



MID-KAWEAH GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

Minutes

February 8, 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, Howard Stroman, Dennis Mederos

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dave Martin

GSA MEMBER STAFF PRESENT: Aaron Fukuda, Kathi Artis, Valerie Kincaid, James Fisher, Leslie Caviglia, Marc Mondell, Rhett Anderson, Derrik Williams, and Tim Leo

PUBLIC ATTENDEES: Bryant Platt, Dave Van Groningen, Diana Zegarra, Geoff Vanden Heuvel, Johnny Gailey, Lisa Walsh, Mark Larsen, Marlene Ferreira, Maryse Suppiger, Paul Grenseman, and Joe Mastro

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Nelsen called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

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

3. GENERAL BUSINESS

a. Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting on January 24, 2022. By a motion of Director Collins, seconded by Director Mederos and carried by all directors present the minutes of the January 24, 2022, 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 Bixler, seconded by Director Stroman, and carried by all directors present, the financial statement as presented were approved.

ii. MKGSA Audit – Joe Mastro of Cuttone & Mastro reviewed the audited financial statements of the Mid-Kaweah Groundwater Subbasin Joint Powers Authority for the year ending on June 30, 2021. Mr. Mastro indicated that all the financial statements were presented fairly, in all material respects, and the respective financial position of the Authority as of June 30, 2021, and the respective changes in financial position for the

year ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. By a motion of Director Stroman, seconded by Director Mederos, and unanimously carried by all directors present, the MKGSA Audit was approved.

- c. Legal Counsel Report – V. Kincaid provided a report on recent activities of the Department of Water Resources. Ms. Kincaid indicated that the Kaweah Subbasin did get an incomplete determination from DWR. She thereupon noted that DWR finished the twenty outstanding plans, twelve received incompletes, and eight approved.
- d. MKGSA Advisory Committee Update – Mr. Fukuda provided the update. MKGSA Advisory Committee met on February 1, 2022. Mr. Fukuda provided a membership update indicating that three of the four members that had terms expire in 2022 have requested re-appointment. Mr. Fukuda lastly noted that the Committee reviewed changes to the Emergency Ordinance, and an Ad-Hoc would be working on a Well Mitigation Program.
- 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 was held on January 27, 2022, to receive the subbasin's evaluation. Mr. Fukuda reported that DWR had issued the MKGSA an incomplete. We now have 180 days (07/27/2022) to resolve the identified corrective actions. After that, the modifications must be adopted into the GSP. The three corrective actions items identified by DWR are (1) Sustainable Management Criteria for Lower of Groundwater Levels (2) Sustainable Management Criteria for Land Subsidence (3) Plan does not sufficiently and consistently characterize interconnected surface water.
 - ii. Consider Amendment 3 Professional Services Agreement with Stantec for MKGSA Outreach – Mr. Fukuda recommended that to provide an effective and efficient outreach program for the MKGSA GSP revisions, Stantec proposed to assist MKGSA in outreach during the 180 day response period. Mr. Fukuda presented a budget for time and materials not to exceed \$15,000. By a motion of Director Collins, seconded by Director Mederos, and unanimously carried by all directors present, Amendment 3 Professional Services Agreement with Stantec for MKGSA Outreach was approved.
- f. MKGSA GSP Implementation Workplan
 - i. Mr. Fukuda provided the update on the Emergency Ordinance. The Ordinance was reviewed with the MKGSA Advisory Committee in early February. The Transfer Limits were adjusted, an additional section added addressing City Commitment, the Ordinance was revised to remain effective unless the Board of Directors approve a change or termination, and Service Fees & Replacement Costs were established.
 - 1. Consider authorization of a 45-day public comment period for the Draft Emergency Ordinance to Establish an Extraction Limitation for the Mid-Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency Service Area. By a motion of Director Bixler, seconded by Vice Chair

Nelsen and unanimously carried by all directors present, a public comment period was opened to receive comments on the Emergency ordinance for 45-days, closing on March 25, 2022.

- ii. DWR Sustainable Groundwater Management Grant Program Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Implementation Grant - Mr. Fukuda provided the update. GSAs submitted projects to P&P. GSA managers met to discuss and establish the project list and funding levels. On February 2, 2022, the Kaweah Subbasin Management Team Committee approved the Project List and the funding levels. The spending plan must be submitted by February 28, 2022.

- 1. Consideration of Resolution No. 2022-02 authorizing GKGSA to file an application for a grant on behalf of the Kaweah Subbasin - Motion was made to authorize and submit Resolution No. 2022-02 by Director Mederos, seconded by Director Stroman, and the following roll call vote:

- Vice Chair Nelson – Aye
- Director Stroman – Aye
- Director Collins – Aye
- Director Bixler – Aye
- Director Mederos – Aye

g. Kaweah Subbasin Coordination

- i. Kaweah Subbasin Management Committee – Next meeting will be in April
- ii. Prop 68 Planning Grant – EKGSA seeking an extension
- iii. Prop 68 Implementation Grant – No update
- iv. Water Marketing Strategy Grant - January 26, 2022 meeting reviewed the initial list of principles. The committee be looking to get some approvals and/or some considerations on the principles on February 23, 2022. Lastly, the committee received a report from Johnny Gailey at Delta View Water Association on a Reverse Auction.
- v. Kaweah Water Foundation (CVSALTS) – No update
- vi. Kaweah Interbasin Coordination – No scheduled meeting

4. MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING – COORDINATION ON LAND REPURPOSING SOLUTIONS FOR THE KAWEAH SUBBASIN

- a. Consider entering into a Memorandum of Understanding – Coordination on Land Repurposing Solutions for the Kaweah Subbasin. Director Mederos made the motion to approve the MOU with the modifications indicated by Mr. Fukuda, second by Vice Chair Nelsen, and unanimously carried by all directors present, the MOU with revisions was approved.

5. STAFF UPDATE, DISCUSSION AND RECEIVE DIRECTION, IF NECESSARY, REGARDING COVID-19

No update provided

6. BOARD/STAFF UPDATES, FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS OR OTHER TOPICS OF

INTEREST – The regular Board Meeting will tentatively be moved to April 19, 2022

7. CLOSED SESSION

No action was taken in closed session.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair Nelsen adjourned the meeting at 5:24pm. The next regular board of directors meeting is scheduled for March 8, 2022.