NORTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

AGENDA
NKGSA Advisory Committee Meeting
April 10, 2020, 1:30 PM

SPECIAL NOTICE REGARDING PUBLIC PARTICIPATION DUE TO COVID-19

Given the current Shelter-in-Place Order covering the State of California and the Social Distance Guidelines issued by Federal, State, and Local Authorities, the NKGSA is implementing the following changes to participate in and provide public comment for all NKGSA Advisory Committee meetings until notified otherwise. There will not be a physical location available for the public to participate in the meeting.

- The meeting will be webcast and accessed at:
  https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/554041669

  You can also dial in using your phone.
  United States: +1 (571) 317-3122
  Access Code: 554-041-669

  Written Comments

- Members of the public are encouraged to submit written comments via email at northkingsgsa@gmail.com up to three (3) hours before the meeting. You will need to provide: Meeting date, agenda item number, name, email and comment (please limit to 300 words or 3 minutes). Please include: PUBLIC COMMENT in the subject for the email.

- Your item will be read onto the record during the public comment portion when the item is heard. Any portion of your comment extending past three (3) minutes may not be read aloud due to time restrictions but will be made part of the record of proceedings.

- Please be aware that any public comments received that do not specify a particular agenda item will be read aloud during the general public comment portion of the agenda.

- If a written comment is received after 10:30 a.m. on the day of the meeting, efforts will be made to read the comment into the record. However, staff cannot guarantee that written comments received after 10:30 a.m. will be read. All written comments that are not read into the record will be made part of the record of proceedings, provided that such comments are received prior to the end of the NKGSA Advisory Committee meeting.

Verbal Comments

- If you wish to speak to the Advisory Committee on the item by telephone, you must contact the NKGSA Executive Officer at (559) 233-7161 x. 7109 no later than 10:30 a.m. on the day of the meeting.

    - You will be asked to provide a phone number to call you during the meeting. You will also be asked for your name so that you can be called when it is your turn to speak.
    - You will be called during the comment section for the agenda item on which you will speak.
    - You may be put on hold until your name is called by the Executive Officer.
    - Your comment period will be limited to three (3) minutes.

Noticed Public Hearings

- For noticed public hearings, all public comments must be received by the close of the public hearing period. All written comments received by the close of the public hearing period will be read aloud by a staff member during the applicable agenda item, provided that such comments may be read within three (3) minutes allotted to each speaker. Any portion of your comment extending past three (3) minutes may not be read aloud due to time restrictions but will be included in the record of proceedings.

- If a comment on a public hearing item is received after the close of the public hearing, such comment will be treated like a general public comment and made part of the record of proceedings, provided that such comment is received prior to the end of the meeting.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order

2. Approval of Minutes from February 21, 2020 Meeting

3. Receive – Basin Coordination Update (Samuelian)

4. Executive Officer Update (Chauhan)
    a. Workgroup Policy
        i. Consider policy on formation of workgroups to complete various NKGSA tasks – Possible Action Item
    b. Advisory Committee and NKGSA Board Meetings in 2020
        i. Discussion and Reconsideration of decision of Advisory Committee to adjust meeting frequency to every other month (even months) – Possible Action Item
    c. Miscellaneous

5. Workgroup Updates and Actions

6. Public Comments

7. Advisory Committee Member Comments

8. Adjourn

9. Future Meetings:

    a. May 8, 2020
    b. June 12, 2020
    c. July 10, 2020

COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

MINUTES
(Preliminary – Subject to Revision/Approval at next meeting)

NKGSA Advisory Committee Meeting
February 21, 2020
Clovis Public Safety Building

In attendance:

*Scott Redelfs – City of Clovis
*Ken Moore – City of Kerman
*Bernard Jimenez – Fresno County
*Bill Stretch – FID
*Brock Buche – City of Fresno
*Tim Bakman – Bakman Water Co.
*Alan Hofmann - FMFCD
Kassy Chauhan – NKGSA
Paul Armendariz – City of Clovis
Lisa Koehn – Clovis
Sue Ruiz – Self-Help Enterprises
Glenn Allen – Fresno County
Ronnie Samuelian – Provost & Pritchard
Adam Claes – FID
Mike Prandini – BIA
Brandy Swisher – FMFCD
Dao Lor – ABIRC
Mitch Bagdasarian – Baggie Farms
Michael Carbajal – City of Fresno
Sayre Miller – Grower
John Jansons – City of Kerman
Don Wright – Reporter

* - Voting representative on Advisory Committee

Item 1 – Called to order at 1:32 PM

Item 2 – Approval of Additional Agenda Items

There were two additional items that were requested to be added to the agenda for the meeting.

2a. 2020 WRDA Letter of Support for FMFCD

Motion was made and seconded to add to the agenda. Approved unanimously.

2b. Water Smart Grant Application Letter of Support for FID

Motion was made and seconded to add to the agenda. Approved unanimously.

Item 3 – Approval of Minutes from 11/15/19 Meeting

Motion by Bernard Jimenez to approve; second by Tim Bakman. Approved unanimously.

Item 4 – Receive – Basin Coordination Update

(Update presented by Ronnie Samuelian)

All GSAs have submitted their GSPs as of January 28th and DWR has posted them to their website for public review as of January 31st. DWR has opted for a longer public comment period, which will end on April 15th, 2020. The Kings Subbasin has been recommended to receive an additional $500,000 by DWR, which would break down to about $70,000 for each GSA.

The first annual report is due April 1st, 2020. The report will be prepared for the Kings Subbasin, but individualized data will be provided for each GSA.

Item 5 – Executive Officer Update

(Update presented by Kassy Chauhan)

Item 5a – Staff Resources

i. **Action Item – Recommend Revising the Agreement Between FID and NKGSA to Allow FID Staff to Charge Time Spent on Monitoring Network Activities to NKGSA**

There is a need for additional staff resources and it was suggested that FID staff be allowed to help (as their workload allows) and bill their time to the NKGSA. There is no current estimate of costs, but the updated agreement could potentially specify limits.

Action included request to the Executive Officer to provide previous costs and estimates of costs to the Advisory Committee.

Motion by Bernard Jimenez to approve; second by Ken Moore. Approved unanimously.

Item 5b – Professional Services Contracts

i. **Provost & Pritchard – Proposal for Well Videoing Services**

An authorization of services in the amount of $23,000 was made to Provost & Pritchard for well videoing services. There have been many wells in the monitoring network that have been identified, but for which the necessary construction data is lacking. This service would utilize a specialized type of camera to be used to hopefully collect this data.

ii. **Provost & Pritchard – Proposal for Kings Basin Coordination Tasks**

An authorization of services in the amount of $25,000 was made to Provost & Pritchard for Kings Basin coordination tasks that would take place through the end of the current fiscal year (e.g. the first annual report, GSP submittal issues, etc.).

Following the report on these proposals, there was discussion regarding what threshold, if any, there is for approval of expenditures without first going to the Board. While both of these contracts were signed within the existing budget for services, it was agreed that moving forward, such contracts will be discussed at greater length prior to execution.

Item 5c – Ad-Hoc Committees

i. Action Item – Recommend Transitioning to Work Group Model

The Ad-Hoc Subcommittees were formed four to five years ago during the development of the GSP. These subcommittees have served their purpose and are no longer needed, and under the Brown Act, they must be disbanded. In their place, new "work groups" could be formed to work on specific tasks without the need for recurring, standing meetings.

While it was agreed upon that the subcommittees need to be disbanded, it was decided that further discussion was needed on the work group idea. There may be a need for some of these groups to be formed (or in essence, reformed) more immediately, whereas others might not. There was also concern expressed about how members of the public and various interest groups would be able to maintain their involvement. If small groups were formed, the notification process would need to be done in such a way that various stakeholders in the community could receive notice and have the opportunity to participate. If notification was only done internally among the member agencies, there is a risk of these groups being shut out.

Executive Officer Chauhan agreed that more work would need to be done on the work group policy before the Committee could make a decision. In the meantime, the action was amended for this meeting to be regarding only the disbanding of the subcommittees as they currently stand. The Advisory Committee directed Chauhan to prepare a workgroup policy/procedure document for presentation at a future advisory committee meeting. The policy will include the requirement to notify the member agencies when new workgroups are being formed so that they have the option to send a representative. The solicitation for workgroup members will also include existing committee members and other stakeholders from the public. All efforts from the workgroup will be presented to the Advisory Committee and the NKGSA board.

The public indicated a need to include more detailed information in the agenda packets for the Advisory Committee meetings and the NKGSA

board meetings since those will be the two forums the public at large will have an opportunity to participate in GSA activities.

The motion for Dissolution of the Ad-hoc Committees was made by Tim Bakman; second by Bernard Jimenez. Approved unanimously.

Item 5d – Website and Resource Development

i. Action Item – Recommend Exploring Options for Maintaining the Website and Exploring Options for Developing Resources

The website is currently being maintained by a company called Digital Attic. The flexibility and service this company has been providing have been adequate but proves difficult to keep the website current. There is a need to evaluate other alternatives for webmaster services. The current cost for Digital Attic to host the NKGSA website is $45 per month. Requests to post to the website and other technical support are charged at an hourly rate.

The Committee felt it was appropriate for the Executive Officer to have the freedom to change vendors for these routine operations as necessary, particularly if the service being paid for is not meeting standards.

Motion by Brock Buche to approve; second by Bernard Jimenez. Approved unanimously.

Item 5e – New Board Secretary

i. Action Item – Recommend Appointing Kassy Chauhan as the NKGSA Secretary

The secretary position is occupied by the Executive Officer of the NKGSA and was most recently filled by Gary Serrato, who as of February 1st, is no longer the Executive Officer. Therefore, the current Executive Officer, Kassy Chauhan, should be named the secretary of the NKGSA.

Motion by Tim Bakman to approve; second by Ken Moore. Approved unanimously.

Item 5f – Advisory Committee and NKGSA Board Meetings in 2020

i. Action Item – Recommend Setting Frequency and Adopting Meeting Dates for 2020

The Advisory Committee currently meets on the 2nd Friday of every month and the Board meets on the 4th Thursday of every month. There is a need to make sure that the Advisory Committee's schedule is reflective of the Board's, but it was agreed that less frequent meetings would still serve the Committee's purposes. Additional "special item" meetings could be scheduled as necessary.

A motion was made by Tim Bakman to recommend that the Advisory Committee meet on the 2nd Friday of every other month (even-numbered months); second by Bill Stretch. Approved unanimously. The item may be revisited following the Board's decision on their own meeting schedule.

Item 6 – Ad-hoc Subcommittee Updates and Actions

Item 6a – Technical Subcommittee
(Subcommittee update presented by Adam Claes)

The Subcommittee last met on February 5th. They reviewed GSP revisions regarding water quality, as well as changing some of the "common language" to be consistent with each of the other six GSPs in the Subbasin. All public comments and Kings Subbasin coordinated technical memos have been added to the appendix. There was discussion that more well construction data was needed for the monitoring well network, which led to discussion on the camera systems mentioned during the Executive Officer's update. Adam also mentioned that there could be a need for a work group leading up to the first annual report, which is due on April 1st.

Item 6b – Administrative/Fiscal Subcommittee
(Subcommittee update presented by Lisa Koehn)

The Subcommittee has been working on the Support & Endorsement Policy, and has made a few changes to the proposed policy since the last time it was discussed with the Advisory Committee. In particular, there was language added

that the applicant requesting support/endorsement must indicate exactly how a project will work towards sustainability goals as outlined in the GSP.

i. **Action item – Recommend adoption of Support & Endorsement Policy**

There was a proposed action item to approve the new Support & Endorsement Policy. This led to discussion about language in the policy that dictated that an applicant must submit their request at least 2 weeks prior to their deadline. Following this discussion, there was a motion to change the wording in the policy from "must" to "it is recommended."

The motion was made by Tim Bakman and seconded by Bill Stretch, and approved unanimously.

Following this action, the Administrative/Fiscal group will make the requested revisions and resubmit the Policy for approval. In addition to the Policy, Lisa Koehn mentioned that in terms of fiscal performance, 44% of the budgeted amount had been spent as of the end of December 2019.

Item 6c – Membership/Outreach/Communications (MOC) Subcommittee
(Subcommittee update presented by Brandy Swisher)

The Subcommittee has met twice since the GSP was submitted. They've discussed school-focused outreach, well sounding outreach for the public, translation of resources, and the possibility of coordinating with Fresno State on upcoming water education projects. They've also been looking into a facilitation support grant application through DWR.

Item 7 – Approve Requests for Letters of Support – Action Items

Item 7a – Action Item – Approve Request from FMFCD for Letter of Support

FMFCD has requested a letter of support from the NKGSA to change language to the 2020 WRDA for water conservation efforts. They have already received support from Congressman Jim Costa and are hoping to gain additional support with the letter.

Motion by Bernard Jimenez to approve; second by Tim Bakman. Approved unanimously.

Item 7b – Action Item – Approve Request from FID for Letter of Support
FID has requested a letter of support from the NKGSA in their application for the Water Smart Grant. If received, this grant would be used to make improvements to help measure water flow and keep water within GSA boundaries.

Motion by Bernard Jimenez to approve; second by Tim Bakman. Approved unanimously.

Item 8 – Public Comments

A resident in attendance at the meeting brought up concerns that there's not enough written documentation regarding the Committee's goals and activities, and there's not enough information made available to the public to know what the plan for the GSA is. He felt that outreach needs to be more complete so that residents have a better understanding of what's happening.

Don Wright also mentioned that the San Joaquin Valley Water Blueprint (an economic impact study) would be released soon.

Item 9 – Member Comments

Adam Claes mentioned that he spoke with Sarge Green from Fresno State and it appears that there is growing interest at Fresno State for getting more involved with the GSA's activities.

Item 10 – Adjourn

Motion by Ken Moore; second by Bernard Jimenez. Approved unanimously. Adjourned at 3:37 PM.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT

NORTH KINGS GROUNDWATER
SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

AGENDA ITEM NO: **4 (b) &(c)**
Executive Officer: KDC

NKGSA-
REPORT TO THE Advisory Committee

TO: Chair and Committee Members

FROM: Executive Officer – Kassy Chauhan

DATE: April 6, 2020

SUBJECT: NKGSA Executive Officer Report

ATTACHMENTS: A – Support Letter for Stream Group on Big Dry Creek Reservoir
B – Support Letter for USBR WaterSmart Grant for FID

Review of GSPs for Other GSAs

The NKGSA has reviewed the GSPs for the other six GSAs in the Kings Subbasin as well as the GSPs for GSAs in neighboring basins. Comment letters have been provided to the GSAs regarding specific concerns the NKGSA has with their GSPs. The public comment period through the DWR SGMA portal is open and the final GSPs for the GSA's who received draft comment letters from the NKGSA will be reviewed to determine whether further comment is needed or if the concerns expressed in the public comment letter have been addressed. Copies of the comment letters sent by the NKGSA were provided via email as they were sent to the GSAs.

Coordination with Other GSAs

The NKGSA has started to engage with neighboring GSAs regarding boundary flows. On February 6, 2020, and again on April 3, 2020, Bill Stretch (General Manager of Fresno Irrigation District) and I met with Matt Hurley, General Manager for the McMullin Area GSA (MAGSA). The purpose of the initial meeting was to discuss MAGSA's ideas and potential projects for addressing the boundary flows and achieving sustainability in the MAGSA area. A variety of topics were discussed including potential recharge projects. A follow up meeting was held on April 3, 2020, to get an update on potential projects that MAGSA could partner with FID/NKGSA to address the boundary flows. Bill and I plan to continue to meet monthly with Matt to identify opportunities for MAGSA. I will continue to update the Advisory Committee on the status of these meetings and potential projects moving forward.

A meeting with the Root Creek Water District GSA took place on March 24, 2020, regarding the comments provided to the Root Creek Water District GSA on their draft GSP. The comment letter addressed boundary flows to the Root Creek GSA located in the Madera Subbasin. Root Creek Water District GSA will provide a written response but indicated that they are not relying on the boundary flows from the NKGSA in the water budget for their GSA. A conflict of interest issue with the selected legal counsel for the Root Creek GSA has led to a delay in providing the written response to the comments provided by NKGSA. I will continue to update the board on the outcomes of these meetings.

Staff Resources

As the GSP is implemented, it is expected that some additional staff resources will be needed. Specifically, there will be additional tasks required by the engineering technicians and the GIS Specialist with Fresno Irrigation District (FID). The additional tasks that have been identified are associated with gathering additional information on the representative monitoring network. The NKGSA and FID have an existing agreement that designates the use of FID personnel as the NKGSA fiscal agent and for administrative services. During the Advisory Committee meeting on February 21, 2020, the Advisory Committee approved the EO to develop a draft revised agreement as well as provide an estimated fiscal impact for these additional services. A revised agreement is needed to enable the NKGSA to use FID staff and resources and the NKGSA to reimburse the FID for time spent on the identified tasks. A draft revised agreement is being prepared. and will be presented during the May 2020 Advisory Committee and NKGSA Board meetings.

It is expected that the time spent by FID engineering and engineering technician staff will not exceed five hours per month. The estimated cost for these services to the NKGSA would be approximately $260.00 per month or $3,120.00 annually based on the current billable rate. The expected tasks to be completed by the FID engineering technicians and GIS specialist would be identifying owner information for the representative monitoring wells; creating special maps with the locations of the representative monitoring wells, identifying alternative representative monitoring well locations to be used in the event measurements can't be obtained at a designated location, and communicating with the EO on findings from the routine monitoring events.

Proposed Meeting Dates for Advisory Committee

The Advisory Committee approved moving the meeting frequency of the Advisory Committee from monthly to every other month at the February 21, 2020, committee meeting. The decision by the Advisory Committee came after extensive discussion on the topic due to removing the stakeholder's ability to remain engaged in the NKGSA activities. Following the advisory committee meeting, I received additional feedback and communicated to the Advisory Committee that we would be discussing this issue at the NKGSA board meeting on February 27, 2020 and would be recommending that the NKGSA continue to meet on a monthly frequency. The NKGSA Board approved their meeting schedule during the February 27, 2020, board meeting and will continue to meet on a monthly frequency. As such, I am requesting the advisory committee reconsider the decision to reduce their meeting frequency to once every other month but instead remain

on the monthly meeting frequency. The Advisory Committee would continue to meet on the second Friday of every month at 1:30 p.m.

Letters of Support

The NKGSA was contacted to receive letters of support for two separate items. The first was a request from the Stream Group (consisting of the FMFCD, Fresno County, FID, City of Clovis and City of Fresno) to submit a letter to Congressman Jim Costa's office in support of an amendment to the language in the 2020 WRDA to allow for storage of conservation pools in the Big Dry Creek Reservoir. The Advisory Committee directed the EO to proceed with preparing and submitting the subject letter of support in advance of the March 3, 2020, deadline. See attached copy of the letter of support from the NKGSA (Attachment A).

The second request was from the FID for a USBR Water Smart Grant to install two flow meters in an FID Canal (Oleander No. 16) to better manage flows within its Oleander system and minimize potential spills into the Consolidated Irrigation District (CID). This project will result in better water management and water use efficiency as well as better ensure the water stays within the FID boundary and the NKGSA boundary. See attached copy of the letter of support from the NKGSA (Attachment B).

Stakeholder Engagement and Outreach

The Kings River Conservation District (KRCD) External Affairs will be working with the EO to update the NKGSA website including revising the content, adding resources to the website, creating a sign-up window, and adding blog posts to ensure the NKGSA website is a resource to those visiting the website. Additionally, KRCD will be helping to develop content and manage the social media accounts for the NKGSA. As we transition to a workgroup model, the NKGSA will rely heavily on the website, social media and email blasts (e-news) to communicate with the stakeholders in the GSA. To promote successful outcomes with stakeholder engagement activities, KRCD is developing a Stakeholder Engagement procedure to be used any time stakeholder engagement is needed. This would include soliciting input on policies, development of rules and regulations, and a variety of other tasks where stakeholder engagement is critical. The KRCD will bill the NKGSA directly and ensure the EO has approved content and posts prior to those being released for publishing.

Public Records Act Request

The NKGSA received a public records act request from The Nature Conservancy (TNC) and is working with the other GSAs in the Kings Subbasin to provide a response. The request from TNC was for the digital shape files associated with determinations made in the GSP regarding groundwater dependent ecosystems (GDEs). Additional information will be provided.

NKGSA Annual Report

The first annual report required by SGMA has been submitted for the NKGSA ahead of the extended deadline provided by DWR. The first annual report was submitted on April 1, 2020, and was prepared for the entire Kings Subbasin. The annual report will be uploaded onto the NKGSA website and an e-news email will be sent out to let those with general interests in the NKGSA know that the annual report can be viewed on the website. The Annual Report can also be accessed on the DWR SGMA portal at this link: https://sgma.water.ca.gov/portal/gspar/preview/26

Outreach/Engagement Activities

Since the last advisory committee meeting, I have participated in a number of outreach and education events including the following:

- Panelist at the KRCD/Self Help Enterprises Kings Subbasin Workshop on February 24, 2020.
- Guest Speaker at the African American Farmers Annual Conference on February 29, 2020.
- Contributions to an article on SGMA by reporter Carmen George with the Fresno Bee – provided content on March 9, 2020
- Contributions to the FID Waterways Newsletter – March 2020

I will continue to update the Board on activities that I participate in an attempt to ensure those who live and farm within the NKGSA boundary receive timely information and have a resource to call when questions arise.

Prepared by: Kassy D. Chauhan

A

NORTH KINGS GROUNDWATER
SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

February 24, 2020

The Honorable Peter A. DeFazio
Chairman
House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Sam Graves
Ranking Member
House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee
Washington, D.C. 20515

RE: Support for Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District 2020 WRDA Request

Dear Sirs:

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I am writing to express the North Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency's (NKGSA) support for the Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District's (FMFCD) 2020 Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) request to modify the authorization language for the Redbank and Fancher Creeks Project.

The North Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency (NKGSA) consists of member agencies including Fresno Irrigation District, the cities of Fresno, Clovis and Kerman, Fresno County, Bakman Water Company, Biola Community Services District, International Water District, Garfield Water District, and the Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District. The NKGSA also consists of disadvantaged communities, private well owners, and other landowners. The NKGSA is one of the seven groundwater sustainability agencies (GSAs) within the Kings Subbasin. The Kings Subbasin has been designated by the California Department of Water Resources as a critically overdrafted basin per Bulletin 118.

FMFCD is proposing the development of additional storage opportunities within its Flood Control system by creating Conservation Storage to temporarily store water behind the Big Dry Creek Dam and Reservoir (15,000 acre feet) and Fancher Creeks Dam and Reservoir (4,000 acre feet) during the non-flood season (May to October), which would beneficially enhance the underlying groundwater basin. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers does not believe that the existing authorization for the project allows for this additional water storage. As you are well aware, Fresno County, along with other parts of the San Joaquin Valley, are in critically over-drafted groundwater basins. The Conservation Storage for temporary storage of water and re-distribution for recharge purposes would greatly assist this region in meeting the challenges of

Member Agencies
Bakman Water Company
Biola Community Services District
City of Clovis
City of Fresno
City of Kerman
County of Fresno
Fresno Irrigation District
Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District
Garfield Water District
International Water District

Board of Directors
Chairman Jerry Prieto, Jr.
Fresno Irrigation District
Vice-Chairman Brian Pacheco
County of Fresno
Steve Pickens
Bakman Water Company
Jose Flores
City of Clovis
Lee Brand
City of Fresno
Rhonda Armstrong
City of Kerman
Karl Kienow
Garfield Water District

Executive Officer
Kassy D. Chauhan, P.E.

Internet
www.NorthKingsGSA.org

Mail
North Kings GSA
c/o Fresno Irrigation District
2907 S. Maple Ave,
Fresno, CA 93725

Phone
559-233-7161

About NKGSA: The North Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency is a Joint Powers Authority formed in December 2016. Composed of local public agencies and others engaged through binding agreements, the NKGSA is the governing body of a portion of the Kings Subbasin (DWR Bulleting 118, 5-22.08) in compliance with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014. NKGSA members are Bakman Water Company, Biola Community Services District, City of Clovis, City of Fresno, City of Kerman, County of Fresno, Fresno Irrigation District, Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District, Garfield Water District, and International Water District.

periodic drought and ultimately achieving sustainability of our precious groundwater resources, as mandated by the State's Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA).

FMFCD is proposing modifications to the project's 1986 WRDA authorization to allow Conservation Storage in the two facilities noted above. The local non-Federal interest will bear all costs associated with Dam Safety studies to insure the Conservation Storage will not have an effect on the project's flood protection or be injurious to the public. The local non-Federal interest will also compensate the Corps for all costs associated with the review of studies, engineering, plans and construction for the modifications related to the Conservation Storage.

The NKGSA supports this request by FMFCD and would encourage its inclusion in the 2020 WRDA bill. Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,

Kassy D. Chauhan

Kassy D. Chauhan
Executive Officer

Cc: The Honorable Jim Costa
United States House of Representatives
2081 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Mr. Alan Hofmann, General Manager – Secretary, Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District

B.

NORTH KINGS GROUNDWATER
SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

February 24, 2020

Member Agencies
Bakman Water Company
Biola Community Services District
City of Clovis
City of Fresno
City of Kerman
County of Fresno
Fresno Irrigation District
Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District
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559-233-7161

Fresno Irrigation District
Attn: Mr. Bill Stretch
2907 S Maple Avenue
Fresno, CA 93725

Re: Letter of Support
Fresno Irrigation District – WaterSMART Grant Application
Installation of Flow Meters in the Oleander No. 16 Canal

Dear Mr. Stretch:

As you know, the North Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency (NKGSA) consists of member agencies including Fresno Irrigation District, the cities of Fresno, Clovis and Kerman, Fresno County, Bakman Water Company, Biola Community Services District, International Water District, Garfield Water District, and the Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District. The NKGSA also consists of disadvantaged communities, private well owners, and other landowners. The NKGSA is one of the seven groundwater sustainability agencies (GSAs) within the Kings Subbasin.

The NKGSA supports the Fresno Irrigation District (FID) in their pursuit of a WaterSMART grant from the United States Bureau of Reclamation for the installation of two flow meters in the Oleander No. 16 Canal in Fresno, California. The installation of the flow meters in the FID canal will help FID better manage flows within its Oleander system and minimize the potential for spills into the Consolidated Irrigation District (CI)D canal system. The CID is a neighboring agency with its own distribution system to manage. These spills can create water regulation issues within CID's canal system, therefore, better water regulation by FID at the FID-CID system intertie will greatly benefit CID's ability to manage its own conveyance system and keep the available surface water resources within the FID boundary and the NKGSA boundary.

The NKGSA recognizes the importance of sound water management and water use efficiency projects, and the significant role they play in stabilizing the local water supply. The FID is a member agency of the NKGSA and work together on water management projects and programs aimed at better managing water supplies in the area. The NKGSA strongly encourages the

About NKGSA: The North Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency is a Joint Powers Authority formed in December 2016. Composed of local public agencies and others engaged through binding agreements, the NKGSA is the governing body of a portion of the Kings Subbasin (DWR Bulleting 118, 5-22.08) in compliance with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014. NKGSA members are Bakman Water Company, Biola Community Services District, City of Clovis, City of Fresno, City of Kerman, County of Fresno, Fresno Irrigation District, Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District, Garfield Water District, and International Water District.

Bureau of Reclamation to support the funding of FID's project in their pursuit of better water management and water use efficiency.

Sincerely,

Kassy D. Chauhan

Kassy D. Chauhan
Executive Officer

WORK GROUP POLICY

NORTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

AGENDA ITEM NO: **4 (a)**
Executive Officer: KDC

NKGSA-
REPORT TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TO: Chair and Advisory Committee Members

FROM: Kassy D. Chauhan – Executive Officer

DATE: April 6, 2020

SUBJECT: Consider Approval – Workgroup Policy, NKGSA - 002

ATTACHMENTS: (A) Workgroup Policy, NKGSA -002

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None

RECOMMENDATION

For the Advisory Committee to recommend to the NKGSA Board of Directors to approve the Workgroup Policy, NKGSA – 002.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of the proposed Workgroup Policy is to provide direction to the Executive Officer (EO) of the North Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency (NKGSA) when evaluating the need to form workgroups to perform specific tasks related to the implementation of the NKGSA groundwater sustainability plan (GSP) and to provide direction on the composition of the workgroups. The Policy includes provisions for soliciting for workgroup members and parameters for scheduling workgroup meetings.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact related to the proposed policy.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

The proposed Policy will provide direction to the Executive Officer in the formation of workgroups formed to complete specific tasks related to the implementation of the GSP including solicitation of workgroup members and timelines for scheduling workgroup meetings. The goal of the workgroups is to complete tasks and ensure the member agency representatives, former committee members and other stakeholders continue to have an opportunity to participate and be engaged in the NKGSA activities. Decisions made and tasks completed by the workgroups will be reported to the Advisory Committee and then the NKGSA Board of Directors.

ACTIONS FOLLOWING APPROVAL

The Policy will be posted to the NKGSA website.

Prepared by: Kassy D. Chauhan

Attachment A

NORTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

Policy No: NKGSA - 002
Policy Title: Workgroup Policy
Board Approval Date:

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide direction to the Executive Officer (EO) of the North Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency (NKGSA) when forming workgroups to complete specific tasks requiring input from member agency representatives, the public and other stakeholders.

Background

The NKGSA covers the northeast portion of the Kings Groundwater Sub-basin in Fresno County. It is one of seven groundwater sustainability agencies within the Kings Sub-basin.

A Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) establishes the NKGSA governance and the North Kings Groundwater Sustainability Plan (NKGSP) provides the roadmap for how the NKGSA will reach long term sustainability. Combined, the two documents provide the framework and management strategies for achieving and maintaining groundwater sustainability within the NKGSA plan area.

The NKGSA Board of Directors appointed an Advisory Committee to assist with the development of the necessary processes and programs needed by the Board of Directors to implement the mission of the NKGSA. For the development of the NKGSP, the Advisory Committee was supported by three ad-hoc committees: Administrative/Fiscal Subcommittee; Communication/Engagement Subcommittee; and Technical Subcommittee. The NKGSA Board of Directors approved to dissolve the ad-hoc committees on February 27, 2020, given the NKGSP has been developed and submitted to DWR.

Rationale for Policy

Given the ad-hoc committees have completed their identified tasks associated with development of the NKGSP and have since been dissolved, the NKGSA Board of Directors approved the use of workgroups to complete tasks identified by the Executive Officer (EO). The workgroups will complete tasks and report their efforts and findings to the Advisory Committee for consideration of presenting to the NKGSA Board of Directors. A process must be identified for establishing the process of forming the workgroups.

Policy

Formation of Workgroups for Completion of Specific NKGSA Tasks Specific NKGSA Tasks

It is recommended that the EO identify specific NKGSA tasks requiring input from stakeholders thus demonstrating the need to form a workgroup.

Workgroup Composition

Once the specific task has been identified, a solicitation for workgroup members will occur. The solicitation for workgroup members will include the following:

- Email notification to the Advisory Committee members to ensure each of the member agencies has an opportunity to have a representative on the workgroup.
- Email notification to the former ad-hoc committee representatives to ensure previous ad-hoc committee representatives have an opportunity to participate in the workgroup.
- Notification on the NKGSA website to allow the public to participate in the workgroup.
- Email notification to individuals who have signed up to receive general interest emails or workgroup emails to allow individuals who have interest in the specific task to participate in the workgroup.

Solicitation

The email solicitation will include the following:

- Specific task to be completed by the workgroup.
- Date, time and location of the workgroup meeting(s).
- The noticing on the workgroup meeting date and time will be a minimum of two weeks prior to the scheduled workgroup meeting to allow individuals to have advance notice.
- The EO will limit the number of participants on the workgroup to one member agency representative, one previous committee member representative and three public participants representing the public and other stakeholders in the event the workgroup becomes too large to complete the specified task in a timely manner.

Workgroup Process

The workgroup will meet periodically to complete the specific NKGSA task. The workgroup will select a lead for the workgroup. The workgroup lead will report to the EO following each workgroup meeting including the tasks completed and remaining tasks to be completed. Once the task has been completed, the workgroup lead will request to have an agenda item included on the next regularly scheduled or special Advisory Committee meeting. The workgroup lead and the EO will present the findings from the workgroup efforts and allow the Advisory Committee and the public to provide feedback on the efforts prior to finalizing the tasks. Once the Advisory Committee is satisfied with the efforts and the public has had an opportunity to provide comment at the Advisory Committee meeting, the workgroup tasks will be considered complete. Items requiring board action will be presented to the NKGSA Board at one of their regularly scheduled or special board meetings.