 AFY this is an insignificant amount (0.017%) and even after 20 years it would be projected to be 340 AFY or 0.034%.
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  - Efforts of the Education Committee to produce and circulate a Water Conservation brochure to 4,000 rural landowners in the basin;
  - Successful solicitation and enrollment of an additional 40 wells in the County's Groundwater Level Monitoring Program;
  - Prioritizing and funding a Groundwater Model Update, and
  - Developing and Solutions Committee with clear analytical objectives for reviewing and promoting potential groundwater improvement solutions,
 go much further in accomplishing the goals and objectives of the Groundwater Management Plan than the Land Use Ordinance changes proposed at this time.

Thank you for your continued efforts to address the water resources issues in the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin. We look forward to continue to coordinate our efforts with all stakeholders of the basin and most notably with your Board of Supervisors and Water Resources Advisory Committee.

Sincerely,

  
 Larry Werner,  
 Chairperson



**Fw: Statement Regarding Water Problem**

Board of Supervisors to: BOS\_Legislative Assistants

Sent by: Amber Wilson

Cc: cr\_board\_clerk Clerk Recorder

09/24/2012 04:20 PM

----- Forwarded by Amber Wilson/BOS/COSLO on 09/24/2012 04:20 PM -----

From: Lindsay Pera <Impera@yahoo.com>  
To: "boardofsups@co.slo.ca.us" <boardofsups@co.slo.ca.us>  
Cc: Sue Luft <aslft@wildblue.net>, casey pera <caseypera@gmail.com>  
Date: 09/24/2012 04:08 PM  
Subject: Statement Regarding Water Problem

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Cricket Pera - 7 years old  
4789 Almond Drive  
Templeton CA 93465

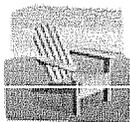
(narrated to her mom)

Q: What would you like to say about our water to the people who can help?

A:

My name is Cricket. I live in Templeton with my parents, my brother and sister, and my grandparents. We have chickens and a horse and a pony and two goats and a Llama and 7 barn cats and our dog Olive. We all share our water because we all need water to drink and to be healthy. I want to have enough water for everyone. Will that make people do something so we have enough water? I hope so.

ITEM NO. 23  
MEETING DATE: SEPTEMBER 25, 2012  
PRESENTED BY: CRICKET PERA  
RECEIVED PRIOR TO MEETING  
POSTED ON: SEPTEMBER 24, 2012



**Fw: Templeton CSD Board of Directors - Letter Opposing Item #23 on the BOS Agenda for 09/25/12**

Amber Wilson to: BOS\_Legislative Assistants  
Cc: cr\_board\_clerk Clerk Recorder

09/24/2012 04:21 PM

*Amber Wilson*  
Secretary/Board of Supervisors  
San Luis Obispo County  
805.781.4335  
abwilson@co.slo.ca.us

----- Forwarded by Amber Wilson/BOS/COSLO on 09/24/2012 04:20 PM -----

From: Vicki Shelby/BOS/COSLO  
To: Amber Wilson/BOS/COSLO  
Cc: "fmecham@co.slo.ca.us" <fmecham@co.slo.ca.us>  
Date: 09/24/2012 04:18 PM  
Subject: FW: Templeton CSD Board of Directors - Letter Opposing Item #23 on the BOS Agenda for 09/25/12

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Amber

Please forward to the board members, Legislative Asst. and Clerk

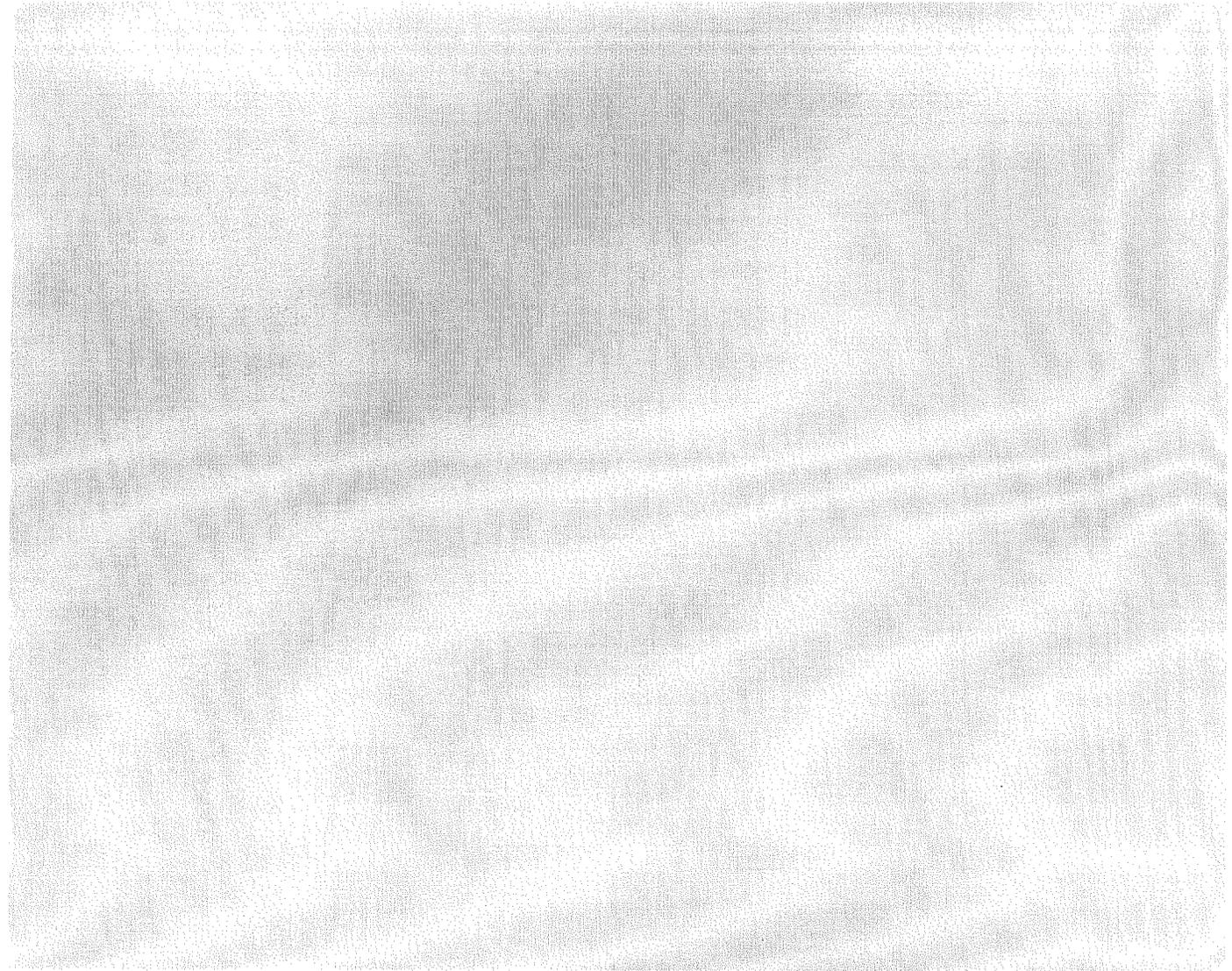
Thank you  
Vicki M. Shelby  
Legislative Assistant for  
Supervisor Frank R. Mecham

----- Forwarded by Vicki Shelby/BOS/COSLO on 09/24/2012 04:18:45 PM-----

----- Original Message -----

From : "Laurie Ion" <ion@templetoncsd.org>  
To : <vshelby@co.slo.ca.us>  
Cc : <jgannon1@aol.com>, <judithdietch@gmail.com>, "Jeff Hodge" <JHodge@templetoncsd.org>, "Tina Mayer" <tln@templetoncsd.org>  
Sent on : 09/24 03:49:59 PM PDT  
Subject : Templeton CSD Board of Directors - Letter Opposing Item #23 on the BOS Agenda for 09/25/12

ITEM #26  
MEETING DATE: March 6, 2012  
PRESENTED BY: LAURIE ION  
RECEIVED PRIOR TO MEETING  
POSTED ON: March 5, 2012



09/24/12

Dear Vicki,

Attached please find the above-referenced letter. Thank you for submitting it to the Board on our behalf. Please call me if you have any questions. Best wishes,

Laurie

*Laurie Ion*

ITEM #26  
MEETING DATE: March 6, 2012  
PRESENTED BY: LAURIE ION  
RECEIVED PRIOR TO MEETING  
POSTED ON: March 5, 2012

Assistant to General Manager/Board Secretary

Templeton Community Services

PHONE: (805) 434-4900

FAX: (805) 434-4820

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- BOARD OF SUPERVISORS sept 24 2012.pdf

ITEM #26  
MEETING DATE: March 6, 2012  
PRESENTED BY: LAURIE ION  
RECEIVED PRIOR TO MEETING  
POSTED ON: March 5, 2012

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**John T. Gannon, Jr.**  
*President*

**Robert Bergman**  
*Director*

**Judith Dietch**  
*Vice-President*

**Kevin Hunt**  
*Director*

**Greg O'Sullivan**  
*Director*



**STAFF**

**Jeffrey W. Hodge**  
*General Manager*

**Jay Short**  
*Utilities Supervisor*

**Bettina Mayer, PE.**  
*District Engineer*

**Jim Langborg**  
*Fire Chief*

**Laurie A. Ion**  
*Assistant to General Manager/  
Board Secretary*

**Melissa Johnson**  
*Sports Coordinator*

**TEMPLETON COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT**

P.O. BOX 780 • 420 CROCKER STREET • TEMPLETON, CA 93465 • (805) 434-4900 • FAX: (805) 434-4820  
September 24, 2012

Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of San Luis Obispo  
James Patterson, Chairperson  
1055 Monterey Street, D-430  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

SENT VIA ELECTRONIC E-MAIL

RE: Opposition to Amendment of Article 9 of the Land Use Ordinance, Title 22 of the County code – Item #23

Dear Chairperson Patterson and Honorable Supervisors,

The Templeton Community Services District Board of Directors does not support the amendment of Article 9 of the Land Use Ordinance, Title 22 of the County Code adding water conservation requirements for discretionary land use permit applications, land divisions and general plan amendments in Districts 1 and 5.

Currently, the Paso Ground Water Steering Committee and Solutions Subcommittee Members are still actively meeting. The Solutions Subcommittee is comprised of representatives from cities, community services districts, wineries and local growers. Positive relationships have been formed and fostered in an effort to work collaboratively to solve the problems facing us versus imposing legislation. The proposed ordinance amendment does not give any immediate answers or measurable results. As such, we respectfully request that this amendment be tabled until further discussions may be held.

Sincerely,

*John T. Gannon Jr.*  
John T. Gannon Jr., President  
Templeton Community Services District

:JWH

cc: Frank Mecham  
Bruce Gibson  
Adam Hill  
Paul Teixeira

ITEM #26  
MEETING DATE: March 6, 2012  
PRESENTED BY: LAURIE ION  
RECEIVED PRIOR TO MEETING  
POSTED ON: March 5, 2012



**Fw: Statement Regarding Water Problem**

Board of Supervisors to: BOS\_Legislative Assistants

09/24/2012 04:22 PM

Sent by: Amber Wilson

Cc: cr\_board\_clerk Clerk Recorder

----- Forwarded by Amber Wilson/BOS/COSLO on 09/24/2012 04:22 PM -----

From: Lindsay Pera <Impera@yahoo.com>  
To: "boardofsups@co.slo.ca.us" <boardofsups@co.slo.ca.us>  
Cc: Sue Luft <aslft@wildblue.net>, casey pera <caseypera@gmail.com>  
Date: 09/24/2012 04:00 PM  
Subject: Statement Regarding Water Problem

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Sage Pera  
4789 Almond Drive  
Templeton CA 93465

September 24, 2012  
Our Water Problem

Dear Board of Supervisors,

My name is Sage Pera. I am 12 years old and I live in Templeton.

We are running low on water. We ran out of water a few years ago and we had to make our well deeper. It can't go any deeper now, and that makes me feel scared and sad.

I don't want to leave my home.

I don't think you should let any new development in because they will just use up more water faster. At our house we try to save water, but that feels silly and stupid when you are surrounded by acres and acres of new wine grape vineyards that are using tons and tons of water.

Did you know you can grow grapes without water? You can do it "dry farmed." We have friends that do that, and that is how it was done when people first planted grapes in our area.

You can't grow kids without water. And I would like to get to grow up here, in my home.

I think you should start fixing this water problem. Please.

Thank you,

Sage Pera

ITEM NO. 23  
MEETING DATE: SEPTEMBER 25, 2012  
PRESENTED BY: SAGE PERA  
RECEIVED PRIOR TO MEETING  
POSTED ON: SEPTEMBER 24, 2012



**Fw: Contact Us (response #2187)**

Board of Supervisors to: BOS\_Legislative Assistants  
Sent by: Amber Wilson  
Cc: cr\_board\_clerk Clerk Recorder

09/24/2012 04:33 PM

----- Forwarded by Amber Wilson/BOS/COSLO on 09/24/2012 04:33 PM -----

From: "Internet Webmaster" <webmaster@co.slo.ca.us>  
To: "BoardOfSupps@co.slo.ca.us" <BoardOfSupps@co.slo.ca.us>  
Date: 09/24/2012 04:29 PM  
Subject: Contact Us (response #2187)

Contact Us (response #2187)  
Survey Information

Site:	County of SLO
Page Title:	Contact Us
URL:	<a href="http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/bos/BOSContactUs.htm">http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/bos/BOSContactUs.htm</a>
Submission Time/Date:	9/24/2012 4:27:33 PM

Survey Response

Name:	Steve/Janice Nelson
Telephone Number:	805-712-6100
Email address:	<a href="mailto:nelsonloop@charter.net">nelsonloop@charter.net</a>
Comments or questions (8,192 characters max):	To the Secretary to The Board: Please enter into public comment for tomorrow's mtg.: Regarding Agenda Item 714/2012 we are strongly opposed to this proposal. It's sweeping and too broad based.

ITEM NO. 23  
MEETING DATE: SEPTEMBER 25, 2012  
PRESENTED BY: STEVE/JANICE NELSON  
RECEIVED PRIOR TO MEETING  
POSTED ON: SEPTEMBER 24, 2012



**Fw: Statement Water Issue**

Board of Supervisors to: BOS\_Legislative Assistants  
Sent by: Amber Wilson  
Cc: cr\_board\_clerk Clerk Recorder

09/24/2012 04:50 PM

----- Forwarded by Amber Wilson/BOS/COSLO on 09/24/2012 04:50 PM -----

From: Lindsay Pera <Impera@yahoo.com>  
To: "boardofsups@co.slo.ca.us" <boardofsups@co.slo.ca.us>  
Date: 09/24/2012 04:40 PM  
Subject: Statement Water Issue

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September 24, 2012

Re: Paso Robles Water Basin

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I just got off the phone with a family friend who is a water attorney and worked in Santa Barbara on the Santa Maria water basin problem.

I was stunned to learn that what we are going through is not unique, not some one off problem "too complicated" to understand or to fix. It turns out that we are following the pattern of many, many basins in California that have already faced overdraft, and just mere steps ahead of many others that will undoubtedly do so in the months and years to come.

I was stunned to hear the projections from a person who has seen the California State Water projections, and has worked on the front lines addressing water shortages in limited water basins such as ours.

There are two common misconceptions that I hear all the time:

1. That you can just "drill deeper"
2. That if we just get a "good year" of snow in the Sierras everything will be fine

It is critical that everyone understand that neither of these things is true. We have a limited resource, and we are using too much of it without monitoring or fair allocation.

You have undoubtedly all experienced what it is like when the power goes out...you flip the switch out of habit and remain in darkness. No lights come on.

What you may not have experienced is what it is like to turn on the hose, and have nothing come out. No kink in the hose. No valve to switch. No water. At all.

Many of us have had this experience. Lowering pumps. Digging new wells. And trucking in water to meet the needs of our families. This is the reality people are already facing in our area. We are not ahead of the problem. We are smack dab in the middle of it. Let's get up to speed, learn from our neighbors who have gone before us on this water shortage journey and roll up our sleeves to work together to address the problem.

Homes, property values, businesses and PEOPLE depend on it.

Sincerely,

Lindsay Pera  
4678 Almond Drive  
Templeton CA 93465

ITEM NO. 23  
MEETING DATE: September 25, 2012  
PRESENTED BY: Lindsay Pera  
RECEIVED PRIOR TO MEETING  
POSTED ON: September 24, 2012



**Fw: Water Conservation requirement proposal**

Board of Supervisors to: BOS\_Legislative Assistants

09/24/2012 04:51 PM

Sent by: Amber Wilson

Cc: cr\_board\_clerk Clerk Recorder

----- Forwarded by Amber Wilson/BOS/COSLO on 09/24/2012 04:50 PM -----

From: casey pera <caseypera@gmail.com>  
To: boardofsups@co.slo.ca.us  
Date: 09/24/2012 04:46 PM  
Subject: Water Conservation requirement proposal

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Dear Supervisors,

My name is Casey Pera, and I am a resident of Templeton, on the East side of 101. I was hoping to present my opinion and request in person at tomorrow's Board of Supervisors meeting, but I have been called in to work at the last minute (I am a firefighter and work outside of our county).

I am writing today to urge you to support the proposed amendment to require water conservation measures be implemented in all future planning, as recommended by the SLO County Planning Commission.

Our family has seen our well levels drop precipitously over the past few years, since we first replaced our very old well, back in 2002. At the time, the water levels were only down about 100 feet, and this was at the end of many years of drought, leading us to believe that we were sitting on a very good aquifer. However, in the ensuing years, our entire neighborhood has been planted to vineyard (100s, if not 1000s of acres), and we have noticed a continuous, and accelerating, rate of decline in our standing water level. A couple of years ago we had the most heart-stopping experience that rural residents can imagine. Our tanks went empty, as the well had run dry at its current level. We called out the well team from Miller drilling, and they lowered our pump to a deeper location, and we were able to reestablish our water supply. Fortunately for our family we had room to do so, without having to dig an entirely new well. Many of our neighbors have not been so fortunate, and have spent tens of thousands of dollars trying to obtain a new source of water.

As you know, our well is our lifeline. Without it, our property not only becomes worthless, but uninhabitable. On our property, we have three generations (including 5 children, 6 parents, and 4 grandparents) trying to make not only a living, but a life that we have worked hard for, and dreamed of. This is the same for all of our neighbors. The entire North County rural existence depends on there being a sufficient water supply. We need to take action now, to prevent the problem from getting worse. This isn't a situation that can be fixed once it gets out of control. It needs to be addressed before we get to that point. I realize that this proposal before you is but a small step, but it is both an important, and necessary one for our community to take. I understand it has opposition from some groups in our county, but the benefits far outweigh the costs. The opponents argue that water is a renewable resource, which it is, but we are pulling out more than is going back in at this time. Just like a bank account, if we continue to withdraw more than we put back in, we will eventually go bankrupt. Our water basin is just like that bank account, only we are talking about people's lives and homes. We can not afford to kick this decision down the road. The time for action is now. Please provide the leadership necessary at this time, to secure a

ITEM NO. 23  
MEETING DATE: September 25, 2012  
PRESENTED BY: Casey Pera  
RECEIVED PRIOR TO MEETING  
POSTED ON: September 24, 2012

future for my children to pursue their dreams here in our county.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Casey Pera

4678 Almond Dr

Templeton, CA 93465

805-237-0464