THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
NORTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES FOR
JULY 13, 2022, AT 6:00 P.M.
2907 SOUTH MAPLE AVENUE – FRESNO, CA

TELECONFERENCE MEETING

AGENCIES – DIRECTORS / ALTERNATE DIRECTORS PRESENT
Fresno Irrigation District – Chairman Jerry Prieto, Jr. (via teleconference)
County of Fresno – Director Brian Pacheco (via teleconference)
Bakman Water Company – Director Steve Pickens (via teleconference)
City of Fresno – Alternate Director Brock Buche (via teleconference)
City of Clovis – Director Bob Whalen (via teleconference)
Garfield Water District – Director Karl Kienow (via teleconference)
At-Large Seat 7 (Fowler Packing) – Director Kyle Moeller (via teleconference)

BOARD SEATS ABSENT
None

MEMBER STAFF PRESENT
Executive Officer Kassy Chauhan – North Kings GSA (via teleconference)
Legal Counsel Kevin Dale – Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud, & Romo (via teleconference)
At-Large Seat 7 (Biola CSD) – Alternate Director Chuck Rodriguez
City of Clovis – Alternate Director Drew Bessinger
Advisory Committee Chairman – Scott Redelfs
Fresno Irrigation District Representative – Bill Stretch (via teleconference)
Fresno Irrigation District Representative / Technical Workgroup Chairman – Adam Claes (via teleconference)
Fresno Irrigation District Representative / Recording Secretary – Lynn B. Rowe (via teleconference)

OTHERS PRESENT (who wanted to be identified for the record)
None

Ms. Chauhan reviewed the teleconference procedures that needed to be adhered to since meeting attendance is being offered only virtually. Ms. Chauhan proceed with the roll call of directors, alternate directors, staff, and interested parties who wished to be identified.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Prieto at 6:00 pm.

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2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Prieto lead in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. REVIEW AGENDA

Additional Agenda Items – Requires Majority Approval of Board - §54954.2(b)

There were no changes to the agenda.

4. REVIEW OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Chairman Prieto made note of the alternate meeting dates in November and December due to the holidays. Any Director / Alternate Director that has a conflict should notify staff.

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

There were no Public Presentations.

6. 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 §18705]

None stated.

7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

a. Discussion/Possible Action – Consider Adoption of the NKGSA Groundwater Sustainability Plan Including Revisions Related to Interconnected Streams (Claes/Redelfs/Chauhan)

Mr. Claes updated the Board and participants on the reason for needing to readopt the NKGSA GSP:

- Board of Directors Approved Readoption of the NKGSA GSP with Revisions to Address DWR's Noted Deficiencies at its June 23 Board Meeting

- Additional Information from DWR Received on July 7
- More Revisions Needed (as required by the DWR)
    - Interconnected Surface Water – Initial Approach (definition of Interconnected Surface Water is where a stream or river is connected to the groundwater table)
        - Identified as Data Gap, Particularly Extent of Area of Potential Impact
        - Reference and Coordinate with SJR Restoration and King Fisheries Program
    - Interconnected Surface Water – Revised Approach
        - Must set SMCs (Sustainable Management Criteria) for Interconnected Streams Per DWR
        - DWR will Allow the Use of Groundwater Levels as a Proxy for Interim SMCs for Surface Water – Groundwater Interconnection
        - Proceed with Study Previously Identified in GSP to Gather Additional Data to Replace the Interim SMCs
    - New Section – Interim SMCs / Add "As a result, the GSA has Identified these as Data Gaps that must be Researched Before Refined SMC can be Developed to Replace Interim SMCs."
        - Insert Attachment A
        - Include Map and Table with Proxy Wells (wells located one mile on either side of river/stream)
            - Four Along San Joaquin River
            - One Along the Kings River (only one located within the North Kings GSA – other GSAs will monitor wells located within their boundaries)

A Kings Basin meeting, which included representatives from the seven different GSAs was held, as well as a special meeting of the NKGSA Advisory Committee to review the revisions to the GSP. Each of the GSAs will be using similar language dealing with Interconnected Streams in their respective GSPs.

- Recommendation from the Advisory Committee:
    - For the Board of Directors to Readopt the Groundwater Sustainability Plan with Revisions to address DWRs noted deficiencies Related to Interconnected Streams.

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Ms. Chauhan stated this development from the DWR came as a surprise to staff, since during previous conversations no changes to the Interconnected Surface Water section of the plan was mentioned by DWR staff. DWR made it clear that the GSP would not get a passing grade without changes being made to this section. Four of the seven GSPs had been approved by their boards when this information was learned. Each of the four boards will reconvene to readopt their GSP, the other three were able to make their revisions prior to the adoption of the revised plan.

Director Whalen requested clarification on the monitoring of the decline / impact of surface water (rivers). Ms. Chauhan explained it was the monitoring of the wells along the river to ensure that surface water is not being extracted from the rivers. After continuing to briefly discuss / clarify the revisions, Alternate Director Buche moved for a motion.

M/S/C (Buche/Whalen) That the Board of Directors approved the revised GSP to address comments from the Department of Water Resources. Ms. Chauhan proceeded with the calling of the roll call vote. (Ayes – Pickens, Kienow, Moeller, Prieto, Jr., Buche, Whalen, Pacheco; Nays – 0; Absent – 0; Abstain – 0)

Deleted: minutes of the May 26, 2022, regular Board meeting

8. DIRECTORS REPORT

Director Pickens – nothing to report.

Director Kienow – nothing to report.

Alternate Director Buche – nothing to report.

Director Prieto – nothing to report.

Director Whalen – nothing to report.

Director Pacheco – nothing to report.

Director Moeller – nothing to report.

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9. ADJOURNMENT

With nothing further to discuss, Chairman Prieto adjourned the meeting at 6:30 pm.

Submitted by,

Kassy Chauhan, Executive Officer-Secretary/Treasurer