

MINUTES

NKGSA Advisory Committee Meeting

July 10, 2020

****Clovis Public Safety Building**

VIA TELECONFERENCE:

In attendance:

*Scott Redelfs – City of Clovis

*Tim Bakman – Bakman Water Co.

*Dejan Pavic – City of Fresno

*Bernard Jimenez – Fresno County

*Adam Claes – FID

*Alan Hofmann – FMFCD

*Nick Keller – Garfield Water District

Kassy Chauhan – NKGSA

Kevin Dale – NKGSA (legal counsel)

Kristen Freberg – City of Clovis

Brandy Swisher – FMFCD

Ronnie Samuelian – Provost & Pritchard

Sue Ruiz – Self-Help Enterprises

* - 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:

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

Item 2 – Approval of Minutes from 05/08/20 Meeting

Motion by member Bakman to approve; second by member Keller.

Committee votes as follows:

Bakman: Aye Jimenez: Aye Keller: Aye
 Redelfs: Aye Claes: Aye
 Pavic: Aye Hofmann: Aye (*Biola, International, & Kerman absent*)

7 Aye; 3 Absent. Motion passed.

Item 3 – Receive – Basin Coordination Update

(Update presented by Ronnie Samuelian)

The GSAs are reviewing comments that have come through the DWR portal.

The spring 2020 contours are not yet complete and some data is still pending. All representative/indicator well data is due to be submitted to DWR by July 1st annually, but a one-month extension has been granted.

Some GSAs are starting to adopt rules and regulations. North Fork has been in discussions with Westside regarding boundary flows. GSA managers have been given access to the Data Management System where the annual report data is stored. Policy change meetings with the County have been delayed, but there should be one within the next month.

A Stanford professor has been in contact regarding a possible Airborne Electromagnetic Method (AEM) mapping to gather information on soil conditions below the surface. There is funding to do the east side of the Basin. A more detailed presentation will be coming in the future.

Some GSAs are starting to gather construction information and constructing new monitoring wells, as well as starting on projects.

Item 4 – Financial Report

(Update presented by Kassy Chauhan)

Item 4a – Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Budget Revision Approved

Approved at the May 28th Board meeting.

Item 4b – Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Proposed Budget & Agency Cost Share Approved

Approved at the May 28th Board meeting.

i. Agency Invoices

Invoices distributed beginning in August will be accompanied by a letter of explanation, due to some agencies receiving credits and others receiving an additional charge. The fiscal agent will be assisting to ensure that all 2019/2020 expenses are paid so that the fiscal year can be closed out. The 2020/2021 invoices will then be able to reflect any applicable balances from the previous fiscal year.

Item 5 – Executive Officer Update

(Update presented by Kassy Chauhan)

Item 5a – GSP Public Comment Update

The DWR portal for public comments closed on May 15th, 2020, and we received a total of 9 comment letters. Initial review of comments has been done and a comment review strategy is being developed. The primary focus of the comment review strategy is whether or not the comment results in a need to change the GSP. Comments have been sorted into categories in order to more easily evaluate what effect they could have, if any, on the GSP. The goal is to avoid revisions to the GSP unless necessary.

A small group was assembled to help sort through comments. The group met on July 8th, 2020 to review the comments and reach consensus on categorization and evaluation of the comments. The group was made up of: Lisa Koehn retired from Clovis, Adam Claes from FID, Ronnie Samuelian from Provost & Pritchard, Sue Ruiz of Self-Help Enterprises, and Shay Bakman from Bakman Water Company.

The next step in this process is to hold a follow-up meeting to further evaluate a few specific comments. Following that, the group will wait for DWR's review of the GSP.

Member Bakman asked if commenters would be kept in the loop on DWR's response. Outreach options are still being considered and discussed. There are challenges in responding individually and in detail to each public commenter, but work is being done to develop resources that can be distributed to the public to inform them and to address general concerns.

Member Jimenez also asked if the comments received distributed to all member agencies, as well as the source of the comments. Comment letters are available through the SGMA portal, and Kassy will also be sending out a link to the group. In terms of comment sources, there was a combination of government agencies, NGOs, and miscellaneous. There were no comments from individual property owners within the GSA.

Item 5b – External Affairs Update

Work with KRCD on public outreach is continuing. KRCD has presented a

proposal for outreach efforts in 2020/2021. This includes development and maintenance of the NKGSA website, continued social media presence, quarterly e-updates, and potential future workshops. Other tasks will be added as needed.

Item 5c – Representative Monitoring Network

i. Discuss Outreach to Owners of Representative Monitoring Network

Fresno Irrigation District has been assisting with the work of entering into agreements with well owners for access and video inspections. One agreement has been executed so far; several others are in progress. The goal is to have all of the agreements in place by the next monitoring event in September.

ii. Discuss Status of Representative Monitoring Network Wells

There are 6 wells in the network that do not have well construction information. 2 sites in Central Unified had the pumps pulled and downhole video inspections performed. Others are in progress and will hopefully be completed in the next few weeks.

One TNC well was sampled on May 18th, 2020. All results were acceptable and the next round of monitoring will take place in May 2023.

Item 5d – Miscellaneous

Kassy will be providing staff training for the State Water Resources Control Board on August 4th, 2020. This training is meant to provide a “SGMA 101” training for staff working with the Safe and Affordable Drinking Water program.

One of the policy changes being discussed with the County is a revised well drilling permit application. The revised application would contain some additional information important to the GSA in terms of SGMA implementation. The final draft has been provided by the County and will be sent out to the GSA. Conversations with well drillers will also need to be had to ensure that they understand the changes to the timeline for processing permits for drilling new wells.

The Stanford geophysics project does have funding available to complete the work that Stanford is doing. However, if there is additional data that

member agencies need that Stanford would be able to collect while they do their work, it may be worthwhile to share in a cost to have Stanford assist in collecting that data.

SJV News posted an article regarding private domestic wells drying up. This article was in response to a Water Foundation report in June. The SJV News article presented an opportunity to share the GSA's perspective on this topic and which areas are ones of concern to the GSA.

There is a review being done on what kind of policies and procedures the GSA is going to need to develop in order to implement the GSP. There will be some future proposals presented to the Board based on this review.

There will be a member agency responsibility discussion set up in the near future to discuss responsibility for overdraft in the Basin. This will likely be done via teleconference. Each agency will need to designate someone to serve as a representative at that meeting.

Item 6 – Workgroup Updates and Actions

There have been no workgroup meetings to date and there is no further report at this time.

Item 7 – Public Comments

No comments received.

Item 8 – Advisory Committee Member Comments

There was discussion regarding whether the NKGSA Board needed to hold its regularly scheduled meeting on July 23rd, considering the lack of actionable items. It was decided that the Advisory Committee would recommend to the Board to cancel that meeting and resume with its scheduled meeting in August. Kassy will follow up with the Chairman of the Board – Director Prieto regarding cancelling the meeting.

Item 9 – Adjourn

Motion by member Jimenez to adjourn; second by member Bakman. Meeting adjourned at 2:28 PM.

Item 10 – Future Meetings

The future meeting schedule is as follows:

- a. August 14, 2020
- b. September 11, 2020
- c. October 9, 2020