

**MID-KAWEAH GROUNDWATER SUB-BASIN JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY BOARD**

SUMMARY MINUTES

Tuesday, September 21, 2017 3:00 p.m.

Tulare Public Library & Council Chambers
491 North M Street – Tulare, CA 93274

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jose Sigala, Greg Nunley, Dave Martin, David Bixler, Steve Nelsen

MEMBERS ABSENT: Greg Collins

ALTERNATES PRESENT: Mike Olmos

STAFF PRESENT: Leslie Caviglia, Aaron Fukuda, Paul Hendrix, Ken Richardson, Joe Carlini, Melissa Hermann, Trisha Whitfield, Kathy Artis

OTHERS PRESENT: Larry Rodriguez, GEI Consultants, Gregory Blevins (Alt.) and other members of the public.

1. CALL TO ORDER REGULAR SESSION:

Chair Bixler opened the meeting at 3:02 p.m.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Chair Bixler called for comments from any members of the public present at the meeting. There were no comments made.

3. GENERAL BUSINESS:

a. Approve Minutes of June 11, 2017 Board Meeting

It was moved by Director Martin, seconded by Vice Chair Nelsen, and unanimously carried to approve the minutes as presented.

b. Election of Chair, Vice Chair for FY 2017-18*

It was moved by Director Olmos, seconded by Director Nunley, and unanimously carried to appoint Steve Nelsen as Chair. It was then moved by Vice Chair Nelson, seconded by Director Sigala, and unanimously carried to appoint Greg Nunley as Vice Chair. Both appointments are to be for a two-year term.

c. Financial Report

i. Workshop re Member Budgetary Contributions – to be arranged

P. Hendrix advised the Board that the regularly scheduled meeting is in October, so the report was not provided today. The Board approved in June \$475,000 in expenditures, and carryover funds from last year have been relied upon to pay recent expenses. He indicated that member contributions will need to be determined soon to provide funds for the balance of the year. Mr. Hendrix noted

that the Management Committee will be meeting soon to further discuss this and to this to develop a recommendation to bring to the Board at the next meeting.

d. Kaweah Sub-Basin Coordination*

i. Facilitation Process – Status of Sub-Basin MOU

P. Hendrix summarized the purpose of the MOU, which is to define the process by which the sub-basin GSAs develop a Coordination Agreement as required by SGMA. He noted that the MOU sets forth an equal cost sharing for coordination technical work, establishes management and technical committees, and defines a dispute resolution process. Mr. Hendrix said that the draft MOU is in near final form and should be ready for execution soon. Director Nelsen asked about the timing of the coordination work v. GSP preparation, to which Mr. Hendrix indicated that much of the coordination must come first.

ii. Role of GEI Consultants

P. Hendrix stated that the three sub-basin GSAs have approved retaining GEI as the lead consultant to undertake the technical work for coordination. The estimated budget is \$538,000, the contract for which will be signed by all three GSAs. He noted too that Mid-Kaweah will serve as the fiscal agent for the work.

iii. Dedication of Tulare County Grant Funds

P. Hendrix stated that Tulare County is set to approve a contract with GEI in the amount of \$166,000 to provide supplemental funding for the sub-basin coordination work. He noted that the funds stem from a state grant to the County related to groundwater management and GSA formation assistance.

iv. Contributions from Greater Kaweah, East Kaweah GSAs

P. Hendrix indicated that about \$124,000 of the prior work by GEI for Mid-Kaweah has been determined to be of benefit for sub-basin benefit. The other two GSAs have agreed to pay their share of this cost, that being two-thirds or about \$83,000 thereof. He noted that these payments have been received.

e. Technical Advisory Sub-Committee – Status Report by GEI

L. Rodriguez provided a report for the Board's review and consideration. He indicated that a close-out report for the first contract is being prepared and will be provided to the Technical Sub-Committee for review, then to the Board. The cost came in about \$20,000 under budget, and GSP future work will commence under a new set of task orders.

f. Prop 1 Grant Application*

i. Approval of Letter of Intent re Prop 1 Grant

P. Hendrix stated that a letter agreement among the three GSAs was needed now, ahead of the MOU, to guide preparation of the grant application and associated cost and award sharing. It also identifies Mid-Kaweah as the grant applicant. The LOI for this purpose has been accepted for execution by the East and Greater GSAs, and is presented for action today. By the motion of Director Sigala,

seconded by Director Nelsen and unanimously carried, the subject LOI was approved for execution.

ii. Approval of GEI Task Order MKGSA-01.2017

P. Hendrix presented a task order under the existing services agreement with GEI for the preparation of the Prop 1 GSP grant application. He indicated the estimated cost to be \$30,000, that the other GSAs will each reimburse Mid-Kaweah for one-third of the preparation cost, and that all three will be contributing to the application content. It was then moved by Director Nelsen, seconded by Director Nunley and unanimously carried to approve GEI Task Order MKGSA-01.2017.

iii. Adoption of Resolution No. 2017-01 Authorizing Grant Application to DWR

P. Hendrix stated that the Prop 1 grant application needs an authorizing resolution adopted by the grant applicant to submit the application and authorize execution of any grant award. It was thereupon moved by Director Martin, seconded by Director Nelsen, and unanimously carried to adopt Resolution No. 2017-01 as presented.

g. GSP Preparation*

i. Approval of GEI Task Order MKGSA-02.2017

P. Hendrix reviewed the purpose of a task order under the existing services agreement to prepare a GSP. He noted the task order addresses sub tasks totaling \$220,000 out of a projected GSP budget of \$515,000. L. Rodriguez provided additional information, describing the GSP data management elements, basin setting specifics, sustainability parameters, water accounting, and public outreach. Director Sigala expressed his desire that a Board liaison be assigned to attend the Advisory Committee meetings as the stakeholder outreach efforts are being undertaken. Upon further discussion, it was moved by Director Sigala, seconded by Chair Nelsen and unanimously carried to approve GEI Task Order MKGSA-02.2017.

ii. Authorization to Submit GSP Notice of Preparation

P. Hendrix stated that, per SGMA, a notice of intent to prepare a GSP is to be provided to DWR and certain public agencies. He added that the proposed notice includes supplemental information as to how the Mid-Kaweah GSA intends to conduct the process by which interested parties are to be informed and provide input. It was moved by Director Martin, seconded by Vice Chair Nunley, and unanimously carried to authorize submittal and distribution of said notice.

h. GSA Advisory Committee – Status Report

L. Caviglia provided an update to the Board on the status of the Advisory Committee. She discussed staff's intent to recommend filling the remaining vacancies and the advertising effort to collect new applicants. Ms. Caviglia indicated that the recommendations will be presented at the October GSA meeting.

4. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION:

a. Govt. Code §54957 – Public Employees

Title: General Manager

Director Bixler adjourned to closed session at 3:34 p.m.

5. RECONVENE FROM CLOSED SESSION:

Director Bixler reconvened from closed session at 4:07 p.m. and thereupon reported that no reportable action was taken.

6. ADJOURNMENT:

Director Bixler adjourned the meeting at 4:07 p.m.

Groundwater Sustainability Agency
Board Chair

Attest:

Groundwater Sustainability Agency
Board Secretary

* Staff reports and/or other documents provided.