



**MINUTES**

**Meeting of the**

**Technical Advisory Committee**

**Friday June 4th, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.**

**TAC Members & Staff at the**

**Exeter Museum (upstairs)**

**125 S. B Street, Exeter, CA 93221**

**Meeting Attendees:**

Paul Buldo – Sentinel Butte MWC (Chair)  
Mike Hagman – EKGSA Executive Director  
Craig Wallace – Lindsay-Strathmore ID  
Aaron Bock – County of Tulare and County of Tulare - Landowner  
Tom Weddle – Exeter and Ivanhoe IDs  
Michael Camarena – City of Lindsay  
Dale West – Stone Corral ID  
Craig Hornung – Wutchumna WC  
Calvin Monreal – Lindmore ID  
Matt Klinchuch – EKGSA Technical Lead  
Nick Keller – Consultant  
Cruz Romero – EKGSA Staff

**Public participants:**

- Stacie Ann Silva – NewCurrent
- Rex Faubel - Stakeholder
- Joe Ferrara – Board Member
- Mayor Ramona Caudillo – Board Member
- John Gaugel - Wonderful
- Karen Yohannes – Stakeholder
- John Yohannes - Stakeholder
- Andrew Hart – Stakeholder
- Michele Staples – Legal Counsel
- Alan Becker – Stakeholder
- Jeff Powers – Sequoia Riverlands Trust

**Members Absent:**

EKGSA At Large (Vacant)



1. **Call to Order** – Chair Buldo called the meeting to order at approximately 10:06 a.m. Chair Buldo made an announcement to have EKGSA Staff Romero to take the TAC minutes to allow Matt Klinchuch more opportunity to engage in discussion, as well as Chair Buldo to facilitate the meeting more so Executive Director Hagman can also engage more in discussion.
2. **Self-Introductions** – The attendees gave brief self-introductions.
3. **Public Comment** – Public comment was moved towards the end of the meeting to focus more on agenda items.
4. **Committee Administration**
  - a. Review and Approve Meeting Minutes May 7th, 2021 Meeting – Committee Member Wallace made a motion to approve the Minutes and Committee Member Weddle seconded the motion. The motion passed.
5. **Committee Business**
  - a. Status Report on Kaweah Subbasin Efforts to date – Mike Hagman and Matt Klinchuch updated the TAC on Subbasin-level efforts since the previous meeting.
    - i. Management Team – There was nothing to report on the management team section.
    - ii. Subbasin Technical Efforts
      1. Subbasin Technical Efforts – Klinchuch discussed meetings held with Montgomery & Associates to understand the Kaweah Subbasin model GEI provided and how data inputs and outputs align with the submitted GSPs. It was estimated that the model review and coordination with the Water Budget analysis is still a few weeks out. If available, results may be shared at the July TAC. Klinchuch also shared that DWR has given feedback on 4 GSP's, 2 were accepted and 2 had deficiencies.
  - b. GSP Implementation Items
    - i. Call for Proposed Projects and Management Actions – TAC needs to work through a formal process for accepting projects based on management area recommendations. The EKGSA was awarded a grant through DWR which the East-Kaweah is under an initial CEQA/NEPA/pre-design phase for the projects.
    - ii. EKGSA Policy Framework Review – Chair Buldo asked the TAC at 10:30 a.m. to focus on Groundwater Allocation Policy as opposed to the other policy items.
      1. Policy Stating Overlying Right to Water and Legal Right to Regulate Overlying Supply (GW|01-2020) – [No discussion on this item.](#)



# EKGSA

## GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

2. Policy Directing that the EKGSA will Allocate GW Supply (GW|02-2020) – [No discussion on this item.](#)
3. EKGSA Charges Policy (CHARGES|01-2020) - [No discussion on this item.](#)
4. Method of Groundwater Allocation Policy - The Board needs direction to get to an allocation policy which they envision by using a tool to support an allocation. A water budget needs to be developed to determine the sustainable yield. There was discussion for the basin to develop a transitional number, follow up on this number needs to be completed. Discussion was held on having the technical sub-committee analyze existing groundwater levels determine an estimate of groundwater storage capacity in the East-Kaweah. By these estimates a more informed management area allocation can be determined by the board.
5. Monitoring Policy - [No discussion on this item.](#)
6. Metering Policy - [No discussion on this item.](#)

- iii. LandIQ Results and Management Area Water Budget Updates – Reports through April 2021 are now available. Mr. Romero discussed the report at a high level. In April approximately 27,100 AF was consumed. Additionally, there was little precipitation in the month that resulted in approximately 1,500 AF of precipitation measured across the area. Thus, demand was met with a combination of groundwater, surface water, and precipitation. Measurement accuracy was more in line with what was expected and will continue to meet this level during the summer months and late fall.

**6. New/Other Business** – There was no new or other business.

**7. Public Comment** —Public comments which were moved to the end of the meeting. Three were received.

- a. Karen Yohannes submitted written comments to the TAC.
- b. Michele Staples is concerned about the financial component of transitional water in regards to overdraft fees imposed on transitional water as part of an allocation of sustainable yield/transitional water.
- c. Rex Faubel is concerned on the allocation of groundwater for a small parcel (<2ac) pulling water which he claims cannot be sustained on that parcel moving said groundwater approximately 5 miles away.

## **8. Announcements**

- a. Next Meeting Date and Time: The meeting date was moved to July 1st, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. due to the Independence Day weekend.



**9. Adjournment** – Chair Buldo adjourned the meeting at approximately 12:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

X *Cruz Romero*

Cruz Romero, Secretary  
East Kaweah GSA Technical Advisory Committee