

MINUTES

Approved: Jan. 8, 2021
by NKGSA Advisory
Committee.

NKGSA Advisory Committee Meeting
December 11, 2020
****Clovis Public Safety Building**

VIA TELECONFERENCE:

In attendance:

*Scott Redelfs – City of Clovis	Kevin Dale – NKGSA (legal counsel)
*Shay Bakman – Bakman Water Co.	Brandy Swisher – FMFCD
*Brock Buche – City of Fresno	Paul Armendariz – City of Clovis
*Glenn Allen – Fresno County	Kristen Freberg – City of Clovis
*Adam Claes – FID	Ronnie Samuelian – Provost & Pritchard
*Peter Sanchez – FMFCD	Lisa Koehn – Clovis
*Nick Keller – Garfield Water District	Mike Prandini – BIA
*Jerry Jones – City of Kerman	
Kassy Chauhan – NKGSA	

* - 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 1:31 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	Brock Buche	Present
City of Kerman	Jerry Jones	Present
Fresno County	Glenn Allen	Present
Fresno Irrigation District	Adam Claes	Present
Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District	Peter Sanchez	Present
Garfield Water District	Nick Keller	Present
International Water District	-	Absent

Item 2 – Approval of Minutes from 11/13/20 Meeting

Member Keller mentioned that on each of the “motion” items from the 11/13/20 minutes, it was written that there were 2 members absent when it should have read that there were 4 absent. Kassy will make sure that this is corrected in the final minutes.

Motion by member Claes to approve the minutes with the aforementioned edits; second by member Allen.

Committee votes as follows:

Bakman: Aye Buche: Abstain Allen: Aye Sanchez: Aye
Redelfs: Aye Jones: Aye Claes: Aye Keller: Abstain
(Biola CSD and International absent)

6 Aye; 2 Abstain; 2 Absent. Motion passed.

Item 3 – Receive – Basin Coordination Update

(Update presented by Ronnie Samuelian)

The grant application is moving forward and will be due in early January. The project list has changed from 5 projects to 4 projects. 2 of them are from North Kings. The projects that were removed were due to not having a direct DAC benefit, as the scoring criteria heavily weighed DAC benefits for proposed projects.

Fall data is being gathered and contour generation will begin soon. A fall storage change calculation will be added to go with the water year end. The storage change calculation has historically only been done from spring to spring. The fall-to-fall change will help the Basin have a more accurate picture of the changes throughout the water year.

The GSAs are working on videoing wells and constructing new monitor wells, and are also continuing to prepare rules and regulations. Coordinated Basin outreach efforts are being discussed. Annually, each GSA identifies who their primary and alternate representatives are for the Kings Basin. There have been staffing changes recently with many GSAs, making it especially important to update this information. The annual update has just been completed.

Item 4 – Financial Update

(Update presented by Lisa Koehn)

Item 4a – Discussion/Possible Action – Recommend Approval of the October Expense Report – Action Item

For October expenses, there was a total of \$27,198.16. That total was made up of legal expenses, FID costs, audited financial statements, external affairs costs with KRCD, and Provost & Pritchard consulting fees. On the balance sheet, there is a total of \$1,059,299.55 in assets. For accounts receivable, there is a current pending amount of \$20,428.50.

Item 4b – Discussion/Possible Action – Recommend Approval of the Financial Statements as of October 31, 2020 – Action Item

On the balance sheet, for the budget vs. actual for July-October, we have received all of our budgeted revenue with the exception of the \$70,000 grant income. A total of \$142,853.33 has been spent out of our budget. For outstanding invoices, there is only the retention from the North Fork Kings GSA grant (\$21,428.50).

Detailed versions of both financial reports were included in the meeting packets.

Motion by member Keller to approve both of the preceding reports as one item; second by member Buche.

Committee votes as follows:

Bakman: Aye	Buche: Aye	Allen: Aye	Sanchez: Aye
Redelfs: Aye	Jones: Aye	Claes: Aye	Keller: Aye

(Biola CSD and International absent)

8 Aye; 2 Absent. Motion passed.

Item 5 – Administrative

(Update presented by Kassy Chauhan)

Item 5a – 2021 Advisory Committee and Board Meeting Dates Updates

The Advisory Committee approved continuing the current schedule of meeting on the 2nd Friday of every month, and the Board of Directors approved the continuation of meeting on the 4th Thursday of every month. Meetings will remain virtual until further notice.

Item 5b – Board Seat No. 7 Vacancy – Update

The vacancy was created because Director Pickens moved from Seat No. 7 (At-Large) to the shared Seat No. 3 (shared by Biola CSD, City of Kerman and Bakman Water Company).

The vacancy can be filled by anyone in one of the following categories: municipal/industrial water supply members not currently serving on the Board of Directors; contracting entities; or interested parties. Nominations by current directors will be taken until December 17th, 2020. The Board of

Directors will vote on the seat on January 22nd, 2021. The new director will be seated/take their oath of office in January or February of 2021.

Item 5c – Discussion/Possible Action – Recommend Designation of Kings Subbasin Committee Representative and Alternate – Action Item

There is a fully executed coordination agreement that establishes the representatives and alternates for the Kings Subbasin Coordination Committee. The currently designated primary representative is Gary Serrato and Kassy Chauhan is designated as the alternate. The recommendation to the Board is designate Kassy as the primary representative and Bill Stretch of FID as the alternate representative.

Member Buche asked if there was a group solicitation to identify a new representative, or if not, how the decision was made. Per Kassy, it was previous protocol to have the Executive Officer, General Manager, etc. to be designated as the primary, with the alternate historically being Bill Stretch prior to Kassy coming on board. Member Buche commented that moving forward, some type of nomination process might be worth considering for the position of the alternate.

Ronnie Samuelian commented on the importance of the primary representative being highly involved and present and efforts being made to ensure participation by the designated representative. Therefore, the alternate would most likely not be relied on heavily.

Motion by member Buche to approve the recommendation as written; second by member Sanchez.

Committee votes as follows:

Bakman: Aye	Buche: Aye	Allen: Aye	Sanchez: Aye
Redelfs: Aye	Jones: Aye	Claes: Aye	Keller: Aye

(Biola CSD and International absent)

8 Aye; 2 Absent. Motion passed.

Item 5d – Discussion/Possible Action – Recommend Adoption of NKGSA Resolution 2020-02 – Authorization to File an Application for a Grant Under the Prop 68 Sustainable Groundwater Implementation Grant Program and to Enter Into an Agreement with the California Department of Water Resources – Action Item

This resolution must be in place for whoever is applying for the grant on behalf of the Kings Subbasin. Initially, the NKGSA was to apply for the grant on behalf of the Kings Subbasin for the 4 projects that would be part of the application. Because of certain requirements by DWR, this approach has been rethought and FID may possibly be submitting the application for the grant instead since they have a project that's included in the scope. Adopting this resolution would ensure that NKGSA would be able to submit the application if the decision is made to proceed that way.

The recommendation to the Board of Directors is to approve this resolution, if needed. If FID is chosen to submit the application instead, their resolution would be used and the NKGSA resolution would be dissolved.

Motion by member Buche to recommend adoption of NKGSA Resolution 2020-02; second by member Claes.

Committee votes as follows:

Bakman: Aye	Buche: Aye	Allen: Aye	Sanchez: Aye
Redelfs: Aye	Jones: Aye	Claes: Aye	Keller: Aye

(Biola CSD and International absent)

8 Aye; 2 Absent. Motion passed.

Item 6 – Workgroup Updates and Actions
(Update presented by Kassy Chauhan)

Item 6a – Policy Workgroup

i. Discussion/Possible Action Item – Recommend Adoption of Revised New Well Review Policy – Action Item

The statement of purpose of the policy has been modified and has expanded the number of permitting agencies mentioned in the policy. The policy would provide direction to the NKGSA Executive Officer when evaluating applications for construction of new water well permits. It would request permitting agencies to provide a minimum review period, and it would utilize the data collected from well permit applications for inclusion in NKGSA records.

Some of the revisions include a provision where the permitting agency can expedite (or even eliminate) the review process when there is a health & safety concern or other special circumstance. There was modification of language to be more sensitive to the perception of imposing requirements on permitting agencies. There was also clarification of who is responsible for reviewing applications and who has the expertise to review them.

The recommendation to the Advisory Committee is to recommend adoption of the revised draft of the new well review policy. If adopted, the effective date would be January 1, 2021.

Member Buche stated that the City of Fresno still has concerns about some elements of the policy. The 5-day review policy is burdensome for the City and may impact their operations. Additionally, the nature of which types of well applications would be submitted to NKGSA is also vague and very broad. Member Buche suggested a limit to which types of permits would be included in this exchange (for instance, excluding monitoring wells). The suggestion was made to table the policy for further review and revision.

Member Bakman also voiced similar concerns with the policy as it is currently drafted.

Chairman Redelfs inquired about referring the policy back to the workgroup for further revision in order to get full group consensus on how it is written. Executive Officer Chauhan stressed the importance of having an official policy in place to account for these new wells. Member Buche voiced a concern about the importance of getting it “right” and making sure that the policy serves the needs of all involved.

Motion made by member Buche to send the policy back to the workgroup for further work and reintroduce it at the January Advisory Committee meeting; second by member Bakman.

Committee votes as follows:

Bakman: Aye Buche: Aye Allen: Aye Sanchez: Aye
Redelfs: Aye Jones: Aye Claes: Aye Keller: Aye
(*Biola CSD and International absent*)

8 Aye; 2 Absent. Motion passed.

ii. Member Agency Reporting Policy – Update

This policy is still in the process of being developed. Member agencies are providing input through this process. The policy will probably be introduced for consideration by the Advisory Committee in spring of 2021.

Item 7 – Executive Officer Update

(Update presented by Kassy Chauhan)

Item 7a – Funding Opportunities Update

For the Prop 68 SGM Grant, Provost & Pritchard is working with the GSAs to get the information submitted by the January deadline. The NKGSA's projects are FID's Savory Pond Expansion Project and City of Kerman's Recharge Project. As mentioned previously, there is a heavy emphasis on DAC and human right to water benefits. Letters of support are being gathered to include in the application. At least 5 letters are needed for each project.

Item 7b – Member Agency Mitigation Responsibility Update

All agencies have now been met with individually, and some agencies will have follow-up meetings to refine the groundwater impact analyses. Individual meetings will be scheduled through December 2020 so that a large group meeting can hopefully take place in January or February 2021. A simplified procedure is being considered and so far, has received favorable feedback.

Item 7c – Outreach Update

Outreach has been done with Shady Lakes Mobile Home Park, although the on-site outreach has unfortunately been cancelled due to pandemic-related shutdowns.

The domestic well brochure is almost complete. 5 GSAs in the Subbasin have been working with KRCD on this brochure. This is a SGMA education tool for domestic well owners. This is being translated into multiple languages. Self-Help Enterprises has also been involved in this project.

A school outreach brochure is also underway, which will be particularly helpful for schools in more rural school districts.

Legislative updates to SGMA are continuing to be proposed. This is a topic that will be monitored as potential trailer bills, etc. are possibly introduced.

Item 7d – External Affairs Update

KRCD continues to do a great job with social media posts, website updates, and e-news mailings. Last month, they captured some footage from the AEM survey project.

Item 7e – Representative Monitoring Network Update

The focus is on getting construction information for wells for which that information is currently “missing.” The process has been slow but is ongoing. The goal is to get the information for wells that have already been identified rather than attempting to identify alternate representative monitoring wells.

Item 7f – Airborne Electromagnetic Survey Update

The AEM survey was completed the week of November 30th. It consisted of several flights, some of the footage for which was captured by KRCD. NKGSA provided water level measurements for wells that were located within their flight path. A report of findings will be coming soon.

Item 7g – Miscellaneous

Provost & Pritchard is working on a proposal for a boundary flow study, hopefully to begin in early 2021.

The DWR Technical Advisory Committee was supposed to announce the members of the task force to work on the project to revise Bulletin 74. That has not happened yet; the review & selection process is still ongoing.

The outreach documents are being finalized, as well as a work plan for 2021 that will include short and long-term goals. The Executive Officer will take the lead on completing a draft of this plan and will incorporate the input of the Advisory Committee members at the January 8, 2021 meeting.

Item 8 – Public Comments

No public comments were received.

Item 9 – Advisory Committee Member Comments

No member comments were received.

Item 10 – Adjourned

Motion by member Claes to adjourn; second by member Allen. Meeting adjourned at 3:11 PM.

Item 11 – Future Meetings

The future meeting schedule is as follows:

- a. January 8, 2021