MINUTES

NKGSA Advisory Committee Meeting
April 10, 2026

IN-PERSON AND TELECONFERENCE

In attendance:

**Adam Claes (Fresno Irrigation District)	Kassy Chauhan (NKGSA)
*Nick Torstensen (City of Clovis)	Andrew Aller (NKGSA legal counsel)
*Dejan Pavic (City of Fresno)	Kristen Freberg (City of Clovis)
*Shay Bakman (Bakman Water Company)	Lisa Koehn (Clovis)
*Augie Ramirez (Fresno County)	Sayre Miller (Ag)
*Jesus Gonzalez (City of Kerman)	Adan Ortiz (Fresno County)
	Sean Ray (Bakman Water Company)

** - Committee Chair / *Vice 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	Nick Torstensen
City of Fresno	Present	Dejan Pavic
City of Kerman	Present	Jesus Gonzalez
Fresno County	Present	Augie Ramirez
Fresno Irrigation District	Present	Adam Claes
Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District	Absent	---
Garfield Water District	Absent	---

Item 2. Public Presentations

There were no public presentations.

Item 3. Approval of Minutes

Item 3a. Approval of Minutes from February 13, 2026 Meeting

Member Claes made a correction to Item 6a to clarify that the Advisory Committee received training provided by AALRR on the Brown Act per the requirements contained in SB827.

Motion to approve the minutes, with correction noted by Member Claes, made by member Pavic; second by member Bakman. Motion passed unanimously 5-0 with 1 abstaining, and 3 absent.

Item 4. Financial Report

Item 4a. Discussion / Possible Action – Recommend Approval of the Expense Reports for January and February 2026
(Koehn)

Expenses for January totaled $193,827.01, including payments to attorneys, Bradley & Sons for monitoring wells, Constant Contact, Dumont Printing, FID, Intuit QuickBooks, Provost & Pritchard, and the U.S. Postmaster.

February expenses were $80,463.08, including attorneys, CJ Brown & Company, Constant Contact, FID, Groundwater Resources Association, Intuit QuickBooks, reimbursements to staff, and Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group.

Action on this item was taken in combination with Item 4b below.

Item 4b. Discussion / Possible Action – Recommend Approval of the Financial Statements as of February 28, 2026
(Koehn)

Total assets as of February 28, 2026, are $2,470,215.31. Expenses through February totaled $628,731.33.

Motion to recommend approval of the expense reports and the financial statements made by member Ramirez; second by member Gonzalez. Motion passed unanimously 6-0, 3 absent.

Item 4c. Discussion / Possible Action – Recommend Approval of the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Revised Budget
(Chauhan / Koehn)

There were adjustments to expenses throughout the year, including Kings Basin coordination expenses (decrease), legal expenses (decrease), engineering consultant expenses (increase), and public information expenses (increase). No expenses were charged to the project costs for well registration, saving on expenses for that line item.

Expenses under the previously approved budget were estimated at $1,804,100.00, compared to $1,820,800.67 under the revised budget. Although the estimated expenses have increased, the net change in position actually reflects a savings compared to the original budget due to more interest income than projected.

Motion to approve member Ramirez; second by member Gonzalez. Motion passed unanimously 6-0, 3 absent.

Item 5. Receive – Basin Coordination Update
(Chauhan)

The allocation framework has been accepted by 6 of the 7 Subbasin GSAs.

DWR is reviewing the periodic evaluations and is beginning conferences with some basins. It will likely be several more months before we hear back from DWR.

The annual report was submitted on March 31, 2026, for Water Year 2025.

DWR has met with the points of contact for each of the basins on the land subsidence BMP.

Coordinated work on interconnected surface water with the Madera Subbasin continues.

The domestic well mitigation program is ongoing.

Item 5a. Update on the Kings Subbasin Annual Report

Since 2015, surface water supplies are about 91% of long-term average, and since 2020, the total surface water supplies are well below the long-term average at 82%.

There were no SMC wells below MTs in the Basin (out of the 123 applicable wells in the Basin).

9 wells exceeded MTs for water quality. Only 1 of those wells were in the NKGSA.

The overall change in storage is approximately 160,000 AF.

Item 6. Administrative

6a-1. Consider Approval of Official NKGSA Advisory Committee Roster
(Chauhan)

This item was added to the agenda at the beginning of the meeting.

There are updates to the roster to add an alternate, Mr. Adan Ortiz, for the County of Fresno and to change the alternates for City of Fresno, including Mr. Paul Amico.

Motion to approve the updated roster made by member Ramirez; second by member Pavic. Motion approved unanimously 6-0, 3 absent.

Item 6a. Discussion / Possible Action – Groundwater Extraction Facility Registration Update
(Chauhan)

To date, there are 8,213 wells registered. The late registration fee of $100 per wellhead began on February 1st. About $1,600 has been collected since the fee was implemented. Most of those registering after the January 30, 2026, deadline are requesting a waiver from the late registration fee due to not knowing about the requirement to register before the deadline.

Phase 2 efforts are underway, including establishing a “candidate list” of parcels of 5 acres or more with no registered wells. It currently has about 700 landowners on it. Notices will be sent to those landowners starting in June 2026. Parcels determined to have no wells will be recorded in the database so it is not continuously revisited.

Item 6b. Discussion / Possible Action – Recommend Approval of North Kings GSA Policy No. 2026-001 – Enforcement Policy
(Chauhan)

Other GSAs already have enforcement policies in place. For the NKGSA, it seemed most beneficial to have a broad enforcement policy that included well registration and other future policies. This would allow for easier adoption of future policies so that enforcement policies can be incorporated by reference.

A copy of the draft enforcement policy was included in the meeting packet.

The purpose of the policy is to ensure compliance with policies and rules adopted by the NKGSA Board of Directors to implement the GSP. The guiding principles are ensuring compliance and consistent, timely, and progressive enforcement. The policy would apply to landowners or the regulated entity being affected (including member agencies).

The enforcement process would include the following steps:
1. Written or email notification of the potential violation
2. Official notice of violation with 30 days to comply
3. Enforcement order, including fees

This procedure is meant to provide for board appeal, requests for more time, and progressive enforcement. Fees are established in the Water Code.

Member Torstensen asked about the possibility of creating individual enforcement policies for each policy, given the broad applicability of the current proposal. Kassy stated that the proposed policy would allow for discretion in each circumstance but provides the framework for all enforcement for landowners or regulating entities violating NKGSA policies, GSP or rules/regulations.

The decision was made to allow more time for each member to review the policy more thoroughly and revisit an action on the item at a later time.

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

The program is up and running and continues to receive applications. To date, no domestic well mitigation applications have been approved due to not meeting the eligibility requirements.

Item 6d. 2026 Well Permitting Update
(Chauhan)

Well permit applications are currently trending low through February of last year, and updated numbers for March have not been received yet.

Item 7. Workgroup Updates and Actions

Item 7a. Technical Workgroup Update
(Claes)

The Technical Workgroup met recently to discuss the enforcement policy. Following the resolution of that issue, the individual member agency allocations will be the primary focus.

Item 8. Member Agency / Committee Member Reports

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

i. Water Supply Update
(Claes)

March did not follow typical patterns. Millerton Lake has been rising due to runoff but has now stabilized. Pine Flat is currently at about 800,000 AF and has also leveled out. The Tulare Basin 6-Station Precipitation Index shows that for the first time in 104 years, March had 0 inches of rain. April will potentially show some improvement.

The volume of runoff in March is projected to be about half of the total that will occur between March and May. The Northern Sierra showed about 5% of the April 1st average in snow water content. The Kings River shows 45% of the April 1st average, so it is currently the highest in California.

ii. Others
There were no further reports.

Item 9. Executive Officer Update
(Chauhan)

Item 9a. SGMA Implementation Projects Update
The project spreadsheet was recently updated in coordination with all of the member agencies. The project solicitation and project and management actions (PMA) tracking spreadsheet are going to be combined in the future in order to streamline the process for both.

Prop 4 funds will be coming out in 2026/2027 and awards in 2027/2028, so member agencies are encouraged to be ready.

Item 9b. Outreach / External Affairs Update
Social media and website presence continues to be active, and public engagement has exponentially increased as a result of the well registration program.

Item 9c. Representative Monitoring Network Update

All 10 monitoring wells have been constructed and all of them are connected to the telemetry system. Planning has begun for the next phase of new monitoring wells, which is currently focused on identifying 10-12 sites for the new wells.

The well permit for the DWR TSS well has finally come through, and construction is expected to begin later in April.

Item 9d. Miscellaneous
An Assembly bill has been introduced to address adjudications and is currently being monitored.

The interested party invoices have gone out as of this week. Any funds generated from those invoices will be applied to next year's budget per the JPA agreement.

Item 10. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 2:53 PM.

Next Meeting: May 8, 2026