



**MID-KAWEAH GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY**

**MINUTES**

April 11, 2023 @ 3:00 PM  
MKGSA Board of Directors Meeting

*This Committee Meeting was held via teleconference with no physical location due to the COVID-19 Pandemic and the Governors Executive Order N-29-20*

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Dave Martin, David Bixler, Steve Nelsen, Emmanuel Hernandez Soto, Dennis Mederos, and Trisha Whitfield (Alternate)

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**GSA MEMBER STAFF PRESENT:** Aaron Fukuda, Kathi Artis, Valerie Kincaid, James Fisher, Diana Zegarra, Rhett Anderson, Trisha Whitfield, and Leslie Caviglia

**PUBLIC ATTENDEES:** Matt Klinchuch, Blake Wilbur Marlene Ferreira, Georgina King, Mark Larsen, Manuel Montero, Richard Garcia, Amanda Peisch, Andrew Hart, Nichole Bonna, Valerie Kincaid

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chair Martin called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.
2. **PUBLIC COMMENT** – Chair Martin called for public comments.  
No public comments were forthcoming.
3. **GENERAL BUSINESS**
  - a. Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting on February 14, 2023. By a motion of Director Nelsen seconded by Director Mederos and carried by all Directors present, the April 11, 2023 meeting minutes were approved.
  - b. Financial Reports
    - (i) Year-to-Date - Kathi Artis presented the financial statements. By a motion of Director Bixler, seconded by Director Nelsen and unanimously carried by all Directors present.
  - c. Legal Counsel Report - V. Kincaid gave a report on AB460 Amendments and State Water Control Board Meeting regarding SGMA

- d. MKGSA Advisory Committee Update - Mr. Fisher gave an update from the March 2023 Advisory Committee meeting. The April 2023 meeting was canceled. Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - e. MKGSA Groundwater Sustainability Plan Update – Mr. Fisher gave the update on MKGSA GSP Status. SWRCB Meeting #2 will be on May 3, 2023.
  - f. MKGSA GSP Implementation Workplan
    - i. Emergency Ordinance to Establish an Extraction Limitation for the Mid-Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency Service Area
      - Update –
        - 1. Water Year 2022 Invoices – Update Mr. Fisher gave an update on the progress of the Emergency Ordinance. Invoices were sent out to the landowners February 3rd. The review period is until March 3<sup>rd</sup> allowing growers time to ask questions. The payment date was extended until May 1<sup>st</sup> due to the high volume of questions from the growers.
  - g. Kaweah Subbasin Coordination – Mr. Fisher gave the updates.
    - i. Kaweah Subbasin Management Committee – April 26, 2023 to review DWR Inadequate Notice and Kaweah Subbasin approach.
    - ii. Prop 68 Implementation Grant – The Okieville Recharge Basin project. The Grant is supposed to end on April 30<sup>th</sup>. We are seeking to extend the deadline until December.
    - iii. SGM Implementation Grant Round 1 – Review of Vadose Zone Wells
    - iv. SGM Implementation Grant Round 2 – No update
    - v. Department of Conservation Multibenefit Land Repurposing Program Grant – No update.
    - vi. Water Marketing Strategy Grant – Continued progress on developing elements of the WMS including methodology to incorporate a third-party market administrator and the incorporation of the WMS into the Water Dashboard.
    - vii. Landflex – No update
    - viii. Kaweah Water Foundation (CVSALTS) – No update.
    - ix. Kaweah Interbasin Coordination – No update.
4. INTERIM GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORT
- Mr. Fisher presented the report. Collaborative Action Plan. Working on Phase 2. Established workgroups, Water Supply, Drinking Water and Land Repurposing Workgroups. Workgroups being used – member from each caucus (water, DAC, Enviro, Gov, and Ag). Each perspective is represented in each workgroup. April off-site meeting at Santa Nella – with field tour of westside projects.
5. CALIFORNIA GROUNDWATER COALITION
- a. California Groundwater Coalition Board Meeting Report

6. LEGISLATION

- a. MKGSA Board of Directors Legislative Priorities and Direction – Interim General Manager will use 2023 MKGSA Legislative Priorities document to set a position in the event the Board is not able to be informed and take a position.  
By a motion of Director Mederos, seconded by Director Bixler, and unanimously carried by all directors present, the Interim General Manager was authorized to take positions on legislation in the event that the Board cannot do so using the 2023 MKGSA Legislative Priorities as presented.
- b. 2023 Legislation Review and Position – Mr. Fisher presented a MKGSA staff recommendation for positions on various bills. By a Motion of Director Bixler, seconded by Director Nelson, the MKGSA Board of directors took an Opposition position on AB 429, AB 1563, AB 560, AB 460, AB 1337, and SB 389, furthermore the MKGSA Board will take a support position AB 30.

7. BOARD/STAFF UPDATES, FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS OR OTHER TOPICS OF INTEREST  
The 2022 Kaweah Subbasin Annual Report was completed and submitted on April 1, 2023

8. CLOSED SESSION

- a. Gov't Code §54956.9 – Anticipated Litigation: One Case  
Upon returning to open session, Ms. Kincaid reported that there were no actions taken in Closed Session.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Martin adjourned the meeting at 5:00pm. The next scheduled meeting is May 3, 2023.