

**Upper Kings Basin Integrated Regional Water Management Authority  
Board Meeting October 19, 2016  
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 October 19, 2016.

1. Call to order

Vice chair Gary Serrato called the meeting to order at 9:30 am.

**Directors/Alternate Directors Present:**

Chris Kapheim, Alta Irrigation District (alternate)  
Emilio Morales, City of Dinuba  
Ken Moore, City of Kerman (alternate)  
Mary Fast, City of Reedley  
Scott Robertson, City of Selma  
Lisa Koehn, City of Clovis (alternate)  
Buzz Burleson, Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District  
Steve Worthley, County of Tulare  
Bernard Jimenez, County of Fresno (alternate)  
Dennis Mills, Kings County Water District (alternate)  
Georgeanne White, City of Fresno (alternate)  
Gary Serrato, Fresno Irrigation District (alternate)  
Philip Romero, City of Parlier (alternate)  
Paul Peschel, Kings River Conservation District (alternate)  
Don Cameron, Raisin City Water District (alternate)

**Members Absent:**

City of Sanger  
Consolidated Irrigation District

**Interested Parties Present:**

Jim Maciel, Armona Community Services District  
Kristin Dobbin, Community Water Center  
Steve Stadler, James Irrigation District  
Randy Hopkins, Mid-Valley Water District  
Charles Garabedian Jr., Malaga County Water District  
Sue Ruiz, Easton Community Services District, Self Help Enterprises, Lanare Community Services District  
Don Cameron, Terranova Ranch, Inc.  
Carole Combs, Tulare Basin Wildlife Partners  
Dennis Mills, County of Kings

**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  
Cutler Public Utilities District  
East Orosi Community Services District  
El Rio Reyes Conservation Trust  
Hardwick Water Company  
Kings River Water Association  
Kings River Conservancy

Laguna Irrigation District  
Liberty Canal Company  
Liberty Water District  
London Community Services District  
Orosi Public Utility District  
Pinedale County Water District  
Riverdale Irrigation District  
Riverdale Public Utility District  
Sultana Community Services District  
Sierra Resource Conservation District  
Sanger Environmental Fund  
Sierra Club, Tehipite Chapter  
UC Cooperative Extension - Fresno

**Others Present:**

Eric Osterling, KRCD  
Cristel Tufenkjian, KRCD  
Brian Trevarrow, KRCD  
Soua Lee, KRCD  
Gil Harootunian, Fresno State

Jerry Rai, Raisin City Water District  
Denise England, County of Tulare  
Brian Thorburn, Self-Help Enterprises  
Eva Dominguez, Self-Help Enterprises  
Maria Herrera, Self-Help Enterprises

Ronnie Samuelian, Provost & Pritchard  
 Alan Hoffman, Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District

Bill Stretch, Fresno Irrigation District  
 Chad Wegley, Alta Irrigation District

## 2. Addition to or Deletion from the Agenda

None

## 3. Public Presentations

None

## 4. Approval of Minutes of the June 20, 2016 meeting minutes

It was moved by Director Worthley, seconded by Alternate Director Kapheim and carried that the minutes of the June 20, 2016 meeting of the Board of Directors be approved as presented. Director Robertson abstained.

## 5. Member/Interested Party Report

Vice chair Serrato called on Alternate Director Chris Kapheim to provide a presentation on Alta Irrigation District's (AID) Surface Water Program. Several communities on the eastside of the Kings Subbasin were concerned with the rising level of groundwater contaminants and worried about their ability to meet future water quality standards. The Surface Water Program is a regional approach to providing clean surface water to those eastside communities. The project entails the construction of a surface water treatment plant located adjacent to the Friant-Kern Canal on the eastside of the Kings Subbasin. Pipelines would be constructed to convey water from the treatment plant to the eastside communities (i.e. East Orosi, Orosi, Cutler, Sultana, Monson, Yettem, and Seville). The cost of the project would be a little over \$27M. AID and its partners are looking to leverage grant funding to cover much of the costs; however, securing funding for operation and maintenance remains an issue. The group is looking to create a drinking water authority through a JPA. Alternate Director Kapheim commented that this process has been positive in that it forced communities that are not used to working together into a working relationship. Director Worthley also commented that the drought has been a silver lining in that they were able to access emergency drought funding to build some of the backbone for the project such as a pipeline between Seville and Yettem.

## 6. Advisory Committee Report

Vice chair Serrato called on Advisory Committee chair Lisa Koehn to provide a report on Advisory Committee activities. Koehn reported that the Advisory Committee met on September 21 and selected Bill Stretch as the new vice-chair of the Committee. The Committee discussed a request to modify the IRWMP Project List to include five projects by James Irrigation District. Some concerns were expressed regarding the location of the projects as they may potentially conflict with other planned recharge projects. James ID, the County of Fresno, KRCD, and Terranova Ranch agreed to meet to work out those concerns. This item was continued until the next meeting. The Committee considered an Interested Party removal policy; however, the Committee ultimately decided a policy for removal was not appropriate at this time and did not move forward with a recommendation to the Board. Lastly, the Committee discussed the possibility of adjusting the meeting schedule of the Advisory Committee and Board. Koehn noted that this item will be further discussed under Agenda Item 9.

## 7. Staff Reports

*Planning and Implementation Contracts* – Lee referred to the grants matrix in the agenda packet and reported on the Proposition 84 Implementation Grants. Under Proposition 84, Round 1 Implementation Grant, the City of Fresno and City of Clovis' projects are complete; DWR continues to review Consolidated ID's Project Completion Report; and approval the County of Fresno's LCP is pending. Under Proposition 84, Round 2 Implementation Grant, Laguna ID's project is complete; Bakman Water Company will be submitting a scope amendment to add a nitrate treatment component to their work plan; water meter bid packages were completed for the City of Kerman; and the City of San Joaquin is continuing with water meter installations.

Osterling reported on the status of the Proposition 1 IRWM Planning Grant Program. Osterling noted that only \$5M was available statewide for the development of new IRWM Plans and to update existing IRWM Plans. DWR only received fifteen applications statewide: two applications to develop new plans and thirteen applications to update existing plans. Osterling commented that the KBWA has a good chance at receiving funding because the total funding requests were less than the available \$5M.

*Inter-regional and Statewide Coordination* – Osterling reported on the activities of the statewide IRWM Roundtable of Regions effort. A meeting is planned for late October to primarily look at the IRWM Plan standard changes. The group will also look at possible ways to provide baseline funding for each Regional Water Management Group to support the IRWM planning effort.

*Public Information* – Tufenkjian reported that Save Our Water is entering their fall campaign about landscaping and saving water outdoors. Save Our Water also partnered with the California Native Plant Society, Sequoia Chapter on a campaign about landscaping. Tufenkjian shared that Save Our Water put together focus groups in Sacramento, Fresno, Los Angeles and Riverside to test their messaging for their fall campaign. One of the questions posed to the focus groups was, “Does California have a water shortage or is there plenty of water? The responses from Sacramento and Los Angeles was that they believed California was experiencing a water shortage; Riverside believed the water shortage is a ploy developed on the part of providers to raise prices and make money; and Fresno believed that the state has plenty of water. Another question asked was, “What information sources are trustworthy?” The responses point to local water districts, government, and nonprofits as trustworthy sources. Tufenkjian commented that this illustrates that local agencies are doing a good job at communicating information to their constituents.

Tufenkjian shared that a new outdoor watering tips handout was available. A print of 3,000 handouts is estimated to cost about \$500. The Board authorized Tufenkjian to use the KBWA outreach funds to print 3,000 handouts.

*Legislation* – Alternate Director White shared that the governor signed AB 935. The legislation was originally a \$70M proposal to do two San Joaquin River Restoration projects. The legislation was refined to one \$7M pump project. Vice-chair Serrato shared that the legislation originally looked to earmark some IRWM funding for the San Joaquin River Restoration projects; however, the authors of the bill changed the legislation to require DWR to go after other funding sources for the project.

*Administrative Items* – Nothing to report.

*Other* – Osterling reported on SGMA activities in the Kings Subbasin. Two GSAs have filed with the state and are now exclusive. All other GSAs are on schedule to file within the next couple of months. There is still a lot of question and uncertainty regarding financing and liability insurance.

#### 8. Update on the Proposition 1 DAC Involvement Grant Program

Osterling provided a presentation on the status of the noncompetitive \$3.4M Proposition 1 DAC Involvement Grant proposal that is being developed for the Tulare-Kern Funding Area. Osterling shared that the County of Tulare has volunteered to be the applicant on behalf of the Funding Area. The development of the proposal is guided by a proposal development workgroup made up of representatives from the Tulare-Kern IRWMs, counties, NGOs, and DACs. The proposal includes the following tasks: a Needs Assessment and database update, project development (\$2M), DAC engagement and education, third party facilitation, reporting, project management, and grant administration. Vice-chair Serrato asked if Self-Help Enterprises or Community Water Center have been participating in the efforts of the proposal development. Maria Herrera answered that both NGOs have been actively participating as well as representatives from Armona CSD, Sultana WD, and Malaga County WD. Denise England commented that a letter of support from each of the Tulare-Kern IRWM groups is a requirement of DWR and asked if the Board would consider the letter of support that was included in the agenda packet. It was moved by Director Worthley and seconded by Alternate Director Cameron to approve the letter of

support. However, after some discussion it was decided that the proposal is still evolving and therefore it would be best to revisit the letter of support at the January 2017 Board meeting. Director Worthley and Alternate Director Cameron withdrew their Motion.

9. Consider recommendation by the Advisory Committee to adjust the frequency of the regular Advisory Committee and Board of Directors Meetings

Alternate Director Koehn reported on the recommendation of the Advisory Committee to reduce the regular meetings of the Advisory Committee and Board of Directors from four (4) meetings per year to three (3) meetings per year by eliminating the December Advisory Committee and January Board meetings. Alternate Director Koehn clarified that this change would not take effect until December 2017; therefore, the December 2016 Advisory Committee meeting and January 2017 Board meeting will occur as scheduled. It was moved by Director Worthley, seconded by Alternate Director Kapheim and unanimously carried to approve the recommendation of the Advisory Committee.

10. Request to approve quarterly financial reports

Brian Trevarrow provided an overview of the quarterly financial reports for the period July 1 – September 30, 2016 included in the agenda. Trevarrow reported that the cash balance at September 30, 2016 was just over \$594,000 which was higher than normal due to the reason that in the last week of September, KRCD received reimbursement for two of the Proposition 84 grants for about \$361,000. In the first week of October the reimbursement checks were cut for the grantees and were deposited by the second week resulting in the cash balance returning to a more normal amount, about \$233,000. It was moved by Director Burleson, seconded by Director Morales and unanimously carried to approve the quarterly financial report.

11. Recommendation to approve proposed Fiscal Year 2016-17 Budget

Trevarrow reported that the Fiscal Year 2016-17 Budget was developed with the Ad-hoc Budget Committee. It was determined that the Member and Interested Party contributions would remain the same as the prior year. Trevarrow noted that the audit fee was omitted from the Budget because audits are conducted every two years. Additionally, there is a proposed deficit of \$25,000 for the fiscal year meant as matching funds for updating the IRWMP. The Ad-hoc Budget Committee had concluded that the \$25,000 was appropriate and reasonable use of the undesignated reserves and was consistent with the Reserves Policy that undesignated funds may be used as matching funds for collective benefits. Should the Proposition 1 IRWM Planning Grant be awarded to the KBWA, the grant revenue and expenditures will be added to the Budget. Trevarrow noted that edits will be made to the Member Dues and Interested Party Administrative Fees list to add Armona Community Services District and remove the duplicate entry for Raisin City Water District. It was moved by Director Fast, seconded by Director Morales and unanimously carried that the Fiscal Year 2016-17 Budget be approved with the corrections discussed.

12. Other items for discussion or reporting

None to report.

13. Next meeting date: January 18, 2017 at 9:30 am, at the Fresno County Farm Bureau

There being no further business, Vice Chair Serrato adjourned the meeting at 10:58 am.

Respectfully submitted,

---

Paul G. Peschel  
Secretary/Treasurer

---

Approved