

**Upper Kings Basin Integrated Regional Water Management Authority  
Board Meeting January 20, 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 January 20, 2016. Tufenkjian requested for the nomination of an interim chair in the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair. It was moved by Alternate Director Chris Kapheim, and seconded by Alternate Director Lisa Koehn and unanimously carried that Director Worthley act as interim chair.

**1. Call to order**

Interim Chair Steve Worthley called the meeting to order at 9:32am. Worthley noted there was a quorum.

**Directors/Alternate Directors Present:**

David Cehrs, Kings River Conservation District  
Ken Moore, City of Kerman (alternate)  
Emilio Morales, City of Dinuba  
Phil Desatoff, Consolidated Irrigation District (alternate)  
Lisa Koehn, City of Clovis (alternate)  
Buzz Burleson, Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District  
Mary Fast, City of Reedley  
Buddy Mendes, County of Fresno (alternate)  
Dennis Mills, Kings County Water District (alternate)  
Steve Brandau, City of Fresno  
Steve Worthley, County of Tulare  
Chris Kapheim, Alta Irrigation District (alternate)  
Don Cameron, Raisin City Water District (alternate)

**Members Absent:**

City of Parlier  
City of Sanger  
City of Selma  
Fresno Irrigation District

**Interested Parties Present:**

John Mallyon, James Irrigation District, Mid-Valley Water District  
Jim Anderson, Malaga County Water District  
Don Cameron, Terranova Ranch  
David Cehrs, El Rio Reyes Conservation Trust, Sierra Club, Tehipite Chapter  
Steve Haze, Sierra Resource Conservation District  
Phil Desatoff, City of Kingsburg  
Paul Boyer, Hardwick Water Company, Self-Help Enterprises, Sultana Community Services District

**Interested Parties Absent:**

Biola Community Services District  
California State University, Fresno  
California Native Plant Society, Sequoia Chapter  
City of Orange Cove  
City of San Joaquin  
County of Kings  
Cutler Public Utilities District  
East Orosi Community Services District  
Fresno County Farm Bureau  
Kings River Water Association  
Tulare Basin Wildlife Partners  
Bakman Water Company  
Community Water Center

Easton Community Services District  
Kings River Conservancy  
Laguna Irrigation District  
Lanare Community Services District  
Liberty Canal Company  
Liberty Water District  
London Community Services District  
Orange Cove Irrigation District  
Orosi Public Utilities District  
Riverdale Irrigation District  
Riverdale Public Utility District  
Sanger Environmental Fund  
UC Cooperative Extension - Fresno

**Others Present:**

Eric Osterling, KRCD  
Cristel Tufenkjian, KRCD  
Randy Shilling, KRCD  
Soua Lee, KRCD  
Ronnie Samuelian, Provost & Pritchard  
Gary Sawyers

Alan Hoffman, Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District  
Dean K. Uota, City of Dinuba  
Bethany Soto, Regional Water Quality CB  
Jose Robledo, SWRC – DDW  
Denise England, Tulare County  
Jason Franklin, Pinedale County Water District

2. Addition to or Deletion from the Agenda

None

3. Public Presentations

Alan Hoffman presented on the topic of whether or not the Kings Basin Water Authority (KBWA) would be competing for Proposition 1, Chapter 7 – Regional Water Security and Drought Preparedness funding for storm water resources planning. Hoffman reported that Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District is interested in competing for the funding, and if successful, will bring a Storm Water Resources Plan before the Advisory Committee and Board of Directors for review.

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

It was moved by Director Cehrs, seconded by Alternate Director Mendes, and unanimously carried that the minutes of October 21, 2015 meeting of the Board of Directors be approved as presented.

5. Member/Interested Party Report

Paul Boyer of Self Help Enterprises presented on the effects of the drought on private wells in the rural community of Cameron Creek near Farmersville. Due to the drought, many private wells in Cameron Creek had gone dry. Boyer highlighted the success story of the Cameron Creek community and the City of Farmersville combining resources to connect the residents of Cameron Creek to the City's water.

6. Advisory Committee Report

Interim Chair Worthley called on Advisory Committee Chair Lisa Koehn to provide a report on Advisory Committee activities. Koehn reported that the Advisory Committee met on December 16. Koehn reported that staff reported on planning and implementation contracts, public policy and development of the Kings Integrated Water Flow Model. Kohen reported that the Authority's consultant emailed a draft of the IRWMP annual report for comment, and that the Advisory Committee unanimously approved Armona Community Services District (CSD) to become an interested party of the KBWA.

7. Staff Reports

*Planning and Implementation Contracts* –Soua Lee reported on the status of planning and implementation contracts. Lee referred to the contracts matrix included in the agenda packet for updates on specific projects. Lee reported that under Prop. 84 Round 1, project proponent East Oroshi Community Services District submitted a schedule amendment to extend the grant deadline to June 2017. Lee reported that Prop. 84 Round 2 reporting and invoicing is going as scheduled. Lee reported that the California Water Foundation grant deadline to complete all activities related to the development of the Kings IWFm will conclude at the end of March 2016.

*Inter-regional and Statewide Coordination* – None to report.

*Public Information* – Tufenkjian reported on a summary of public outreach efforts for the KBWA as reported in the annual report. Tufenkjian reported that since the launch of the KBWA website in July 2014, there have been 7,638 views. Tufenkjian reported on popular pages of the KBWA website that garnered the most views including the press release by the Kings River Water Association of the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Pine Flat Dam, information on Prop. 1 public workshops, KBWA's project list and reports, and the list of KBWA directors. Tufenkjian reported that since the publication of the KBWA groundwater video in April 2014 there have been 550 views on YouTube. Tufenkjian reported that KBWA's Twitter account has 385 followers and 917 tweets since its inception. Tufenkjian reported that the goal of KBWA's Twitter account is to extend awareness of the activities of the KBWA to followers locally and outside of the Kings Basin. Tufenkjian reported that 3,000 of the 5,000 indoor watering tips fliers developed by the KBWA have been distributed to communities within the Kings Basin.

*Legislation* – Tufenkjian reported that on July 31, bills have to be out of their house of origin and February 19 is the deadline for bill introduction. Tufenkjian reported that Assembly Speaker Atkins made reappointments due in part to the departure of Assembly Member Henry T. Perea. Tufenkjian reported that Assembly Member Rendon was elected to become State Assembly Speaker effective March 2016 and has adjusted some of the community assignments including the appointment of Assembly Member Bonta to the Natural Resources Committee and Assembly Member Eggman to the Water, Parks, and Wildlife Committee. Tufenkjian reported that KRCD continues to monitor AB 935 (Salas), which is a bill that aims to identify potential IRWMP funding from Prop. 1 to help support the San Joaquin River Restoration Project. Tufenkjian reported that KRCD continues to monitor SB 20 (Pavley) Water Resiliency Investment Fund, which is a spot bill that will possibly be a water tax or public goods charge bill. Tufenkjian reported that a hearing for SB 20 will occur in March and new language will come out in May.

*Administrative Items* – Tufenkjian reported that Mid-Valley Water District’s newly appointed Board would look to adopt KBWA’s IRWMP at their February Board meeting. Tufenkjian reported that Lanare CSD has yet to appoint members to their Board.

*Other* – Osterling reported that the kingsgroundwater.info website features new interactive maps that allow viewers to see basin boundary modifications and where GSAs are forming. Osterling reported that a public hearing for the Kings Subbasin boundary modification proposal will be held on January 27, 2016 at 9am at Fresno Irrigation District and the Tulare Lake Subbasin boundary modification hearing will be on January 29, 2016 at 9am at the Kings County Board of Supervisors Chamber. Osterling reported on Prop. 1 funding and noted that 34 million was allocated to the Tulare Lake Hydrologic Region with a large portion of funding being targeted towards Disadvantaged Community (DAC) engagement and projects. Osterling reported that Prop 1, Chapter 7 sets aside about \$20 million for storm water resources planning and about \$180 million for storm water resources implementation split between two rounds. Osterling reported that the State Water Resources Control Board will host a solicitation workshop for the Storm Water Grant Program at the Kings River Conservation District (KRCD) office on January 28 at 8:30am.

#### 8. Recommendation to approve Armona Community Services District as an Interested Party

Tufenkjian reported that at the previous Board meeting on October 21, the Board voted to annex Armona CSD into the KBWA basin boundary. Tufenkjian reported that at the Advisory Committee meeting on December 16, Armona CSD brought forth a request to become an interested party. Tufenkjian reported that Armona CSD has met all requirements to becoming an interested party. It was moved by Alternate Director Kapheim, seconded by Director Morales, and unanimously carried that Armona CSD become an interested party of the KBWA.

#### 9. Request to adopt Policy No. UKB-008 Small Agency Participation Percentage Policy

Shilling referred to pages 9 through 11 of the agenda packet for information on the draft Membership Participation Percentage Policy for Small Agencies. Shilling reported on the history of the formation of the KBWA. The KBWA was originally created by an MOU in 2004 called the Upper Kings Basin Water Forum and was an informal coalition of public agencies. At the time, original members paid \$10,000.00 in annual member dues to cover operating costs. KRCD hired a consultant to create the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) billed at 2.2 million dollars. The Water Forum covered the costs of the IRWMP with a \$1,000,000 grant, \$500,000 total contributions from original members and \$680,000 from KRCD. In March 2009, the JPA was formed to create the Kings Basin Water Authority. Since the JPA was formed, four new agencies have joined. Each agency was charged and has paid a buy-in amount of \$30,000 in accordance with Section 6.02 of the JPA agreement, and annual dues of \$7,000. Shilling reported that the issue up for discussion is that the \$30,000 buy-in and \$7,000 annual dues are more than some smaller entities can afford. Shilling reported that the Budget Committee worked together for more than two years to compromise on recommendations. Shilling reported that the Budget Committee recommends to the Board of Directors three Participation Percentage options:

1. A CSD or PUD, or a group of more than one (by MOU or JPA), may apply to become a member of the Authority with a 25% Participation Percentage. Currently this would result in a one-time contribution amount of \$1,750 and annual dues of \$1,750.
2. Cities with population less than 20,000 (small cities) and Irrigation or Water Districts with service area less than 25,000 acres (small districts) may apply to become new members of the Authority with a 50% Participation Percentage. Currently this would result in a one-time contribution amount of \$3,500 and annual dues of \$3,500.
3. In addition to the above, if the impediment to membership for a small agency is strictly financial, the agency can be considered for membership with a Participation Percentage of less than 25% to be determined by the Board by a Supermajority vote as provided in Section 3.03 of the JPA at the time of application for membership. The minimum Participation Percentage should be no lower than 7% of the equal Participation Percentage.

Some main points of discussion expressed by the Board of Directors were as followed:

- a. The buy-in is too small in both options 1 and 2, and it would be unfair for smaller agencies to have the same vote as Members who have paid the full \$30,000 buy-in.
- b. Smaller agencies do not have the budget for annual dues. Furthermore, direct DAC involvement brings value to the KBWA's IRWM group because recent grant funding opportunities have been heavily weighted towards DAC projects and engagement.
- c. The Advisory Committee has been inclusive of DAC involvement and the Board has historically approved recommendations by the Advisory Committee. Some Members commented that they felt the DACs have a voice in the IRWM through their Advisory Committee participation and that membership is not necessary.

It was motioned by Alternate Director Kapheim and seconded by Director Fast for policy consideration of options 1 and 2.

AYES: Director Worthley, Fast, Morales, Alternate Directors Moore, Kapheim, Koehn

NOES: Director Brandau, Burleson, Cehrs, Alternate Director Desatoff, Mendes, Mills, Cameron

ABSTAIN: None

The first motion failed a major decision vote. It was motioned by Alternate Director Koehn and seconded by Director Fast for policy consideration of only option 2.

AYES: Director Worthley, Fast, Morales, Alternate Directors Moore, Kapheim, Koehn, Mills

NOES: Director Brandau, Burleson, Cehrs, Alternate Director Desatoff, Mendes, Cameron

ABSTAIN: None

The second motion failed a major decision vote.

#### 10. Request to approve Kings Basin Water Authority 2015 Annual Report

Samuelian reported on the final draft of the KBWA 2015 Annual Report, which was made available on the KBWA website as of January 15, 2016. Samuelian reported that one significant change to the annual report since last distributed was the exclusion of groundwater contours and overall volume change in the southern portion of the basin boundaries. Samuelian reported that this is due to using the typical method for groundwater contouring which resulted in some errors and data gaps. It was moved by Director Cehrs, seconded by Alternate Director Kapheim, and unanimously carried that the annual report be approved as amended.

11. Request to approve quarterly financial reports

Shilling provided an overview of the quarterly financial reports for the period October 1 – December 31, 2015. Shilling reported that KBWA ended December with \$294,800 in the bank, member and interested party contribution was \$17,500, and grants billed were \$892,997. Shilling reported that DWR reimbursed KBWA for Prop. 84 Round 2 for \$250,384. Shilling reported that the audit is currently in process. Shilling referred to page 15 of the agenda packet for the contributions received by members and interested parties. It was moved by Alternate Director Kapheim, seconded by Director Morales, and unanimously carried to approve the quarterly financial reports.

12. Other items for discussion or reporting

None to report.

13. Next meeting date: April 20, 2016 at 9:30am, at the Fresno County Farm Bureau Adjournment

There being no further business, Interim Chair Worthley adjourned the meeting at 11:47 am.

Respectfully submitted,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Randy Shilling  
Secretary/Treasurer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Approved

/

/

/