MINUTES

NKGSA Advisory Committee Meeting
January 12, 2024

IN-PERSON AND TELECONFERENCE

In attendance:

**Scott Redelfs (City of Clovis)
*Shay Bakman (Bakman Water Company)
*Dejan Pavic (City of Fresno)
*Jesus Gonzalez (City of Kerman and Biola Community Services District)
*Roy Jimenez (Fresno County)
*Adam Claes (FID)
*Jarrod Takemoto (FMFCD)
*Nick Keller (Garfield Water District)
Kassy Chauhan (NKGSA)
Andrew Aller (NKGSA legal counsel)
Ronnie Samuelian (Provost & Pritchard)
Paul Armendariz (City of Clovis)
Kristen Freberg (City of Clovis)
Lisa Koehn (Clovis)
Moises Ortiz
Jennifer Marshall

** - Committee Chair
* - Voting representative on Advisory Committee

*__**Note:__ In an effort to maximize participation in the NKGSA Advisory Committee meeting, the meeting was conducted in-person at the City of Clovis Public Safety Community Room (1233 Fifth Street, Clovis, CA 93612) as well as via web conference for members of the public wishing to participate remotely.*

Item 1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 1:33 PM.

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	Present	Alt. Director Jesus Gonzalez
City of Clovis	Present	Scott Redelfs
City of Fresno	Present	Dejan Pavic *
City of Kerman	Present	Jesus Gonzalez
Fresno County	Present	Roy Jimenez
Fresno Irrigation District	Present	Adam Claes
Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District	Present	Jarrod Takemoto
Garfield Water District	Present	Nick Keller

* *Arrived following action item under section 4a. Votes prior to 4a will reflect member as absent; votes following 4a will reflect member as present.*

Item 2. Public Presentations

There were no public presentations.

Item 3. Approval of Minutes

Item 3a. Approval of Minutes from November 3, 2023 Meeting

Motion to approve the minutes made by member Keller; second by member Bakman. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0 with 1 absent.

Item 4. Financial Report

Item 4a. Discussion / Possible Action – Recommend Approval of Expense Reports for October and November 2023
(Presented by Lisa Koehn)

Expenses for October 2023 totaled $34,324.88, comprised of payments for ACWA insurance, attorney fees, FID, P&P, Constant Contact, and a payment for Intuit Quickbooks. Expenses for November 2023 totaled $34,378.59 and included legal expenses, payments to P&P and FID, auditor's fees, and a payment for Quickbooks.

Motion to approve by member Jimenez; second by member Claes. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0 with 1 absent.

Item 4b. Discussion / Possible Action – Recommend Approval of Financial Statements as of November 30, 2023
(Presented by Lisa Koehn)

As of November 30, 2023, current assets were $1,615,568.07. Some grants receivable and accounts receivable funds are still pending.

Total expenses to date totaled $102,039.43, which is approximately 20% of the annual budget. One item is slightly over budget, which is the auditing expenses.

Motion to approved made by member Claes; second by member Takemoto. Motion passed unanimously, 9-0.

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

For the fourth quarter of 2023, $5,163.51 was received on the deposited funds, which is about a 4% rate of return. The interest generated in the LAIF account was much higher than the interest that would have been generated in a regular savings account which would have been about $70.00.

Item 5. Receive – Basin Coordination Update
(Presented by Ronnie Samuelian)

Work continues on the three primary data gap studies – well mitigation, confined aquifer, and interconnected surface water. A draft of the well mitigation study for review should be available next week at the coordination meeting and will eventually be sent to the technical subcommittees. Other GSP corrective actions will follow the completion of these three studies. All of these changes are being addressed at the Basin level.

Revised GSPs will be publicly noticed again and re-adopted by the respective Boards following a public comment period.

Water allocation framework discussions are ongoing, but the main focus is working on the revised GSP. It is expected that the water allocation framework discussions will pick up again after the GSPs are revised and out for public comment.

The annual report is due to the Department of Water Resources on April 1st and work is being done to assemble all of the data.

Item 6. Administrative

Item 6a. Fall 2023 Groundwater Level Conditions Report
(Presented by Kassy Chauhan & Ronnie Samuelian)

Questions have come up regarding how the aquifer has responded to the historica water year (October 1, 2022 to September 30, 2023) based on the most recent Fall water level measurements. Most wells that were measured indicated an increase in groundwater levels in Fall 2023, but there are five wells that were missing date in either 2022 or 2023 so a comparison was not possible.
Having missing measurement date from the sustainable management criteria (SMC) wells in the NKGSA network is problematic due to DWR assigning a value of failure/exceedance of minimum threshold (MT) for any points without a reading. If there is an exceedance of the MT at more than 15% of the SMC wells requires implementation of management actions. Measurements need to be taken at least twice per year; once in the Spring and once in the Fall. Some problematic wells may require the identification of an alternate location for taking a measurement.

Other possible solutions are telemetry or utilizing a dedicated monitoring well network to minimize reliance on existing agricultural wells, etc.

Item 6b. Discussion – Recommend Approval of Improvements to the Groundwater Level Monitoring Network Wells to the NKGSA Board of Directors
(Presented by Kassy Chauhan)

No further action is being sought at this time. Further updates will be presented at a future meeting and will require potential action prior to proceeding. It is expected that the item will be presented at the February 9, 2024, advisory committee meeting.

Item 6c. 2023 Well Permitting Update
(Presented by Kassy Chauhan)

There were 293 total well permit applications submitted to Fresno County Environmental Health Department in 2023. Approximately 175 to 180 permit applications were for either domestic wells and/or ag irrigation wells. The majority were for replacement wells rather than brand new wells. In comparison, 400 well permit applications were submitted in 2022, so there has been a noticeable reduction in permit applications in the past year.

Item 6d. Well Intake Portal Development and Launch
(Presented by Kassy Chauhan)

Details on the portal are being finalized with the developer, Break 9. Once that is complete, hosting will be moved over to the NKGSA website. The portal will soon be available for landowners to begin using. A full launch is expected during the second quarter of 2023. The portal has been in development for about a year and a half and it will be a voluntary program for the time being.

Item 7. Workgroup Updates and Actions

Item 7a. Technical Workgroup Update
(Presented by Adam Claes)

The last meeting was on January 3rd. A primary focus was the domestic well mitigation program and what that is going to look like with an emphasis on how the program would be funded by the NKGSA. The Kings Subbasin must first finalize what the framework will look like, and then the Technical Workgroup will begin discussing how to implement it. This program must be implemented by the end of 2024 in accordance with the corrective actions provided by DWR in its GSP determination letter. Different options for funding are being explored by the workgroup and will continue for the next few weeks.

The water quality network was also discussed. The original GSP relied heavily on community monitoring wells that were already submitting data to the State Water Resources Control Board, but the data frequency is minimal. A more formal water quality sampling and testing program may be needed in the future. A proposal will be developed and presented at a future Advisory Committee meeting for consideration and possible action.

Item 7b. Kings Water Alliance – Stakeholder Advisory Committee Report
(Presented by Lisa Koehn)

There has been no meeting since the last Advisory Committee meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for next week.

Item 8. Member Agency / Committee Member Reports

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

i. Water Supply Update
(Presented by Member Claes)
The Kings River reservoir is about 60% full. If significant storm water comes and the level increases about another 35,000 acre-feet, flood releases may be necessary.

The 4 snow sensors that are located below an elevation of 10,000 feet do not work. The sensors above 10,000 feet are showing 26% of average for the date and 17% of April measurements. Rainfall and snow pack are far below average at this point but there is a lot of winter left and things can change quickly.

ii. Others

There were no further reports.

Item 9. Executive Officer Update

(Presented by Kassy Chauhan)

Item 9a. Kings Basin Special Studies Update

This item was discussed under the Kings Basin Coordination report above.

Item 9b. SGMA Implementation Projects Update

The Biola CSD project was completed. FID has another basin under construction and has made significant progress. FID also has four flood control basins being inner-tied and temporary levees at future basin sites and FID is working with DWR to secure funding through the emergency funding grant. Malaga County Water District is working on a project with FMFCD to construct a turnout, which is currently under construction. The City of Kerman is working on a project to install a meter to be able to measure diversions to their Lions Park Reservoir.

Item 9c. Outreach / External Affairs Update

Work continues on e-blogs, email distributions, website updates, and social media activity. Emphasis has been on featuring individual well owners.

Item 9d. Representative Monitoring Network Update

This was covered under previous agenda items.

Item 9e. Miscellaneous

No further items.

Item 10. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 2:27 PM.

Next Meeting: February 9, 2024