

## MINUTES

### NKGSA Advisory Committee Meeting March 11, 2022

#### VIA TELECONFERENCE:

#### In attendance:

\*Scott Redelfs – City of Clovis

\*Shay Bakman – Bakman Water  
Company

\*Peter Cerna – Biola CSD

\*Dejan Pavic – City of Fresno

\*Glenn Allen – Fresno County

\*Adam Claes – FID

\*Brandy Swisher – FMFCD

\*Nick Keller – Garfield Water District

Kassy Chauhan – NKGSA

Andrew Aller – NKGSA (legal counsel)

Paul Armendariz – City of Clovis

Ronnie Samuelian – Provost & Pritchard

Lisa Koehn – Clovis

Diane Merrill – League of Women Voters

\* - Voting representative on Advisory Committee

*\*\*Note: This meeting was conducted via web conference due to COVID-19 social distancing requirements.*

**Item 1 – Called to order at 1:30 PM**

Special Instructions:

Special teleconferencing procedures for the Advisory Committee meeting were read by Executive Officer Kassy Chauhan. The special instructions included information on written and verbal comments for the Advisory Committee members and members of the public participating via teleconference.

Following the special teleconference instructions, a roll call vote was taken with the following results:

| <b>Agency Name</b>                         | <b>Name of Person</b> | <b>Present/Absent</b> |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Bakman Water Company                       | Shay Bakman           | Present               |
| Biola CSD                                  | Pete Cerna            | Present               |
| City of Clovis                             | Scott Redelfs         | Present               |
| City of Fresno                             | Dejan Pavic           | Present               |
| Fresno County                              | Glenn Allen           | Present               |
| Fresno Irrigation District                 | Adam Claes            | Present               |
| Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District | Brandy Swisher        | Present               |
| Garfield Water District                    | Nick Keller           | Present               |
| International Water District               | -                     | Absent                |
| City of Kerman                             | -                     | Absent                |

**Item 7a – Discussion/Possible Action – Updated Advisory Committee Roster**

*This item was moved up to allow the new Advisory Committee member to participate in the remainder of the meeting activities.*

The new primary representative for Biola CSD is Peter Cerna, with alternates Cruz Ramos and Jerry Jones.

Fresno County’s representative, Glenn Allen, will be retiring at the end of this month. The new primary representative will be Bernard Jimenez, with alternate Augustine Ramirez.

Motion to approve the updated Advisory Committee roster by member Keller, second by member Claes. Committee votes as follows:

|                |     |
|----------------|-----|
| Member: Bakman | Aye |
| Member: Cerna  | Aye |

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Member: Redelfs                            | Aye |
| Member: Pavic                              | Aye |
| Member: Allen                              | Aye |
| Member: Claes                              | Aye |
| Member: Swisher                            | Aye |
| Member: Keller                             | Aye |
| <i>(International &amp; Kerman absent)</i> |     |

8 Aye; 2 Absent. Motion passed.

**Item 2 – Discussion/Possible Action – NKGSA Resolution 22-05: Resolution of the Advisory Committee of the North Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency – Resolution Continuing Advisory Committee Authority to Hold Virtual Meetings Pursuant to AB361**

AB361 requires that this item be revisited every 30 days in order for virtual meetings to continue while the Governor’s state of emergency order is still in place.

Motion by member Claes; second by member Allen. Committee votes as follows:

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Member: Bakman                             | Aye |
| Member: Cerna                              | Aye |
| Member: Redelfs                            | Aye |
| Member: Pavic                              | Aye |
| Member: Allen                              | Aye |
| Member: Claes                              | Aye |
| Member: Swisher                            | Aye |
| Member: Keller                             | Aye |
| <i>(International &amp; Kerman absent)</i> |     |

8 Aye; 2 Absent. Motion passed.

**Item 3 – Public Presentations**

Diane Merrill requested more information regarding how the North Kings GSA and the rest of the Basin intend to handle the revision of the GSP and the coordination

agreement, given the size and diversity of the Basin. Chairman Redelfs indicated that this would be discussed in greater detail during the Basin Coordination Update from Ronnie Samuelian.

#### **Item 4 – Approval of Minutes**

##### **Item 4a – Approval of Minutes from February 11, 2022 Meeting**

Motion to approve minutes by member Claes; second by member Keller.  
Committee votes as follows:

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Member: Bakman                             | Aye |
| Member: Cerna                              | Aye |
| Member: Redelfs                            | Aye |
| Member: Pavic                              | Aye |
| Member: Allen                              | Aye |
| Member: Claes                              | Aye |
| Member: Swisher                            | Aye |
| Member: Keller                             | Aye |
| <i>(International &amp; Kerman absent)</i> |     |

8 Aye; 2 Absent. Motion passed.

#### **Item 5 – Financial Report**

##### **Item 5a – Discussion/Possible Action – Recommend Approval of Expense Report for January 2022**

(Presented by Lisa Koehn)

Expenses for January 2022 totaled \$27,373.74, which included all typical expenses.

##### **Item 5b – Discussion/Possible Action – Recommend Approval of the Financial Statements as of January 31, 2022**

(Presented by Lisa Koehn)

The balance sheet shows total assets of \$1,394,684.25. As of January 31, a total of \$191,162.21 has been spent, which is 30.73% of the budget for this fiscal year.

Motion to approve expense report and financial statements by member Claes; second by member Allen. Committee votes as follows:

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Member: Bakman                             | Aye |
| Member: Cerna                              | Aye |
| Member: Redelfs                            | Aye |
| Member: Pavic                              | Aye |
| Member: Allen                              | Aye |
| Member: Claes                              | Aye |
| Member: Swisher                            | Aye |
| Member: Keller                             | Aye |
| <i>(International &amp; Kerman absent)</i> |     |

8 Aye; 2 Absent. Motion passed.

**Item 5c – Discussion/Possible Action – Member Agency Participation Account Balances**

(Presented by Kassy Chauhan)

The member agencies have balances on the books. The Fiscal Workgroup met to discuss possible options for handling the balances; the preferred option was to credit the balances towards the next year's contributions and to consider fully funding the legal reserve in accordance with the participation percentages. The least favorable option was to issue refund checks. This will be on the agenda for discussion at the next Board meeting. Agencies will be contacted directly regarding their individual balances.

**Item 6 – Receive – Basin Coordination Update**

(Presented by Ronnie Samuelian)

Round 1 of the implementation grant is underway. The FID Savory Pond project is nearly complete; the Kerman project will be moving forward in the fall. The second round of implementation funding is expected to be approved for several projects in the Basin. Well construction information gathering for DWR's planning grant is continuing.

The annual report is due on April 1<sup>st</sup>. There are plans for outreach associated with the annual report and the new planning grant. Due to the size of the Basin and the

ongoing drought conditions, the report will demonstrate significant water level challenges faced by the Basin in this past water year.

In terms of GSP revisions, work is in progress on all four of the areas of deficiency identified by DWR. The main focus is currently on addressing water level sustainable management criteria (SMC). The changes will be discussed with the coordinated group later in March. Other changes to the plan (subsidence, water quality, and interconnected surface water changes) are progressing and are more minor changes than the water level sustainable management criteria.

The goal is to submit draft revised plans to GSAs in June for July adoption and submission to the State by July 27<sup>th</sup>.

## **Item 7 – Administrative**

(Presented by Kassy Chauhan)

### **Item 7a – Discussion/Possible Action – Updated Advisory Committee Roster**

*See Page 2 – This item was moved up to allow the new Advisory Committee member to participate in the remainder of the meeting activities.*

### **Item 7b – Discussion – NKGSA Board Seat No. 7 – At Large – Director Kyle Moeller**

At the February Board meeting, Kyle Moeller (Fowler Packing) was selected to fill the At-Large Board Seat #7. Chuck Rodriguez (Biola CSD) was appointed as first alternate. The second alternate is Moises Ortiz (Malaga County Water District).

### **Item 7c – 2021 Annual Report – DWR**

Between October 2020 and September 2021, there were several notable milestones of the GSA that will be included in the 2021 annual report. These included outreach efforts, new policy implementations, and other projects such as construction information gathered, grant funds received, and studies undertaken. A summary of these was included in the meeting packet.

## **Item 8 – Workgroup Updates and Actions**

### **Item 8a – Technical Workgroup Update**

(Presented by Adam Claes)

The Technical Workgroup had its first meeting on February 4, 2022. Adam Claes is serving as the chair/lead for the workgroup. The main purpose is to review suggested changes to the GSP and provide feedback on proposed revisions for consideration by the Kings Subbasin coordination group.

#### **Item 8b – Policy Workgroup Update**

(Presented by Kassy Chauhan)

The Policy Workgroup has been working on agency reports, which were due on February 28<sup>th</sup>. The workgroup has also been working on redrafting the mitigation policy. A draft of that policy will hopefully be available to present to the Advisory Committee in April.

#### **Item 8c – Kings Water Alliance – Stakeholder Advisory Committee Report**

(Presented by Lisa Koehn)

Lisa Koehn is the NKGSA representative on the Kings Water Alliance Stakeholder Advisory Committee. The Committee has been discussing efforts to mitigate nitrate levels in drinking water.

The NKGSA is located within the priority 1 groundwater subbasin. There has been an interim water replacement program implemented to assist residents living in areas identified as having unsafe nitrate levels. Public outreach to these areas is ongoing. There are currently self-serve stations for “replacement water” in Hanford, Kerman, and Dinuba.

#### **Item 9 – Member Agency/Committee Member Reports**

##### **Item 9a – Advisory Committee/Member Agency Reports/Updates**

Member Claes provided a water operations report. As of March 10<sup>th</sup>, storage at Pine Flat was at 68% of normal for this time of year. Pre-project flows have remained fairly constant. With the upcoming increasing temperatures, snow melt will be monitored and will tell more about what kind of runoff activity can be expected this spring.

The most recent snow survey (conducted on March 1<sup>st</sup>) indicated a 62% of average April-July runoff. On February 1<sup>st</sup>, the same survey indicated an 87% of April 1<sup>st</sup>

average. We received about 50% more snow than last year. Agricultural allocations are at 0%.

## **Item 10 – Executive Officer Update**

(Presented by Kassy Chauhan)

### **Item 10a – DWR Prop 68 Grant Project Update**

The Savory Pond project is nearly done and should be complete in the next few weeks.

### **Item 10b – Outreach / External Affairs Update**

In March, Kassy participated in a FAACT class presentation, and will also be participating in a SGMA panel discussion at the WELL conference and a Women for Agriculture meeting (both in April).

An AEM press release went out on March 10<sup>th</sup>.

A new grower resource flier has been developed in coordination with FID to assist with navigating irrigation system conversion. The flyer has been posted on the website and on social media, and has also been sent out via email.

### **Item 10c – Representative Monitoring Network Update**

Gathering of construction information continues. An amendment will be requested to allow additional time to gather the necessary information.

### **Item 10d – Miscellaneous**

The Ball Ranch Managed Aquifer Recharge Feasibility Project Planning Group is evaluating recharge potential for Ball Ranch.

Stanford is beginning a study on using geophysical imaging to identify recharge locations.

DWR and the California Water Institute are holding a webinar on March 17<sup>th</sup> to discuss the airborne electromagnetic survey.

The Biola Recharge Basin project is on hold pending an amendment to allow more time (and funding) to complete the project.



The upper aquifer boundary flow study is underway.

**Item 11 – Adjourned**

Meeting adjourned at 2:40 PM.

**Next Meeting**

April 8, 2022