

**MID-KAWEAH GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

MINUTES

August 10, 2023 – 3:00 pm

MEMBERS PRESENT: Eric Correia, Geoffrey Vanden Heuvel, Lee Johnson, Richard Garcia, Joe Machado, Robert Saenz, Aaron Oliver, Jordan Leal

MEMBERS ABSENT: Greg Collins, Jessi Snyder

GSA MEMBER STAFF PRESENT: Aaron Fukuda, James Fisher, Diana Zegarra

PUBLIC ATTENDEES: Georgina King, Andrew Hart, Nicole Bonna, Johnny Gailey

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Fukuda at 3:00 p.m.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mr. Fisher called for public comments. None were forthcoming.

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- a. Committee Member Geoff Vanden Heuvel motioned to approve the Regular Meeting minutes for July 18, 2023. Committee Member Correia seconded the motion. Motion was carried.

4. **NOMINATIONS & APPOINTMENTS FOR CHAIR & VICE-CHAIR**

Following the recent filling of vacant seats within the Advisory Committee, Mr. Fisher presided over the meeting and called for nominations for a new chairperson. During this phase, Committee Member Garcia put forward Jessi Snyder as a nominee, while Committee Member VandenHeuvel nominated Eric Correia. Subsequently, Committee Member VandenHeuvel and Committee Member Machado jointly proposed the closure of the nominations.

In the ensuing vote, Eric Correia secured the position of the new Chair with a vote of 6 in favor and 2 against. As the newly elected Chair, Eric Correia will assume the responsibilities of the chair, which involve regular attendance at Board meetings to provide updates to the Board of Directors, coordination of agenda items in preparation for meetings, facilitation of advisory committee meetings, and participation in relevant events where the advisory committee's presence is required.

Upon conclusion of the vote, Committee Member VandenHeuvel proceeded to nominate Jessi Snyder for the role of Vice-Chair. Chair Correia then motioned to close the nominations for Vice-Chair, which was seconded by Committee Member VandenHeuvel. Jessi Snyder was unanimously voted in as Vice Chair in her absence; she subsequently accepted the appointment after the meeting. As Vice-Chair, Ms. Snyder will take on Chair responsibilities in Mr. Correia's absence.

5. MKGSA GSP

a. **GSP Review – Update**

Mr. Fukuda provided the report. Fukuda said the Kaweah Subbasin Technical Team had a productive meeting with the SWRCB, and received constructive feedback on what they were (and were not) looking for. Fukuda also mentioned that the Kaweah Subbasin would adopt a common template for the GSP that all 3 GSA's would share, making it easier for public and reviewing agencies to compare and understand.

Ms King provided an update on the water level Sustainable Management Criteria (SMC). Ms King discussed using the OSWCR database to develop the Fall 2014 water level surface to identify all wells susceptible to going dry. Ms King used a threshold of water levels not going below 20% of the bottom of the well (allowing adequate head above the pump) as a starting point, per DWR's guidance. Committee Member VandenHeuvel suggested a more refined analysis. That would mean a 400 ft well needs 80 ft of head and a 100 ft well only receives 20 ft of head above. VandenHeuvel suggested variables that are more relevant, such a fixed depth that corresponds to pumps functioning properly and/or diameter of the well.

Ms. King then presented subsidence SMCs. Montgomery & Associates is working with the Friant Water Authority to quantify acceptable impacts. The Kaweah Subbasin Technical Team is also working to identify critical infrastructure sensitive to subsidence, and identifying areas more susceptible to flooding due to differential subsidence. The technical team suspects subsidence will be the limiting SMC for the subbasin.

b. **2023 Allocation Policy Discussion Items**

1. *Cash Reserve Policy* – Deferred to the next meeting, in the interest of time.
2. *Carry Over Policy*– Deferred to the next meeting.
3. *Unpaid Invoice Policy* – Deferred to the next meeting.

c. **2023 Allocation Invoicing – Update**

Deferred to the next meeting, in the interest of time.

6. KAWEAH SUBBASIN ACTIVITIES

All grant updates were deferred to a future meeting in the interest of time.

- a. **Proposition 68 Implementation Grant** – No update
- b. **SGM Round 1 Implementation Grant** – No update
- c. **SGM Round 2 Implementation Grant** – No update
- d. **Department of Conservation Multi Benefit Land Repurposing Grant** – No update
- e. **Kaweah Subbasin Water Marketing Strategy Grant** – No update

7. COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS, UPDATES, OR OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

Mr. Fukuda indicated a need for more frequent Advisory Committee Meetings while the Groundwater Sustainability Plan is undergoing significant and rapid updates to avoid SWRCB probation. The Committee indicated availability to add an additional meeting the third Tuesday of every month through December 2023 in order to get timely feedback from the volume of work coming in.

8. ADJOURN

Mr. Fisher adjourned the meeting at 5:03 p.m. The next meeting is for August 22, 2023.

Attest: _____
GSA Board Secretary

Advisory Committee Chair

DRAFT