

**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE  
NORTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY  
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES FOR JUNE 27, 2019, at 6:00 P.M.**

**DIRECTORS / ALTERNATE DIRECTORS PRESENT**

Fresno Irrigation District – Chairman Jerry Prieto, Jr.  
Bakman Water Company – Director Steve Pickens  
Garfield Water District – Director Karl Kienow  
City of Clovis – Alternate Director Lynne Ashbeck  
City of Fresno – Alternate Director Mike Carbajal  
County of Fresno – Director Brian Pacheco

**DIRECTORS ABSENT**

City of Kerman

**MEMBER STAFF PRESENT**

Executive Officer Gary R. Serrato – Fresno Irrigation District  
Legal Counsel Andrew Aller – Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud, & Romo  
Technical Subcommittee Chairman Adam Claes – Fresno Irrigation District  
Administrative/Fiscal Subcommittee Chairman Lisa Koehn  
Fiscal Officer DeAnn Hailey – Fresno Irrigation District  
Consultant Ron Samuelian – Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group  
Recording Secretary Lynn B. Rowe – Fresno Irrigation District

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Bernard Jimenez – County of Fresno  
Bill Stretch – Fresno Irrigation District  
Sue Ruiz – Self Help Enterprises  
Dao Lor – Asian Business Institute & Research Center

Alternate Director Lynne Ashbeck for the City of Clovis was sworn in prior to the beginning of the meeting.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

**REVIEW AGENDA**

Mr. Serrato stated there were no changes to the agenda.

**M/S/C (Kienow/Carbajal) That the Board of Directors approved the agenda as written by the following vote. (Ayes – Pickens, Kienow, Prieto, Jr., Carbajal, Pacheco; Nays – 0; Absent – City of Kerman; Abstain – Ashbeck)**

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**REVIEW OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

Chairman Prieto stated the dates for the November and December Board meetings have not been confirmed.

Mr. Serrato informed the Directors that the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) will be brought to the Board during the July 25 meeting.

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

Ms. Sue Ruiz from Self-Help Enterprises asked that the Board be conscious of domestic wells in the hardship / disadvantaged areas when reviewing the GSP.

**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 – March 28, 2019 – Action Item**

There were no corrections or amendments to the minutes.

**M/S/C (Kienow/Carbajal) That the Board of Directors approved the minutes of the March 28, 2019 meeting by the following vote. (Ayes – Pickens, Kienow, Prieto, Jr., Carbajal, Pacheco; Nays – 0; Absent – City of Kerman; Abstain – Ashbeck)**

**b. Approval of Special Board Meeting Minutes – April 30, 2019 – Action Item**

There was one edit to the minutes with the correction of the start time of the meeting, which was 5:00 pm and not 6:00 pm.

**M/S/C (Kienow/Carbajal) That the Board of Directors approved the minutes of the April 30, 2019 meeting as corrected by the following vote. (Ayes – Pickens, Kienow, Prieto, Jr., Carbajal, Pacheco; Nays – 0; Absent – City of Kerman; Abstain – Ashbeck)**

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**c. Water Conditions Update**

Mr. Claes provided the Board with an updated water/snow conditions report for both the San Joaquin River (Millerton Lake) and the Kings River (Pine Flat Reservoir). Millerton Lake's Inflow is at 9,000 cfs and Outflow is at 6,600 cfs – Storage is at 505,000 acre-feet. Pine Flat Reservoir's Inflow is at 11,000 cfs and Outflow is at 7,900 cfs – Storage is at 925,000 acre-feet.

**d. North Kings GSA Timeline and Schedule Update**

- July 3 – Release of the draft GSP to the Technical Subcommittee
- July 31 – Technical Subcommittee comments are due
- August 7 – Technical Subcommittee meeting to address comments
- August 15 – Presentation of GSP at Special NKGSA Board meeting
- August 16 – Start of the Public Comment Period, 90-day Notice, 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 3 – Deadline for written comments
- October 24 – Present comment summary to NKGSA Board
- November 21 – Public Hearing at NKGSA Board Meeting, GSP adoption
- December NKGSA BOD meeting to adopt the GSP (if needed)

Staff is preparing to schedule a special Board meeting on August 15 to request Board approval in presenting the draft Plan to the public. At the July 25 Board meeting components and elements of the draft Plan will be presented to the Board when Staff will review the executive summary and answer any questions from the Directors.

**e. Potential Special Board Meeting August 15, 2019 – Action Item**

Staff recommended holding a special Board Meeting on August 15 so the Board can approve the public release of the draft GSP for public comment, in an effort to adopt the GSP on November 21 (prior to the Thanksgiving holiday).

**M/S/C (Ashbeck/Kienow) That the Board of Directors approved holding a special meeting on August 15 at 6:00 p.m. by the following vote. (Ayes – Pickens, Kienow, Prieto, Jr., Carbajal, Ashbeck, Pacheco; Nays – 0; Absent – City of Kerman; Abstain – 0)**

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**f. Kings Subbasin Coordination Update**

Mr. Samuelian stated all seven Kings Basins GSPs must be submitted together (at the same time) and must be submitted by the Plan Coordinator, which is Mr. Samuelian of Provost & Pritchard Consulting.

Mr. Samuelian also reported on:

- All GSAs anticipate GSPs public comment from July – September
- Finishing Common Basin Language
- Draft Coordination Agreement final changes
- GRA Conference Panel Presentation – Mr. Samuelian appeared on a local SGMA workshop panel along with representatives from Santa Cruz and Borrego Springs where sustainable management criteria was addressed
- Kings Subbasin Community Discussion
  - Monday, June 10 – Riverdale, CA
  - Self-Help and KRCD sponsored
  - Two additional workshops being scheduled

**g. Advisory Committee Update**

Nothing new to report at this time.

**i. Technical Subcommittee Update**

Mr. Claes reviewed the progress taken place in the development the draft Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP). The subcommittee is working on:

- Finalizing future water budget/forecast with water agencies
- Adding projects for mitigation from agencies
  - Awaiting projects from a few agencies
- Some revision of wells in Monitoring Network
- Coordinating Water Level MOs/MTs with other GSAs
  - Awaiting confirmation from a few GSAs
  - Dependent on Basin-wide contours of MOs/MTs being developed
- Modifying Water Quality SMC with subgroup of stakeholders

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**ii. Administrative/Fiscal Subcommittee Update**

Ms. Koehn stated the Administrative/Fiscal Subcommittee report will be given under the Financial Matters section.

**iii. Membership/Outreach/Communications Subcommittee Update**

In Ms. Swishers' absence, Mr. Claes reported on the various outreach activities. Approximately 1,800 postcards were mailed out announcing a workshop at West Park Elementary (North and Valentine area) on May 2. This workshop was directed towards landowners with five-acres or less within FID boundaries, mainly private/domestic pumpers. Live Hmong and Hispanic translation was provided if desired, and there were bilingual (English and Spanish) PowerPoint slides being projected. Approximately 25 individuals attended the workshop.

Additional Outreach:

- May 2 – Mr. Claes appeared on Hmong USA TV – ABIRC Hour
- May 9 – Mr. Carbajal, Mr. Jacobsen (Fresno County Farm Bureau), and Mr. Claes appeared on KSEE 24 to discuss the City's SE Surface Water Treatment Facility, surface water, and SGMA
- May 23 – Mr. Serrato participated in a Fox 26 SGMA Townhall Event in Clovis, CA
- June 10 – Mr. Serrato participated in a Kings SGMA Community Discussion at Riverdale Education Center
- Mr. Claes has spoken at several area city planning commission meetings

Staff will re-visit the December 13, 2018 (County white-area) and May 2, 2019 (private/domestic) stakeholder groups, as well as continue to speak at professional associations and civic group meetings.

**h. Approval of Letter to the State Board in Support of the Fully Appropriated Stream Designation – Action Item**

Mr. Serrato stated the Semitropic Water District in Kern County has filed an application with the State Water Resources Control Board to appropriate water from the Kings River. The Kings Basin GSAs wrote letters stating that they support the current designation that the Kings River is a Fully Appropriated Stream. A copy of the letter was provided in the packet.

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**M/S/C (Pickens/Kienow) That the Board of Directors approved the letter of support dated May 21, 2019, written to the State Water Resources Control Board by the following vote. (Ayes – Pickens, Kienow, Prieto, Jr., Ashbeck, Carbajal, Pacheco; Nays – 0; Absent – City of Kerman; Abstain – 0)**

**2. LEGAL MATTERS**

Mr. Serrato introduced Mr. Andrew Aller who is sitting in for NKGSA Legal Counsel Kevin Dale.

**3. FINANCIAL MATTERS**

**a. Expense Report for April and May 2019 – Action Item**

Ms. Hailey reported expenses have been paid for April and May 2019. The Board inquired if there were any contributions towards the \$5,000 cost of the Townhall meeting. Mr. Serrato responded that the Central and East GSAs contributed towards the cost.

**M/S/C (Carbajal/Pickens) That the Board of Directors approved the Expense Report for April and May 2019 as presented by Staff by the following vote. (Ayes – Pickens, Kienow, Prieto, Jr., Carbajal, Ashbeck, Pacheco; Nays – 0; Absent – City of Kerman; Abstain – 0)**

**b. Financial Statements as of May 31, 2019 – Action Item**

Ms. Hailey stated the auditors will perform the audit at the end of July; once completed it will be brought before the Board for approval. Chairman Prieto reported he earlier signed the letter to engage the auditors.

Ms. Hailey reviewed the May 31 Balance Sheet, Income Statement – Budget vs. Actual (July – May), Income – Quarterly (July 2018 – June 2019), and paid / unpaid Invoices. There were no questions from the Board.

**M/S/C (Kienow/Ashbeck) That the Board of Directors approved the Financial Statements as of May 31, 2019, as presented by Staff by the following vote. (Ayes – Pickens, Kienow, Prieto, Jr., Carbajal, Ashbeck, Pacheco; Nays – 0; Absent – City of Kerman; Abstain – 0)**

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**c. Proposed NKGSA Post-GSP Member Administrative Cost Share & Fiscal Year 2019/2020 Budget – Action Item**

Ms. Koehn presented the proposed fiscal year 2019-2020 NKGSA budget, and reported on how the NKGSA will fund its administrative-related activities after January 2020 (post-GSP submittal to the State). The original JPA specified how costs would be apportioned among the members during the GSP preparation phase, through January 2020. The participation amounts for the 2019-2020 fiscal year are a combination of the prior agreed to amounts in the JPA and the proposed contribution percentages outlined in a Cost Concepts memo. The concepts included in the memorandum have been reviewed by the Administrative/Fiscal Subcommittee, the Technical Subcommittee, and approved by the Advisory Committee. Ms. Koehn answered questions from the Board concerning the contribution amounts from each agency.

**M/S/C (Kienow/Pickens) That the Board of Directors approved the cost share charges as presented by Staff by the following vote. (Ayes – Pickens, Kienow, Prieto, Jr., Carbajal, Ashbeck, Pacheco; Nays – 0; Absent – City of Kerman; Abstain – 0)**

**M/S/C (Ashbeck/Pickens) That the Board of Directors approved the 2019-2020 Budget as presented by Staff by the following vote. (Ayes – Pickens, Kienow, Prieto, Jr., Carbajal, Ashbeck, Pacheco; Nays – 0; Absent – City of Kerman; Abstain – 0)**

Mr. Serrato explained the cost share amounts being used is based on the number of acres each agency serves.

**4. EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT continued**

**a. Executive Officer Replacement - Update**

This item will be discussed during Closed Session.

**5. DIRECTORS REPORT**

**Director Pickens** – none.

**Director Kienow** – none.

**Director Prieto** – none.

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**DIRECTORS REPORT continued**

**Alternate Director Carbajal** – none.

**Alternate Director Ashbeck** – none.

**Director Pacheco** – none.

Open Session was suspended at 6:53 p.m. with the Board of Directors, the Executive Officer, and some management Staff going into Closed Session at 6:59 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 7:14 p.m. and Open Session resumed immediately afterwards.

**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 7:14 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by,



Gary R. Serrato, Executive Officer-Secretary/Treasurer