MINUTES

NKGSA Advisory Committee Meeting
November 8, 2024

IN-PERSON AND TELECONFERENCE

In attendance:

**Scott Redelfs (City of Clovis)
*Dejan Pavic (City of Fresno)
*Jesus Gonzalez (City of Kerman / Biola CSD)
*Tim Bakman (Bakman Water Company)
*Nick Keller (Garfield Water District)
Kassy Chauhan (NKGSA)
Ronnie Samuelian (Provost & Pritchard)
Lisa Koehn (Clovis)
Marvin Scheidt (P-R Farms)
Kyle Savage (Congressman John Duarte's office)

** - Committee Chair
* - 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) 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 1:36 p.m..

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	Tim Bakman *
Biola CSD	Present	Jesus Gonzalez
City of Clovis	Present	Scott Redelfs
City of Fresno	Present	Dejan Pavic
City of Kerman	Present	Jesus Gonzalez
Fresno County	Absent	---
Fresno Irrigation District	Absent	---
Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District	Absent	---
Garfield Water District	Present	Nick Keller

** Member Bakman arrived at 1:40 PM. This did not affect voting numbers.*

Item 2. Public Presentations

There were no public presentations.

Item 3. Approval of Minutes

Item 3a. Approval of Minutes from September 13, 2024 Special Meeting

No action was taken on this item due to not having a quorum of members able to vote on this item. This will be continued to the next meeting.

Item 4. Financial Report

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

Expenses for August 2024 totaled $34,293.52, including expenses for attorneys, Constant Contact, FID, Intuit QuickBooks, and Provost & Pritchard. Expenses for September 2024 totaled $40,863.19 and included payments to ACWA for insurance, CJ Brown and Company for audit expenses, Constant Contact, FID, Intuit QuickBooks, and Provost & Pritchard. Copies of the expense reports were included in the meeting packet.

Motion to recommend approval of the expense reports made by member Bakman; second by member Keller. Motion approved unanimously, 6-0.

Item 4b. Discussion / Possible Action – Recommend Approval of Financial Statements as of September 30, 2024
(Presented by Lisa Koehn)

As of September 30, 2024, total assets were $1,969,849.19. A copy of the financial statement was included in the meeting packet.

Motion to recommend approval of financial statements made by member Keller; second by member Bakman. Motion approved unanimously, 6-0.

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

As of September 30, 2024, there is a total of $530,412.14 in the LAIF fund. It is currently earning an interest rate of 4.71%.

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

The well mitigation program rules and regulations have been rolled out. So far, one application has been submitted by a domestic well owner. The well owner was not located within the NKGSA boundary and it was found that the well owner requesting assistance was not eligible based on the Kings Subbasin Rules and Regulations for the domestic well mitigation program.

Interconnected surface water work continues. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Friant Water Authority, the United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) and the GSAs including NKGSA, McMullin Area GSA and the Madera County GSA, is underway. Draft agreements are circulating. The goal is to have the MOU complete when the GSP is resubmitted to DWR in January 2025.

We continue to track the State Board process for other basins.

There is an updated GSP revision schedule. GSPs are currently out for public comment and the public comment period will continue through November. By or prior to December 20th, final GSP revisions will be completed for adoption. Each GSA will adopt the GSP revisions by or prior to January 17th, and the GSPs and periodic evaluation will be updated on January 27th. As of the time of this meeting, we have not received any public comments on the GSP.

Water allocation framework discussions will be taking place starting in February 2025.

Item 6. Administrative

Item 6a. Discussion / Possible Action – Approval of the Advisory Committee Schedule of Meetings for 2025
(Presented by Kassy Chauhan)

The regular schedule (meetings on the second Friday of every month) will be continued into 2025. A copy of the proposed schedule was included in the meeting packet.

Motion to approve the meeting schedule made by member Bakman; second by member Gonzalez. Motion approved unanimously, 6-0.

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

There have been 201 well permit applications this year, of which 156 were domestic and 27 were agricultural. The number of applications is trending lower than this time last year.

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

The voluntary well registration program is making slow progress. There has been less focus on this project than on the GSP revision process, but there will be an increase in efforts to fill out the registry in the coming year. There are currently 82 wells registered through the program.

Item 7. Workgroup Updates and Actions

Item 7a. Technical Workgroup Update
(Presented by Kassy Chauhan)

The workgroup continues to meet once or twice a month. The main focus has been on the long-term funding alternatives for the domestic well mitigation program, beyond the first year of implementation. The discussions have been productive, but are still continuing. The next meeting is at the end of November. The hope is to bring some proposed ideas back to Advisory Committee in early 2025.

The workgroup is also working on representative monitoring network improvements.

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

A meeting was held on October 17th. The outreach has moved to priority area 2, which is the southern half of the Kings Basin. Postcards have been sent out and one in-person meeting was held, although the turnout was low. An update was sent out regarding AB 2454, which was approved, which will require landowners to allow water sampling. There have been concerns that renters wouldn't be able to participate in having their wells sampled. Door-to-door outreach efforts have taken place in southeast Fresno County, which has been effective. There are several upcoming outreach efforts happening in partnership with local colleges.

Item 8. Member Agency / Committee Member Reports

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

i. Water Supply Update
There was no update provided at this time.

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 Item #5.

Item 9b. NKGSA Groundwater Sustainability Plan Revisions – Public Comment Period
The public hearing will be taking place on November 21st, immediately before the Board meeting. Outreach is being done with stakeholders to provide information on how to provide public comments.

Item 9c. SGMA Implementation Projects Update
Fresno State is working on projects to meet their mitigation requirements, including a submission for NRCS grant funding.

Next month, Jesus Gonzalez with City of Kerman will be providing an update on a project they have recently completed.

Item 9d. Outreach / External Affairs Update
There has been a lot of information provided on social media. A new Grower Corner will be released soon. In October, several individuals that work with NKGSA were showcased for Water Professionals Month. The website has been updated with new mapping tools. Kassy participated in the GRA Western Groundwater Conference in October and discussed funding challenges. Kassy will also be speaking at the ACWA Fall Conference in December.

Item 9e. Representative Monitoring Network Update
We are working with P&P to identify the locations for installing new representative monitoring wells. There are several located along the San Joaquin River, which will be able to serve multiple purposes, and others are located in areas where there have been problems getting appropriate data from existing wells. The goal is to

utilize the bulk of the funding already received to get as many new wells as possible, while using a portion to install data loggers and telemetry to help identify data gaps. DWR has committed to paying for 1 monitoring well, which should be completed in late March 2025. It will be located in the Peach & Copper area.

Item 9f. Miscellaneous
McMullin Area GSA has put their GSP out for public comment. North Kings GSA contributed to a joint comment letter. There is a concern that their GSP lists a lot of projects which indicate a need for close coordination with neighboring agencies, and that coordination has not yet begun at this time.

ICARP Regional Resiliency Grant Program, of which the North Kings is a subrecipient on with the California Water Institute at Fresno State, requires an agreement to complete the support role for the NKGSA. The Board will consider the agreement at the next board meeting.

There will be a special Board meeting date in January, which may result in a shift in the scheduling for the January Advisory Committee meeting.

At the next meeting, there will be a discussion on goals and priorities for the upcoming year.

Item 10. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 2:53 p.m.

Next Meeting: December 13, 2024