

**MID-KINGS RIVER GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2021**

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

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Steven P. Dias; Barry McCutcheon, Chair; Dianne Sharp

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Michael Murray, Vice-Chair

OTHERS PRESENT: Dennis Mills, GM and Board Secretary
Greg and Elektra Enloe
Bill Tos, Tos Farms
Bill Giacomazzi
Ray Carlson, Legal Counsel (phone)
Lita Spencer, Westchester Group (phone)
Shawn Corley, Lakeside IWD (phone)
Johnny Gailey, Delta View WA (phone)
Jim Maciel, Armona CSD (phone)
Clayton Smith, Valadao's Office (phone)
Sebastian Silveira, Griswold LaSalle (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 NOVEMBER 9, 2021 MEETING

Chair McCutcheon asked if there was a motion regarding the draft November 9, 2021 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 November 9, 2021 meeting minutes with the noted corrections. Director Sharp seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved the meeting minutes of November 9, 2021 meetings with the noted corrections. The vote for all of the Directors was as follows:

AYES: Steven P. Dias, Barry McCutcheon, Diane Sharp

NOES: None

ABSTAINED:None

ABSENT: Michael Murray

COMMUNICATIONS

Manager Mills reported that a few communications would be reported on in other portions of the meeting.

MANAGER'S REPORT

TLS Project Selection Committee

Manager Mills reported that Tulare Lake Subbasin representatives had recently met and discussed developing a recommendation on a project selection committee for the Subbasin. The recommendation the group developed was to have the GSA managers be the project selection committee for the Subbasin. The Board discussed the recommendation and discussed a few questions. After the discussion, Director Dias made a motion to approve the recommendation to have the GSA managers be the project selection committee for the Subbasin. Director Sharp seconded the motion and Chair McCutcheon called for a vote. The vote for all Directors was as follows:

AYES: Steven P. Dias, Barry McCutcheon, Diane Sharp

NOES: None

ABSTAINED:None

ABSENT: Michael Murray

MKR Priorities and Recommended Projects

Manager Mills discussed with the Board what the current SGM Implementation Grant PSP priorities seemed to be and whether there were specific priorities that the Board wished him to convey to the other GSAs in the Subbasin. Generally it was understood that the PSP priorities were projects that related to groundwater recharge and the use of floodwater. However, it was also conveyed that monitoring facility development and many planning activities also appeared in the fundable effort descriptions. Manager Mills relayed that there had been discussion by some GSA managers of considering a Native Yield study for the Subbasin, a groundwater model update for the Subbasin and development of new groundwater monitoring wells in data gap areas. Manager Mills made a recommendation that the GSA prioritize projects that can improve groundwater conditions over planning or monitoring efforts. The Board discussed the information and asked a few questions. After the discussion, Director Sharp made a motion, consistent with Manager Mills' recommendation, that the GSA advocate prioritizing projects that can improve groundwater conditions over planning and monitoring efforts. Director Dias seconded the motion and Chair McCutcheon called for a vote. The vote for all Directors was as follows:

AYES: Steven P. Dias, Barry McCutcheon, Diane Sharp

NOES: None

ABSTAINED:None

ABSENT: Michael Murray

Following that vote, Manager Mills discussed potential projects that could be included in the Subbasin's SGM Implementation Grant PSP. Manager Mills recommended that the GSA's project list be used to guide selection of potential projects. Manager Mills relayed that the Griswold Basin project appears to be the top priority project, given its ability to recharge local groundwater using existing water rights and by using available floodwater. It was reported that the Kings CWD owned the project site and previous planning efforts had made it ready to proceed. Also, many of the other basin expansion and improvement projects appeared to be very high priority, as they also developed increased groundwater recharge capability through existing water rights and by using available floodwater. The Board discussed the information and asked a few questions. After the discussion, Director Dias made a motion, consistent with Manager Mills' recommendation, to pursue SGM Implementation Grant funding for the highest priority projects that could be accomplished within the required timeframe, from GSA's project list. Director Sharp seconded the motion and Chair McCutcheon called for a vote. The vote for all Directors was as follows:

AYES: Steven P. Dias, Barry McCutcheon, Diane Sharp

NOES: None

ABSTAINED:None

ABSENT: Michael Murray

Applicant Discussion

Manager Mills reviewed the previous grant efforts pursued by the Subbasin and that the MKR GSA had been the applicant for the Round 2 and 3 planning grants. Manager Mills recommended to the Board that whoever's projects were selected to be included in the SGM Implementation Grant application, should be the applicant on behalf of the Subbasin, and the Board agreed. After reviewing the general conditions on being an applicant for the grant, Manager Mills asked the Board to consider whether the MKR GSA would be willing to be the applicant for the Subbasin if MKR GSA projects were included. The Board discussed the information and asked a few questions. After the discussion, Director Dias made a motion, to approve the MKR GSA being the applicant on behalf of the Tulare Lake Subbasin, if needed, after project selection. Director Sharp seconded the motion and Chair McCutcheon called for a vote. The vote for all Directors was as follows:

AYES: Steven P. Dias, Barry McCutcheon, Diane Sharp

NOES: None

ABSTAINED:None

ABSENT: Michael Murray

TLS GSP Evaluation Update Letter

Manager Mills reported that the Tulare Lake Subbasin Point of Contact, Amer Hussain, had been sent a letter from the Sustainable Groundwater Management Office related to the Subbasin's 2020 Groundwater Sustainability Plan. The very brief letter seemed to be an advance warning that DWR's review of the 2020 GSP was coming by the end of January 2022. The Board discussed the information and asked a few questions.

UPDATE ON ONGOING EFFORTS

Report on Round 3 Planning Grant

Manager Mills reported that the MKR GSA had received the reissued check that was previously sent to Kings CWD by accident. Staff was in the process of sending funds out to partnering GSAs.

GSP Consultant

Manager Mills reported that he had discussed a GSP Consultant engagement with Brian Ehlers at Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group. Mr. Ehlers has been a consultant to Kings CWD for many years and has a good understanding of the area. The Board discussed their understanding of Mr. Ehlers previous performance and their view of his suiting to effort related to DWR's comments on the 2020 Tulare Lake Subbasin GSP on issues in the MKR GSA area. After the discussion, Director Dias made a motion, to approve engaging Brian Ehlers related to the effort to address DWR comments on the 2020 Tulare Lake Subbasin GSP on issues in the MKR GSA area. Director Sharp seconded the motion and Chair McCutcheon called for a vote. The vote for all Directors was as follows:

AYES: Steven P. Dias, Barry McCutcheon, Diane Sharp

NOES: None

ABSTAINED:None

ABSENT: Michael Murray

Land IQ Information

Manager Mills reported that Kings CWD had received Et estimates for October from Land IQ and was in the process reviewing the information.

2021 Annual Report Development

Manager Mills reported that information had been provided to Geosyntec, who has been developing the 2021 Annual Report for the Tulare Lake Subbasin. The information provided included Land IQ Et information, Armona CSD groundwater pumping, City of Hanford

groundwater pumping, and Home Garden CSD groundwater pumping. Surface water deliveries in the area are still be summarized for submittal to the consultant.

DIRECTOR REPORTS

None

SET NEXT MEETING DATE

The regular January Board of Directors meeting was tentatively set for January 18, 2022 at 1 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Dennis Mills
MKR MIN 211214