

MINUTES

NKGSA Advisory Committee Meeting May 13, 2022

IN-PERSON AND TELECONFERENCE

In attendance:

*Scott Redelfs – City of Clovis
*Shay Bakman – Bakman Water
Company
*Dejan Pavic – City of Fresno
*Nick Keller – Garfield Water District
*Bernard Jimenez – Fresno County
*Adam Claes – FID
*Brent Sunamoto – FMFCD
Kassy Chauhan – NKGSA
*Jerry Jones – City of Kerman & Biola
CSD
Ronnie Samuelian – Provost & Pritchard

Andrew Aller – NKGSA (legal counsel)
Paul Armendariz – City of Clovis
Brandy Swisher – FMFCD
Tom Krazan – Kings River Drilling
Sue Ruiz – Easton
Steve Blumenshine – California Water
Institute
Diane Merrill – League of Women Voters
Ellis & Frank Encinas
Richard Heinrichs – Fresno County
Department of Environmental Health
Lisa Koehn – Clovis

* - Voting representative on Advisory Committee

*****Note:** With the current state of emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting was conducted in-person at the City of Clovis Public Safety Community Room (1233 Fifth Street, Clovis, CA 93612), and also via web conference for those wishing to participate remotely.*

Item 1 – Called to order at 1:32 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	Present/Absent	Name of Person
Bakman Water Company	Present	Shay Bakman
Biola CSD	Present	Jerry Jones
City of Clovis	Present	Scott Redelfs
City of Fresno	Present	Dejan Pavic
Fresno County	Present	Bernard Jimenez
Fresno Irrigation District	Present	Adam Claes
Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District	Present	Brent Sunamoto
Garfield Water District	Present	Nick Keller
International Water District	Absent	-
City of Kerman	Present	Jerry Jones

Item 2 – Discussion/Possible Action – NKGSA Resolution 22-08: Resolution of the Advisory Committee of the North Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency – Resolution Continuing Advisory Committee Authority to Hold Virtual Meetings Pursuant to AB361

AB361 requires that this item be revisited every 30 days in order for virtual meetings to continue while the Governor’s state of emergency order is still in place.

Motion to approve by member Claes; second by member Jimenez. Committee votes as follows:

Member: Redelfs	Aye
Member: Bakman	Aye
Member: Pavic	Aye

Member: Keller	Aye
Member: Jimenez	Aye
Member: Claes	Aye
Member: Sunamoto	Aye
Member: Jones	Aye
<i>(International absent)</i>	

9 Aye; 1 Absent. Motion passed.

Item 3 – Public Presentations

There were no public presentations. There was a question regarding the Governor's executive order, which will be discussed under that agenda item (Item 7a).

Item 4 – Approval of Minutes

Item 4a – Approval of Minutes from April 8, 2022 Meeting

Motion to approve minutes by member Claes; second by member Bakman.
Committee votes as follows:

Member: Redelfs	Aye
Member: Bakman	Aye
Member: Pavic	Aye
Member: Keller	Aye
Member: Jimenez	Aye
Member: Claes	Aye
Member: Sunamoto	Aye
Member: Jones	Aye
<i>(International absent)</i>	

9 Aye; 1 Absent. Motion passed.

Item 5 – Financial Report

Item 5a – Discussion/Possible Action – Recommend Approval of Expense Report and Financial Statements as of March 31, 2022

(Presented by Lisa Koehn)

Expenses for the month of March totaled \$43,658.08, including payments to ACWA, legal consulting, Constant Contact, FID, HP Water Systems, and Provost & Pritchard. Total assets are currently at \$1,318,566.38. Through March 2022, a total of \$262,521.54 has been sent, which is about 42% of the year's budget. Copies of the financial report were included in the meeting packet.

Motion to approve expense report and financial statements by member Jimenez; second by member Claes. Committee votes as follows:

Member: Redelfs	Aye
Member: Bakman	Aye
Member: Pavic	Aye
Member: Keller	Aye
Member: Jimenez	Aye
Member: Claes	Aye
Member: Sunamoto	Aye
Member: Jones	Aye
<i>(International absent)</i>	

9 Aye; 1 Absent. Motion passed.

Item 5b – Discussion/Possible Action – Consider Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Proposed Budget Revisions

(Presented by Lisa Koehn & Kassy Chauhan)

To date, spending has been under budget. The proposed budget revisions reflect increased expenses for dues/subscriptions, insurance, and Kings Subbasin coordination activities. It also reflects decreased expenses for legal services, professional services and engineering consulting, and staff expenses. There is no change in member agency contributions or interest party contributions. Copies of the budget revision documents were included in the meeting packet.

Motion by member Keller to approve the proposed 2021-2022 budget revisions; second by member Claes.

Member: Redelfs	Aye
Member: Bakman	Aye
Member: Pavic	Aye

Member: Keller	Aye
Member: Jimenez	Aye
Member: Claes	Aye
Member: Sunamoto	Aye
Member: Jones	Aye
<i>(International absent)</i>	

9 Aye; 1 Absent. Motion passed.

Item 5c – Discussion/Possible Action – Consider Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Proposed Budget

(Presented by Lisa Koehn & Kassy Chauhan)

The proposed budget for fiscal year 2022-2023 includes an overall income of \$636,113.20 (including \$7,113.20 from interested parties and \$629,000 from member assessments). Expenses include costs for Kings Subbasin coordination, legal fees, professional services, public information and affairs, and staffing costs. Copies of the proposed budget were included in the meeting packet.

Member Claes inquired about the costs for a mass mailout, which can be upward of \$15,000 depending on how many are mailed out. The budget allows for two direct mailers in the public relations/public information line item.

Motion by member Claes to recommend approval of the proposed 2022-2023 budget; second by member Jimenez.

Member: Redelfs	Aye
Member: Bakman	Aye
Member: Pavic	Aye
Member: Keller	Aye
Member: Jimenez	Aye
Member: Claes	Aye
Member: Sunamoto	Aye
Member: Jones	Aye
<i>(International absent)</i>	

9 Aye; 1 Absent. Motion passed.

Item 5d – Interested Party Invoices Update

(Presented by Kassy Chauhan)

The interested party invoices were mailed out on April 1st. The due date for payments was April 30th. To date, Pinedale County Water District, Malaga County Water District and Self Help Enterprises have submitted the voluntary contribution as an interested party per the JPA Agreement for the North Kings GSA.

Item 6 – Receive – Basin Coordination Update

(Presented by Ronnie Samuelian)

Item 6a – Discussion – Groundwater Sustainability Plan Revisions Update

FID's Savory Pond project is complete and Kerman's project in North Kings is underway. Round 2 of SGMA implementation grant funding has been awarded (\$7.6M) and the final contract is in process. Well construction information is being gathered for DWR's planning grant, for which NKGSA is requesting an application extension.

DWR offers technical support services which are assisting with construction of monitor wells for GSAs. A monitoring well in the North Fork Kings GSA has been completed and there is one in progress at Copper and Peach Avenues for the North Kings GSA;; others are still in process.

Outreach is being planned for the annual report and Spring 2022 water level data is being gathered (some data needs to be received from neighboring basins before proceeding).

Item 7 – Administrative

Item 7a – Governor's Executive Order N-7-22: Well Permitting Update

(Presented by Fresno County)

Richard Heinrichs, Fresno County Environmental Health Department Manager, provided updates on the well permitting process for wells being planned in Fresno County. Fresno County created a new form to assist with compliance with Governor's Executive Order N-7-22. The form has to be completed and submitted with each well permit application in order for a well permit to be issued. New and in-process wells for 2022 currently total 71; the total number of wells, including

completed ones, is 412, in Fresno County. The expectation is for a steep increase in the number of new and in-process wells throughout the summer.

Item 7b – Multi-Benefit Land Repurposing Grant Application Update

(Presented by Kassy Chauhan)

KRCD submitted the application on April 1st. Awards are scheduled to be given out in May and June 2022.

Item 7c – NKGSA GSP – Call for Projects – Schedule and Update

(Presented by Kassy Chauhan)

The annual call for projects is open from now until the end of May. Early in June, the Project Workgroup will evaluate potential projects for inclusion on the project list. The Advisory Committee will then consider recommended projects at the June meeting.

Item 7d – Discussion/Possible Action – Consider Draft Agency Groundwater Impact Mitigation Policy – NKGSA 2022-01

(Presented by Kassy Chauhan)

A detailed report on the policy was included in the meeting packet. The purpose of the policy is to determine groundwater impact mitigation requirements for each groundwater pumping entity, and to require monitoring and reporting by those entities. Individual agency meetings began in October 2020 and policy workgroup meetings began in May 2021. The policy has now been redrafted after the most recent Policy Workgroup meeting in May 2022.

Motion by member Keller to recommend approval of NKGSA 2022-001, Groundwater Impact Mitigation Policy, to the NKGSA Board of Directors; second by member Claes.

Member: Redelfs	Aye
Member: Bakman	Aye
Member: Pavic	Aye
Member: Keller	Aye
Member: Jimenez	Aye
Member: Claes	Aye

Member: Sunamoto	Aye
Member: Jones	Aye
<i>(International absent)</i>	

9 Aye; 1 Absent. Motion passed.

Item 8 – Workgroup Updates and Actions

Item 8a – Technical Workgroup Update

(Presented by Adam Claes)

Revisions to the GSP are underway. Most of the comments from DWR require Basin-wide coordination to address and are all tied to Sustainable Management Criteria (SMCs) and there is a need for common and consistent language to be used throughout all the GSP updates. Multiple meetings have been held with DWR in order to determine what's needed. Revised GSPs should be finalized and approved in June, with the deadline to submit revised GSPs back to the State on July 27th. There will be another public comment period throughout August and September, and DWR will begin their review in October through December 2022.

The Technical Workgroup will be reviewing the proposed revisions and the hope is to present the proposed revisions to the Advisory Committee at the June 10 meeting followed by possible action by the Board of Directors at its June 23 board meeting. Special meetings have been put on calendar in case there are any delays and special meetings are needed in advance of the July 27 submittal deadline.

Item 8b – Policy Workgroup Update

(Presented by Kassy Chauhan)

No further updates at this meeting.

Item 8c – Kings Water Alliance – Stakeholder Advisory Committee Report

(Presented by Lisa Koehn)

The KWA Stakeholder Advisory Committee has not met, so there is no further report at this time.

Item 9 – Member Agency/Committee Member Reports

Item 9a – Advisory Committee/Member Agency Reports/Updates

Member Claes provided a report on water conditions. DWR is forecasting 41% of average runoff to the Kings as of May 9th. FID entitlement is 1,242 cfs and Friant Class 1 allocation is at 15% (as of February 23rd). Exchange contractors have called on water and URFs made available. FID will have a 2-month irrigation season run in June and July, with about 200,000 AF being delivered during that time. (By comparison, there was only a 1-month run in 2021.)

Item 10 – Executive Officer Update

(Presented by Kassy Chauhan)

Item 10a – DWR Prop 68 Grant Project Update

DWR granted \$7.6M in funding to the Kings Subbasin, which included the Central Kings, James GSA, North Fork Kings, and North Kings.

Item 10b – Outreach / External Affairs Update

Outreach in the past month has included a State Water Board meeting, a presentation with the California Farm Leadership class, a presentation with ASCE/APWA, and a panel discussion at the Groundwater Resource Association - GSA summit on June 9.

Item 10c – Representative Monitoring Network Update

No further updates.

Item 10d – Miscellaneous

NKGSA has been included as a community partner in stakeholder outreach and engagement with the F3 Challenge Project. There's also been efforts to become involved in the SGMA Practitioners Roundtable. A workshop on permitting requirements is being planned in response to the Governor's executive order to assist those who may be considering applications for well permits. Lastly, the upper aquifer study is continuing.

Item 11 – Adjourned

Meeting adjourned at 2:56 P.M.

Next Meeting
June 10, 2022