

**MID-KINGS RIVER GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2020**

This meeting was held by conference call due to local Covid-19 requirements. Chair McCutcheon called the regular meeting to order at approximately 1:00 p.m.

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Art Brieno; Steven P. Dias; Barry McCutcheon, Chair

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Michael Murray, Vice-Chair

OTHERS PRESENT: Dennis Mills, GM and Board Secretary
Ray Carlson, Legal Counsel (phone)
Sebastian Silveria, Griswold-LaSalle (phone)
Rebecca Quist, Kings River CD (phone)
Shawn Corley, Lakeside IWD (phone)
John Doyel, City of Hanford (phone)

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 THE REGULAR MAY 12 AND OCTOBER 13, 2020 MEETINGS

Chair McCutcheon asked if there was a motion regarding the draft May 12 and October 13, 2020 meeting minutes. It was noted that Attorney Carlson had provided a few minor corrections to the draft minutes. Director Dias made a motion to approve the draft May 12 and October 13, 2020 meeting minutes with the noted corrections. Director Brieno seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved the meeting minutes of October 13, 2020 with the noted corrections. The vote for all of the Directors was as follows:

AYES: Art Brieno, Steven P. Dias, Barry McCutcheon

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: Michael Murray

COMMUNICATIONS

None.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Financial Update

Manager Mills reported that the current bank balance after today's approved expenditures would be roughly \$10,000. The JPA members have roughly \$17,500 in funds involved, so the JPA is carrying a small amount of Round 3 SGM grant administration costs.

Round 3 DWR Planning Grant Update

Manager Mills reported that the first Round 3 SGM Grant reimbursement request for roughly \$367,000 had been submitted and that DWR representatives had requested clarification and additional information related to the request. The requests were being addressed in the hopes that DWR staff would quickly approve the request for reimbursement.

Kaweah Subbasin Coordination

Manager Mills reported that the MKR GSA had been copied on a letter from the Mid-Kaweah GSA to the El Rico GSA related to coordination between the Tulare Lake and Kaweah subbasins. The letter seemed to be a formal request by the Mid-Kaweah GSA to engage the El Rico GSA on matters connected to well field pumping. Manager Mills contacted Aaron Fukuda, the Mid-Kaweah GSA's interim general manager and relayed that the Mid-Kings River GSA would be happy to participate in the effort. Manager Mills also encouraged Mr. Fukuda to engage with Gene Kilgore at Corcoran ID, as he had previously stated a willingness to have other similar discussions.

Upcoming SGM Implementation Grant

Manager Mills reported that DWR had released a Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP) for Round 1 of their SGM Implementation Grant opportunity at the end of October. Manager Mills relayed that it appeared that DWR had changed the criteria for the required cost share as well as a few other items that related to the scoring criteria. Manager Mills also relayed that the application would have to be on behalf of the subbasin, and that grant awards were a minimum of \$2 million and a maximum of \$5 million. He relayed that there was a webinar scheduled for early December that he hoped would shed more light on some of the changes from previous offerings.

Manager Mills reported that the Tulare Lake Subbasin GSA representatives had discussed the potential grant opportunity and most of the GSAs had projects that they wished to include in the application on behalf of the subbasin. The representatives agreed that the GSAs with projects in the grant application would be responsible for the cost of development. Manager Mills had conversations with the consultant for the Kaweah Subbasin related to their grant development budget. It appeared the budget for that effort was \$30,000.

Projects Update and Discussion

Manager Mills reported that based on the soil borings conducted at the previously discussed Dias property, that the Kings CWD Board had chosen not to attempt to acquire the property for a new recharge basin. Also, given that the Esajian Basin project is already in construction, Manager Mills explained that he would not recommend that effort be involved in

the Round 1 Implementation Grant opportunity. Instead Manager Mills recommended that the new Kings CWD Griswold Basin be the central project involved in the grant application for the Mid-Kings River GSA area. As previously discussed, the new Kings CWD basin was included in the Tulare Lake Subbasin GSP and would be constructed on existing District property along Riverside Ditch. An investigation in 2019 showed that on the southern half of the property, sandy soils are just a few feet below the top soils. Also, design and cost options for the facility had been developed and evaluated. Manager Mills asked the MKR GSA Board to consider authorizing participation in the development of a Round 1 Implementation Grant application for the Tulare Lake Subbasin with the local project as Kings CWD's Griswold Basin. Director Brieno made that motion and Director Dias seconded it. Chair McCutcheon called for a vote and the vote of all directors was as follow:

AYES: Art Brieno, Steven P. Dias, Barry McCutcheon

NOES: None

ABSTAINED:None

ABSENT: Michael Murray

UPDATE ON ONGOING EFFORTS

None

SET NEXT MEETING DATE

The regular December Board of Directors meeting was tentatively set for December 8, 2020 at 1 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis Mills
MKR MIN 201117