

**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
NORTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES FOR AUGUST 15, 2019, at 6:00 P.M.**

DIRECTORS / ALTERNATE DIRECTORS PRESENT

Fresno Irrigation District – Chairman Jerry Prieto, Jr.
Bakman Water Company – Director Steve Pickens
City of Clovis – Director Jose Flores
City of Fresno – Alternate Director Mike Carbajal
County of Fresno – Director Brian Pacheco
City of Kerman – Rhonda Armstrong

DIRECTORS / AGENCIES ABSENT

Garfield Water District

MEMBER STAFF PRESENT

Executive Officer Gary R. Serrato – Fresno Irrigation District
Legal Counsel Brian Martin – Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud, & Romo
Advisory Committee Chairman Scott Redelfs – City of Clovis
Technical Subcommittee Chairman Adam Claes – Fresno Irrigation District
Administrative/Fiscal Subcommittee Chairman Lisa Koehn
Membership/Outreach/Communications Subcommittee Chairman Brandy Swisher –
Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District
Fiscal Officer DeAnn Hailey – Fresno Irrigation District
Consultant Ron Samuelian – Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group
Recording Secretary Lynn B. Rowe – Fresno Irrigation District

OTHERS PRESENT

Bill Stretch – Fresno Irrigation District
Sue Ruiz – Self Help Enterprises
Dao Lor – Asian Business Institute & Research Center
Allan Hofmann - Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District
Sayre McFarland – Landowner At Large

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Prieto called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

REVIEW AGENDA (Additional Agenda Items – Requires Majority Approval of Board - §54954.2(b))

Mr. Serrato stated Staff requests to add an item (as Item 4. b.) to the Board agenda for action. Staff seeks to have the NKGSA Board (signed by Chairman Prieto) send a rebuttal letter to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) on Semitropic Water Storage District's (Semitropic) petition to revise the fully appropriate stream status of the Kings River system. Legal Counsel Brian Martin stated that the Board is authorized to add an item to the agenda under Code Section 54954.2 (b) if two-thirds

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majority of the Directors approve the motion, there is a need to take immediate action, and if the subject matter came to the attention of Board after the agenda was posted. Mr. Martin stated these criteria were met and suggested that the matter be handled with two separate motions. The first motion would be to approve adding the item to the agenda; the second motion would be to approve mailing the rebuttal letter SWRCB.

M/S/C (Pacheco/Flores) That the Board of Directors approved adding item 4. b. (the proposed rebuttal Letter to the State Water Resources Control Board Regarding Fully Appropriate Stream Status of the Kings River System) to the agenda by the following vote. (Ayes – Pickens, Armstrong, Prieto, Jr., Carbajal, Flores, Pacheco; Nays – 0; Absent – Garfield Water District; Abstain – 0)

REVIEW OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Staff will ask the Board to cancel the NKGSA Regular Board meeting under item 1. b. scheduled for August 22. Dates for the December meeting are still being considered.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS (for items not on agenda) – 3 Minutes Maximum Per Person, 10 Minutes Maximum Per Subject

None.

POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Any Board Member who has a potential conflict of interest may now identify the item and recuse themselves from discussing and voting on the matter. [FPPC §87105]

None stated.

1. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

a. Approval of Regular Board Meeting Minutes – July 25, 2019 – Action Item

There were no corrections or amendments to the minutes.

M/S/C (Flores/Carbajal) That the Board of Directors approved the minutes of the July 25, 2019, meeting by the following vote. (Ayes – Pickens, Prieto, Jr., Carbajal, Flores, Pacheco; Nays – 0; Absent – Garfield Water District; Abstain – Armstrong)

b. Cancellation of August 22, 2019 Regular Board Meeting – Potential Action Item

Chairman Prieto stated there were no pending issues that warrant scheduling a meeting so close to the current special meeting.

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M/S/C (Pickens/Armstrong) That the Board of Directors approved the cancellation of the August 22, 2019, Regular Board meeting by the following vote. (Ayes – Pickens, Armstrong, Prieto, Jr., Carbajal, Flores, Pacheco; Nays – 0; Absent – Garfield Water District; Abstain – 0)

c. Kings Subbasin Coordination Update

Mr. Samuelian reviewed the following:

- All GSAs anticipate GSPs made public between July – September
 - McMullin, North Fork released their GSPs in July
 - Central, James and South likely to be out in August
 - Kings River East out in mid-September
- GSP adoptions planned for October – December
- Final changes to the draft Coordination Agreement due by August 30
- Preparing for first annual report due on April 1, 2020
- Workshop on how to upload / submit GSP – August 20
- Kings Subbasin Disadvantage Communities (DAC) outreach event in Dinuba – August 26

d. Advisory Committee Update

Mr. Redelfs stated the Advisory Committee met on August 9. The Committee heard updates from the three sub-committees. Discussion on the approval and release of the draft GSP to the public was discussed. The Committee voted to recommend to the full Board the approval of the draft GSP and making it available to the Public.

i. Technical Subcommittee Update

Mr. Claes reported on:

- SGMA Enacted in 2014
- Establishment of GSAs by June 2017
- GSP Adoption Required by January 2020
- Annual Reports due each April 1st starting in 2020
- GSP Updates Required Every Five Years
- Reach Groundwater Sustainability by 2040

GSP Development Process

- Prepared by Technical Subcommittee of diverse group of stakeholders
- Have met monthly since February 2017

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- Reviewed requirements, identified issues, developed draft language by section, reviewed and commented, section revised
- Information from Kings Basin Coordination efforts incorporated (encompasses seven separate GSAs)

July 2019 – Technical Subcommittee members reviewed/commented:

- Private well owners (domestic/ag)
- Cities (Fresno, Clovis, Kerman)
- Fresno County
- Urban (Bakman, Biola, Malaga, Pinedale)
- Irrigation districts (Fresno ID and Garfield WD)
- DAC (Self Help and Leadership Counsel)
- CSU Fresno, Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District
- Hydrogeologists
- Received over 500 comments from 20 people/entities

Executive Summary

Chapters:

- Introduction
- Plan Area (describes each agency)
- Basin Setting
 - Hydrogeologic Conceptual Model
 - Groundwater Conditions
 - Water Budget
 - Water Supply for Augmentation
 - Management Areas
- Sustainable Management Criteria for the six undesirable results
- Monitoring Network
- Projects and Management Actions
- Implementation

Timeline:

- August 15 – Presentation of GSP at Special Board Meeting (Staff requested Board authorization to approve the draft GSP and make available to the public)
- August 16 – Start of the Public Comment Period, 90-day Notice to agencies and GSP placed on NKGSA website
- August 19 – First Public Notice for Comment and Hearing
- September 16 – Second Public Notice for Comment and Hearing
- October 18 – Deadline for written comments
- October 24 – Regularly Scheduled NKGSA Board Meeting
- November 21 – Public Hearing at NKGSA Board Meeting, GSP adoption

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- December TBD 2019 – NKGSA BOD meeting to adopt the GSP (if needed)
- January 2020 – Submittal to DWR once all other GSPs in Basin are adopted

ii. Administrative/Fiscal Subcommittee Update

Nothing new to report.

iii. Membership/Outreach/Communications Subcommittee Update

Ms. Swisher, Chair of the Communication/Outreach Subcommittee, outlined the outreach and timeframe on the release of the draft Plan and how the group would collect, catalog, and summarize written comments as required by SGMA.

The GSAs are required by SGMA to notify those listed in the Interested Parties Database (NKGSA currently has around 470 individuals signed up) and submit public notices (scheduled for the week of August 19 and September 26) in area newspapers. The notice will contain information on how to sign up for the Interested Parties Database.

An additional public outreach workshop is scheduled for September 12 (County “White Area” at the Clovis Veterans Memorial Building); also, two additional workshops (with dates/locations to be announced) will be held for the small/domestic well owners within the Fresno Irrigation District boundaries.

A PowerPoint presentation will be on the website for the NKGSA members, interested parties, and stakeholders to use to present to their agencies/groups. Hard copies of the GSP binders will be available at the FID office and at libraries in Biola, Clovis, Easton, and CSU Fresno).

Chairman Prieto commended the group on the work they have done and the outreach that has been made.

e. Authorization and Direction to set a Public Hearing Regarding the Draft Groundwater Sustainability Plan (Water Code section 10728.4) – Action Item

Staff requests the Public Hearing date for the GSP be set for November 21, 2019, at 6:00 p.m. The Hearing will be held at the Fresno Irrigation District office.

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M/S/C (Carbajal/Pickens) That the Board of Directors approved setting the Public Hearing Regarding the Draft Groundwater Sustainability Plan for November 21, 2019, by the following vote. (Ayes – Pickens, Armstrong, Prieto, Jr., Carbajal, Flores, Pacheco; Nays – 0; Absent – Garfield Water District; Abstain – 0)

2. LEGAL MATTERS

Nothing new to report.

3. FINANCIAL MATTERS

a. Expense Report for July 2019 – (no Action Item needed)

Ms. Hailey reported the invoices for July were incorporated and paid with June's invoices. There were no questions / comments from the Board. Action is not needed on this item – update only.

b. 2018-2019 Audited Financial Statements – Update

The audit process has been completed and will be brought to the Board during the September NKGSA Board meeting.

4. EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT

a. Executive Officer Replacement - Update

Mr. Serrato stated an update on the executive officer recruitment will be discussed during Closed Session.

b. Authorization of the North Kings GSA Chairman to Sign and Submit Letter to the State Water Resources Control Board

Mr. Serrato stated a letter to the SWRCB was drafted in response to Semitropic Water Storage District's letter (petition) to revise the fully appropriate stream status of the Kings River system. Semitropic's letter stated the GSAs have not accomplished much and that a hearing should still take place on the fully appropriate stream status.

M/S/C (Flores/Armstrong) That the Board of Directors approved the North Kings GSA's Chairman signing the rebuttal Letter to the State Water Resources Control Board regarding Semitropic Water District's petition on the Kings River System by the following vote. (Ayes – Pickens, Armstrong, Prieto, Jr., Carbajal, Flores, Pacheco; Nays – 0; Absent – Garfield Water District; Abstain – 0)

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5. DIRECTORS REPORT

Director Pickens – none.

Director Armstrong – none.

Director Prieto – none.

Alternate Director Carbajal – none.

Director Flores – none.

Director Pacheco – none.

Open Session was suspended at 6:35 p.m. with the Board of Directors, the Executive Officer, and some management Staff going into Closed Session at 6:36 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

Public Employee Appointment – Government Code 54957
Title: Executive Officer (Discussion Only)

Conference with Labor Negotiators – Government Code 54957.6
Agency designated representative: Board Chairman
Unrepresented employee: Future Executive Officer

Closed Session was adjourned at 7:15 p.m. and Open Session resumed immediately.

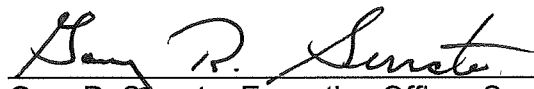
6. REPORT ON ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION

Chairman Prieto stated there was nothing to report out of Closed Session.

7. ADJOURNMENT

With no further discussion or action, Chairman Prieto adjourned the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by,



Gary R. Serrato, Executive Officer-Secretary/Treasurer