

**Upper Kings Basin Integrated Regional Water Management Authority
Board Meeting January 18, 2017
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 18, 2017. Staff Eric Osterling requested for the nomination of an Interim Chair in the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair. It was moved by Alternate Director Desatoff, seconded by Alternate Director Mendes and unanimously carried that Alternate Director Koehn act as Interim Chair

1. Call to order

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

Directors/Alternate Directors Present:

Chad Wegley, Alta Irrigation District (alternate)
Lisa Koehn, City of Clovis (alternate)
Georgeanne White, City of Fresno (alternate)
Ken Moore, City of Kerman (alternate)
Buddy Mendes, County of Fresno (alternate)
Buzz Bursleson, Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District
Phillip Desatoff, Consolidated Irrigation District (alternate)
Randy Shilling, Kings River Conservation District (alternate)
Don Cameron, Raisin City Water District (alternate)

Members Absent:

City of Dinuba
City of Parlier
City of Reedley
City of Sanger
City of Selma
County of Tulare
Fresno Irrigation District
Kings County Water District

Interested Parties Present:

Jim Maciel, Armona Community Services District
Kristin Dobbin, Community Water Center
Steve Stadler, James Irrigation District
Charles Garabedian Jr., Malaga County Water District
Maria Herrera, Self Help Enterprises, Lanare Community Services District
Don Cameron, Terranova Ranch, Inc.

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
El Rio Reyes Conservation Trust
Hardwick Water Company
Kings River Water Association
Kings River Conservation

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

Others Present:

Eric Osterling, KRCD
Cristel Tufenkjian, KRCD
Soua Lee, KRCD
Gil Harootunian, Fresno State
Ronnie Samuelian, Provost & Pritchard
Peter Sanchez, Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District
Russ Robertson, City of Reedley

2. Addition to or Deletion from the Agenda

None

3. Public Presentations

None

4. Approval of Minutes of the October 19, 2016 meeting minutes

It was moved by Director Burlison, seconded by Alternate Director Cameron and unanimously carried that the minutes of the October 19, 2016 meeting of the Board of Directors be approved as presented.

5. Director Reports

None

6. Advisory Committee Report

Interim Chair Koehn provided a report on Advisory Committee activities. Koehn reported that the Advisory Committee met on December 21st and received staff reports and an update on the Proposition 1 Planning Grant draft funding recommendations. The Committee approved a recommendation to the Board to add five James Irrigation District projects to the IRWMP Project List. Lastly, the Committee tasked KRCD staff with preparing a letter of support for the proposal being developed by the County of Tulare for the Proposition 1 DAC Involvement Grant Program.

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. Lee reported that under Proposition 84 Round 1 Implementation Grant the County of Fresno is near completion of their project, but the East Orsi Community Services District’s well rehabilitation project remains behind schedule. Under Proposition 84 Round 2 Implementation Grant, the Fresno Irrigation District is working on a scope amendment to their project, Bakman Water Company executed a scope amendment with DWR in December 2016, the City of Kerman plans to begin construction of their project this month and lastly the City of San Joaquin completed construction of their project.

Inter-regional and Statewide Coordination – Osterling reported that on January 12th, the Roundtable of Regions, which is a coalition of IRWMs from around the state, held a summit in Sacramento. One main focus of the summit was the DAC Involvement Grant. DWR staff was present at the summit to discuss the anticipated schedule for the upcoming Prop 1 IRWM Implementation funds. The current proposed schedule is looking at having grant applications due for DAC implementation projects in spring 2018 and for regular implementation projects spring of 2020. DWR staff noted that a series of workshops will be held in May 2017 to solicit public input. Osterling asked the Authority to provide him with any input regarding whether the implementation money should roll out sooner or later and will speak on behalf of the Authority.

Public Information – Tufenkjian reported that 3,000 outdoor watering tips handouts were printed for about \$500 and were available for Members and Interested Parties to take back to their agencies. Tufenkjian reported on KBWA outreach efforts for the 2016 year. The Authority’s Twitter account has 418 followers and about 65 tweets were posted in 2016. To date, the Authority has posted 1,039 tweets. Last year, the kingsbasinauthority.org website had 4,800 views and 12,400 views since the website’s launch. Pages on the Authority’s website that generated the most traffic were the Authority’s homepage, the reports and papers page, and the “Sixty Years of Pine Flat Dam” press release written by Randy McFarland. To date, the Kings Basin groundwater video developed through funding from a California Water Foundation grant has 841 views and four “likes”. Last May, the Laguna Irrigation District held a ribbon cutting ceremony for their 52-acre recharge basin that was completed through funding from Prop 84 Round 2 Implementation funds. Lastly, in March 2016 KRCD staff conducted a tour with DWR staff to visit several projects that were being completed through Prop 84 Round 2 Implementation funding.

Legislation – Tufenkjian reported the deadline for bills to be introduced is February 17th and because this is the first year of a two year session, there could be an increase in spot bills. Tufenkjian further reported the possibility of a public goods charge bill. Lastly, Tufenkjian reported that Assembly Member Eduardo Garcia is the new chair of the Committee on Water, Parks, and Wildlife and Catalina Bautista replaced Martha Guzman as Deputy Legislative Secretary to Governor Brown.

Administrative Items – Osterling shared that Alternate Director Roseann Galvan retired from the City of Selma and thanked her for her work and dedication to the mission of the Authority.

Lee announced she will be emailing Directors and Alternates sometime during the week to ask for Form 700s and will reach out to all Members and Interested Parties to update their list of representatives. Lastly, Lee will be reaching out to project sponsors to update the status of their projects on the IRWMP Project List.

Other – Osterling reported on SGMA activities in the Kings Subbasin. As of January 1, 2017 the Kings River East GSA and North Fork Kings GSA became law through special act legislation and seated their Boards. The North Fork Kings GSA has scheduled a public hearing regarding the Election to become a GSA. Other GSAs in the Kings Subbasin are looking to file with DWR by March. In the case of the special act agencies, they are exempt from the 90-day public comment period. Once their application is deemed complete, they are considered “Exclusive” for their area. There currently are no overlap issues in the Kings Subbasin; however, there are some reported overlaps in the south Tulare Lake, Kaweah, Tule, and Kern areas. Alternate Director Moore asked how GSA overlaps happen. Osterling answered that oftentimes it has to do with overlapping agencies that have overlapping jurisdictions or there are disagreements as to who will lead the effort. SB 13 was cleanup legislation that provided a process for DWR to implement in the event of any overlaps, essentially putting the responsibility back on the local agencies to resolve the overlaps.

8. Selection of Officers to the Board of Directors

Interim Chair Koehn announced there is a vacancy of the Board Chair position and called for nominations. Director Desatoff nominated Interim Chair Lisa Koehn, which was seconded by Alternate Director Mendes. It was pointed out that Interim Chair Koehn is currently the Chair for the Advisory Committee. Alternate Directors Desatoff and Mendes withdrew their nomination. Alternate Director Shilling nominated Director Buzz Burleson to the chair position. The nomination was seconded by Alternate Director Mendes and unanimously carried that Director Buzz Burleson serve as Chair to the Board. Chairman Burleson conducted the remainder of the Board meeting.

9. Request to Modify the IRWMP Project List

Lee reported that the Advisory Committee would like to recommend to the Board the modification of the IRWMP Project List to add five James Irrigation District projects. Lee noted that the Project Information Forms for the five projects were included in the agenda packet. It was moved by Alternate Director Koehn, seconded by Alternate Director Cameron and unanimously carried that the IRWMP Project List be modified to include the five James Irrigation District projects.

10. Request to Approve and File King Basin Water Authority 2016 Annual Report

Ronnie Samuelian reported the draft Kings Basin 2016 Annual Report was produced and provided for comment back in November 2016. A matrix with the comments and responses were included in the Board agenda packet and the updated draft of the Report was made available on the KBWA website. It was moved by Alternate Director Shilling, seconded by Alternate Director Koehn and unanimously carried that the Kings Basin 2016 Annual Report be approved as presented.

11. Update on DAC Involvement Proposal and Request for Letter of Support

Osterling reported on the letter of support included in the agenda packet and the progress of the Proposition 1 DAC Involvement Proposal preparations. The letter expressed that the KBWA’s support of the Proposal is contingent upon the ability of the KBWA to continue to engage and work directly with

the applicant (County of Tulare) and DWR. After some discussion, Chair Burleson called the item to vote. It was moved by Alternate Director Cameron, seconded by Alternate Director Shilling and unanimously carried to approve the letter of support for the Proposal in response to the Prop 1 DAC Involvement Grant.

12. Request to Approve Quarterly Financial Reports

Shilling provided an overview of the quarterly financial report for the period October 1 – December 31, 2016. Shilling noted that \$5,250 has been received through Interested Party voluntary contributions, which is a good response from the year prior. It was moved by Alternate Director White, seconded by Alternate Director Koehn and unanimously carried to approve the quarterly financial report.

13. Other Items for Discussion or Reporting

Steve Stadler thanked the Board for approving the five James Irrigation District projects to the IRWMP Project List and that the City of San Joaquin appreciates the funds they received through Proposition 84 Round 2 Implementation Grant to install water meters.

14. Next meeting date: April 19, 2017 at 9:30 am, at the Fresno County Farm Bureau

There being no further business, Chair Burleson adjourned the meeting at 10:25 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul G. Peschel
Secretary/Treasurer

Approved