

MINUTES

NKGSA Advisory Committee Meeting April 8, 2022

VIA TELECONFERENCE:

In attendance:

*Scott Redelfs – City of Clovis
*Shay Bakman – Bakman Water
Company
*Dejan Pavic – City of Fresno
* Adam Claes – FID
* Brent Sunamoto – FMFCD
* Nick Keller – Garfield Water District
Kassy Chauhan – NKGSA

Andrew Aller – NKGSA (legal counsel)
Paul Armendariz – City of Clovis
Kristen Freberg – City of Clovis
Brandy Swisher – FMFCD
Ronnie Samuelian – Provost & Pritchard
Austin Hubbell
Lisa Koehn – Clovis
Don Wright – Reporter

* - 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 1:32 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:

Agency Name	Name of Person	Present/Absent
Bakman Water Company	Shay Bakman	Present
Biola CSD	-	Absent
City of Clovis	Scott Redelfs	Present
City of Fresno	Dejan Pavic	Present
Fresno County	-	Absent
Fresno Irrigation District	Adam Claes	Present
Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District	Brent Sunamoto	Present
Garfield Water District	Nick Keller	Present
International Water District	-	Absent
City of Kerman	-	Absent

Item 2 – Discussion/Possible Action – NKGSA Resolution 22-07: 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 Keller. Committee votes as follows:

Member: Bakman	Aye
Member: Redelfs	Aye
Member: Pavic	Aye
Member: Claes	Aye
Member: Sunamoto	Aye

Member: Keller	Aye
<i>(Biola, Fresno County, International, & Kerman absent)</i>	

6 Aye; 4 Absent. Motion passed.

Item 3 – Public Presentations

There were no public presentations.

Item 4 – Approval of Minutes

Item 4a – Approval of Minutes from March 11, 2022 Meeting

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

Member: Bakman	Aye
Member: Redelfs	Aye
Member: Pavic	Aye
Member: Claes	Aye
Member: Sunamoto	Abstain
Member: Keller	Aye
<i>(Biola, Fresno County, International, & Kerman absent)</i>	

5 Aye; 1 Abstain; 4 Absent. Motion passed.

Item 5 – Financial Report

Item 5a – Discussion/Possible Action – Recommend Approval of Expense Report and Financial Statements as of February 28, 2022

(Presented by Lisa Koehn)

Expenses for the month of February totaled \$27,701.35, consisting of standard expenses as well as a one-time expense of \$511.99 to purchase a table cover and banner for public events. Total assets are currently at \$1,362,874.70. Through February 2022, a total of \$218,863.56 has been sent, which is about 35% of the year's budget.

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

Member: Bakman	Aye
Member: Redelfs	Aye
Member: Pavic	Aye
Member: Claes	Aye
Member: Sunamoto	Aye
Member: Keller	Aye
<i>(Biola, Fresno County, International, & Kerman absent)</i>	

6 Aye; 4 Absent. Motion passed.

Item 5b – Discussion – Revised Budget, FY 2022-2023 Budget Preparations, Interested Parties Invoices Updates

(Presented by Kassy Chauhan)

The Board will be discussing proposed budget amendments at the next Board meeting. There are 9 interested parties to whom invoices were sent out on April 1st.

Item 6 – Receive – Basin Coordination Update

(Presented by Ronnie Samuelian)

Item 6a – Discussion – Groundwater Sustainability Plan Revisions Update

The Savory Pond project is almost completed. Final approval for the next round of funding from DWR is pending.

An extension is being requested for the planning grant due to issues with accessing wells.

Regarding GSP revisions, the proposed changes on water level deficiencies have been drafted and a follow-up meeting with DWR will be held next week to discuss. Proposed changes for water quality deficiencies have been drafted and the GSPs are being updated accordingly. For land subsidence deficiencies, proposed changes have been drafted and will be submitted to the GSA representatives next

week for their review. Lastly, a meeting will be held with DWR to discuss the approach to the deficiencies for interconnected surface water.

The goal is still for the revised GSPs to be given to the GSAs in June for adoption in July and submission to the State by July 27th.

Item 6b – Discussion – 2021 Kings Subbasin Annual Report to DWR

The annual report has been completed for WY 20-21 and was submitted to DWR on March 31st. Per the report, only 335,000 acre-feet of surface water was delivered into the Basin for this water year, which is about 23% of the average. An estimated 2.3 million acre-feet of groundwater was pumped and there was an estimated 890,000 acre-feet of groundwater storage change. (For comparison, the cumulative storage change since 2015 is estimated at 660,000 acre-feet.)

Item 7 – Administrative

(Presented by Kassy Chauhan)

Item 7a – Governor’s Executive Order N-7-22: Well Permitting Update (Fresno County)

The Governor has issued an executive order requiring that any new well being drilled have GSA approval with written verification from the GSA that the well will not cause adverse effects. This takes effect on November 29th. Some wells (such as those controlled by domestic well owners) are exempt from this order. However, the new requirements will cause delays in issuing permits. The executive order was put into place due to the ongoing drought status in the state.

Item 7b – Multi-Benefit Land Repurposing Grant Application Update

A mutli-benefit land repurposing grant application was submitted by KRCD on April 1st. The grant would assist in the development of multi-benefit agricultural land. Agencies partnering with or in support of this endeavor include NKGSA, CSU Fresno, UCCE, and other GSAs. The project is expected to have a total cost of \$10 million.

Item 8 – Workgroup Updates and Actions

Item 8a – Technical Workgroup Update

(Presented by Adam Claes)

The Technical Workgroup did not meet in March or April. They are hoping to meet in May, pending ongoing deficiency discussions with DWR.

Item 8b – Policy Workgroup Update

(Presented by Kassy Chauhan)

The Policy Workgroup has been working on the mitigation policy. A draft of the policy is currently being reviewed by consultants. The Workgroup is meeting again in 2 weeks and is hoping to present a draft of the policy to the Advisory Committee next month.

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

(Presented by Lisa Koehn)

The KWA Stakeholder Advisory Committee did not meet in March or April. The next meeting is on May 12th. At the February meeting, a well owner from the North Fork GSA presented some questions regarding well depth. Lisa commented that there may be similar questions in the future from well owners in the North Kings GSA.

Item 9 – Member Agency/Committee Member Reports

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

Member Claes presented an update on snow conditions and how they are currently predicted to affect the GSA.

The DWR forecast should be updated today. The last one showed between 30% and 50% of average runoff for this time of year. The National Weather Service shows about 46% of average runoff, while KRWA's snow sensors are indicating 48% of average (41% if excluding outliers). Historically, this week is the one where significant amounts of snow start to melt, so the state of snow conditions in the next few weeks will be very important in predicting the rest of the year.

At the April 6th FID Board meeting, it was determined that there would be a 2-month irrigation season run through June/July, which will deliver about 200,000 acre-feet of water. (By comparison, 2021 had a 1-month irrigation run and 2020 had a 3-month run.)

Item 10 – Executive Officer Update

(Presented by Kassy Chauhan)

Item 10a – DWR Prop 68 Grant Project Update

The Savory Pond project (located near Lincoln & Chestnut) at is mostly complete and signage is in progress.

Item 10b – Outreach / External Affairs Update

Speaking engagements in the past month included World Water Day (March 22nd), FID's grower meetings (March 29th-31st), a SGMA panel discussion at the WELL Conference in Reedley (April 2nd), and the Women for Agriculture meeting in Fresno (April 4th).

Upcoming panel discussions include the Almond Growers Board meeting on May 2nd and the Groundwater Resource Agency's GSA Summit on June 9th.

Item 10c – Representative Monitoring Network Update

Work is still being done to fill in the data gaps for the well construction information. This has been challenging due to the need for well pumping.

Item 10d – Miscellaneous

The Biola Recharge Basin Project received a contract amendment to allow more time.

The upper aquifer study is in progress.

Item 11 – Adjourned

Motion by member Claes to adjourn; second by member Pavic. Meeting adjourned at 2:48 PM.

Next Meeting

May 13, 2022