



MID-KAWEAH GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

MINUTES

December 13, 2022 @ 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: Steve Nelsen, Dennis Mederos, Howard Stroman, Leslie Caviglia (alternate), David Bixler, and Scott Rogers (alternate)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dave Martin

GSA MEMBER STAFF PRESENT: Aaron Fukuda, Kathi Artis, Valerie Kincaid, James Fisher, Derrik Williams, Diana Zegarra, and Tim Leo.

PUBLIC ATTENDEES: Geoff Vanden Heuvel, Mark Larsen, Matt Klinchuch, Rhett Anderson, Trisha Whitfield, Blake Wilbur, and Nicole Bonna

1. CALL TO ORDER – Vice Chair Nelsen called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. Vice Chair Nelsen advanced to Agenda No. 4a Consideration of Resolution No. 2022-09-Resolution to Implement Teleconference Requirement During a Proclaimed State of Emergency. By a motion of Director Bixler, seconded by Director Mederos and unanimously approved by all Directors present, Resolution 2022-12 was approved.
2. PUBLIC COMMENT – Vice Chair Nelsen called for and public comments. No public comments were forthcoming.
3. GENERAL BUSINESS
 - a. Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting on November 08, 2022. By a motion of Director Mederos seconded by Director Stroman and carried by all directors present, the November 08, 2022 meeting minutes were approved as presented.
 - b. Financial Statements – Year-to-Date - K. Artis presented the financial statements. By a motion of Director Caviglia, seconded by Director Rodgers and unanimously carried by all Directors present, the Financial Statements were approved.
 - c. Legal Counsel Report - V. Kincaid gave a report on the DWR review of GSP, reporting that they would have several GSP reviews completed, but nothing has been posted yet.

- d. MKGSA Advisory Committee Update - Mr. Fukuda gave an update first reporting that the December 2022 meeting was canceled. Mr. Fukuda then reported that the MKGSA would begin advertising for new members.
- e. MKGSA Groundwater Sustainability Plan
 - i. 2022 First Amended Groundwater Sustainability Plan and Coordination Agreement Comment Letters – Update – Mr. Fukuda reported that DWR presented an update at the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) Fall Conference, noting that they would be finalizing all reviews soon and that evaluations completed in 2025 will be looking at the ability of GSAs to accomplish sustainability, including addressing Climate Change. Mr. Fukuda also reported that the State Water Resources Control Board presented at ACWA, noting that plans are underway to coordinate plans that are sent to probation and will be evaluated and administered by the SWRCB.
 - ii. State Water Resources Control Board Letter to Department of Water Resources – Groundwater Quality Considerations for High and Medium Priority Basins – Mr. Fukuda presented a letter submitted to the MKGSA from the SWRCB noting that the elements in the letter were noted, however DWR did not comment or request that any changes in regards to the elements in the letter.
- f. MKGSA GSP Implementation Workplan
 - i. Emergency Ordinance to Establish an Extraction Limitation for the Mid-Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency Service Area – Update – Mr. Fisher gave an update on the progress of invoicing to MKGSA landowners.
 - ii. Consider Provost & Pritchard Proposal for Task Order 10 – Preparing the Water Year 2022 SGMA Annual Monitoring Report for the Kaweah Subbasin – Mr. Fukuda presented the Board with Task Order No 10 from Provost & Pritchard to prepare the Annual Monitoring Report for the Kaweah Subbasin. By a motion of Director Mederos, seconded by Director Bixler, and unanimously approved by all Directors present, the Interim General Manager was authorized to sign and execute Task Order 10 – Preparing the Water Year 2022 SGMA Annual Monitoring Report for the Kaweah Subbasin.
 - iii. Public Participation and Stakeholder Engagement Letter – Mr. Fukuda presented a letter submitted by several Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs) that recommended changes to MKGSA outreach activities, which MKGSA staff indicated would be coordinated with Self-Help Enterprises.
 - iv. MKGSA Interim Well Mitigation Plan – Mr. Fukuda reported that one of the revisions to the First Amended MGKSA GSP and Coordination Agreement was to include an Interim Well Mitigation Plan by December 31, 2022. Mr. Fukuda indicated that MKGSA staff had discuss options with the other Kaweah Subbasin GSAs and presented an approach to provide \$50,000 in 2023 to assist with drinking water replacement in the event wells went dry. By a motion of Director Stroman, seconded by Director Caviglia and unanimously approved by all Directors present, the MKGSA will be providing \$50,000 in well mitigation funds in 2023, to be coordinated with Self Help Enterprises.

- v. Consider Resolution No. 2022-12 – Resolution to Apply for a Grant Under the 2021 Sustainable Groundwater Management Grant Program – Mr. Fukuda presented Resolution No. 2022-12, which would allow the MKGSA to apply for the 2021 Sustainable Groundwater Manager Grant Program and provide the necessary paperwork and data to comply with the grant. By a motion of Director Mederos, seconded by Director Bixler and unanimously approved by all Directors present, Resolution No. 2022-12 was passed.
 - g. Kaweah Subbasin Coordination – Mr. Fukuda gave the updates
 - i. Kaweah Subbasin Management Committee – No Update.
 - ii. Prop 68 Planning Grant – Grant Completed
 - iii. Prop 68 Implementation Grant – Okieville Recharge Basin Project was awarded to Woodbury Construction and was approximately \$500,000 under original estimates.
 - iv. SGM Implementation Grant Round 1 – First reimbursement submitted in the amount of \$200,000 for the GSP revisions completed in early 2022.
 - v. SGM Implementation Grant Round 2 – The application was submitted with two projects: 1) Catron Basin and 2) well mitigation funds.
 - vi. Department of Conservation Multibenefit Land Repurposing Program Grant – No update
 - vii. Water Marketing Strategy Grant - Progress is being made on Version 1.0, and chapters are being drafted.
 - viii. Kaweah Water Foundation (CVSALTS) – No Update
 - ix. Kaweah Interbasin Coordination – No Update
 - x. Kings County Ordinance – Ordinance Governing the Extraction of Groundwater for Use Outside of Kings County – Moved to next month for presentation.
- 4. STAFF UPDATE, DISCUSSION AND RECEIVE DIRECTION, IF NECESSARY, REGARDING COVID-19
 - a. Update on Virtual Meeting Legislation – Mr. Fukuda noted that under AB 2449 and AB 361 the virtual meetings would be changed in early 2023. The MKGSA Board of directors agreed to continue meeting virtually until the legislation required the change to in person.
- 5. CALIFORNIA GROUNDWATER COALITION
 - a. Mr. Fukuda reported attending the California Groundwater Coalition Board meeting during the Fall ACWA Conference. Mr. Fukuda provided a report from the meeting.
- 6. BOARD/STAFF UPDATES, FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS OR OTHER TOPICS OF INTEREST
- 7. 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.
- 8. ADJOURNMENT: Next Regular Meeting – January 17, 2023

