THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
NORTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES FOR
DECEMBER 10, 2025, AT 6:00 P.M.
2907 SOUTH MAPLE AVENUE – FRESNO, CA

TELECONFERENCE / IN-PERSON MEETING

AGENCIES – DIRECTORS / ALTERNATE DIRECTORS PRESENT

Chairman Jerry Prieto, Jr., Fresno Irrigation District
Vice Chairman Brian Pacheco, County of Fresno
Director Steve Pickens, Bakman Water Company
Director Kyle Moeller, Fowler Packing
Alternate Director Nicholas Mascia, City of Fresno
Director Matthew Basgall, City of Clovis

BOARD SEATS ABSENT

Director Karl Kienow, Garfield Water District

MEMBER AGENCY STAFF PRESENT

Executive Officer Kassy Chauhan, North Kings GSA
Fiscal Agent De Ann Stork, Fresno Irrigation District
Advisory Committee Chairman Scott Redelfs, City of Clovis
General Manager Bill Stretch, Fresno Irrigation District
Legal Counsel Dave Boyer, Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud, & Romo (via teleconference)

OTHERS PRESENT (who wanted to be identified for the record)

None

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Prieto at 6:00 pm.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Prieto led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. Chauhan noted that no advance requests for public comments or written comments were received. Public comments will be taken under the appropriate action item and following each agenda item.

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3. **REVIEW AGENDA**
   (Additional Agenda Items – Requires Majority Approval of Board - §54954.2(b)

No changes to the agenda.

4. **REVIEW OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

No changes to future meetings.

5. **PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS (for items not on agenda) – 3 Minutes Maximum Per Person, 10 Minutes Maximum Per Subject**

No public presentations.

6. **POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**
   Any Board Member who has a potential conflict of interest may now identify the item and recuse themselves from discussing and voting on the matter. [FPPC §18705]

None stated.

7. **ADVISORY COMMITTEE (Redelfs)**

   a. **Advisory Committee Update from December 5, 2025, Special Meeting – Recommended Approvals**

Advisory Committee's Recommended Actions:

- Approve Expense Reports
- Approve Financial Statement
- Approve an Extension of the Well Registration Deadline

Mr. Redelfs reported that the Advisory Committee met last Friday (December 5, 2025) and recommends approval of the expense reports and financial statements. It was also noted that the Advisory Committee had extensive discussions regarding the extension of the well registration deadline and ultimately unanimously agreed that the grace period should be extended to January 30, 2026, to provide landowners with additional time to register their wells. Mr. Redelfs commended Ms. Chauhan for the strong outreach efforts and the success in encouraging well registration.

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8. FINANCIAL MATTERS (Stork)

a. Discussion / Possible Action – Approval of the Expense Reports for September and October 2025

Ms. Stork stated that expenses for September and October 2025 were customary. It was also noted that the sweep account is currently earning just over 4% interest.

M/S/C (Pickens/Moeller) That the Board of Directors approved the Expense Reports for September and October 2025, as presented by staff, by the following vote: (Ayes – Pickens, Moeller, Prieto, Jr., Mascia, Basgall, Pacheco; Nays – 0; Absent – Kienow; Abstain – 0)

b. Discussion / Possible Action – Approval of the Financial Statements as of October 31, 2025

Ms. Stork stated that the September activity is included in the October financial statements, which are being presented to the Board for approval. It was also noted that the well mitigation expense is currently under budget by nearly $1 million, and any remaining funds will be added to reserves at year-end for future well mitigation expenses.

M/S/C (Basgall/Mascia) That the Board of Directors approved the Financial Statements as of October 31, 2025, as presented by staff, by the following vote: (Ayes – Pickens, Moeller, Prieto, Jr., Mascia, Basgall, Pacheco; Nays – 0; Absent – Kienow; Abstain – 0)

9. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

a. Discussion / Possible Action on Special Board Meeting Minutes – November 6, 2025

There were no corrections to the November 6, 2025, meeting minutes.

M/S/C (Moeller/Pickens) That the Board of Directors approved the minutes of the November 6, 2025, Special Board meeting, as presented by Staff, by the following vote: (Ayes – Pickens, Moeller, Basgall, Pacheco; Nays – 0; Absent – Kienow; Abstain – Prieto, Jr., Mascia)

b. Kings Subbasin Coordination Update

Mr. Samuelian reviewed the following:

- Allocation Framework discussions continue
    - Schedule still to finalize at Coordination level in December 2025, then have GSAs consider and accept/approve in January/February 2026
- Awaiting DWR comments on the Periodic Evaluation and Revised GSPs "possibly" this month, likely January
- Annual Report Preparation underway
    - Still clarifying and checking some data
- Domestic Well Mitigation Program ongoing
- Prop 4 funding "Guidelines" exemption request letter to State Senate and Assembly
    - Encouraging all agencies to send similar
- Coordinated work on Interconnected Surface Water (ISW)
    - Awaiting DWR BMP

Mr. Samuelian stated that the Allocation Framework is anticipated to be completed this month (December 2025) and then distributed to the GSAs in the Kings Subbasin for consideration of adoption/acceptance during January and February 2026.

Mr. Samuelian commended the Board for its efforts in advancing the establishment of a dedicated monitoring well network in the North Kings GSA.

Mr. Samuelian noted that a letter is being finalized and will be sent on behalf of the Kings Basin to relevant State Assembly and Senate subcommittees regarding delays in solicitations and awards of Proposition 4 funding. Due to regulatory requirements, unearmarked Prop 4 funds, including SGMA funding, could be delayed by up to 12 months, potentially pushing funding availability to late 2027 or 2028. The Kings Basin has requested an exemption to allow guidelines in lieu of regulations to expedite SGMA funding, and additional letters may be circulated through GSAs to encourage legislative action to move funding forward more quickly.

c. Water Conditions Update

Ms. Chauhan presented the following:

- San Joaquin River
  - Millerton Lake Storage – ~318,000 AF
  - San Joaquin River Release - ~480 cfs
  - Friant-Kern Canal - ~300 cfs
  - Friant Class 1 – 100 %
  - Friant Class 2 – 3 blocks of URFs (~1,900 AF total for FID)
- Kings River
  - Pine Flat Storage - ~311,000 AF
  - Pine Flat Release - ~101 cfs
  - Pre-Project - ~500 cfs
  - FID Storage - ~56,000 AF

Ms. Chauhan presented the Tulare Basin 6-Station Precipitation Index for the 2025–2026 water year, which began in October 2025. The data showed above-average precipitation in October and November, with no precipitation recorded to date in December.

Ms. Chauhan shared two National Weather Service charts providing a three-month outlook for December 2025 through February 2026. The data indicated drier than normal conditions.

d. Discussion / Possible Action – Groundwater Extraction Facility Registration Progress and Next Steps

Ms. Chauhan reviewed the following:

Well Registration Progress Update
- To Date: 5,803 wells registered
- Required Effective May 1
- More than 8,000 wells within NKGSA
- Deadline:
  - November 30, 2025

Well Types Distribution Table

Well Type	Count	Percentage	Distribution
Domestic	2952	50.9%	
Agricultural Irrigation	2098	36.2%	
Municipal	342	5.9%	
No Type Selected	175	3%	
Dual Use (Ag and Domestic)	113	1.9%	
Other	70	1.2%	
Industrial	22	0.4%	
Stockwatering	22	0.4%	
Fire Protection	5	0.1%	
Monitoring	2	0%	
Dewatering	2	0%	
Total	**5803**	**100%**	

Ms. Chauhan reported significant progress on the well registration program and highlighted the extensive efforts of the NKGSA support team in assisting landowners with registration, noting that the success of the program should be celebrated. Due to this success, it is being recommended that the Board extend the well registration deadline from November 30, 2025, to January 30, 2026. The extension would provide landowners additional time to register their wells and allow staff to identify those who have not yet registered and conduct direct outreach to those landowners and stakeholders. This approach would give individuals an opportunity to register prior to the establishment of a late registration fee, $100.00 per wellhead, which would begin on February 1, 2026.

Ms. Chauhan presented a map illustrating the distribution of well registrations across the GSA boundary. The map indicated strong participation across the entire NKGSA boundary.

- Workshops – Done
  - Easton – Immanuel Lutheran Church – October 29, 2025
  - Fresno – Fresno Irrigation District – November 6, 2025
  - Clovis – Clovis Senior Activity Center – November 12, 2025

- Direct Mailer to Landowners That Have Not Registered
  - Postcard – October 2025
  - Full Registration Packet – October 2025

- Participation at the following events to help landowners with well registration:
  - Fresno State University – African American Farmer Association – September 26 & 27, 2025
  - UC Agriculture and Natural Resources – October 2025
  - Sierra Resource Conservation District – October/November 2025
  - Grape and Tree Nut Expo – November 14, 2025

- Recommended Next Steps:
  - Extend Registration Deadline to January 30, 2026Set Up Website to Collect Late Registration Fee for Wells Registered After January 30
  - Identify Landowners Who Have Not Registered Their Wells
  - Outreach – Early January 2026

M/S/C (Basgall/Pickens) That the Board of Directors approved the Groundwater Extraction Facility Registration Deadline be Extended to January 30, 2026, and Late Registration Fees Commence on February 1, 2026as presented by staff, by the following vote: (Ayes – Pickens, Moeller, Prieto, Jr., Mascia, Basgall, Pacheco; Nays – 0; Absent – Kienow; Abstain – 0)

e. Domestic Well Mitigation Program Update

Ms. Chauhan reported that there are currently no domestic well mitigation applications in progress.

f. Well Permitting Update

Ms. Chauhan noted that the number of well permits within the North Kings GSA boundary remains significantly lower than previous years.

Well Type – 2025	Count
Agricultural	35
Cathodic	2
Domestic Private	100
Domestic Public	4
Monitoring	8
Soil Boring	4
Grand Total	153

Well Type – 2025	Count
January	14 (Agricultural 3; Domestic Private 8; Domestic Public 1; Monitoring 2)
February	17 (Agricultural 6; Cathodic 2; Domestic Private 7; Soil Boring 2)
March	18 (Agricultural 2; Domestic Private 13; Monitoring 3)
April	14 (Agricultural 6; Domestic Private 7; Domestic Public 1)
May	19 (Agricultural 2; Domestic Private 15; Domestic Public 1; Monitoring 1)
June	19 (Agricultural 4; Domestic Private 14; Monitoring 1)
July	23 (Agricultural 7; Domestic Private 15; Soil Boring 1)
August	23 (Agricultural 4; Domestic Private 16; Domestic Public 1; Monitoring 1; Soil Boring 1)
September	6 (Agricultural 1; Domestic Private 5)
Grand Total:	153

2024: 229 Total

10. EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT (Chauhan)

a. SGMA Implementation Projects Update

Ms. Chauhan reported that the City of Kerman received the American Public Works Association Award for its Lions Park recharge basin project, recognized as a small environmental project with construction costs under $5 million.

b. Outreach / External Affairs Update

- Social Media
- Website

Ms. Chauhan reported that outreach and education efforts through social media and the website have been largely focused on well registration. Following recent board approval to extend the registration deadline to January 30, 2026, staff will continue messaging about the extension and, as the end of January approaches, will also communicate information regarding the late registration fee that will take effect after the January 30, 2026, deadline. In addition, staff will begin highlighting representative monitoring well work and other topics to broaden communications beyond well registration, which has been the primary focus in 2025.

c. Representative Monitoring Network Update

- Obtaining Easements for New Wells – 10
- Data Loggers – Purchased and Ready to Install
- Awarded – Bradley & Sons
    - Notification to Adjacent Landowners
    - Construction Started

Ms. Chauhan reported that the contract was awarded to Bradley & Sons and construction has begun on approximately six of the 10 approved new monitoring wells, most of which will be located in county rights-of-way. This marks the first infrastructure owned by the NKGSA. The monitoring network is expected to provide critical data identified by the Department of Water Resources as essential, improve control and consistency of measurements, and allow a transition from agricultural wells to dedicated monitoring wells. The wells are anticipated to be operational before spring measurements, with plans to expand the network through additional funding to be considered in April or May 2026.

Chairman Prieto inquired about the TSS well that the state is expected to construct for the NKGSA. Ms. Chauhan noted that there is currently no established timeline for its construction but assured the Board that she will follow up and provide any new information as it becomes available.

d. Miscellaneous

- Tulare Lake Basin – Court Ruling – Injunction Lifted
    - State moving towards implementation of the probationary requirements, which is metering, reporting, and charging for extractions.
- State Water Resources Control Board Probationary Process
    - Kern Basin – Returned to Department of Water Resources
    - Kaweah Basin – Returned to Department of Water Resources

- Aquaterra: Draft Environmental Impact Report - McMullin Area GSA (MAGSA)
  - Review In Progress
  - Requesting Additional Documents and an Extension of the Deadline to Provide Comments Currently Due December 22, 2025
- Department of Water Resources – Periodic Evaluation Review
  - More Engagement at Region Level

Ms. Chauhan stated that she attended the ACWA Conference in San Diego last week and noted that Paul Gosselin from Department of Water Resources also attended and spoke about periodic evaluations, the importance of annual reports, and required reporting efforts, with an emphasis on how groundwater levels are responding. It was noted that there will be increased regional engagement to evaluate how projects and programs are translating into improved groundwater levels and progress towards meeting milestones and objectives.

11. DIRECTORS REPORT

Director Pickens – nothing to report

Director Kienow – absent

Director Moeller – nothing to report

Director Prieto – nothing to report

Alternate Director Mascia – nothing to report

Director Basgall – nothing to report

Vice Chairman Pacheco - nothing to report#

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12. ADJOURNMENT

With nothing further to discuss, Chairman Prieto adjourned the meeting at 6:33 pm.

Submitted by,

Kassy D. Ch

Kassy Chauhan, Executive Officer-Secretary/Treasurer