

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

MINUTES FOR THE SPECIAL MEETING ON DECEMBER 16, 2019

The East Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“EKGSA”) Board of Directors duly met for a special meeting on Monday, December 16, 2019, at the Lindsay Wellness Center located at 860 North Sequoia Street, Lindsay, CA 93247.

OPEN SESSION: Convened at 3:08 p.m.

1. **DIRECTORS PRESENT:** Camarena, Ferrara, George, Peltzer, Roberts (arrived at 3:10 p.m.), Milanesio, Gobler, Burkett.

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Watson, Crocker, Buldo, Rivera.

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

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

AYES: Camarena, Ferrara, George, Peltzer, Roberts, Milanesio, Gobler, Burkett.

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Watson, Crocker, Buldo, 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 minutes provided by the Secretary from the October 28, 2019 Special Board meeting was made by Director Ferrara, seconded by Director Burkett, and carried by the following vote:

AYES: Camarena, Ferrara, George, Peltzer, Roberts, Milanesio, Gobler, Burkett.

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Watson, Crocker, Buldo, Rivera.

6. PUBLIC HEARING – GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN:

Board conducted a public hearing and received comments on the draft Groundwater Sustainability Plan. The Executive Director acknowledged receiving written comments before the hearing from:

CA Department of Fish & Wildlife
City of Lindsay
Community Water Center
Exeter & Lindsay-Strathmore Irrigation Districts
Self-Help Enterprises
Tulare County Farm Bureau
Wonderful Citrus
Karen Yohannes
Alberto Corona
Concepcion Orozco
Emilia Montiel
Jose Manuel Zepeda
Maria Morales
Salud Lemus

The following stakeholders provided verbal comment:

Amanda Monaco, Leadership Counsel
Zach Haydt, Community Water Center
Blanca Escobedo, Leadership Counsel
Karen Yohannes, Landowner in EKGSA

A written comment was submitted during the hearing by Zach Haydt, which was the written version of his verbal comment. Amanda Monaco advised that Leadership Counsel had submitted its written comment earlier in the day.

The Chairman then closed the public hearing.

7. ADMINISTRATION:

- a. Interagency Coordination Agreement – Board was given direction on developing a two-year agreement with Lindmore ID for Executive and Implementation Management (January 1, 2020- December 31, 2021).

Motion to approve the agreement was made by Director George, seconded by Director Gobler. Following discussion, the motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Camarena, Ferrara, George, Peltzer, Roberts, Milanesio, Gobler, Burkett.

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Watson, Crocker, Buldo, Rivera.

- b. Call for Funds: Board discussed and established the FY 2020 Plan Implementation Call for Funds in the sum of \$2,500,000.

Motion to make a call for funds for \$2,500,000 share of costs are based on acreage was made by Director Ferrara, seconded by Director Burkett, and carried by the following vote:

AYES: Camarena, Ferrara, George, Peltzer, Roberts, Milanesio, Gobler, Burkett.

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Watson, Crocker, Buldo, Rivera.

Further discussion ensued on the member agencies getting repaid by the EKGSA for this effort. Executive Director noted that he provided a potential solution but needed direction from the Board. Executive Director recommended the EKGSA place repayment of this call for funds into the land-based assessment process and repay the agencies. After some discussion the following action was taken:

Motion to approve repayment to the agencies for the above FY2020 Call for Funds and to place the repayment costs in the land-based assessment contemplated for FY2021 was made by Director Peltzer, seconded by Alternate Director Camarena and carried by the following vote:

AYES: Camarena, Ferrara, George, Peltzer, Roberts, Milanesio, Gobler, Burkett.

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Watson, Crocker, Buldo, Rivera.

- c. Kaweah Sub-Basin Coordination Agreement – Staff presented to the Board the currently developed Basin Coordination Agreement and its final appendices.

No action taken.

8. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING:

Motion to set a special meeting to be held on January 17, 2020, at 3:00 at the Exeter Museum to consider adopting the final GSP was made by Director Gobler, seconded by Director George, and carried by the following vote:

AYES: Camarena, Ferrara, George, Peltzer, Roberts, Milanesio, Gobler, Burkett.

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Watson, Crocker, Buldo, Rivera.

9. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION:

Executive Director referenced the item listed on the Agenda for Closed Session and advised the Board and public that these items would be discussed under Closed Session.

CLOSED SESSION BEGAN AT 4:00 PM

A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – POTENTIAL LITIGATION: [

Potential litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) of Government Code § 54956.9: One Case.

At 5:03 PM, the Board came out of closed session and Legal Counsel reported that no reportable action was taken in the Closed Session.

10. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn was made by Director Peltzer, seconded by Director Ferrara, and carried by the following vote:

AYES: Camarena, Ferrara, George, Peltzer, Roberts, Milanesio, Gobler, Burkett.

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Watson, Crocker, Buldo, Rivera.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 p.m.