

**EAST KAWEAH GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES FOR THE MEETING ON September 21, 2020**

The East Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“EKGSA”) Advisory Committee duly met for a meeting on Monday, September 21, 2020, via video/phone conference only – COVID-19 protocol.

OPEN SESSION: Convened at 4: 06 p.m.

1. **MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Joe Ferrara (non-voting), Matthew Watkins, Soapy Mulholland, Graham Burt, Vito DeLeonardis, Carole Combs, Dan Dreyer, Alan Lombardi, Blanca Escobedo and Luis Sanchez-Balle. (Quorum = 6 voting members)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jeff Powers,

OTHERS PRESENT: Michael Hagman, Executive Director; Joe Hughes, Counsel; Trilby Barton and Matt Klinchuch, Provost & Pritchard; Kathy Bennett, Senior Analyst; Cruz Romero, Staff Engineer; various members of the public.

2. **APPROVE THE AGENDA:** Motion to approve the agenda was made by Ms. Mulholland, seconded by Mr. Lombardi, and carried by the following vote:

AYES: Matthew Watkins, Soapy Mulholland, Graham Burt, Vito DeLeonardis, Carole Combs, Dan Dreyer, Alan Lombardi, Luis Sanchez-Balle and Blanca Escobedo.

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Jeff Powers

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** Rex P questioned what EKGSA would be doing about wells that are pumping large amounts of water on a small parcel and transporting it a distance away. Hagman noted that this is a policy item that the Committee can take up at a future meeting once the issue has been placed on the agenda.

4. **MINUTES:** Motion to approve and ratify minutes August 17, 2020 Advisory Committee meeting, was made by Ms. Escobedo, seconded by Ms. Mulholland, and carried by the following vote:

AYES: Matthew Watkins, Soapy Mulholland, Graham Burt, Vito DeLeonardis, Carole Combs, Dan Dreyer, Alan Lombardi, Luis Sanchez-Balle and Blanca Escobedo

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Jeff Powers

5. **EKGSA ACTIVITY REPORT:**

- a. Technical Committee – Matt Klinchuch and Cruz Romero provided a report on the committee efforts.
- b. Board of Directors – The Executive Director reported that the Board has not met since the last Advisory Committee meeting.

- c. Implementation Efforts – Cruz reported on the monitoring well network, the well videoing and the LandIQ report status.

6. KAWEAH SUB-BASIN ACTIVITY REPORT:

- a. WCB Grant – RCIS: Hagman reported that the name of this grant is changing to WCB – RCIS Grant.
- b. Prop 68 – Planning: Hagman updated the AC on the status of the grant work. He shared that the first report was submitted on time. In September or October, EKGSA will provide a public meeting and present the outcome of the SkyTem project which is a deliverable that needs to be accomplished to obtain grant funds.
- c. Kaweah Sub-Basin Management Team –. Hagman reported that 6 well videos have been approved and the cost will be close to \$3,500 each.

7. GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN IMPLEMENTATION:

- a. Policy Matrix –
 - Groundwater Allocation: Hagman reported that after substantial discussion with the AC, and TAC he has made substantial changes to the GW|2020-01 and GW|2020-02 policies. Substantial discussion was had on the two policies. A couple of stakeholders provided a policy that they would like considered. After substantial discussion Hagman was asked to have Joe Hughes look at 2020-01 and 2020-02 for legal issues and then bring them back to the next AC. District managers requested an advance copy for their legal counsel.

Hagman also provided the AC with the CHARGES|2020-01 policy which begins to take a look at ways to provide revenue to implement the groundwater sustainability plan. Discussion began to be substantial on this policy and Hagman reminded them that the policy is only a proposal of ways to collect revenue and that we do not need to be developing the policy any further today.

- Groundwater Pumping Quantification: Some discussion occurred on this policy.
- Meter Policy: No discussion on this policy directly.
- b. Outreach Efforts: No outreach until the SkyTem public meeting.
- c. Timeline and Next Steps – October 19, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. is the next scheduled Advisory Committee meeting.

8. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 6:05 p.m.