**MINUTES**

**NKGSA Advisory Committee Meeting**
**July 11, 2025**

**IN-PERSON AND TELECONFERENCE**

**In attendance:**

**Scott Redelfs (City of Clovis)
*Shay Bakman (Bakman Water Company)
*Adam Claes (Fresno Irrigation District)
*Roy Jimenez (Fresno County)
*Dejan Pavic (City of Fresno)
*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)
Steve Blumenshine (CSU-WATER)
Eric Rodriguez (UCANR)
Sue Ruiz (Easton)
Ross Ford

** - 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 1:32 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 | Present | Roy Jimenez |
| Fresno Irrigation District | Present | Adam Claes |
| Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District | Absent | --- |
| Garfield Water District | Present | Nick Keller |

**Item 2. Public Presentations**

**Item 2a. California State University WATER (Water Advocacy Towards Education & Research) Executive Director Steve Blumenshine – Connecting CSU-WATER Projects and Partnerships with NKGSA**
*(Steve Blumenshine)*

A presentation was given on CSU-WATER, an organization that works with multiple campuses in the CSU system to create partnership and integration between academia, industry, and government. It includes both faculty and students, and their SGMA research team works to connect with farmers, member agencies, and legislators on topics of concern related to SGMA. Steve provided a brief presentation on CSU-WATER's activities, both in outreach/engagement and in research work done with local farmers.

**Item 2b. Others**
There were no other public presentations.

**Item 3. Approval of Minutes**

**Item 3a. Approval of Minutes from May 20, 2025 Special Meeting**

Motion to approve the minutes made by member Claes; second by member Keller. Motion passed unanimously 6-0 with 3 absent.

**Item 4. Financial Report**

**Item 4a. Discussion / Possible Action – Recommend Approval of Expense Reports for April and May 2025**
*(Lisa Koehn)*

Expenses for April 2025 totaled $33,509.47 and included payments made to attorneys, Constant Contact, Fresno Irrigation District, Intuit QuickBooks, and Provost & Pritchard.

Expenses for May 2025 totaled $89,429.89 and included payments made to AT&T, CJ Brown & Company CPAs, Constant Contact, FID, Intuit QuickBooks, Print Shack, and P&P.

Motion to recommend approval of the expense reports made by member Jimenez; second by member Bakman. Motion passed unanimously 6-0 with 3 absent.

**Item 4b. Discussion / Possible Action – Recommend Approval of Financial Statements as of May 31, 2025**
*(Lisa Koehn)*

As of May 31, 2025, assets totaled $1,653,360.99. Expenses through the fiscal year through May 31st totaled $466,769.99, which is approximately 40.46% of the budget.

Motion to recommend approval of the financial statements made by member Claes; second by member Jimenez. Motion passed unanimously 6-0 with 3 absent.

**Item 4c. Discussion / Possible Action – Recommend Approval of Resolution 2025-01 Contract for Deposit of Monies and Five Star Bank Credit Card Program – Five Star Bank**
*(Lisa Koehn / Kassy Chauhan / DeAnn Hailey)*

Expenses related to NKGSA's current bank have increased, and the bank also does not allow for the Executive Officer to have a credit card for business expenses. After research conducted by the fiscal agent, DeAnn Stork, Five Star Bank was selected as a potential new bank that would provide the needed services. This would also save NKGSA from paying the 6% overhead fee currently being billed by FID for the Executive Officer's use of the FID credit card for NKGSA expenses. Additionally, Five Star provides the option of holding multiple accounts, including an account which would allow for the earning of interest.

Motion to recommend approval of Resolution 2025-01 made by member Keller; second by member Jimenez. Motion passed unanimously 6-0 with 3 absent.

**Item 4d. Member Agency Participation Invoices Update**
*(Lisa Koehn / Kassy Chauhan)*

All invoices have been sent out to the agencies as of July 1, 2025. No payments have been received yet.

**Item 4e. Interest Parties Invoices Update**
*(Lisa Koehn / Kassy Chauhan)*

Malaga, Pinedale, and E.J Gallo have submitted contributions. No additional contributions are expected. Funds received from interested parties are credited to the appropriate member agency balances per the JPA Agreement.

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

DWR comments on the periodic evaluation and revised GSPs are still expected sometime in December or early next year.

The domestic well mitigation program is ongoing, but there have not been many requests yet. Allocation framework discussions continue. Due to the structure of

their GSP, one of the seven GSAs is opting to wait longer to possibly adopt an allocation, although none are currently ready to adopt anything yet.

Coordinated work on interconnected surface water is currently on hold while some items make their way through the Governor's office. NKGSA has drafted a letter requesting Prop 4 funding not be delayed, as the current timeline projects that funding wouldn't be granted until 2026 or 2027. Other basins will likely request the same. Lobbyist consultation services are still being considered, but nothing official has happened yet.

**Item 6. Administrative**

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

The roster is reviewed/audited each July. The most current roster was included in the meeting packet. It includes changes from City of Fresno (it will be updated to reflect a correction to the new appointee's name that was noted during the meeting). Member Bakman also added an additional person as an alternate.

Currently, the Advisory Committee Chair position is held by Scott Redelfs and the Vice Chair position is held by Adam Claes, both of whom have served in these roles for some time.

Motion to approve the updated Advisory Committee roster – with the updates noted above, as well as confirmation to keep the current Chair and Vice chair roles filled as-is – made by member Keller; second by member Jimenez. Motion passed unanimously 6-0 with 3 absent.

**Item 6b. Election of NKGSA Board Chair and Vice Chair Update**
*(Kassy Chauhan)*

The Board will go through a similar process at their next meeting to review and approve any changes to their Chair and Vice Chair roles.

**Item 6c. Domestic Well Mitigation Program Update**
*(Kassy Chauhan)*

There have been very few applications for domestic well mitigation. A few are currently pending. There will be additional outreach on this program in the fall.

If the program continues to have below expected engagement, additional funding will not continue to be collected once the established baseline fund (set at $3 million) is reached.

**Item 6d. Groundwater Extraction Facility Registration Update**
*(Kassy Chauhan)*

395 wells have been registered since the mandatory program began on May 1st, which is a significant increase from previous program participation. There are more than 8,000 wells within NKGSA, so there is still a lot of work to be done. Of the 395 registered wells, 216 are agricultural wells and 137 are domestic wells. Outreach efforts have continued via newsletters, the website, and social media. A workshop for large growers will be held in Kerman on August 27th, and other workshops will be planned in the future.

**Item 6e. 2025 Well Permitting Update**
*(Kassy Chauhan)*

As of today, there have been a total of 115 well permits issued this year. Numbers began to go up during the warmer months, which is a similar trend from previous years.

**Item 7. Workgroup Updates and Actions**

**Item 7a. Technical Workgroup Update**
*(Kassy Chauhan)*

The last meeting was held on June 30th. Discussion included the domestic well mitigation program and how to accurately account for extractions. Multiple options are being considered, including metering and satellite options. Discussion will continue, and updates regarding allocations will be brought back to the Advisory Committee once there is more progress on that topic.

**Item 8. Member Agency / Committee Member Reports**

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

**i. Water Supply Update**
*(Adam Claes)*

Not much has changed since May. Both Millerton and Pine Flat reservoirs are declining. The major concern is the rapidly dropping runoff, which is decreasing more quickly than anticipated. The Class 1 allocation (currently at 100%) may be reduced to 90%.

**ii. Others**
Member Pavic provided an update from the City of Fresno. Brock Buche retired from the City last week and an interim director has been appointed (Paul Amico).

**Item 9. Executive Officer Update**
*(Kassy Chauhan)*

**Item 9a. SGMA Implementation Projects Update**
FID received a grant for work on two basins.

**Item 9b. Outreach / External Affairs Update**
The primary focus has been well registration outreach. Kassy also spoke at an APWA luncheon in June, discussing changes that have happened since SGMA was introduced.

**Item 9c. Representative Monitoring Network Update**
After some difficulties with the bidding process earlier this year, the decision was made to pool funding from the 24/25 fiscal year and the 25/26 fiscal year to re-bid the project for the additional wells. The new bid will open on August 5th.

**Item 9d. Miscellaneous**
There are two pieces of legislation currently being watched: AB1413 (Papin) and AB1466 (Hart).

Kern Basin will have their next hearing on September 17th in the SWRCB probationary process. Their revised GSP is now out for public comment.

**Item 10. Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 2:58 PM.

**Next Meeting:** August 8, 2025