

**Upper Kings Basin Integrated Regional Water Management Authority  
Advisory Committee Minutes, September 21, 2016  
Fresno County Farm Bureau, 1274 W. Hedges, Fresno, 93728**

Minutes of the Meeting of the Advisory Committee (Committee) of the Upper Kings Basin Integrated Regional Water Management Authority (Water Authority) held September 21, 2016.

1. Call to order

Advisory Committee Chair Lisa Koehn called the meeting to order at 9:33 am.

**Directors/Alternate Directors Present:**

Lisa Koehn, City of Clovis (alternate)  
Bernard Jimenez, County of Fresno (alternate)  
Denise England, County of Tulare (alternate)  
Bill Stretch, Fresno Irrigation District (alternate)  
Buzz, Burluson, Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District  
David Cehrs, Kings River Conservation District  
Don Cameron, Raisin City Water District (alternate)

**Members Absent:**

City of Dinuba  
City of Fresno  
City of Kerman  
City of Parlier  
City of Reedley  
City of Sanger  
City of Selma  
Consolidated Irrigation District  
Kings County Water District  
Alta Irrigation District

**Interested Parties Present:**

Jim Maciel, Armona Community Services District  
Kristin Dobbin, Community Water Center  
David Cehrs, El Rio Reyes Trust, Sierra Club, Tehipite Chapter  
Steve Stadler, James Irrigation District  
Maria Herrera, Lanare Community Services District, Self-Help Enterprises  
Charles Garabedian Jr., Malaga County Water District  
Don Cameron, Terranova Ranch, Inc.  
Dan Munk, UC Cooperative Extension – Fresno

**Interested Parties Absent:**

Bakman Water Company  
Biola Community Services District  
California Native Plant Society, Sequoia Chapter  
California State University, Fresno  
City of Kingsburg  
City of Orange Cove  
City of San Joaquin  
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  
Liberty Canal Company  
Liberty Water District  
London Community Services District  
Mid-Valley Water District  
Orange Cove Irrigation District  
Orosi Public Utilities District  
Pinedale County Water District  
Riverdale Irrigation District  
Riverdale Public Utility District  
Sanger Environmental Fund  
Sultana Community Water Center  
Sierra Resource Conservation District  
Tulare Basin Wildlife Partners

**Others Present:**

Paul Peschel, KRCD  
Eric Osterling, KRCD  
Randy Shilling, KRCD  
Cristel Tufenkjian, KRCD  
Soua Lee, KRCD

Bethany Soto, Regional Water Quality  
Control Board  
Peter Sanchez, Fresno Metropolitan Flood  
Control District

## 2. Addition to or Deletion from the Agenda

None

## 3. Public Presentations

None

## 4. Approval of the December 16, 2015 and June 15, 2016 Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Alternate Director Stretch, seconded by Alternate Director Cameron and unanimously carried that the minutes of the December 16, 2015 and June 15, 2016 meetings of the Advisory Committee be approved as presented.

## 5. Work Group Report and Recommendations

None

## 6. Staff Reports

*Planning and Implementation Contracts* – Authority Staff Member Soua Lee reported on the status of planning and implementation contracts. Lee referred to the contracts matrix included in the agenda packet and reported that under Proposition 84, Round 1 Implementation Grant the City of Fresno, City of Clovis and Consolidated ID have completed their projects. Under Proposition 84, Round 2 Implementation Grant, Lee reported that Bakman Water Company has to consider an alternative treatment method to address rising nitrate levels in their Well 8.

*Inter-regional and Statewide Coordination* – Authority Staff Member Eric Osterling reported that the Advisory Committee and Board of Directors had approved Provost & Pritchard to prepare a Proposition 1 IRWM Planning Grant application to update the Kings Basin IRWMP. The IRWMP will be updated to make it a functionally equivalent Storm Water Resources Plan for the Kings Basin IRWM region and address AB1249 and SB985. The deadline to submit the application is September 23, 2016.

Osterling reported that Authority staff is working with other IRWM practitioners, counties and small community leaders to develop a scope of work for the Proposition 1 DAC Involvement Grant Program. The \$3.4 million DAC Involvement Grant is a noncompetitive grant for the entire Tulare Lake Funding Area with the applicant being the County of Tulare. The DAC Involvement RFP Committee will meet on September 22 at the Visalia Provost & Pritchard office to finalize the scope of work. Alternate Director Denise England commented that once the scope is finalized, the DAC Involvement RFP Committee will look to obtain letters of support from various groups in the Tulare Lake Funding Area. Osterling reported that the DAC Involvement Grant will likely be coordinated through a Principles of Agreement rather than a MOU.

Osterling reported that Proposition 1 Implementation funding will possibly come out next year and if Members or Interested Parties have any projects they would like to put on the IRWMP Project List, those projects should be submitted right away.

*Public Information* – Authority Staff Member Cristel Tufenkjian reported on the next phase of the Save Our Water campaign. While the summer campaign focused on making permanent changes to save water as part of the “California Lifestyle”, the fall campaign will focus on fall landscaping and saving water outdoors. Save Our Water is also coordinating with the California Native Plant Society on a landscaping campaign.

*Legislation* – Tufenkjian reported that the Authority has been following AB 935 (Salas), a bill which originally earmarked money from Proposition 1 IRWM funding to two special projects. AB 935 (Salas) was scaled back from \$70 million to \$7 million with only the Friant water project remaining. The legislation does not specify where the funding will come from; however, in talking to people who

are working on the bill, staff was informed that the legislation will not go after IRWM funds. AB 935 is awaiting the Governor's signature.

*Administrative Items* – Lee announced a reminder that a supermajority will be required at the October 19<sup>th</sup> Board meeting in order to take action on the Fiscal Year 2016-17 budget.

*Other* – Osterling provided an update on SGMA activities. The Kings Subbasin currently has two exclusive GSAs – James ID GSA and Kings River East GSA. Additionally, Governor Brown signed two special act legislation bills that formally recognized the Kings River East group and North Fork Kings group as Groundwater Sustainability Agencies. Lastly, Osterling reported that the Kings IWFM Model Work Group continues to review documentation on the Kings IWFM Model.

#### 7. Selection of a Vice Chair Officer to the Advisory Committee

Chair Koehn called for nominations of a new vice chair to the Advisory Committee because former Vice Chair Dean Uota retired. After hearing no nominations, Alternate Director Bill Stretch volunteered to fill the position of vice chair to the Advisory Committee. The Committee agreed and supported Alternate Director Stretch to be the Vice Chair.

#### 8. Request to Modify the IRWMP Project List

Osterling reported that James Irrigation District submitted five projects to be included on the IRWMP Project List. The five projects were distributed to an IRWM Project Review Panel to ensure the projects were consistent with at least one measureable goal and objective described by the IRWMP. Since no comments were received from the panelists, staff recommended that the projects be included on the IRWMP Project List. The Advisory Committee discussed the proposed projects and concern was brought up regarding the location of the projects, the potential for the projects to conflict with a planned on-farm recharge project and the need for coordination of the projects with the GSA entity that will cover the McMullin Grade area. Chair Koehn suggested that Staff coordinate a meeting between James ID, the County of Fresno, Terranova Ranch and KRCD to work through the concerns. The Committee agreed to the suggestion.

#### 9. Consider a Policy to Remove Interested Parties from the KBWA Due to Nonparticipation

Osterling reported that the Committee had expressed concern regarding active participation in the IRWM group. Staff was tasked with conducting a study to see which entities have not been attending meetings and found that in the last three years nine Interested Parties have not attended any Advisory Committee or Board meetings. The study only looked at meeting attendance, no other forms of participation were considered. Staff prepared a letter to those nine entities asking for a status update. As a result, the Fresno County Farm Bureau and Orange Cove ID asked to be removed as Interested Parties, four entities affirmed they would like to remain Interested Parties and provided an updated list of representatives, and no response was received from three entities. At the June Advisory Committee meeting, it was suggested that a policy document was needed to outline the process for Interested Party removal due to nonparticipation. Osterling reported that attached to the agenda packet is a draft policy for Interested Party removal; however, staff does not recommend the policy because policy documents are prescriptive and does not allow flexibility for many different circumstances. After some discussion, the Committee agreed that the timing for a policy is not now and the Committee may consider revisiting the draft policy at a later time if the lack of participation in IRWM activities continues to be a concern. It was moved by Alternate Director Stretch, seconded by Director Burleson and unanimously carried that the Advisory Committee considered the draft policy, but did not recommend it.

#### 10. Review and Consider Adjusting the Frequency of the Regular Advisory Committee and Board of Directors Meetings

Chair Koehn opened a discussion to review whether the number of meetings of the Advisory Committee and Board were adequate or if the meetings should be scaled back. The Advisory Committee and Board of Directors meet four times a year. Chair Koehn commented that the reason for cutting back on meetings is because many members have to balance between SGMA activities and

other programs. Additionally, IRWM funding opportunities seemed to be less frequent. The Committee discussed the importance of being careful to have enough meetings for Members and Interested Parties to push forward their projects for IRWM grant consideration. It was moved by Chair Koehn, seconded by Alternate Director Jimenez and unanimously carried that the Advisory Committee recommend to the Board the removal of the December Advisory Committee meeting and January Board meeting from the regular meeting schedule and will only be called as needed.

11. Other Items for Discussion or Reporting

None.

12. Next Meeting Date:

The next regularly scheduled meeting for the Advisory Committee is December 21, 2016 at 9:30 am at the Fresno County Farm Bureau.

Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:41 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Koehn  
Chair

---

Approved

/

/