



MID-KAWEAH GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

Minutes

January 24, 2022 @ 3:00 PM

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: David Bixler, Steve Nelsen, Greg Collins, Dave Martin, Howard Stroman, Dennis Mederos

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

GSA MEMBER STAFF PRESENT: Aaron Fukuda, Kathi Artis, Valerie Kincaid, James Fisher

PUBLIC ATTENDEES: Blake Wilbur, Bryant Platt, Dave Vang Groningen, Derrik Williams, Diana Zegarra, Geoff Vanden Heuvel, Johnny Gailey, Leslie Caviglia, Lisa Walsh, Marc Mondell, Mark Larsen, Marlene Ferreira, Maryse Suppiger, Paul Grenseman, Rhett Anderson, Tim Leo

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Martin called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. Chair Martin advanced to Agenda No. 5 Resolution 2022-1 to motion to continue meeting remotely during a proclaimed state of emergency. By a motion of Steve Nelson, seconded by Director Bixler approved 2022-1 Resolution, the motion was carried, allowing the board meeting to proceed remotely.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT – Chair Martin called for public comments. None were forthcoming.

3. GENERAL BUSINESS

- a. Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting on December 14, 2021. By a motion of Director Bixler, seconded by Director Mederos and carried by all directors present the minutes of the December 14, 2021 regular meeting minutes were approved.
- b. Financial Reports*
 - i. Financial Statements – Year-to-Date K. Artis presented the financial statements. By a motion of Director Steve Nelsen, seconded by Director Dennis Mederos, the financial statement was approved.
 - ii. Call for Funds – Mr. Fukuda presented a breakdown of the Call For Funds for the first quarter of 2022. By a motion of Director Mederos, seconded by Director Stroman the Call For Funds was approved. With no opposition the motion carries.
- c. Legal Counsel Report – V. Kincaid provided a report on recent activities of the Department of Water Resources. DWR issued 4 decisions determining basins that were incomplete and DWR approved 2 plans. DWR will host an informational

meeting to discuss the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) determinations, and next steps for the 180-day clock to address deficiencies.

- d. MKGSA Advisory Committee Update – Mr. Fukuda and Mr. Wilbur provided the update. MKGSA Advisory Committee met on January 17, 2022 after postponing the regularly scheduled meeting. Four seats for the Advisory Committee expired on December 31, 2021 and will be reviewing nominations for the next term, one new application has been submitted. The Advisory Committee approved of the Seaborn Project of for inclusion in the GSP and moved it for MKGSA Board approval. Conversations on policies relating to the proposed Emergency Ordinance were also discussed, particularly the ability to transfer tier 1 water and maximum distances water can be transferred.
- e. MKGSA GSP Review Status
 - i. Department of Water Resources - Kaweah Subbasin Final Determination and Assessment – Mr Fukuda provided the update. A meeting with DWR is scheduled on January 27, 2022 to receive the subbasin’s evaluation. DWR indicated the subbasin will receive an incomplete, so additional work is needed for approval this summer.
 - ii. Consideration of Montgomery & Associates Task Order No. 6 – DWR GSP Review Technical Support – Mr. Fukuda provided the update. The MKGSA will review the DWR evaluation letter, meet with MKGSA Management Team to discuss revisions to GSP, and develop a strategy to respond to DWR. M&A’s evaluation and schedule is anticipated to be complete by mid-February. By a motion of Director Mederos, seconded by Director Bixler to approve Task Order No. 6 in an amount not to exceed \$15,000. With no opposition the motion carries.
- f. MKGSA GSP Implementation Workplan
 - i. Mr. Fukuda provided the update on the Emergency Ordinance. The Ordinance was discussed with MKGSA Advisory Committee. The ordinance is still in draft form but available for the the first public review.
 - ii. Consider Task Order No. 7 – Preparation of a SGMA Implementation Grant Application (Prop 68 and 2021 Budget Act) for the Kaweah Subbasin GSAs – Mr. Fukuda provided the update. Provost & Pritchard collected projects with the GSAs, scored them according to SGMA grant guidelines, and prepared a cost estimate for each project. The \$7.6M grant funding allocations will be reviewed by the The Kaweah Subbasin Management Committee Meeting on Feb 2, and make a recommendation for projects to submit for funding - and those recommendations will be in queue for approval by the MKGSA board for their respective projects on February 8. Projects must be submitted to DWR by February 18, 2022. By motion of Director Nelson and seconded by Director Mederos, the motion was carried.
 - iii. Consider Seaborn Project for Addition to the MKGSA Projects and Management Actions List for inclusion in the MKGSA GSP – Mr. Fukuda did an overview on Seaborn Reservoir. Motion to approve by Director Nelsen, seconded by Director Mederos, and the motion was carried.
- g. Kaweah Subbasin Coordination

- i. Kaweah Subbasin Management Committee – Meeting moved to February 2, 2022
 - ii. Prop 68 Planning Grant – EKGSA seeking an extension
 - iii. Prop 68 Implementation Grant – No update
 - iv. Water Marketing Strategy Grant - Meeting scheduled Wednesday January 26, 2022
 - v. Kaweah Water Foundation (CVSALTS) – No update
 - vi. Kaweah Interbasin Coordination – No scheduled meeting
4. SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY WATER COLLABORATIVE ACTION PROGRAM – PHASE 1 ACTION PLAN FRAMEWORK – Consider Board Action to Support Phase 1 Action Plan – Moved to a later date
5. STAFF UPDATE, DISCUSSION AND RECEIVE DIRECTION, IF NECESSARY, REGARDING COVID-19
 - i. Consideration of Resolution No. 2022-01 – Resolution to Implement Teleconference Requirement During a Proclaimed State of Emergency – Motioned by Director Nelsen, seconded by Director Mederos. No oppositions, motion carried.
6. BOARD/STAFF UPDATES, FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS OR OTHER TOPICS OF INTEREST - None
7. CLOSED SESSION
No action was taken in closed session.
8. ADJOURNMENT
Chair Martin adjourned the meeting at 5:24pm. The next regular board of directors meeting is scheduled Next Regular Meeting – February 8, 2022