

## MINUTES

### **NKGSA Advisory Committee Meeting September 14, 2018 Clovis Public Safety Building**

#### **In attendance:**

*Vice Chair Bill Stretch – FID	Sue Ruiz – SHE
*Scott Redelfs – City of Clovis	Don Wright – Reporter
*Nick Keller – Garfield WD	Andrew Nabors – CUSD
*Ken Moore – Kerman	Brandy Swisher – FMFCD
*Bernard Jimenez – Fresno County	Phil Larson – Grower
*Dejan Pavic – City of Fresno	Paul Armendariz – City of Clovis
*Alan Hofmann – FMFCD	Jim Anderson – Malaga County WD
*Steve Pickens – Bakman Water Company	Lisa Koehn – City of Clovis
Adam Claes – FID	Cristel Tufenkjian – KRCD
Diane Merrill – League of Women Voters	Rebecca Quist – KRCD
Ronnie Samuelian – Provost & Pritchard	Mike Prandini – BIA
Greg Addington – Fresno Madera Farm Credit	Jenifer Pitcher – Agriculture Capital
Mike Moore – Fresno Madera Farm Credit	Kristen Freberg – City of Clovis

\* - Voting representative on Advisory Committee

#### **Item 1 – Called to order at 1:30 PM**

#### **Item 2 – Approval of Minutes from 06/08/2018 Meeting**

Motion by Bernard Jimenez to approve, second by Ken Moore. Approved 8-0 with Biola absent.

#### **Item 3 – Receive – Ad hoc Subcommittee Updates**

##### **Item 3a – Technical Subcommittee**

Ronnie Samuelian provided a presentation on development of the GSP. The primary focus is on the sustainable management criteria (SMC) with regard to monitoring water levels and water storage. An example of a map of wells that were historically monitored within the Fresno network was shown. The importance of setting Minimum Thresholds and Measureable Objectives was discussed. Data points for each monitoring well are different, but involve a process of setting initial criteria, comparing to possible undesirable results, and then modifying the criteria for the GSA (or portion of the GSA).

Additional information was provided to update the group on the status of the water budget which should be completed by the end of the year. Provost &

Pritchard (P&P) has developed a spreadsheet with preliminary data that has been sent to most of the NKGSA water agencies to review and comment on the data to validate the spreadsheet. P&P has had meetings with each agency to discuss the needed data, review other available data, and coordinate with other SGMA tasks. Agencies will then return their completed spreadsheets.

Kings Basin coordination efforts were also discussed. All seven GSA's have started on their GSP's and are starting coordination on the agreement framework. They have all agreed to a change in the base period for determining storage change and boundary flows, which will lead to revised numbers for the subbasin. This is due to the original base period reflecting less than long-term average Kings River surface water supplies. Work has been started on the data management system, although it is in the early stages. They have also begun to look at confined aquifer flows and their impact on the basin as a whole.

### **Item 3b – Administrative/Fiscal Subcommittee**

Lisa Koehn said that the Fiscal Subcommittee has not met in the last couple of months. The current focus is on the budget amendment at the end of the calendar year that would allow funds for a new Executive Officer. The questions that need to be asked are how the operations of the organization are going to be funded long-term, and by whom.

### **Item 3c – Membership/Outreach/Communications (MOC) Subcommittee**

Brandy Swisher provided an updated handout for the MOC Subcommittee. They have 2 new members: Mengda Vue and Dao Lor of the Asian Business Institute and Resource Center.

As discussed in the previous meeting, a utility bill insert was developed and mailed to 1,325 households in County of Fresno Community Service Areas. The insert was produced in multiple languages, and the subcommittee plans on translating this into other languages in the future.

Brandy Swisher discussed some potential partnerships with Fresno State, initiated by Sarge Green. These partnerships include working with Public Relations students on a class project to produce outreach materials that will help draw in a younger audience. Another possible partnership is working with multiple disciplines to include SGMA in their class curricula. Phil Larson expressed some concerns from fellow growers regarding SGMA and GSAs. There is a need for better communication regarding who we are and what we do. Growers have questions about water usage restrictions that they might face in the future, as well as other concerns. Bill Stretch responded that a lot of these specific questions don't have answers yet, but as the GSP nears completion, we may need to ramp up outreach. Don Wright added that there should also be outreach to larger businesses, such as John Deere. Bernard Jimenez suggested an in-depth economic analysis of SGMA and its effects.

Concerns were raised about current legislation. Scott Redelfs mentioned 2 bills recently signed by the California Governor – AB 1668 and SB 606. Prop 3 – the water bond on the ballot – was also mentioned, along with its potential effects on the Friant/Kern and Madera Canals. Diane Merrill expressed the need for an overhauled permitting process for capturing flood water, since most permits being given currently are only temporary permits. Bill Stretch mentioned that Gary Serrato has been working with Assemblymember Arambula, but nothing has been solidified yet.

#### **Item 4 – Receive Basin Coordination Update**

This was covered in Item 3.

#### **Item 5 – Discussion – Succession Planning**

Luke Serpa is in his last year as Chair of the Advisory Committee. Gary Serrato will be retiring from his position as General Manager of FID at the end of this year. Bill Stretch will be taking over as the General Manager at FID and would like to step down as Chair of the Technical Committee, however remain Vice Chair of the Advisory Committee.

##### **Item 5a – Executive Officer**

Gary Serrato is working with the committee to figure out an official job description for the Executive Officer, as well as a salary, benefits, etc. They are currently going through the committee to determine these details and should be done by the end of the month. There is no provision for a salary in the current budget – a budget amendment may be necessary, depending on the salary chosen.

##### **Item 5b – Advisory Committee Chair and Vice-Chair**

As Luke Serpa will be stepping down at the end of the year, a new Chair will need to be found. Several members suggested Scott Redelfs from City of Clovis. No formal nomination was made and it was decided that this item would be put on the agenda for the next meeting, when Luke Serpa would be present.

##### **Item 5c – Technical Subcommittee Chair**

A new Technical Subcommittee Chair is needed. No formal nominations were made at this time, but Adam Claes was suggested.

#### **Item 6 – Public Comments**

Don Wright informed the group of a barbecue he will be holding at his home on September 29<sup>th</sup> as a “social mixer” event for people in the water and agriculture industries. He inquired about having an invitation sent out via email to the committee.

Returning to the topic of succession planning, Diane Merrill wished to emphasize the importance of having a paid CEO position, due to the high population in the GSA.

**Item 7 – Member Comments**

No further member comments.

**Item 8 – Adjourn**

Motion by Bernard Jimenez to adjourn; second by Bill Stretch. Approved unanimously. Adjourned at 2:37 pm.