

**MID-KINGS RIVER GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, APRIL 19, 2022**

This meeting was held by conference call due to local Covid-19 conditions and requirements. The regular meeting was called to order at approximately 1 p.m.

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Steven P. Dias, Barry McCutcheon, Diane Sharp,
Michael Murray, Vice-Chair (phone)

DIRECTORS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Dennis Mills, GM and Board Secretary
Ray Carlson, Legal Counsel (phone)
John Doyel, City of Hanford (phone)
Lynn McBride (phone)
Johnny Gailey, Delta View Water Association (phone)
Shawn Corley, Lakeside IWD (phone)

ESTABLISH QUORUM

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

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Manager Mills relayed that he had not had time to develop the minutes from previous meetings.

COMMUNICATIONS

Manager Mills reported that:

- There was a Kings County Export Ordinance meeting on April 18.
- Former General Manager of Panoche WD accused of stealing more than \$25 million of CVP water.
- A recent Bulletin 120 Forecast estimated the Kings River April-July runoff is 520,000 acre-feet, or 43% of average.
- He developed a support letter for a KRCD grant application for Land Repurposing.
- The Tulare Lake Subbasin 2021 Annual Report was submitted to DWR.
- The MKR GSA received well permit zip code information from Kings County as requested.

MANAGER'S REPORT

REVIEW OF GOVERNOR'S RECENT EXECUTIVE ORDER N-7-22

Manager Mills reported that the new EO included the following:

- May 2022 SWRCB emergency conservation regulations:
 - Urban Water Supplier – Water Supply & Demand Assessment by 06/01/22.
 - Urban Water Supplier – Water Shortage Contingency Plan.
- Suspension of CEQA on conservation projects.
- Suspension of prohibitions on hauling water out of basin of origin to truck emergency water for human consumption, cooking, or sanitation in communities or residences.
- New Ag and Industrial Well Permit requirements for GSAs and Counties.
- DWR directed to suspend CEQA requirements on grant funded recharge projects.
- DWR to prepare for multi-year transfer program pilot project to buy water and convey to “areas of need”.
- DWR comes out with FACT Sheet on EO regarding well permits.

REVIEW OF KINGS COUNTY ATTESTATION EFFORTS

Manager Mills reported the following on the effort:

- Board of Supervisors approved a proposal to deal with their requirements. It involved recording a commitment from the land owner to comply with GSP/GSA requirements.
- The effort was reviewed by County Council and viewed as too much liability for the County. So progress there has currently stalled.

REVIEW OF OTHER LOCAL GSA WELL PERMIT VALIDATION EFFORTS

Manager Mills provided a brief description of how other nearby GSAs were dealing with the new GSA Verification process.

PROPOSED INTERIM MKR GSA WELL PERMIT VALIDATION

Manager Mills reported the following on the effort, as described in Resolution 2022-02:

- Review of the content of the WHEREAS statements in proposed Resolution – Agency Understanding.
- Review of the ACTIONS authorized in the proposed Resolution
 - Contact each local municipal water supply system in the service area and request information
 - Formal request to Kings Co for all well permit info from 01/01/22 to present to conduct an investigation into the current issues for municipal and domestic wells
 - Immediately require all landowners in the service area to register active wells and provide WCRs if they exist
 - Information will be provided to Kings County on GW conditions well permit applicants should be aware of
 - GSA Verification provided if:
 - Replacement wells require submittal of WCRs if they exist

- Applicant/owner aware of “protect health, safety and the environment” requirement
- Applicant/owner aware of current and long-term groundwater conditions
- Provide location and info on any operable well within 1,000 feet of well site if available
- Totalizing flowmeter required and allowance to enter property and monitor
- Throttling valve required, for use, if necessary during emergency declaration
- Applicant/owner aware that verification doesn’t exempt app/owner from potential litigation from operational impacts
- County paragraph 9b process by Kings County:
 - Determination appears to be impossible prior to construction
 - Community systems are deep wells in our area and are do not appear to be at risk
 - If a replacement well is located in a similar location to the original well, impacts to other nearby wells will likely be similar
 - New ag/industrial wells located 660 feet from any other existing well owned by another party if possible and primarily perforated in a deeper zone than existing domestic wells
 - Subsidence has been an issue in this are for many decades. Recent Stanford modeling suggests legacy subsidence. The GSA doesn’t know of any technical method to evaluate whether a proposed well would be likely to cause subsidence.

The Board discussed the proposed framework for GSA Verification with Manager Mills, asking various questions, giving opinions and providing some guidance on needed adjustments and the correction of minor typos. After the discussion, Vice-Chair Dias made a motion to approve Resolution 2022-02 with the discussed revisions and Director Sharp seconded the motion. Chair McCutcheon called for a vote, and the vote for all of the Directors was as follows:

AYES: Barry McCutcheon, Steven P. Dias, Michael Murray, Diane Sharp
 NOES: None
 ABSTAINED: None
 ABSENT: None

REVIEW OF WELL PERMITS RECENTLY SUBMITTED TO MKR GSA

Manager Mills reported the following on effort relating to the following GSA Verifications that have been submitted:

- Double N Farms/B&B/Ag/W2204-0001, APN 006-020-090 – 04/04/22
- Caetano Properties/Myers/Ag/W2204-0012, APN 002-230-058 – 04/12/22
- Caetano Properties/Myers/Ag/W2204-0014, APN 002-230-058 – 04/12/22

UPDATE ON 2020 TLS GSP REVISION EFFORTS

Manager Mills provided a brief report on recent meetings related to the effort.

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UPDATE ON ONGOING EFFORTS

GEOSYNTEC CONTRACT FOR GSP REVISIONS

Manager Mills provided a brief report on recent progress related to the effort.

FALL 2021 SGM IMPLEMENTATION GRANT

Manager Mills provided a brief report on recent progress related to the effort.

REPORT OF ROUND 3 PLANNING GRANT

Manager Mills provided a brief report on recent progress related to the effort.

DIRECTOR REPORTS

None

SET NEXT MEETING DATE

The regular May Board of Directors meeting was tentatively set for May 10, 2022 at 1 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis Mills
MKR MIN 220419