

**MID-KINGS RIVER GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, AUGUST 14, 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
Dusty Ference, Kings Co FB Bill Tos
Karen Ormsby, Kings Co. Grand Jury Jeff Gilcrease
Julianne Phillips, Kings Co. John Doyel, Hanford
Rebecca Quist, KRCD Eva Dominguez, Self-Help Ent.
Jim Maciel, Armona CSD

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 JULY 10, 2018 MEETING

Chair McCutcheon asked if there was a motion regarding the minutes circulated in this month's Board packets. Vice-Chair Murray made a motion to approve the July 10, 2018 meeting minutes as presented. Director Ayers seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved the meeting minutes of July 10, 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:

- Mr. Geoff Vanden Heuvel from the Milk Producers Council requested a meeting to discuss SGMA implementation in the area. The meeting will happen August 15.
- Manager Mills received an email on a Rural Communities Leadership Institute Survey from Self Help Enterprise. The communication was that they are developing the institute and are requesting feedback.
- Notice by the State Board that they are considering public hearings on challenges to the Fully Appropriated Stream designation on the Kings River.

GSP DEVELOPMENT

DWR Contract – Seed Funding – Budget Update

Secretary Mills reported that this last Friday he received final questions from DWR on the Contract/Scope/Budget. They related to how to view a few deliverables and a few references in the work plan. Also, DWR has made the GSA aware that they want quarterly invoices throughout grant which can be accommodated with some adjustment. Today, Board Members signed a check for the June invoice which was \$91,410. The GSP development Invoice for July will be more than budgeted, and will probably be received next week and will be paid at September Board meeting.

Secretary Mills reported that he had evaluated the available funds remaining from the First Round of Seed Funding versus the coming GSP development invoices prior to DWR reimbursement and had concluded that a second round of seed funding was needed. The amount of \$250,000 was discussed with the other GSA leads and agreed to at a recent meeting. It was reported that invoices for the second round of seed funding went out August 1. Kings CWD has already contributed their portion of the MKR GSA amount. The possibility of a third round of seed funding will continue to be evaluated based on when DWR's reimbursements will begin to supplement seed funding.

Board of Supervisors Model Presentation

Secretary Mills reported that the Tulare Lake Subbasin GSAs and the GSP Consultant presented the final product of the DWR funded Tulare lake Groundwater Model at a Public Hearing at last Tuesday's Kings County Board of Supervisor meeting. It was reported that Secretary Mills presented a little perspective for the effort and then David Bean provided the summary of modeling efforts in a presentation.

Groundwater Model Refinement

Secretary Mills reported that the Wood consultant team provided a presentation on July 24 on efforts and one thing that came out of it were questions about surface water deliveries in the model from 2010 to present. This has led to updates in the information being used and a request for the MKR GSA to "check" the numbers that are being used.

Southwest Kings GSA Water Balance

Secretary Mills reported that a Draft Water Budget was presented to the Southwest Kings (SWK) GSA Board at a previous meeting and that Mr. Joe Hopkins from P&P presented the draft product to the Tulare Lake GSAs last Friday. The consultants evaluated 1990 – 2016, which is the same period as the Subbasin Groundwater Model, and concluded that the SWK GSA area is in balance, with an 8,700 AF/year surplus. These results have not been compared to the Subbasin GW Model and do not include any groundwater inflow/outflow estimates. Important details appear to be that surface water contracts for SWP were sold during this period and won't be as available in the future as the historic evaluation indicates. Also, there have been many that have speculated that the groundwater or surface water attributable to this area is being delivered to others. If this is the case, then these numbers don't reflect reality. Mr. Hopkins relayed that there are no groundwater wells in DWRD, but there are roughly a dozen wells in RD 761/Westlake Farms.

Mid-Kings River GSA Water Balance Proposal

Secretary Mills reported that he had been in contact with Provost and Pritchard Engineering Consultants (P&P) to develop a proposal for the MKR GSA to develop a Water Balance. The budget they identified was roughly \$30,000 to \$50,000 depending on the level of work down by MKR GSA staff. Deliverables for the effort would be Draft and Final products/results, a brief memo on the findings, and the data spreadsheets. Secretary Mills recommended that the Board authorize the P&P Proposal and the contracting for said services. Director Ayers made a motion to authorize President McCutcheon to sign the Provost and Pritchard Water Balance proposal so that consultant services could proceed. Vice-President Murray seconded the motion and the vote for all Directors was as follows:

AYES: David Ayers, Barry McCutcheon, Michael Murray

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: Steven P. Dias

Potential Management Action Concepts

Secretary Mills reported that the GSA had many available management actions that could be pursued in connection with SGMA compliance. These included developing additional recharge basins, developing new delivery systems so that more lands can access surface water, lining canals to reduce system losses and increase deliverable supplies, developing new groundwater banks, developing a land fallowing program for willing participants, and developing a groundwater market for zones within the Tulare Lake Subbasin. He explained his hope was to bring one of these potential management action concepts to each Board meeting over the next several months for further discussion.

UPDATE ON ONGOING EFFORTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis Mills

MKR MIN 180814