THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
NORTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES FOR
SEPTEMBER 22, 2022, AT 6:00 P.M.
2907 SOUTH MAPLE AVENUE – FRESNO, CA

TELECONFERENCE / IN-PERSON MEETING

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

BOARD SEATS ABSENT
Garfield Water District – Director Karl Kienow

MEMBER STAFF PRESENT
Executive Officer Kassy Chauhan – North Kings GSA
Legal Counsel Kevin Dale – Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud, & Romo
Provost & Pritchard Consulting / Kings Basin Coordinator – Ronnie Samuelian (via teleconference)
City of Clovis Representative / Advisory Committee Chairman – Scott Redelfs
Fresno Irrigation District Representative / NKGSA Technical Workgroup Chair – Adam Claes
Fresno Irrigation District Representative / NKGSA Fiscal Agent – DeAnn Hailey
Fresno Irrigation District Representative – Bill Stretch
Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District Representative – Staff Analyst Andrew Remus (via teleconference)
Fresno Irrigation District Representative / Recording Secretary – Lynn B. Rowe

OTHERS PRESENT (who wanted to be identified for the record)
Self-Help Enterprises Representative – Sue Ruiz

Ms. Chauhan reviewed the teleconference procedures that needed to be adhered to since meeting attendance was being offered virtually. Ms. Chauhan proceeded 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 6:01 pm.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
NORTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES FOR
SEPTEMBER 22, 2022, AT 6:00 P.M.
2907 SOUTH MAPLE AVENUE – FRESNO, CA

TELECONFERENCE / IN-PERSON MEETING

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Prieto led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. NKGSA RESOLUTION 2022-17

a. In accordance with AB361, the Board will consider adoption of NKGSA Resolution 2022-17: Resolution of the North Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board of Directors – Resolution Continuing the North Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board Authority to hold virtual meetings pursuant to AB 361. (Chauhan/Dale)

Chairman Prieto reported this is the same required resolution to hold modified teleconference meeting that staff has brought to the Board the last several months and requested a motion and a second from the Board.

M/S/C (Buche/Whalen) That the Board of Directors approved Resolution 2022-17 in accordance with AB 361. Ms. Chauhan proceeded with calling of the roll call vote. (Ayes – Pickens, Moeller, Prieto, Jr., Buche, Whalen, Pacheco; Nays – 0; Absent – Kienow; Abstain – 0)

Ms. Chauhan reported AB 361, which allows meetings to take place virtually with modified requirements, is set to expire in January 2024. AB 2449 will authorize public meetings to continue to meet virtually under certain conditions with prior arrangements as long as a majority of board members meet in person.

4. REVIEW AGENDA

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

There were no changes to the agenda.

5. REVIEW OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Chairman Prieto reminded the Board of the alternate dates for the November and December Board meetings due to the holidays.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
NORTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES FOR
SEPTEMBER 22, 2022, AT 6:00 P.M.
2907 SOUTH MAPLE AVENUE – FRESNO, CA

TELECONFERENCE / IN-PERSON MEETING

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

Ms. Ruiz provided an update on the changes taking place at Self-Help Enterprise. A glossary of groundwater management terms was developed to make it easier for people to understand. The glossary was developed by San Joaquin Valley Clean Water Advocates, Self-Help Enterprises, Community Water Center, Leadership Counsel, and Water Hub. Copies are available on request.

7. 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.

8. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

a. Discussion/Possible Action on Board Meeting Minutes – August 25, 2022

There were no corrections or suggestions to the August 25, 2022, meeting minutes.

M/S/C (Buche/Pickens) That the Board of Directors approved the minutes of the August 25, 2022, regular Board meeting. Ms. Chauhan proceeded with the calling of the roll call vote. (Ayes – Pickens, Moeller, Prieto, Jr., Buche, Whalen, Pacheco; Nays – 0; Absent – Kienow; Abstain – 0)

b. Kings Subbasin Coordination Update

Mr. Samuelian reviewed the following:

- DWR GSP determination anticipated winter 2022-23
  - 60-day public comment period ends Friday, September 30, 2022 (currently there are two comments – state agency and James ID)
- Planning for New Data Gap Studies and Programs
  - Confined Aquifer Pumping, Interconnected SW, and Shallow Well Mitigation Program (cost sharing will be discussed at a later date – will likely not start until after the first of the year)

- Considering basin-wide demand changes since base period. Crop conversions are reflective in demand changes
- Reviewing how other basins have developed allocations (needs to be done basin-wide)
- Grants:
  - 4.8 million DWR SGMA Implementation Grant Round 1 Projects Underway
  - $7.6 million DWR SGMA Implementation Grant Round 2 – Awarded. Final contract signed (recharge basins planned/constructed include Consolidated ID, James ID, Riverdale ID, and Fresno ID – have three years to complete projects)
  - DWR Planning Grant – Well construction information on RMWs and new Monitor Wells
  - DWR Technical Support Services – new monitor wells in GSAs (near Garfield Water District)
  - Meeting with USDA Community Facilities
- Preparing for fall 2022 Water Level Data

c. Water Conditions Update (Claes)

Mr. Claes reported on the following water conditions:

Water season ends on September 30 (October 1 through September 30)

- Both City of Fresno and FID acquired USBR Unreleased Restoration Flow supplies

- August Monsoonal Storms netted FID ~20,000 af of unanticipated entitlements

- 30% CVP Friant Class I (CVP water years end February 28)
- 45% Kings River Water Year Runoff

Mr. Claes presented a chart that showed FID Entitlement, Pre-Project, and Demand for the month of August. FID's Entitlement was just slightly less than the Pre-Project runoff volume for the month.

Winter 2022-23 Outlook / Forecast

- DWR's State Climatologist seasonal report released

- 3rd Year of La Nina predicted
- Dominant high pressure somewhere over the Pacific
- Only the third 3-Year La Nina event since 1950:
  - 1974-1976: 1976 was the 13th driest year statewide
  - 1999-2001: 2001 was the 14th driest year statewide

d. Advisory Committee Update (Redelfs)

Mr. Redelfs reported the Advisory Committee last met on September 9, 2022.

Recommended Actions:

- Approval of Expenses (July 2022)
- Approval of Financial Statements as of July 31, 2022
- Recommend Adoption of the NKGSA Investing Policy (NKGSA-ACCT-507)
- Recommend Passage of Resolution 2022-16 Participation in LAIF

e. Governor's Executive Order N-7-22: Well Permitting Update (Chauhan)

Ms. Chauhan stated the process remains the same. Staff continues to respond to the well permits forwarded by Fresno County.

Well Permits Issued within Fresno County (January – August 2022):

January	20
February	25
March	24
April	32
May	52
June	66
July	49
August	40
September (to date)	10
Total	318

Staff expects there to be slightly less permits submitted this year than previously.

AB 2201 (Bennett) – The bill did not make it off the legislative floor. Staff believe it will be brought back next year in some form.

f. Workgroup Updates (Claes)

i. Technical Workgroup (Claes)

Mr. Claes reported that the Technical Workgroup has not met since the submittal of the revised GSP (June 27,2022). The group is waiting until it receives the responses/ determination from DWR's on the revised Plan before heavily implementing any of the proposed projects. It is expected the workgroup will start up at the end of 2022 or beginning of 2023. Ms. Chauhan stated the workgroup may meet earlier to discuss comments received during the Public Comment Period.

ii. Policy Workgroup (Chauhan)

There is nothing new to report.

9. FINANCIAL MATTERS (Hailey)

a. Discussion / Possible Action – Approval of Expense Report for July 2022

Ms. Hailey presented the financial reports and stated there were very few expenses for July – most of the expenses were accrued in June prior to the close of the fiscal year. The only expense was for Constant Contact.

b. Discussion / Possible Action – Approval of the Financial Statements as of July 31, 2022

Ms. Hailey reviewed the Financial Statement (Balance Sheet) as of July 31, 2022.

At the direction of the Board, items 9. a. and b. were taken as one motion.

M/S/C (Buche/Pickens) That the Board of Directors approved the Expense Reports for July 2022 and approve the Financial Statements as of July 31, 2022. Ms. Chauhan proceeded with calling of the roll call vote. (Ayes – Pickens, Moeller, Prieto, Jr., Buche, Whalen, Pacheco; Nays – 0; Absent – Kienow; Abstain – 0)

c. Discussion / Possible Action – Approval of NKGSA Policy (NKGSA – ACCT-507) Investing Policy

Ms. Hailey reviewed the new investing policy (NKGSA-ACCT-507). This policy was

modeled after one used by Fresno Irrigation District (NKGSA Board has established using FID's policies / procedures when it does not have one of its own). Ms. Hailey also informed the Board that the policy also follows government code section §53600 et. seq., which states how long you can hold investments and the requirements that government agencies need to follow (safety, liquidity, and yield). Ms. Hailey recommended an initial investment of $500,000, which is what is in the Legal Reserve Fund. Ms. Hailey also provided a short explanation on what is preferred in an investment. Current rate of return is about 1.6% for LAIF.

M/S/C (Whalen/Buche) That the Board of Directors approved the NKGSA Policy ACCT-507. Ms. Chauhan proceeded with calling of the roll call vote. (Ayes – Pickens, Moeller, Prieto, Jr., Buche, Whalen, Pacheco; Nays – 0; Absent – Kienow; Abstain – 0)

d. Discussion / Possible Action – Approval of NKGSA Resolution 2022-16 to Allow Participation in Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF) and to File with the State Treasurer's Office

Staff recommends approval on participation in LAIF. It is overseen by the State and considered to be a safe investment. Availability of funds is two to three days when they are requested. Current interest rate is at 1.6%. Ms. Hailey responded to Director Whalen's inquiry if LAIF invests in other states politics associated with investments; Ms. Hailey stated LAIF is fairly conservative but she has not heard anything about other state's political investments. Ms. Hailey replied that with the relatively small investment, it is harder to manage on a smaller scale. Should the NKGSA be in a position in the future to invest larger sums, it might want to look into managing its own investments. Ms. Chauhan stated the investments will become part of the monthly report presented to the Board.

M/S/C (Buche/Pacheco) That the Board of Directors approved Resolution 2022-16. Ms. Chauhan proceeded with calling of the roll call vote. (Ayes – Pickens, Moeller, Prieto, Jr., Buche, Whalen, Pacheco; Nays – 0; Absent – Kienow; Abstain – 0)

e. Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Audit Update

Ms. Hailey stated the auditors were experiencing a delay but are now on track and close to being complete. One prior-period adjustment needed to be made.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
NORTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES FOR
SEPTEMBER 22, 2022, AT 6:00 P.M.
2907 SOUTH MAPLE AVENUE – FRESNO, CA

TELECONFERENCE / IN-PERSON MEETING

10. EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT (Chauhan)

a. Department of Water Resources Prop 68 Grant Update

- Fresno ID Savory Pond recharge basin project completed in June 2022. Ribbon cutting ceremony held August 19.
- City of Kerman – Lions Park Recharge Basin Intertie Project. Funded and design stage in progress
- Biola CSD – Biola Recharge Project. Additional funds received and out for bid
- Fresno ID Carter-Bybee Basin. Additional grant received – design stage and environmental work in progress

The Kings Basin received positive remarks from DWR (especially the NKGSA) on the many recharge basins. Another round of funding is anticipated. More information will be available in the next few weeks.

b. Outreach / External Affairs Update

- Speaking Engagements:
  - ABIRC Small Grower Workshop held September 8, 2022
  - California H2O Women's Conference scheduled for September 29-30, 2022 (Ms. Chauhan will be speaking on a panel)

- SJV Blueprint
  - One-page flyer created which provides information on water-related issues (one voice mantra)
  - Looking to put on a SGMA workshop (end of October / beginning of November)

- Legislative Efforts:
  - AB2201: DEAD

c. Representative Monitoring Network Update

- Making progress on obtaining construction information on monitoring wells (one well information left to obtain – early fall)
- Working on filling in data gaps

- Staff looking at current available wells – will determine if any additional wells need to be drilled for monitoring purposes
- Have funds from DWR to drill dedicated monitoring well in the northeast section of the basin

d. Miscellaneous

- Groundwater Conditions Update – waiting to receive fall readings. Data will be used to calculate storage change
- Boundary Flow Study Update
    - Pump Testing to Occur on Wells during the fall
- Future Investigations (move forward after DWR publishes their findings on the revised GSP
    - Shallow Well Mitigation Study
    - Interconnected Surface Water Investigation
    - Confined Aquifer Pumping Data Gap Evaluation

- Technical Workgroup:
    - Well Registration Program. Staff researching options available (can be very simple spreadsheet to more complex data storage)
    - Input on Future Studies

11. DIRECTORS REPORT

Alternated Director Pickens – nothing to report

Director Kienow – Absent

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

Open Session was paused while the Board went into Closed Session at 7:00 pm.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
NORTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES FOR
SEPTEMBER 22, 2022, AT 6:00 P.M.
2907 SOUTH MAPLE AVENUE – FRESNO, CA

TELECONFERENCE / IN-PERSON MEETING

CLOSED SESSION

Government Code Section 54957 – Public Employee Performance Evaluation: Executive Officer

Closed Session ended at 7:20 p.m.

12. REPORT ON ACTIONS(S) TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION

Chairman Prieto stated there was nothing to report out of Closed Session.

13. ADJOURNMENT

With nothing further to discuss, Chairman Prieto adjourned the meeting at 7:20 pm.

Submitted by,

Kassy Chauhan, Executive Officer-Secretary/Treasurer