

**MID-KINGS RIVER GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY  
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, MAY 8, 2018**

Chair McCutcheon called the regular meeting to order at approximately 1:00 p.m.

**DIRECTORS PRESENT:** David Ayers; Barry McCutcheon, Chair;  
Michael Murray, Vice-Chair

**DIRECTORS ABSENT:** Steven P. Dias

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Dennis Mills, Secretary                      Ray Carlson, Legal Counsel  
Bill Giacomazzi    Bill Pipes, Wood  
Larry McKillip    MaryLou Silveira  
Carole Combs, TLBWP    Rick Cody  
Cheryl Rocha    Shawn Corley, LIWD  
Dennis Tristao, Boswell    Mike LaSalle  
Bill Tos    Abigail Solice, Self-Help Ent.

**ESTABLISH QUORUM**

It was determined that a quorum was present at the meeting.

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

None.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

None.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF APRIL 10 AND APRIL 24, 2018 MEETINGS**

Chair McCutcheon asked if there was a motion regarding the minutes circulated in this month's Board packets. Director Ayers made a motion to approve the April 10 and April 24, 2018 meeting minutes. Vice-Chair Murray seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved the meeting minutes of April 10 and April 24, 2018. The vote for all of the Directors was as follows:

AYES: David Ayers, Barry McCutcheon, Michael Murray

NOES: None

ABSTAINED:None

ABSENT: Steven P. Dias

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Secretary Mills reported on the following communications:

- All Tulare Lake subbasin GSAs have now paid on their grant application cost share. The GSA had also received funds from the City of Hanford and the County of Kings for their portions of the effort as well.
- Greater Kaweah GSA is still looking for a new general manager.
- A consultant from the Orange County area inquired about GSP Development and RFPs.
- Michael Young of the University of Adelaide contacted the MKR GSA to gauge interest in a visit this summer.

### **TULARE LAKE GROUNDWATER MODEL**

Secretary Mills reported on the draft model report that was circulated that the comments that were developed and submitted back to the consultant. The model in its current state of development showed a cumulative overdraft of 8 million AF between 1990-2016 in the subbasin. On average that is roughly 250,000 AF/year over roughly 524,000 acres. Total annual groundwater use in the subbasin was estimated at 160 TAF in critical dry years like 2015. Ag demands in the Tulare Lake subbasin appear to peak in 2008 at roughly 275 TAF/year and diminish thereafter. Outflows to other subbasins that were unexpected – Kings, Kaweah, Tule, Westside and Kern. There is still obvious work to be done prior to be able to use the tool to develop water budgets for GSA areas or basin. Manager Mills developed comments on behalf of the MKR GSA, which were delivered. The South Fork Kings GSA and Tri-County Water Authority GSA also developed comments that were reviewed and considered by the consultant, the County and the Partner Group. The group discussed what comments were appropriate for future model development and for the final report. The report is now being revised based on draft comments

Manager Mills reported that once the Final Report is accepted, the last thing to do is a presentation to the County Board of Supervisors. The plan is for GSA managers to lead the presentation with the "message" of what was done and where to go from here. The groundwater modelers will then summarize results and present the technical material. The presentation might happen in early June.

### **GSP DEVELOPMENT**

Secretary Mills reported a commitment letter from DWR was emailed to the MKR GSA the previous evening. The documents are under review and have been forwarded to GSA partners for their information. It appears that DWR wants a written response to Dane Mathis to accept the grant award amount within 14 calendar days. They also want a discussion on how the scope/budget/schedule may have changed since the application in Nov. '17. Within 45 days from receipt of the email they want a track changes document on differences in the scope/budget/schedule and a completed Environmental Information form. Secretary Mills requested authorization to develop an email to respond to DWR accepting the grant award. Also requested authorization to prepare the requested information and submit it back to DWR if necessary. However if time allows, the documents will be brought back to you for review at the next Board meeting. Chair McCutcheon asked if there was a motion regarding the requested authorizations to respond to DWR and develop materials as per their request. Director Ayers

made a motion to approve the requested authorizations. Vice-Chair Murray seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved the requested authorization. The vote for all of the Directors was as follows:

AYES: David Ayers, Barry McCutcheon, Michael Murray

NOES: None

ABSTAINED:None

ABSENT: Steven P. Dias

#### **SEED FUNDING FOR GSP CONSULTANT**

Secretary Mills reported that at the last Tulare Lake GSA Parties meeting seed funding for MKR GSA account was discussed. The GSA Parties agreed to a first request of \$250,000 with the understanding that others could happen shortly after the first request if the DWR reimbursement contract is delayed. The GSA Parties requested formal invoices from the MKR GSA for the seed funding and Secretary Mills had those invoices available for your consideration and approval. Chair McCutcheon asked if there was a motion regarding the \$250,000 seed funding and the submitted invoices. Director Ayers made a motion to approve the \$250,000 seed funding amount and approve the invoices as submitted. Vice-Chair Murray seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved the requested authorization. The vote for all of the Directors was as follows:

AYES: David Ayers, Barry McCutcheon, Michael Murray

NOES: None

ABSTAINED:None

ABSENT: Steven P. Dias

#### **GSA POINT OF CONTACT**

Secretary Mills reported that at the last Tulare Lake GSA Parties meeting the GSP consultant had requested that a Point of Contact (POC) be identified for each GSA in the subbasin. The POC would be responsible for: a) working with the GSP consultant on developing efforts, b) providing and coordinating data from parties in the area, and c) reporting back to the GSA Board on developing efforts. Secretary Mills' recommendation was that the Board appoint him as the Mid-Kings River GSA POC. Chair McCutcheon asked if there was a motion regarding the MKR GSA POC. Vice-Chair Murray made a motion to select Secretary Mills as the MKR GSA POC as recommended. Director Ayers seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved the requested authorization. The vote for all of the Directors was as follows:

AYES: David Ayers, Barry McCutcheon, Michael Murray

NOES: None

ABSTAINED:None

ABSENT: Steven P. Dias

### **DISCUSSION OF GSP DEVELOPMENT NEXT STEPS**

Bill Pipes of Wood, the Tulare Lake GSP Consultant, gave a brief discussion of GSP development and next steps in the process.

### **ROUGH SUBSIDENCE EVALUATION PROCESS**

Secretary Mills discussed a rough evaluation process for subsidence that had been recommended. The process included taking the next few months to develop subbasin level opinion on why subsidence was occurring. After that the Kaweah and Tule subbasins would be engaged to set-up meetings on the matter. Hopefully that would allow parties to begin inter-basin discussions on subsidence in late summer.

### **DATA SHARING AGREEMENTS WITH ADJACENT SUBBASINS**

Secretary Mills reported that the South Fork Kings GSA has a data sharing agreement with Westlands WD, but in order to use the data for GSP development WWD believes one needs to be signed with the subbasin. Discussions are ongoing on how to resolve the matter.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:50 p.m.  
Respectfully submitted,

Dennis Mills  
MKR MIN 180508