

**Upper Kings Basin Integrated Regional Water Management Authority
Board Meeting April 15, 2015
Fresno County Farm Bureau, 1274 W. Hedges, Fresno, 93728**

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of the Upper Kings Basin Integrated Regional Water Management Authority (Water Authority) held April 15, 2015. Tufenkjian requested for the nomination of an interim chair in the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair. It was moved by Alternate Director Mendes, and seconded by Director Worthley and unanimously carried that Alternate Director McKean act as interim chair.

1. Call to order

Interim Chair McKean called the meeting to order at 9:31 am. McKean noted that there was a quorum.

Directors/Alternate Directors Present:

Lisa Koehn, City of Clovis (alternate)
Mary Fast, City of Reedley
Steve Worthley, County of Tulare
Emilio Joey Morales, City of Dinuba
Buzz Burleson, Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District
Bill Stretch, Fresno Irrigation District (alternate)
Phil Desatoff, Consolidated Irrigation District (alternate)
Ken Moore, City of Kerman (alternate)
Mark McKean, Kings River Conservation District (alternate)
Jim Avalos, City of Selma (alternate)
Buddy Mendes, County of Fresno (alternate)
Steve Brandau, City of Fresno
Dennis Mills, Kings County Water District (alternate)

Members Absent:

City of Sanger
City of Parlier
Alta Irrigation District

Interested Parties Present:

Carole Combs, Tulare Basin Wildlife Partners
Steve Pickens, Bakman Water Company
Phil Desatoff, City of Kingsburg
John Malloyan, James Irrigation District
Steve Haze, Sierra Resource Conservation District
Robert Nielsen, Liberty Water District, Liberty Canal Company

Interested Parties Absent:

Biola Community Services District
California Native Plant Society, Sequoia Chapter
California State University Fresno
City of Orange Cove
City of San Joaquin
Community Water Center
County of Kings
Cutler Public Utilities District
East Orosi Community Services District
Easton Community Services District
Fresno County Farm Bureau
Hardwick Water Company
Kings River Conservancy
Kings River Water Association
Laguna Irrigation District

Laton Community Service District
Lanare Community Services 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
Sultana Community Services District
Terranova Ranch, Inc.
UC Cooperative Extension - Fresno

Others Present:

Eric Osterling, KRCD
Randy Shilling, KRCD
Cristel Tufenkjian, KRCD
Don Pauley, CivicSpark
Jose Robledo, SWRCB- Division of Drinking Water
Jennifer Alvarez, Civic Spark
Glenn Knapp, City of Fresno

Alan Hofmann, Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control Dist.
Dean Uota, City of Dinuba
Shay Bakman, Bakman Water Company
Cathy Wood McLaughlin
Ron Samuelian, Provost & Pritchard
Jessie Ropp, CivicSpark

2. Addition to or Deletion from the Agenda

None

3. Public Presentations

None

4. Approval of Minutes of the January 21, 2015 meeting minutes

It was moved by Director Worthley, seconded by Alternate Director Desatoff, and unanimously carried that the minutes of January 21, 2015 meeting of the Board of Directors be approved with corrections as stated.

5. Advisory Committee Report

Interim Chair McKean called on Advisory Committee Chair Lisa Koehn to provide a report on Advisory Committee activities. Koehn reported that the Advisory Committee met on March 18 and discussed preparation for the Prop. 84 grant solicitation, a request to modify the Kings Basin IRWMP Project List, the creation of a completed Project List, and a request to collaborate with CivicSpark on a urban forestry project.

6. 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 invoicing for Prop. 84 Round 1 and 2 continues. Osterling reported that under Round I, two contract amendments had to be submitted to DWR for budget and timeline changes. Osterling reported that the California Water Foundation grant model project is nearing completion. Osterling reported that the consultant is working through some calibration issues. Osterling reported that a driller has been selected for the dedicated monitoring-well project.

Inter-regional and Statewide Coordination – Osterling reported that participation continues on behalf of the Water Authority at the monthly funding area coordination meetings. Osterling reported that discussion has focused on the Prop. 84 grant solicitation. Osterling reported that he is also participating in Watershed Connections, which is an upper watershed discussion group.

Public Information – Tufenkjian reported on the state's Save Our Water campaign for 2015 that will include positive reinforcement messaging, easier-to-use tools, more Spanish-language content, and a redesigned website, saveourwater.com, which will include a new water calculator and updated toolkit. Tufenkjian reported that she had contacted the state campaign staff regarding partnership opportunities for local agencies. Tufenkjian reported that there is no state money available for partnerships but the state does provide camera ready artwork that can be personalized locally. Tufenkjian recommended that the Board consider using the \$1,500 designated for outreach in the Authority's budget to produce communication pieces from the statewide campaign, Save Our Water, to be used by the members and interested parties for local events. It was moved by Alternate Director Moore, and seconded by Director Morales, and unanimously carried that up to and including the maximum amount of \$1,500 under Outreach Costs in the 2014-15 budget can be spent on Save Our Water communication pieces.

Legislation – Tufenkjian reported that several groundwater bills have been introduced and are being tracked. Tufenkjian reported that SB 208 (Lara) allows for DAC IRWMP projects funded through Prop. 1 to receive advanced payment of 50 percent of the grant award, which assists smaller agencies with cash flow. Tufenkjian reported on AB 617 (Perea) and AB 1390 (Alejo) which are two bills with clean-up language for the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. Tufenkjian provided an overview of upcoming legislative deadlines.

Other – Tufenkjian provided an update on the status of the adoption of the Kings Basin IRWMP. Tufenkjian reported that U.C. Cooperative Extension has provided a letter of adoption and the Sierra Resource Conservation District provided a resolution of adoption. Tufenkjian reported that all of the

Member and Interested Party agencies have adopted the Kings Basin IRWMP, except for Mid-Valley Water District and Lanare Community Services District. Both of these agencies do not have full boards and are unable to adopt the Plan at this time.

7. Request to modify the IRWMP Project List

Osterling reported that the Project Work Group reviewed eight projects listed below and found that all the projects are consistent with the Kings Basin IRWMP goals and objectives. The Advisory Committee recommended that the projects be added to the project list. It was moved by Director Burleson, seconded by Alternate Director Koehn and unanimously carried that the Board approve the Advisory Committee's recommendation to add the following projects to the IRWMP Project List:

1. Fresno Irrigation District Measurement (Meter) Project
2. Fresno Irrigation District Fancher Creek Surface Storage Project
3. City of Clovis North Recharge Facility
4. City of Fresno Kings River Pipeline
5. Fresno Irrigation District Big Dry Creek Recharge Project
6. City of Fresno Friant-Kern Canal Pipeline
7. City of Fresno Finished Water Transmission Mains (Phase 2)
8. Terranova Ranch On-farm Flood Capture Expansion Project

8. Recommendation to approve Prop. 84 Implementation Grant Pre-Application and Scoring Documents

Osterling reported that the pre-application and scoring matrix templates for the Prop. 84 implementation grant solicitation were distributed to all of the Members and Interested Parties. Osterling reported that the documents were developed from previous Water Authority templates and the DWR scoring matrix for this round of funding. Osterling reported that he received no comments regarding the draft templates. Osterling stated that the Project Review Panel and Project Work Group both recommend that the Board approve the draft templates. It was moved by Alternate Director Mendes, seconded by Director Burleson, and unanimously carried that the Board approve the pre-application and scoring matrix templates for Prop. 84 implementation grant solicitation.

9. Recommendation for Completed Project List Format

Osterling reported that the current Project List has uncompleted projects, funded projects in the process of being completed, and completed projects. Osterling reported that the Project List tracking system needs better clarification. Osterling reported that the Advisory Committee recommends the formation of a completed Project List. It was moved by Director Worthley, seconded by Director Avalos, and unanimously carried that the Board approve the formation of a completed Project List.

10. Request to Collaborate with AmeriCorps on an Urban Forestry Project

Tufenkjian reported that a CivicSpark urban forestry project is being coordinated through the Local Government Commission and paid for through a grant from California Fire. Tufenkjian reported that the purpose of the project is to support disadvantaged communities with urban forestry. Tufenkjian reported that the Advisory Committee did not take action to recommend the Water Authority be the regional sponsor because of concerns regarding needing more information about the organization, who will maintain the trees after planting, and what other organizations might be a better fit as a regional sponsor. Tufenkjian introduced Don Pauley, Regional Supervisor for the San Joaquin Valley CivicSpark Program. Pauley introduced two AmeriCorp volunteers Jesse Ropp and Jennifer Alvarez. Ropp and Alvarez provided additional details about the program including upcoming meetings and workshops with locally elected officials. The Board decided to not take action to support sponsorship of the project because the project does not align with the mission of the Water Authority.

11. Request to approve quarterly financial reports

Interim Chair McKean called on staff member Randy Shilling to provide an overview of the quarterly financial reports for the period January 1– March 31, 2015. Shilling provided an overview of the

quarterly financial reports included in the agenda packet. Discussion followed regarding the lag time between invoicing and state reimbursement, the changing requirements for invoicing, and the complicated process of invoicing several projects under a single reporting requirement. It was moved by Director Fast, and seconded by Director Morales, and unanimously carried to approve the quarterly financial reports.

12. Other items for discussion or reporting

Osterling provided an overview of the Prop. 84 implementation grant solicitation schedule for the Water Authority. Osterling noted that pre-applications are due on May 22.

13. Next meeting date: July 15, 2015 at 9:30 am, at the Fresno County Farm Bureau

Interim Chair McKean reported that the next regularly scheduled meeting is on July 15 at the Fresno County Farm Bureau office and that a special meeting may be scheduled immediately following the June 17 Advisory Committee regarding the Prop. 84 implementation grant solicitation.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Interim Chair McKean adjourned the meeting at 10:24 am.

Respectfully submitted,

David Orth
Secretary/Treasurer

Approved

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