MINUTES

NKGSA Advisory Committee Meeting
August 16, 2024

IN-PERSON AND TELECONFERENCE

In attendance:

**Scott Redelfs (City of Clovis)
*Adam Claes (FID)
*Dejan Pavic (City of Fresno)
*Nick Keller (Garfield Water District)
*Jarrod Takemoto (Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District)
*Shay Bakman (Bakman Water Company)
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)
Rocky Jones (homeowner)
Sayre Miller

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

*__**Note:__ This 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 1:31 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	Absent	---
City of Clovis	Present	Scott Redelfs
City of Fresno	Present	Dejan Pavic
City of Kerman	Absent	---
Fresno County	Absent	---
Fresno Irrigation District	Present	Adam Claes
Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District	Present	Jarrod Takemoto
Garfield Water District	Present	Nick Keller

Item 2. Public Presentations

There were no public presentations.

Item 3. Approval of Minutes

Item 3a. Approval of Minutes from May 3, 2024 Special Meeting

One correction was made by member Claes on Item # 8a-i (Water Supply Update) to clarify that the water supply quantities were referring to water year 2023 rather than 2024 water year. Page 6 of the meeting minutes under 8a. i. should be corrected as such.

Remove last sentence: There have been record surface water diversions (647k AF). Recharge is currently at about 180k AF within FID.

Replace with the following:
"The 2022-2023 (October – September) water year allowed for a record FID surface water diversion of 647,000 AF, and provided for nearly 180,000 AF of recharge within FID."

Another amendment was made by Lisa Koehn on Item 4b (Financial Statements as of March 31, 2024) to correct the total assets to $1,454,742.34.

Motion to approve the minutes with the corrections made by member Claes; seconded by member Bakman. Motion passed unanimously 4-0, with 2 abstaining.

Item 3b. Approval of Minutes from June 14, 2024 Special Meeting
This item was pulled from the agenda and will be considered at the next Advisory Committee meeting.

Item 4. Financial Report

Item 4a. Discussion / Possible Action – Recommend Approval of Expense Reports for May 2024
(Presented by Lisa Koehn)

Total expenses for May 2024 totaled $55,457.29 and included costs for attorneys, Constant Contact, FID, Intuit QuickBooks, and Provost & Pritchard Consulting.

Motion to recommend approval of expense reports for May 2024 made by member Keller; seconded by member Claes. Motion passed unanimously 6-0.

Item 4b. Discussion – Review of Draft Expense Reports for June 2024
(Presented by Lisa Koehn)

The expense report for June 2024 is only a draft until audit is complete; therefore, no action to be taken at this time.

Total expenses for June 2024 totaled $43,900.72 and included costs for attorneys, Constant Contact, FID, Intuit QuickBooks, and Provost & Pritchard Consulting.

Item 4c. Discussion / Possible Action – Recommend Approval of Financial Statements as of May 31, 2024
(Presented by Lisa Koehn)

As of May 31, total assets were $1,377,083.02. The expenses for the fiscal year to date were at $390,639.01, which is approximately 74% of the budget.

Motion to recommend approval of the financial statements as of May 31st made by member Pavic; seconded by member Claes. Motion passed unanimously 6-0.

Item 4d. Discussion – Review of Draft Financial Statements as of June 30, 2024
(Presented by Lisa Koehn)

The current financial statements as of June 30, 2024 are in draft format pending the FY 2023-204 audit and thus no action will be taken at this meeting.

Total assets were $1,301,160.66. The expenses for the fiscal year to date were at $434,539.73, which when compared against the revised budget, left about 8.6% of the annual budget remaining. This does not include final invoices from Provost & Pritchard for expenses incurred in June, so there will be an adjustment once those invoices are accounted for.

Item 4e. Member Agency Participation Invoices Update
(Presented by Lisa Koehn)

All member invoices were sent out and everyone has paid with the exception of City of Fresno and Fresno County.

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

The interested parties invoices were sent in April and only contributions from Pinedale County Water District and Malaga County Water District were received. Those revenues were applied to the FY 2024-2025 budget.

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

The primary focus right now is on GSP revisions. Two GSPs will be going out today; the rest are expected to be out by August 23rd. Comments will be expected back by September 18th. The public comments period will be between October and November. Final revisions should be made in December, with adoption targeted for late December or early January.

It was noted that when final GSPs are submitted in January, the periodic evaluation and GSP revisions will be posted by DWR for public comment and then DWR will review everything afterwards. Therefore, comments from DWR aren't expected until June or July 2025. Periodic evaluations are submitted every 5 years and trigger a review from DWR.

The other area of focus is the rollout of the domestic well mitigation program. October is being targeted for a "soft launch," and a webinar will be scheduled with well drillers following that soft launch.

Another topic of note is interconnected surface water. We are coordinating closely with the Madera Basin and are meeting with monthly to address the data gap for interconnected surface water.

Discussions on the water allocation framework are mostly on hold for now while the focus is on the GSPs.

Item 6. Administrative

Item 6a. Discussion / Possible Action – Advisory Committee Official Roster
(Presented by Kassy Chauhan)

There have been updates to the Advisory Committee official roster. Biola CSD is listing Chuck Rodriguez as the primary representative, and Pete Cerna and Alfonso Manrique as alternates. City of Fresno stated that they wished to add Anthony White as an additional alternate.

Motion to approve the updated roster made by member Keller; second by member Takemoto. Passed unanimously 6-0.

Item 6b. Election of NKGSA Board Chair and Vice Chair
(Presented by Kassy Chauhan)

At the next board meeting, nominations will be solicited and a vote will be taken to establish a chair and vice chair for fiscal year 2024-2025 for the NKGSA Board of Directors.

Item 6c. Conflict of Interest – Biennial Notice
(Presented by Kassy Chauhan)

Every two years, the conflict of interest policy has to be reviewed and a notice filed with Fresno County stating whether or not amendments are needed. Per legal counsel, there are no amendments needed this time and the appropriate notice has been filed with Fresno County.

Item 6d. 2024 Well Permitting Update
(Presented by Kassy Chauhan)

The total number of wells permitted this year so far is 105. A chart was provided depicting well permits broken down by category (agricultural, domestic private, domestic public, cathodic, soil boring, monitoring).

Item 6e. Well Registration Progress Update
(Presented by Kassy Chauhan)

The well registration tool has been online for several months. There are currently about 50 entries (some domestic wells, some ag wells). Eventually, mandatory registration may be considered, but it remains voluntary for now.

Item 7. Workgroup Updates and Actions

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

The Technical Workgroup's main focus has been considering long-term funding alternatives for the domestic well mitigation program, for costs beyond initial implementation. Currently, about 14 different funding alternatives are being considered. They would like to have a recommendation by the end of this calendar year so that member agencies can financially plan accordingly

The workgroup will also be working on GSP revision reviews in the coming months.

Item 8. Member Agency / Committee Member Reports

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

i. Water Supply Update

(Presented by Member Claes)

Reservoirs are getting minimal inflow. Millerton Lake is currently at about half capacity. The Friant-Kern Canal is taking about half of peak summer flow. Friant Class 1 has reduced by 10% since July (from 100% to 90%). Friant Class 2 uncontrolled season ended in mid-June

Pine Flat is currently at a little less than half capacity. FID storage is at about 74,000 AF and FID deliveries will be ending on August 31.

The Kings River runoff is projected to end up at about 95% of average for the water year

ii. Others

There were no further reports.

Item 9. Executive Officer Update

(Presented by Kassy Chauhan)

Item 9a. Kings Basin Special Studies Update

Covered under Kings Basin report.

Item 9b. NKGSA Groundwater Sustainability Plan Revisions and Schedule

Covered under Kings Basin report.

Item 9c. SGMA Implementation Projects Update

The City of Kerman has completed the Lion's Park meter project. FID recently completed a 47-acre basin, and Pinedale County Water District has recharge credit on the books for the first time. Coordination efforts continue with Fresno State and

there have been several meetings with the new farm manager. It is a challenge identifying projects and securing funding for those projects; the process is ongoing but slow.

Item 9d. Outreach / External Affairs Update

The latest Grower's Corner launch includes a segment on Fairmont Elementary's Ag Legacy program educating young students about sustainable agricultural practices.

Once the minimum well depth mapping tool is approved, it will be posted to the NKGSA website.

There will be a speaking engagement at Fresno State on September 4th, where Kassy will be moderating a panel sponsored jointly by the California Water Institute and the Maddy Institute, looking back over 10 years of SGMA.

Item 9e. Representative Monitoring Network Update

An initial $200k investment for improvements to the monitoring network was budgeted in fiscal year 2024-2025.

Some funds left over from the previous fiscal year have been earmarked for telemetry installation on existing wells in the network. A "pilot program" telemetry installation was recently completed at a Fowler Packing well.

Item 9e. Miscellaneous

Following the joint letter regarding the Aquaterra project, it was announced that the environmental document is being revised. The project will continue to be monitored as it progresses. There will also be a discussion within the Technical Workgroup on how best to facilitate a data-sharing request received in conjunction with the Aquaterra project.

It will be recommended to cancel the August Board of Directors meeting due to a lack of actionable items. The Board will resume meeting in September.

In terms of legislation updates, there are two bills being followed closely.

SB 1390 (Caballero) would limit available water for flood-MAR. There is concern about this bill due to the impact to agencies that rely on flood-MAR to meet mitigation and sustainability requirements. There is a large opposition to this bill and it will be monitored as it moves through the legislative process.

AB 828 (Connelly) would exempt disadvantaged communities and managed wetlands from fees imposed by groundwater sustainability agencies and compliance with pumping restrictions established for other well owners in the basin. It is scheduled for its third reading in the Senate later this month.

Item 10. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 2:51 PM.

Next Meeting: September 13, 2024