

**EAST KAWEAH GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

MINUTES FOR THE SPECIAL MEETING ON JUNE 24, 2019

The East Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“EKGSA”) Board of Directors duly met for a special meeting on Monday, June 24, 2019, at the Exeter Museum located at 125 S. B Street, Exeter, CA 93221.

OPEN SESSION: Convened at 3:00 p.m.

1. **DIRECTORS PRESENT:** Buldo, Burkett, Crocker, Ferrara, George, Gobler, Milanesio, Roberts, Peltzer, Watson

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Rivera

OTHERS PRESENT: Hagman, Executive Director; Hughes, Legal Counsel; Klinchuch, Engineer; Barton, Provost & Pritchard; and various members of the public.

2. **APPROVE THE AGENDA:** Motion to approve the agenda was made by Director Ferrara, seconded by Director Crocker, and carried by the following vote:

AYES: Buldo, Burkett, Crocker, Ferrara, George, Gobler, Milanesio, Roberts, Peltzer, Watson
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Rivera

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Board and public performed the pledge of allegiance to the American flag.

4. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** No comments.

5. **MINUTES:**

Motion to adopt and ratify the April 22, 2019 Special Board meeting minutes provided by the Secretary was made by Director Ferrara, seconded by Director George, and carried by the following vote:

AYES: Buldo, Burkett, Crocker, Ferrara, George, Gobler, Milanesio, Roberts, Peltzer, Watson
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Rivera

6. **ADMINISTRATION:**

- a. **Future Executive/Administrative Assistant Services:** Director George provided a status report on their efforts regarding future executive/administrative services. It was noted that the Committee expected to have a recommendation at the next Board meeting.

- b. Staffing and Funding Beyond 2019: The Executive Director provided the Board with only one proposal that was submitted regarding assistance from qualified applicants to provide the land-based assessment election (Prop 218). It was noted that Hagman sought proposals from four engineering firms. Only Provost and Pritchard (P&P) submitted a proposal. Hagman recommended the Board accept P&P's proposal. After further discussion, Director Crocker moved to accept Provost and Pritchard's proposal for engineering services for EKGSA's Land-based Assessment, which was seconded by Director Watson, and carried by the following vote:

AYES: Buldo, Burkett, Crocker, Ferrara, George, Gobler, Milanesio, Roberts, Peltzer, Watson
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Rivera.

After considerable discussion on what the EKGSA will put in the "Assessment Budget" it was recommended to forgo further discussion until the Board decides on how it will staff the EKGSA in the future.

7. GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY EFFORTS:

- a. Sustainable Management Criteria – Policy Matrix on SMCs, Management Areas, Minimum Thresholds:
- i. Executive Director Hagman provided the Management Areas Maps developed by Klinchuch in coordination with the EKGSA Advisory Committee and Technical Advisory Committee. The two committees were not in agreement with the how many management areas should be in the EKGSA. The AC recommended only two management areas. This recommendation was based on the concern that the Districts would then ostensibly be controlling groundwater and two areas would be easier and less expensive to manage. Hagman noted that groundwater (native supply) is a right associated with principles of water law and that a District cannot control native groundwater. Hagman also stated the Kaweah Sub-basin has developed a water accounting framework that is consistent with water law essentially stating that federal surface supply and/or appropriated surface supply that goes into the ground from their foreign/salvaged supply will be owned by the original water supply owner. Hagman also noted that the cost would not be more because much of the data that will be needed by the EKGSA is already a requirement of the federal contractors. After further discussion, Director George moved to adopt nine management areas provided by the EKGSA Technical Advisory Committee which was seconded by Director Peltzer and was carried by the following vote:

AYES: Buldo, Burkett, Crocker, Ferrara, George, Gobler, Milanesio, Roberts, Peltzer, Watson
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Rivera.

The attached map was approved by the action above.

- ii. SMC Policy Matrix: Executive Director Hagman provided a matrix for policy development. The document had been vetted and discussed by the EKGSA Advisory Committee and Technical Advisory Committee. Klinchuch answered questions from the Board as well as the audience. After substantial discussion, Director Watson made a motion that the attached matrix be adopted for development in the Groundwater Sustainability Plan and was seconded by Director Burkett. The motion passed by the following vote.

AYES: Buldo, Burkett, Crocker, Ferrara, George, Gobler, Milanesio, Roberts, Peltzer, Watson
 NOES: None
 ABSTAIN: None
 ABSENT: Rivera.

**East Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency
 Sustainable Management Criteria**

Sustainability Indicator	GW Elevation	GW Storage	SW-GW Connection	GW Quality	Land Subsidence
Undesirable Result	Unreasonable lowering of groundwater levels resulting in significant impacts to supply	Unreasonable reduction in groundwater storage	Unreasonable depletion of interconnected surface water and groundwater, where present	Unreasonable long-term changes of water quality concentrations from baseline conditions to significantly impact users of groundwater	Unreasonable impacts to critical infrastructure (i.e. Friant-Kern Canal)
Measurement Methodology	Groundwater Levels	Groundwater Levels (Proxy)	Groundwater Levels (Proxy)	Sampling for 9 COCs at Ag wells in Monitoring Network; Utilize public system Title 22 quality monitoring	Annual survey of set Mile Posts along the FK and one at a Plainview Mutual Water Company Well - InSAR data to be used when available
Minimum Threshold	2040 Projected GW elevation based on the baseline (1997-2017) trend analysis of GW levels at wells throughout the GSA (10 Threshold Regions)	2040 Projected GW elevation based on the baseline (1997-2017) trend analysis of GW levels at wells throughout the GSA (10 Threshold Regions)	2040 Projected GW elevation based on the baseline (1997-2017) trend analysis of GW levels at wells throughout the GSA (10 Threshold Regions)	No long-term (10 yr running average) increase in concentration beyond recognized Ag or Urban standards for those wells under the threshold. For those wells over the recognized Ag or Urban standards, no long-term increases by 20% in concentration	9.5" of subsidence in a year (relate to no more than 10% capacity reduction in current capacity of the FK)
Measurable Objective	Spring 2017	Spring 2017	Spring 2017	No unreasonable increase in concentration caused by groundwater pumping and recharge efforts.	No subsidence/impacts to CVP deliveries along the FK related to groundwater pumping within the EKGSA
Interim Milestones	Proportionate to % of overdraft to be corrected in 5 year intervals through implementation period	Proportionate to % of overdraft to be corrected in 5 year intervals through implementation period	Proportionate to % of overdraft to be corrected in 5 year intervals through implementation period	No change from current Objective (to be re-evaluated at the 5 yr milestone pending data collection)	No change from current Objective

NOTES:

With regard to Water Quality: (1) Actions to be taken when concentrations of recognized standards exceed 80%, not including wells already exceeding the recognized standards (2) Challenges exist for values 75%-125% of the recognized MCL or Ag standards - Staff to address in body of document

- b. Monitoring Network – Klinchuch provided the Board with maps of monitoring sites within the EKGSA. Including sites for Groundwater Elevation, Water Quality, and ground elevations.
- c. Draft Water Budget – Hagman provided the Board Kaweah Sub-basin water budget. Some discuss occurred relative to how the EKGSA and the other Kaweah Sub-basin GSAs will work through data gap issues in the future. Hagman noted that there will be a sub-basin coordination agreement. Hagman also noted that there will be a short discussion on that in agenda item e. coming up.

- d. Project and Management Actions – Hagman explained to the Board that this will become a chapter in the sustainability plan. However, as of now, there isn't any policy discussion needed. Most of the projects are conceptual and the actions will require substantial vetting and policy direction from the Board of Directors.
- e. Coordination Agreement – Hagman provided the Board with one section of the Basin Sustainable Goal and Undesirable Results. He noted that the Mid Kaweah GSA will be using it as a guiding document for a chapter in their GSP. The other two GSAs are going to reference the Coordination Agreement with common language. Hagman and Hughes are working in a sub-basin manager's group to develop the coordination agreement. Some version of the agreement it will be placed as an Appendix in the Draft GSP.
- f. 90% Draft of the GSP: Klinchuch expressed to the Board that many of the GSP chapters are out to the managers and TAC for their review. He expects to have public draft ready for the next Board meeting in late July.

8. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION:

President Milanesio called the meeting to closed session at 5:50 PM and out of closed session at 6:10 PM. President Milanesio announced no reportable action was taken in closed session.

9. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn was made by Director Burkett, seconded by Director George, and carried by the following vote:

AYES:	Buldo, Burkett, Crocker, Ferrara, George, Gobler, Milanesio, Roberts, Peltzer, Watson
NOES:	None
ABSTAIN:	None
ABSENT:	Rivera.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:12 p.m.