

**MID-KINGS RIVER GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 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: Barry McCutcheon, Chair; Diane Sharp;
Michael Murray, Vice-Chair (phone)

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Steven P. Dias

OTHERS PRESENT: Dennis Mills, GM and Board Secretary
Ray Carlson, Legal Counsel (phone)
Shawn Corley, Lakeside IWD
Bill Giacomazzi,
Jim Ross (phone), Dave Stanfield (phone),
Geof VandenHuevel, Milk Producers Council (phone)
Johnny Gailey, Delta View Water Association (phone)
Sebastian Silviera (phone)
Braiden Sanchez (phone)
Mike Swanson (phone)
Jay Weiner (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

- Data request for WY 2022 TLS Annual Report
- Common Good Water
- Expense invoice from El Rico for Ludorff & Scalmanini efforts
- Kings County GW Export Policy - Water Resource Oversight Commission
- Land Flex Grant
- Grand Jury Meet & Greet - 11/30 @ 10:30 am
- City of Hanford Study Session - 12/06 @ 7:00 pm

MANAGER'S REPORT

DWR SGM Implementation, Round 2 Solicitation

Manager Mills reported on aspects of the Tulare Lake Subbasin, DWR SGM Implementation, Round 2 grant application that was under development. After a discussion of the particulars of the grant and the amounts budgeted for various efforts, Manager Mills reviewed Resolution 2022-2 with the MKR GSA Board which would authorize the MKR GSA on behalf of the Tulare Lake Subbasin to apply for the grant and enter into a contract with DWR, while also designating Manager Mills as the MKR GSA's signatory representative. Chair McCutcheon asked if there was a motion regarding Resolution 2022-2. Director Sharp made a motion to approve Resolution 2022-2. Vice-Chair Murray seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved Resolution 2022-2 authorizing the MKR GSA on behalf of the Tulare Lake Subbasin to apply for the DWR grant and enter into a contract with DWR, while also designating Manager Mills as the MKR GSA's signatory representative. The vote for all of the Directors was as follows:

AYES: Barry McCutcheon, Michael Murray, Diane Sharp

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: Steven P. Dias

DWR & STATE BOARD MEETINGS

Manager Mills reported the following:

- DWR Meeting
 - DWR did not think the "lack" of a second GSP document was significant.
 - DWR did not review the El Rico GSAs letter drawing attention to the conflict of interest in the Southwest Kings GSA's actions. Paul Goslein seemed to be unaware of it.
 - DWR did not view the motivations of the parties as significant.
 - DWR conveyed that the GSAs are not under their (DWR's) jurisdiction any longer and are under the State Board instead.

- DWR directed local GSAs to meet with State Board staff if we had any additional questions.
- State Board Meeting
 - View the subbasin is "kinda" under their oversight.
 - Generally they view the subbasin is still under DWR oversight, and they are awaiting DWR's view of the GSP Revisions.
 - They don't want to impose intervention over a technicality.

GOALS/BUDGET/STAFF DISCUSSION

Manager Mills highlighted the following goals/efforts for the GSA over the coming year and discussed them with the Board:

- DWR/State Board GSP Rev Review
- Water Year 2022 Annual Report
- Development of initial max pumping cap for WY 2023 and estimated ramp-down schedule, or project development schedule
- Development of Well Mitigation Plan
- Active Well Registration
- Develop requirement for Water Quality testing of all new domestic wells
- Prop 218 Assessment - Water Charge Plan & Election
 - \$5-10/acre assessment on parcels over 2 acres
 - \$30/AF GW Pumping Charge above 2 AF/acre use
- Better define relationship with KCWD re projects/staffing
- New assistant manager/technician for Kings CWD

WELL REGISTRATION POLICY

Manager Mills presented the Groundwater Well Registration Policy to the Board for a second time. The Board discussed the minor revisions made from the last time it was considered. Chair McCutcheon asked if there was a motion regarding the Groundwater Well Registration Policy as presented. Director Sharp made a motion to approve the Groundwater Well Registration Policy as presented. Vice-Chair Murray seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved the Groundwater Well Registration Policy as presented. The vote for all of the Directors was as follows:

AYES: Barry McCutcheon, Michael Murray, Diane Sharp

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: Steven P. Dias

FLOWMETER POLICY DISCUSSION

Manager Mills presented the Active Groundwater Meter Policy to the Board for a second time. The Board discussed the minor revisions made from the last time it was considered. Chair

McCutcheon asked if there was a motion regarding Active Groundwater Meter Policy as presented. Director Sharp made a motion to approve the Active Groundwater Meter Policy as presented. Vice-Chair Murray seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved the Active Groundwater Meter Policy as presented. The vote for all of the Directors was as follows:

AYES: Barry McCutcheon, Michael Murray, Diane Sharp

NOES: None

ABSTAINED:None

ABSENT: Steven P. Dias

2018 AUDIT REPORT

Manager Mills reported on the Fiscal Year 2018 Audit and that no problems were noted in the report developed by Cuttone & Mastro. Chair McCutcheon asked if there was a motion regarding the 2018 Audit Report as presented. Director Sharp made a motion to approve the 2018 Audit Report as presented. Vice-Chair Murray seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved 2018 Audit Report as presented. The vote for all of the Directors was as follows:

AYES: Barry McCutcheon, Michael Murray, Diane Sharp

NOES: None

ABSTAINED:None

ABSENT: Steven P. Dias

GREATER KAWEAH GSA PUMPING CAP & FEES

Manager Mills reported the following:

- Pumping Cap set at 2.70 AF/acre of ET starting this water year
 - Native Yield = 0.83 AF/acre of ET @ \$0/AF
 - Tier One = 0.83 AF/acre of ET (transitional) @ \$125/AF
 - Tier Two = 1.04 AF/acre of ET (transitional) @ \$250/AF
- Approximate pumping step-down would be something like:
 - 2.7 in 2023,
 - 2.1 in 2026,
 - 1.6 in 2031, and
 - 0.8 in 2036
- ET measured by Land IQ picks up evaporation of all kinds and crop transpiration
- Precip amount partially included in accounting due to connection with Land IQ estimates
- Fees are penalties for transitional pumping targeting conservation
- MKR will likely have to increase groundwater pumping along Greater Kaweah GSA boundary because of annual limits and penalty fees this year. However, this increased pumping might continue if adjacent area fees are not considered in WY 2023 plans.

LAKESIDE IWD BOUNDARY ISSUES

Manager Mills reported the following:

- Basic question is, “Can canal seepage from the MKR GSA side of LIWD be used to justify pumping on the Greater Kaweah GSA side of LIWD in WY 2023?”
- That seems manageable as long as it only happens while the MKR does not have a pumping cap.

MITIGATION PLAN ELEMENT DISCUSSION

Manager Mills presented the following topics in discussing a potential well mitigation plan for the MKR GSA with the Board:

- Minimum Standard for Well - should be 200-400 ft deep by now
- Evaluation of cause of failure vs GSA action
 - Potentially no compensation for A-Zone wells
 - Potential compensation for B-Zone wells, deepening
- Compensation for tank usage/refills and bottled water services

ON-GOING EFFORTS

- Hanford – Well 44 being re-drilled, needs a GSA Verification

SET NEXT MEETING DATE

The regular December Board of Directors meeting was tentatively set for December 13, 2022 at 1 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis Mills
MKR MIN 221108