

**Upper Kings Basin Integrated Regional Water Management Authority
Advisory Committee Minutes, March 15, 2017
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 March 15, 2017.

1. Call to order

Advisory Committee Chair Lisa Koehn called the meeting to order at 9:35 am.

Directors/Alternate Directors Present:

Lisa Koehn, City of Clovis (alternate)
Ken Moore, City of Kerman (alternate)
Philip Romero, City of Parlier
Jim Avalos, City of Selma
Peter Sanchez, Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District (alternate)
Paul Peschel, Kings River Conservation District (alternate)

Members Absent:

Alta Irrigation District
City of Dinuba
City of Fresno
City of Reedley
City of Sanger
Consolidated Irrigation District
County of Fresno
County of Tulare
Fresno Irrigation District
Kings County Water District
Raisin City Water District

Interested Parties Present:

Jim Maciel, Armona Community Services District
Shay Bakman, Bakman Water Company
Dwight Miller, Biola Community Services District
Sue Ruiz, Easton Community Services District, Self-Help Enterprises, Lanare Community Services District

Interested Parties Absent:

California Native Plant Society, Sequoia Chapter	Liberty Canal Company
California State University, Fresno	Liberty Water District
Community Water Center	London Community Services District
City of Kingsburg	Malaga County Water District
City of Orange Cove	Mid-Valley Water District
City of San Joaquin	Orosi Public Utilities District
County of Kings	Pinedale County Water District
Cutler Public Utilities District	Riverdale Irrigation District
East Orosi Community Services District	Riverdale Public Utility District
El Rio Reyes Conservation Trust	Sanger Environmental Fund
Hardwick Water Company	Sultana Community Services District
James Irrigation District	Sierra Club, Tehipite Chapter
Kings River Conservancy	Sierra Resource Conservation District
Kings River Water Association	Tulare Basin Wildlife Partners
Laguna Irrigation District	US Cooperative Extension – Fresno

Others Present:

Eric Osterling, KRCD	Randy Shilling, KRCD
Christine Simon, KRCD	Cristel Tufenkjian, KRCD
Bethany Soto, Regional Water Quality Control Board	Ronald Samuelian, Provost & Pritchard

2. Addition to or Deletion from the Agenda

Chair Koehn added “Discuss budget subcommittee” to the Agenda Item 8.

3. Public Presentations

None

4. Approval of the December 21, 2016 Meeting Minutes

After quorum was established at 9:46 a.m., it was moved by Director Avalos, seconded by Alternate Director Moore and unanimously carried that the minutes of the December 21, 2016 meeting of the Advisory Committee be approved as presented.

5. Update on DAC Involvement Proposal

Authority staff member Eric Osterling reported on the current status of the DAC Involvement Proposal. He expects Tulare County to submit the proposal this or next week to the Department of Water Resources (DWR), who will review and respond to the planning committee. The hope is to have a contract in place by June and move forward with a three-year planning process.

6. IRWMP Update Planning Grant Work Plan

Osterling and Ronald Samuelian reported that staff is working with DWR to get the contract into place and is hoping to hear news soon from DWR. Schedule updates needed to be made during the contract negotiation with DWR. They also expect a need to update some chapters, hold additional meetings, and do more water quality data-gathering to cash-in on \$50,000 committed to in-kind services.

The Authority needs the whole Kings Subbasin covered under a Storm Water Resource Management Plan. Expectation from DWR is that as soon as the Storm Water Resource Management plan is done, projects attached to that plan need to be included in the Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) plan’s project list. Samuelian will initiate steps with Kings River Conservation District (KRCD) to form a project team for this purpose, with emphasis on water quality and storm water.

7. Staff Reports

A. Planning and Implementation Contracts – Osterling referenced the matrix included in the agenda packet.

With the arrival of Sue Ruiz, quorum was established. Chair Koehn called for a vote in regards to Agenda Item 4. Approval of the December 21, 2016 Meeting Minutes, as noted above.

B. Inter-regional and Statewide Coordination – January 12, 2017 Roundtable of Region Summit in Sacramento. Highlights included:

1. Art Hinojosa is the new Director of the IRWM Program (Chief, Division of IRWM). Hinojosa mentioned that IRWM is undergoing a shift in identity; might look at themselves as grant administrators for the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA).
2. There will be seminars in May to solicit feedback regarding DWR’s idea to do two rounds of implementation funding, beginning in 2018. Unsure if DAC funding will be standalone or included, but expect there to be sufficient DAC funding at least in the second round of funding.

C. Public Information – Authority staff member Cristel Tufenkjian drew attention to the news release (Ag Alert) and the Proposition 1 Planning Grant articles. Tufenkjian also reminded the committee that the indoor/outdoor watering tips handout is available at the Kings River Conservation District office at 4886 E Jensen Ave Fresno, CA 93725.

D. Legislation – Tufenkjian reported that the primary concern is regarding where the Governor is going to find money for flood infrastructure (i.e. Oroville Dam Spillway). Staff will keep an eye on this in case the Governor is considering taking money from IRWM funding.

E. Administrative Items – Form 700s (hardcopy, original signature) are due Monday, April 3, 2017 to Soua Lee.

F. Other – SGMA implementation: In the Kings Subbasin almost everyone has filed.

8. Other Items for Discussion or Reporting

Chair Koehn asked for at least one more volunteer for the Budget Ad-hoc Committee, which generally meets once a year.

Conversation surrounding SGMA’s “everyone working together” message is beginning to take root, as Sue Ruiz noted at the Fresno Irrigation District grower meeting she attended.

Osterling mentioned that SGMA planning money will be coming out this summer. Ten million statewide will be available for Severely Disadvantaged Communities (SDACs) to use for implementation projects.

9. Next Meeting Date:

The next regularly scheduled meeting for the Advisory Committee is June 21, 2017 at 9:30 a.m. at the Fresno County Farm Bureau.

Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:06 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Koehn
Chair

Approved

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