

MINUTES

NKGSA Special Advisory Committee Meeting May 12, 2023

IN-PERSON AND TELECONFERENCE

In attendance:

**Scott Redelfs (City of Clovis)

*Brandy Swisher (Fresno Metropolitan
Flood Control District)

*Adam Claes (Fresno Irrigation District)

*Shay Bakman (Bakman Water
Company)

*Nick Keller (Garfield Water District)

*Roy Jimenez (Fresno County)

Dejan Pavic (City of Fresno) - virtual
Kassy Chauhan (NKGSA)

Andrew Aller (NKGSA legal counsel)

Ronnie Samuelian (Provost & Pritchard)

Paul Armendariz (City of Clovis)

Lisa Koehn (Clovis)

* - Voting representative on Advisory Committee

** - Committee Chair

The meeting was called to order at 2:14 p.m. due to lack of a quorum until that time.

Item 1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 2:14 PM.

Special Instructions:

Instructions for participation by both remote and in-person attendees were given by Executive Officer Kassy Chauhan. Both written and verbal comments are accepted by all attendees and time will be made after each agenda item for comments to be heard.

Members of the Advisory Committee attended in person and were present/absent as follows:

Agency Name	Present/Absent	Name of Person
Bakman Water Company	Present	Shay Bakman
Biola CSD	Absent	-
City of Clovis	Present	Scott Redelfs
City of Fresno	Absent – Virtual Only*	Dejan Pavic
City of Kerman	Absent	
Fresno County	Present	Roy Jimenez
Fresno Irrigation District	Present	Adam Claes
Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District	Present	Brandy Swisher
Garfield Water District	Present	Nick Keller
International Water District	Absent	-

*Member Pavic was not voting due to only participating remotely and noticing not complying with AB2449 requirements.

Item 2. Public Presentations

There were no public presentations.

Item 3. Approval of Minutes

Item 3a. Approval of Minutes from April 14, 2023 Meeting

Motion to approve the minutes from the April 14, 2023, Advisory Committee meeting made by member Keller; second by member Claes. Motion passed unanimously (6-0 with 4 absent).

Item 4. Financial Report

Item 4a. Discussion / Possible Action – Recommend Approval of Expense Report for March 2023

(Presented by Lisa Koehn)

A copy of the detailed financial statements were included in the meeting packet and presented by Lisa Koehn. All expenses were normal business expenses and withing the approved budget.

Motion by member Claes to recommend approval of the expense reports; second by member Jimenez. Motion passed unanimously (6-0 with 4 absent).

Item 4b. Discussion / Possible Action – Recommend Approval of the Financial Statements as of March 31, 2023

(Presented by Lisa Koehn)

As of March 31, 2023, expenses totaled \$266,703.76, which is 49.51% of the annual budget. A copy of the detailed financial statements (including assets and accounts payable) was included in the meeting packet and presented by Lisa Koehn. The agency is in good position and all expenses are within budget.

Motion by member Claes to recommend approval of the financial statements; second by member Keller. Motion passed unanimously (6-0 with 4 absent).

Item 4c. Discussion / Possible Action – Consider Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Proposed Budget

(Presented by Lisa Koehn)

The proposed budget for fiscal year 2023-2024 includes an overall income of \$261,313.20 (including \$7,363.20 from interested parties and \$253,950.00 from member assessments, and the remaining income coming from member agency balances). 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 supplemental meeting packet.

Staff recommended sending invoices to member agencies for 50% of their participation amount typically invoiced on July 1 based on their acreages within the North Kings GSA. The remaining 50% of the income would come from member agency balances accumulated from prior years. This approach also allows for a reserve of at least 100% of the annual expenses which is recommended by staff given the relatively small budget and future programs and expenses. Staff will be presenting a reserves policy and associated policies for consideration by the Advisory Committee at its June meeting.

Motion by member Keller to recommend approval of the proposed 2023-2024 budget; second by member Bakman. Motion passed unanimously (6-0 with 4 absent).

Item 4d. Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF) Update
(Presented by Lisa Koehn)

As of April 2023, \$3,383.05 in interest had been earned (January through March 2023). Funds are received quarterly. The current rate is 2.74%. The next report will be received and provided in July 2023.

Item 4e. FY 2022-2023 Audit Update
(Presented by Lisa Koehn)

The fiscal agent is in the process of securing new consultants. The current auditor has indicated he will not be able to conduct the audit moving forward due to resource constraints. As such, the fiscal agent will coordinate with Miss Chauhan to get a request for proposal from local accounting firms whom can conduct the audit for the North Kings GSA for the next five years. The Board of Directors authorized Miss Chauhan to make this determination without further consideration by the Board. More details will follow once an auditor is selected.

Item 4f. Interested Party Invoices Update
(Presented by Kassy Chauhan)

Interested parties invoices were sent on April 1st and to date voluntary contributions have been received from Malaga County Water District, Pinedale County Water District and Cargill Meats. The Malaga County Water District contribution was applied to FID's balance as Malaga is within the FID boundary; the Pinedale County Water District balance has been applied to the City of Fresno member agency balance as Pinedale County Water District is within the City of Fresno; and the Cargill Meats voluntary contribution of \$250 was applied to the FID member agency balance as its within the FID boundary. The total received to date from interested parties is \$7,113.20, which will be applied to the FY 2024-2025 budget.

Item 5. Receive – Basin Coordination Update

(Presented by Ronnie Samuelian)

The GSP has been recommended for approval. The official GSP determination letter with corrective actions from DWR is still pending but expected in the next few weeks. DWR is interested in covering recharge news from the Kings Basin following storm events. As such, they have coordinated with FID to pay for temporary interties to existing flood control basins with temporary pumps and piping. The Kings Subbasin has done a great job with outreach and education which has contributed to DWR looking to the Kings Subbasin to assist with groundwater recharge efforts, in an attempt to divert floodwaters upstream of the at risk communities given the historic water conditions experienced this year.

Spring data collection is underway. Need to improve the quality of the data and ensure timely submittals of the data (by the end of March). Data gap studies are being designed, specifically for pumping occurring in the western portion of the Basin as well as a domestic well mitigation program study to commence upon receipt of the GSP determination letter from DWR. Discussions are being had regarding a water accounting framework and establishing the native safe yield for the GSAs as some GSAs were wanting to proceed with an implementation of an allocation sooner than others.

SGMA Round 2 results are pending; there were 2 DAC projects submitted for the North Kings (one for City of Fresno and one for Bakman Water Company). The grant awards for this round of funding are expected by the end of June 2023. Research is being done regarding implementation of other grant funding contracts.

Item 6. Administrative

(Presented by Kassy Chauhan)

Item 6a. Governor’s Executive Order N-7-22 and N-4-23: Well Permitting Update

101 well permits have been issued so far for this calendar year. These are mostly well replacements and/or well deepening. Miss Chauhan continues to review the permit applications received and routed by Fresno County Environmental Health Department. Key pieces of information are collected and entered into a database to track well activity and potential hot spots in the North Kings GSA boundary.

Item 6b. Well Intake Portal Development Update

This continues to be in progress. Internal testing is being completed to test the user-friendliness of the questions. Once this phase of work is completed, Break9 will be paid and we can begin to establish the rules for reporting wells to the North Kings GSA and a launch schedule. It is expected to take place later in 2023 or early 2024.

Item 7. Workgroup Updates and Actions

Item 7a. Kings Water Alliance – Stakeholder Advisory Committee Report

(Presented by Lisa Koehn)

The advisory committee did not meet in May 2023, so there was no report to be provided.

Item 8. Member Agency / Committee Member Reports

Item 8a. Advisory Committee/Member Agency Reports/Updates

i. Water Supply and Storm Water Routing Update *(Member Claes)*

Member Claes provided an update on the water conditions of the Kings and San Joaquin Rivers. Friant Class 2 allocation increased from 20% to 70% as of March 7th, and Class 1 allocation is at 100%. Water levels at Millerton are dropping rapidly and are currently at 147,000 AF, which is less than 50% of average for this time of year due to flood releasing occurring to make

room for the runoff set to occur this weekend due to extremely warm temperatures. It will fill and empty multiple times over the coming year. The Friant-Kern Canal is at 2,400 cfs; the Madera Canal is at 1,100 cfs.

Pine Flat storage is at 340,000 AF currently, with the Pine Flat Dam flood release at 12,700 cfs to create capacity for the snowmelt/runoff which will occur given warm temperatures.

Member Claes also shared some details on the temporary pumps and pipelines set up near FMFCD Basins CK and SS to allow for temporary diversion of Kings River water into the basins to reduce water headed towards the impacted communities in the Tulare Lake region. The operation of the temporary pumps is set to continue as long as there is a declared flood emergency and the need to divert as much water as possible upgradient of the Tulare Lake region is needed.

ii. Others

There were no further reports.

Item 9. Executive Officer Update

(Presented by Kassy Chauhan)

Item 9a. Groundwater Sustainability Plan Determination Update

The GSP was recommended for approval on March 2nd. Official determination and recommended corrective actions will be coming soon, as mentioned in the Basin Coordination Update.

Item 9b. DWR Prop 68 Grant Projects Update

Work continues on the Biola CSD recharge project but the intertie to FID's Herndon Canal will not take place until FID ends its water season and the canals are dry. Water supply agreements are being established between FID and the smaller agencies within the GSA boundaries to provide a surface water source for future groundwater recharge efforts.

Item 9c. Outreach / External Affairs Update

Routine social media, website, and email distribution efforts are continuing.

Item 9d. Representative Monitoring Network Update

It is essential to gather and submit information in a timely manner.

Item 9e. Miscellaneous

The annual call for projects will be provided following the meeting or early next week. In addition to adding new projects, agencies should review existing projects and provide updates to their estimated completion dates. This project list serves as the agencies commitment to mitigate for the pumping occurring within the agency boundary.

Item 10. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 2:59 PM.

Next Meeting: June 9, 2023