



# EAST KAWEAH

## GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

### MINUTES

#### Meeting of the

#### Technical Advisory Committee

Friday, March 2, 2018 at 1:00 p.m. at the office of  
Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group  
130 N. Garden Street, Visalia, CA 93291

#### **Meeting Attendees:**

Tim Gobler – Wutchumna WC (Chair)  
Mike Hagman – Lindmore ID  
Calvin Monreal – Lindmore ID  
Craig Wallace – Lindsay-Strathmore ID  
Dale West – Stone Corral ID  
Matt Klinchuch – EKGSA Technical Consultant (Vice Chair)  
Aaron Bock – County of Tulare  
Tim Bailey – County of Tulare  
Karen Yohannes – Landowner  
Joan Fisher – Landowner  
Joe Ferrara – Stakeholder  
Dennis Mills – Greater Kaweah GSA  
Paul Hendrix – Mid-Kaweah GSA  
Larry Dotson – Kaweah Delta Water Conservation District  
Kari Daniska – Peltzer & Richardson  
Trevor Sherman – Department of Water Resources  
Mike Brownfield - Landowner

#### **Members Absent**

City of Lindsay  
Ivanhoe ID  
Exeter ID  
County of Tulare (Landowner)  
EKGSA At Large  
Sentinel Butte MWC

1. **Call to Order** – Committee Chair Gobler called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.
2. **Self-Introductions** – The members in attendance gave a brief self-introduction.
3. **Public Comment**— No public comments were provided during this period
4. **Committee Administration**
  - a. Review and Approve Meeting Minutes from February 9, 2018 Meeting – A motion was made by Committee Member Hagman and seconded by Committee Member West to approve the minutes from the February 9<sup>th</sup> meeting. The motion passed unanimously.



## **5. Committee Business**

- a. Status Report on Kaweah Subbasin Efforts to date – Committee Member Hagman updated the group on the status of the Management Team and Subbasin TAC. The first item of information was to clarify the EKGSA members of the Management Team (Hagman, Weddle, and Peltzer) and Subbasin TAC (Hagman and Klinchuch).**
  - i. Management Team – Committee Member Hagman updated the group on the status of the Management Team to date. There had been one meeting in January and the February meeting was cancelled. At the January meeting the Management Team covered administrative items, a potential pilot study proposal to utilize SkyTEM technology, and preliminary discussion on how an allocation would work in the Subbasin. There was general agreement to pursue the SkyTEM technology. The discussion towards allocation was tabled for future discussions, but there was agreement that it would need to blend policy, legal, and technical components.**
  - ii. Subbasin TAC – There was no information to report as the first meeting of the Subbasin TAC was to follow the EKGSA TAC meeting.**
  
- b. Update on Danish Technology (SkyTEM) – The Committee revisited the SkyTEM technology with review of PowerPoint Slides developed by GEI on what the product would be from this effort. Some updated information was available on the cost-share for the study and it currently sits at the Subbasin needing to provide approximately \$180,000. The EKGSA TAC did not discuss how the cost would potentially be split. Committee Member Bock asked the group what percent improvement we could expect for these dollars and would the results be challenged by others? Member of the Committee and public offered that it would likely help in areas where wells generally are not very deep and that results from the previous Tulare Irrigation District were positive. Chair Gobler thought it may be helpful for landowners in the future when they are looking to drill a new well. The TAC continued to recommend pursuing, pending EKGSA Board approval. A motion continuing this recommendation was made by Committee Member Hagman and seconded by Committee Member Bock. The motion passed unanimously.**
  
- c. Preliminary discussion on potential market basis – The Committee next reviewed a handout from Wheeler Water Institute that listed items/questions to consider prior to developing a groundwater market. The purpose of sharing was to get the Committee and members of the public thinking about this potential option under SGMA, not promoting going to a market. The ensuing discussion covered whether water should be allowed to move around the Subbasin or allowing**

The logo for the East Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency features a stylized tree with a lattice-like trunk and three leaves. To the right of the tree, the word "EAST" is written in a large, bold, sans-serif font, with the tree's trunk and leaves overlapping the letters. To the right of "EAST", the word "KAWEAH" is written in a similar large, bold, sans-serif font. Below "EAST KAWEAH", the words "GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY" are written in a smaller, bold, sans-serif font.

# EAST KAWEAH

## GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

water to move outside the basin. Additional questions related to how it would work with different management areas, how it a market relates to surface water and groundwater, and what are the alternatives of not doing a market? There was preliminary consensus that the decision will have social and political implications more than technical, but the technical part was needed to understand where groundwater is located and how it moves from one place to another underground. The Committee and public were tasked with reviewing the handout and thinking on it more for future discussions.

- d. Preliminary Discussion on “natural” basin supply and allocation/appropriation of supply – The Committee next discussed “natural” Kaweah Subbasin supply and how the supply would then be allocated. There is an example set in the Tule Subbasin and that there should be review of what was considered ‘natural’ supplies for their analysis. The discussion then went into how water is allocated and reviewed the memo developed by GEI that discussed four potential options. Most of the discussion revolved around how to account for seepage in earthen channels. There were many questions on determining who gets credit for water in certain sections of a channel or specific types of channels (natural versus man-made) and what are the legal components to such a decision. More discussion is to come on this item. More work was to come to see what natural water ways are in the Kaweah and what data is available on this water ways. Cottonwood Creek is one water body in particular to be evaluated.
- e. Potential Projects – Vice Chair Klinchuch shared that it was not too early to start talking about potential projects the East Kaweah (and Subbasin) could start analyzing to a feasibility level for the GSP. The general thought is that more recharge capacity or expanded distribution systems would help the GSA, especially in wet years. Vice Chair Klinchuch stated that now project should be off the list at this point and that all members should pass on ideas to him to keep a running list. Ideas that were mentioned during discussion were “micro” basins that Lindmore ID is considering, better utilizing flood waters from the Friant system, and looking into an old JPA amongst the districts that considered a large basin system in the past. Dennis Mills recommended that the group look large than the GSA to possibly consider Subbasin-size projects such as banking projects, either through participating in one or developing one.

**6. New/Other Business**— No other business was discussed.

### **7. Announcements**

- a. Next Meeting: April 6, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.



**EAST KAWEAH**  
GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

8. **Adjournment** – Chair Gobler adjourned the meeting at 2:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Matt Klinchuch, Secretary  
East Kaweah GSA Technical Advisory Committee