



## MINUTES

### Meeting of the

### Technical Advisory Committee

Friday October 2, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

Held via Teleconference

#### **Meeting Attendees:**

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

#### Public participants:

- Stacie Ann – NewCurrent
- Johnny Gailey – Delta View
- Geoff Vanden Heuvel – Milk Producer’s Council
- Casey Creamer – California Citrus Mutual
- Doug Gosling – Stakeholder
- Rex Faubel – Stakeholder
- Blanca Escobedo – Community Water Center
- Justine Massey – Community Water Center
- Karen Yohannes – Stakeholder

#### **Members Absent:**

EKGSA At Large (Vacant)

1. **Call to Order** – Chair Gobler called the meeting to order at approximately 10:15 a.m.
2. **Self-Introductions** – The attendees gave brief self-introductions.
3. **Public Comment** – No public comments for given related to items not on the Agenda.
4. **Committee Administration**
  - a. Review and Approve Meeting Minutes September 4, 2020 Meeting – Committee Member West made a motion to approve the Minutes and was seconded by Committee Member Wallace. 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 – The Management Team had not met since the previous TAC Meeting. The Management Team is scheduled to meet on October 21 at 9:00am.
  - ii. Subbasin Technical Efforts – The TAC received an update on several technical items in motion at the Subbasin and EKGSA levels. The GSA Managers and Consultant are tracking the status of the first round of Implementation Grant funding for projects as well as shifting focus to preparation of the Annual Monitoring Report for the 2020 Water Year now that the Water Year has completed. This will focus on gathering and updating groundwater level and water quality data for each of the GSAs. There will also be focus on setting a small meeting with water managers across the three GSAs to have a meeting to discuss better ways to track and manage surface water flows and deliveries which may facilitate updates to the Subbasin Data Management System (DMS). For the Monitoring Network, five (5) of the seven (7) proposed monitoring wells in the EKGSA are looking to be moved forward. The remaining two wells still need confirmed locations on private property. The EKGSA is also narrowing down on the two wells to be videoed with the borehole camera technology through Provost & Pritchard.
  
- b. GSP Implementation Items
  - i. EKGSA Policy Framework Review
    - 1. Policy Stating Overlying Right to Water and Legal Right to Regulate Overlying Supply (GW|01-2020) – This updated policy was presented at AC in September. The plan is to put this in front of the Board at the October Board Meeting if no issues from the TAC. Legal Counsel is to provide final review ahead of going to the Board. The intent of this policy is to provide notice that the EKGSA has the right to regulate the groundwater supply through provisions in the Water Code created by SGMA. The regulation does not sever overlying water rights to the landowner. The TAC had general consensus of sending the updated policy to the Board but requested to review the legal-reviewed policy ahead of the Board Meeting.
    - 2. Policy Directing that the EKGSA will Allocate GW Supply (GW|02-2020) – Hagman presented an updated draft policy related to allocating groundwater. The intent of this policy is for noticing allocations, this policy is not the basis for allocation. Key components in this policy are specific to noticing and setting an allocation. Discussion was had related to the carryover component. Question was raised whether carryover be a separate policy. Timing for the allocation was discussed. April 1 – March 31 was proposed, but the reporting requirements and basis of the GSP is October 1 – September 30. With the understanding that Native supply is based on a rolling average, setting an Allocation October 1 was the preferred option. Legal Counsel is to provide final review ahead of going to the October Board meeting. The TAC had general consensus of sending the updated policy to the Board but requested to review the legal-reviewed policy ahead of the Board Meeting.



3. EKGSA Charges Policy (CHARGES|01-2020) – Early draft version shared for developing charge concepts. Current concept is a well head fee and having a groundwater tiered pricing. The intent of the well head fee is to better understand well locations within the EKGSA. The per AF charge is anticipated to be collected for developing projects and/or management actions. The TAC is tasked to review and provide comments to Hagman ahead of the next meeting.
  4. Method of Groundwater Allocation Policy – Focus at the meeting was on the previous three policies. This item was not discussed.
  5. Monitoring Policy – Focus at the meeting was on the first three policies. This item was not discussed.
  6. Metering Policy – Focus at the meeting was on the first three policies. This item was not discussed.
- i. LandIQ Results and Management Area Water Budget Updates – The latest report (for the month of August) was made available a few days before the meeting. The TAC walked through the report at a high level. In August approximately 31,800 AF was used. This value includes both surface and groundwater meeting crop demand. Cumulative for May through August is approximately 142,000 AF of water use. Hagman reported that Staff was working on gathering surface water supplies delivered during the four months in order to work to a new groundwater use from the LandIQ numbers. LandIQ has noted there is more trust in the July and August months as compared to May and June due to more ground-truthing equipment in place for the latter two months.

**6. New/Other Business** – No new or other business was discussed.

**7. Announcements**

- a. Next Meeting Date and Time: November 6, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.
- b. Chair Gobler announced he will be taking a new job mid-October; therefore, he will be stepping off the EKGSA Board and TAC Chair as he will no longer be a representative for Wutchumna Water Company. A new chair will be directed from the EKGSA Board.

**8. Adjournment** – Chair Gobler adjourned the meeting at approximately 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Matt Klinchuch, Secretary  
East Kaweah GSA Technical Advisory Committee