



BOARD MEETING AGENDA SUBMITTAL

MEETING DATE: January 8, 2019

ITEM SUBMITTED BY: Peter J. Kampa, General Manager

SUBMITTAL PREPARED BY: Peter J. Kampa, General Manager

AGENDA ITEM: Consideration of Membership in the Tuolumne-Stanislaus
3A Regional Water Management Authority

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Motion to Approve Membership in the Tuolumne-Stanislaus Regional Water Management Authority

BACKGROUND

Members of the Tuolumne-Stanislaus Regional Water Management Authority have requested that the GCSD Board consider membership in this Joint Powers Authority, responsible for implementation of a regional water management plan and related actions.

Should the Board approve membership on the Authority, the District will need to take additional actions to adopt the Authority bylaws, appoint a representative from the District, and pay the participation fee. Additional information is included on the next page and in the attachments listed below.

ATTACHMENTS

- IRWMA Membership Information
- IRWMA Membership (Cost) Tiers

FINANCIAL IMPACTS

Using either population or number of connections, the District's 2018 cost for membership in the IRWMA would be \$9000. The expense would be paid by the water and sewer funds proportionally based on customer count

The establishment of a collaborative water planning entity and development of a regional water management plan was originally proposed in 2007 by then TUD General Manager Pete Kampa and TUD water consultant John Mills. By 2008, a proposed regional boundary was identified to encompass the Tuolumne and Stanislaus River Watersheds, as well as Littlejohn Creek in Calaveras County. The state Department of Water Resources (DWR) approved the Tuolumne-Stanislaus (T-Stan) boundaries in 2008. A state planning grant was secured in 2009 and the T-Stan Integrated Regional Water Management Plan, or "IRWMP" was completed in 2010. The Central Sierra Environmental Resource Center (CSERC) put together a comprehensive presentation on the history of the regional effort, which can be downloaded [here](#).

GCSD has participated in the process of formation of the IRWMP, and actively participated on its Watershed Advisory Committee until recent years. By participating in the process, the District has received IRWM grant funds for the AWS water treatment plant trailer and renovation of Lift Station #16. Due to high workload, changes in management staff and Board members, GCSD's active participation in the IRWM has waned. By once again regularly attending the IRWM Watershed Advisory Committee meetings held at TUD in Sonora, GCSD can once again regain an active membership in the organization and have a voice in the committee.

What is at issue currently is whether GCSD should become a member of the formal decision-making body of the IRWM, a joint powers authority called the Tuolumne-Stanislaus Integrated Regional Water Management Authority. As a member of the Authority, the District would have a vote with the other listed agencies on decisions affecting the water management of our region. Members of the Authority will be in attendance at the meeting to present the matter and answer questions. Participation in the Authority requires the District to share in its administrative costs, and a member of the Board would be assigned as the GCSD voting member in Authority decisions. Membership in the Authority is a solid, positive action on behalf of the community and our interest in regional water issues.

Tuolumne-Stanislaus

Integrated Regional Water Management Authority

MEMBERSHIP OPPORTUNITY TO SUPPORT YOUR WATERSHED AND THE COMMUNITY

About: The T-Stan Integrated Regional Water Authority oversees the TS-IRWM Plan. The Plan is the first regional watershed management plan of its kind in the Tuolumne-Stanislaus Region and is intended to provide a framework to improve collective understanding and take high priority actions to collaboratively address the many major water-related challenges/needs and conflicts within the Region through the planning horizon. These issues include water quality, local water supply reliability, better integration of water and land use management, resource stewardship and ecosystem protection.

Location: The Region's boundaries encompass approximately 2,700 square miles, spanning the western slope of the Sierra Nevada, rising from the lower Sierra foothills to the crest of the Sierra Nevada and includes the Upper Tuolumne River, Upper Stanislaus River, and Upper Rock Creek-French Camp Slough watersheds. The Region includes all of Tuolumne County, the southern portion of Calaveras County, and southwestern Alpine County.



Funding Opportunity: To date, the T-Stan IRWM region has been awarded over \$12 million in state grant funds for projects being implemented by IRWMA members.

The JPA Board Members are the Statutory Authority over the IRWM Group. Current T-Stan IRWM Board Members:

- [Calaveras County Water District](#)
- [Murphys Sanitary District](#)
- [Tuolumne County](#)
- [Tuolumne Utilities District](#)
- [Twain Harte Community Services District](#)

The Watershed Advisory Committee members have an interest in the IRWM region and are stakeholders that attend the regularly scheduled meetings. Current T-Stan IRWMA Watershed Advisory Committee (WAC) Members:

- Amador Tuolumne Community Action Agency
- Calaveras County Water District
- Central Sierra Audubon
- Central Sierra Environmental Resource Center
- City of Angels Camp
- City of Sonora
- Groveland Community Services District
- Murphys Sanitary District
- Pinecrest Permittees Association
- Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians
- Tuolumne County
- Tuolumne County Alliance for Resources & Environment
- Tuolumne County Resource Conservation District
- Tuolumne Group Sierra Club
- Tuolumne River Trust
- Tuolumne Utilities District
- Twain Harte Community Services District
- United States Forest Service, Stanislaus National Forest
- Utica Power Authority

JPA Membership Opportunity

- Play a leadership role in bringing local and regional needs to the attention of those with the ability to assist in implementing solutions
- Be part of the decision-making group that guides the T-Stan IRWMP organization forward into the future
- Demonstrate the leadership role your organization is expected to provide to your community and your watershed
- Help maintain and continue fostering the goodwill towards, and the respect of, the T-Stan IRWM organization by the CA Department of Water Resources
- As a JPA member, your organization will be in a position to participate in all the efforts of the IRWMA to include ensuring a continued forum for collaboration among the diverse members of the Watershed Advisory Committee who strive to identify water-related challenges and opportunities and vet water resource projects within the region

Tuolumne-Stanislaus

Integrated Regional Water Management Authority

Membership Investment Tiers

JPA Leadership Member Investment Tiers:

# Connections or Area Population	Annual Contribution
10,000 or more	\$ 15,000/year
6,000-9,999	\$ 12,000/year
2,000-5,999	\$ 9,000/year
1,999 or less	\$ 7,000/year

* Note: JPA Annual Contribution amount will vary depending on the number of members and Community Partnership Support Contributors who participate each year.

JPA Board – Current Members: 2018:

JPA Members	# Connections or Area Population	Annual Pricing-2018
CCWD	8,355	\$12,000
MSD	791	\$7,000
THCSD	1,572	\$7,000
Tuolumne County	52,000	\$15,000
TUD	14,160	\$15,000

Becoming a T-Stan IRWMP Community Partner Support Contributor would mean:

- As a Community Partner, your agency will be recognized as a supporter of the mission and purpose of the Tuolumne-Stanislaus Integrated Regional Water Management Authority (T-S IRWMA): to manage water in a sustainable fashion while achieving balance among the competing uses and requirements for water; this includes meeting water quality needs to include addressing aging septic systems
- Your agency will be invited to attend the monthly Water Advisory Committee (WAC) meetings
- Your agency logo would be prominently displayed on the Tuolumne-Stanislaus Integrated Regional Water Management Authority website, <https://tstan-irwma.org/>
- Your agency would be listed as a Community Partner in all news releases related to T-S IRWMA

Contribution: \$5,000/annually