

**EAST KAWEAH GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES FOR THE MEETING ON MAY 18, 2020**

The East Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“EKGSA”) Advisory Committee duly met for a meeting on Monday, May 18, 2020, via video/phone conference only – COVID-19 protocol.

**OPEN SESSION:** Convened at 4: 10 p.m.

1. **MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Joe Ferrara (non-voting), Matthew Watkins (arrived 4:18), Jeff Powers, Soapy Mulholland (arrived 4:45), Vito DeLeonardis, Carole Combs, Dan Dreyer, Alan Lombardi (arrived 4:25) and Blanca Escobedo. (Quorum = 6 voting members)

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Cruz Rivera, Graham Burt

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Michael Hagman, Executive Director; Trilby Barton and Matt Klinchuch, Provost & Pritchard; various members of the public.

2. **APPROVE THE AGENDA:** After a quorum signed onto the meeting, Motion to approve the agenda was made by Ms. Combs, seconded by Mr. Watkins, and carried by the following vote:

AYES: Matthew Watkins, Jeff Powers, Soapy Mulholland, Vito DeLeonardis, Carole Combs, Dan Dreyer, Alan Lombardi and Blanca Escobedo.

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Cruz Rivera, Graham Burt

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** There was no public comment.

4. **MINUTES:** After a quorum signed onto the meeting, Motion to approve and ratify minutes with the corrections made by Vito DeLeonardis from the April 20, 2020 Advisory Committee meeting, was made by Mr. Watkins, seconded by Ms. Combs, and carried by the following vote:

AYES: Matthew Watkins, Jeff Powers, Soapy Mulholland, Vito DeLeonardis, Carole Combs, Dan Dreyer, Alan Lombardi and Blanca Escobedo.

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Cruz Rivera, Graham Burt

5. **EKGSA ACTIVITY REPORT:**

a. Technical Committee – The Executive Director reported on EKGSA TAC efforts. He noted that the Annual Report was submitted.

b. Board of Directors – The Executive Director reported that there was a Regular Board meeting on April 28th, and it consisted for the most part of the first quarter financial information and presentation of the FY2019 audit and status of Prop 218 Planning Grant and Prop 68 RCIS grant work.

6. **KAWEAH SUB-BASIN ACTIVITY REPORT:**

- a. Prop 68 – RCIS (update) – Hagman noted that at the last Board of Director’s meeting, the Board authorized the Executive Director to hire consultants as shown in the grant proposal. Hagman noted that he had hired Environmental Incentives and ICF to assist the EKGSA (and sub-basin) in accomplishing writing an RCIS. There was a review of the Steering Committee members. Hagman noted that Blake Mauritson (local grower) was originally on the Steering Committee as a grower representative. However, Greater Kaweah GSA appointed him to represent GKGSA’s interest. As such a replacement was recommended. Hagman noted that he will keep the AC up to speed on who is on the Steering Committee members. Kathy Bennett will be sending Steering Committee list to AC.
- b. Prop 68 – Planning Grant (update) – Grant document now signed by EKGSA Board Chairman.
- c. Kaweah Sub-Basin Management Team - The Executive Director noted there was nothing to report.
- d. Other Sub-Basin Activity – No report

**7. GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN EFFORTS:**

- 8. a. Annual Report – Committee discussed the Annual Report summary. Minor changes to the report were suggested and Hagman noted he would make the changes. Motion to approve the Annual Report summary was made by Ms. Escobedo, seconded by Mr. Watkins, and carried by the following vote:

AYES: Matthew Watkins, Jeff Powers, Soapy Mulholland, Vito DeLeonardis, Carole Combs, Dan Dreyer, Alan Lombardi and Blanca Escobedo.

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Cruz Rivera, Graham Burt

- b. Policy Matrix – Discussion on priorities for policies that are on matrix. After substantial discussion about where to start, Hagman reported that he and his team would develop a couple of straw proposals that the AC can work on over the next several months. He explained he will visit with a couple of policy experts and provide the policies that are critical in moving toward sustainability. Committee member Watkins asked that the next AC agenda identify specifically what policies the AC would be working on.
- c. Outreach Efforts – in 30 – 45 days have public presentations for Prop 218
- d. Timeline and Next Steps – 1. Provide Policy Matrix with sub-categories 2. Straw proposal policies 3. On next AC agenda, specific policies being worked on will be noted.

**9. OTHER MISCELLANEOUS:** None provided

**10. ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Lombardi, seconded by Mr. DeLeonardis, and carried by the following vote:

AYES: Matthew Watkins, Jeff Powers, Soapy Mulholland, Dan Dreyer, Alan Lombardi and Blanca Escobedo.

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Cruz Rivera, Graham Burt, Carole Combs (left at 5:05)

The meeting was adjourned at 5:52 p.m.