

**Upper Kings Basin Integrated Regional Water Management Authority
Board meeting July 16, 2014
Fresno County Farm Bureau, 1274 W. Hedges, Fresno, 93728**

Notes of the Meeting of the Board of the Upper Kings Basin Integrated Regional Water Management Authority (Water Authority) held July 16, 2014.

1. Call to order

Chair Harry Armstrong called the meeting to order at 9:33 am. Armstrong noted that there was a quorum.

Directors/Alternate Directors Present:

Harry Armstrong, City of Clovis
Mary Fast, City of Reedley
Denise England, County of Tulare (alternate)
Dean Uota, City of Dinuba (alternate)
Frank Fowler, Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District (alternate)
Gary Serrato, Fresno Irrigation District (alternate)
Chris Kapheim, Alta Irrigation District (alternate)
Brock Buche, City of Fresno (alternate)
Ken Moore, City of Kerman (alternate)
Dr. David Cehrs, Kings River Conservation District (alternate)
Roseann Galvan, City of Selma (alternate)

Members Absent:

City of Sanger
City of Parlier
County of Fresno
Consolidated Irrigation District
Kings County Water District

Interested Parties Present:

Kathy Wood McLaughlin, Tulare Basin Wildlife Partners
Sue Ruiz, Easton Community Services District
Shay Bakman, Bakman Water Company
Cruz Ramos, City of San Joaquin
Maria Herrera, Community Water Center
Dr. David Cehrs, El Rio Reyes Trust, Sierra Club, Tehipite Chapter
Scott Sills, Laguna Irrigation District

Interested Parties Absent:

Biola Community Services District
California Native Plant Society, Sequoia Chapter
California State University Fresno
City of Kingsburg
City of Orange Cove
County of Kings
Cutler Public Utilities District
East Orosi Community Services District
Fresno County Farm Bureau
Hardwick Water Company
James Irrigation District
Kings River Conservancy
Kings River Water Association
Liberty Canal Company

Liberty Water District
London Community Services District
Malaga County Water District
Mid-Valley Water District
Orange Cove Irrigation District
Orosi Public Utilities District
Raisin City Water District
Riverdale Irrigation District
Riverdale Public Utility District
Sanger Environmental Fund
Self-Help Enterprises
Sierra Resource Conservation District
Sultana Community Services District
Terranova Ranch, Inc.
UC Cooperative Extension - Fresno

Others Present:

Eric Osterling, KRCD
Randy Shilling, KRCD
Cristel Tufenkjian, KRCD
Lisa Koehn, City of Clovis
Rebecca Quintan, Community of Seville
Ben Bergquam, Assembly Jim Patterson's Office
Alan Hofmann, Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control Dist.
Michael Prado, Sultana Community Services District
Bill Stretch, Fresno Irrigation District

2. Addition to or Deletion from the Agenda

None

3. Public Presentations

Director Cehrs presented the Kings River Service Area Groundwater Report for the period ending 2012-13. Director Cehrs compared historic contour lines from 1956 with current contour lines for the Kings Basin noting that the groundwater elevation went from 140 feet above mean sea level to a 20 feet below sea level in the southwestern portion of the basin and there is a cone of depression in the Fresno/Clovis area. Director Cehrs reported that over the last 10 years there has been an 80-foot drop in groundwater elevations beneath the cities of Fresno and Clovis and a 40-foot drop in the Raisin City area. Cehrs pointed out that recharge is occurring in Sand Creek, Consolidated Irrigation District, and Biola areas. Cehrs noted that near Riverdale there has been a 100-foot drop. Director Cehrs presented a Water Table Change 1952-2007 graphic.

4. Approval of Minutes of the January 15, 2014 and review of April 16, 2014 notes

It was moved by Director Serrato, seconded by Director Cehrs, with the abstention of Director Fowler that the minutes of January 15, 2014 meeting of the Board of Directors be approved as presented.

5. Member Interested Party Reports

Staff Member Cristel Tufenkjian presented the updated Kings Basin Water Authority website and the Kings Basin video developed through the California Water Foundation grant. Tufenkjian reported that a Groundwater Land Use Symposium is scheduled on October 29 to discuss land use decisions and their connection with groundwater management.

6. Advisory Committee Report

Chair Armstrong called on Advisory Committee acting Chair Brock Buche to provide a report on Advisory Committee activities. Buche reported that the Advisory Committee met on June 18. Buche reported that Interested Party Member Sue Ruiz reported that Easton Community Services District had its last DWR facilitated community meeting. Buche reported that the project proponents for the 2014 Drought Solicitation had met several times to develop a funding strategy for submitting a competitive grant application and funding scenarios if the grant is awarded. Buche reported that the California Water Foundation grant work products were completed. Buche reported that a letter was distributed to Authority members regarding groundwater legislation.

7. Staff Reports

Planning and Implementation Contracts – Osterling reported on the status of planning and implementation contracts. Osterling referred to the contracts matrix included in the agenda packet for updates on specific projects. Osterling reported that Round 2 Implementation grant contracts were signed and submitted to DWR and draft sub-agreements have been prepared. Osterling reported that under the California Water Foundation grant, work has resumed on the model update.

Inter-regional and Statewide Coordination – Osterling reported that the greater Monterey area is working on a similar DAC Pilot Project and that he provided information regarding the Kings Basin's Pilot Project. Osterling reported that he attended a watershed connections meeting. Osterling also attended a Tulare Basin DAC Pilot oversight meeting. Interested Party Member Herrera reported that an updated draft Tulare Basin DAC Pilot Study will be available in two weeks and the final meeting for the Study is scheduled for August 11.

Public Information – Tufenkjian reported that there has been a number of media inquiries regarding groundwater issues.

Legislation – Tufenkjian reported that work is being done by the legislature to merge water bond legislation AB 2686 (Perea) and AB 1331 (Rendon) with an effort to trim the size of the bond. Tufenkjian reported that the Governor has released a \$6 billion proposal. Director Serrato reported that there may need to be a compromise on the \$3 billion designated for storage. Serrato reported that

it is important to have a water bond for funding for storage, IRWMPs and DACs. Serrato reported that a broad section of industry representatives are working on a Central Valley position.

Tufenkjian reported that there are two bills that are dealing with groundwater, SB 1168 and AB 1739. Tufenkjian reported that the Brown Administration has formed a small team to work on the bills' legislative language. Director Kapheim reported that one of the concern's was the definition of sustainability and safe yield.

Chair Armstrong reported that the Fresno County Water Advisory Committee has been asked by the Board of Supervisors to provide legislative recommendations. Chair Armstrong recommended that staff member Tufenkjian on behalf of the Kings Basin Water Authority provide legislative support the Water Advisory Committee. The Board agreed with the recommendation.

Other – No report

8. Kings Basin IRWMP Measurable Objectives Update

Osterling reported that the Water Authority has a contract with Provost & Pritchard to write the Authority's annual report. Osterling reported that the Kings Basin's IRMWP includes a requirement to report on the progress of the stated objectives each year in an annual report for the water year. Osterling reviewed an attachment of the measurable objectives and asked members present to review the objectives and provide any project information back to him.

9. Recommendation to consider Expense Authorization Limits

Water Authority staff member Randy Shilling presented a policy to give the Program Manager the Authority to expend up to \$5,000 in unallocated budgeted monies if the expense is within the goals and objectives of the Authority, without formal Board approval, but with the review and approval of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman or Treasurer of the Authority. It was moved by Director Galvan, seconded by Director Moore, and unanimously carried to approve the Expense Authorization Limits Policy.

10. Recommendation to approve proposed Fiscal Year 2014-15 Budget

Chair Armstrong called on staff member Randy Shilling to present the 2014-15 budget. Shilling reported that the proposed budget is included in the agenda packet. Shilling provided an overview of the proposed budget recommended by the budget committee. Shilling reported that revenues are based on member contributions and Interested Parties voluntary contributions plus expected grant revenues. Shilling reported that administrative expenses do not include audit or warrant expenses this year. Discussion followed regarding including a letter of explanation with the Interested Party invoice about the benefits of being an Interested Party of the Kings Basin Water Authority. It was moved by Director Galvan, and seconded by Director Kapheim, and unanimously carried to approve the fiscal year 2014-15 budget.

11. Request to approve quarterly financial reports

Chair Armstrong called on staff member Randy Shilling to provide an overview of the quarterly financial reports for the period January 1– March 31, 2014 and April 1 – June 30, 2014. Shilling provided an overview of the quarterly financial reports included in the agenda packet. It was moved by Director Kapheim, and seconded by Director Fast, and unanimously carried to approve the quarterly financial reports.

12. Other items for discussion or reporting

Director Buche reported that the City of Fresno has made tremendous progress over the last eight years through the development of the City's Metro Plan to reduce their over reliance on groundwater. Buche reported that the plan includes building an additional surface water treatment plant and expanding their current plant. Buche reported that the Plan also includes the expansion of their

recharge facilities. Buche reported that through the culmination of all the projects the City will have a balance groundwater use by 2025.

13. Next meeting date: October 15, 2014 at 9:30 am, at the Fresno County Farm Bureau
Chair Armstrong reported that the next regularly scheduled meeting is on October 15 at the Fresno County Farm Bureau office. It was moved by Director Serrato, and seconded by Director Galvan, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting. There being no further business, Chair Armstrong adjourned the meeting at 11:08 am.

Respectfully submitted,

David Orth
Secretary/Treasurer

Approved

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