

**Upper Kings Basin Integrated Regional Water Management Authority
Advisory Committee Notes, June 19, 2019
Fresno County Farm Bureau, 1274 W. Hedges, Fresno, 93728**

Notes of the Meeting of the Advisory Committee (Committee) of the Upper Kings Basin Integrated Regional Water Management Authority (Water Authority) held June 19, 2019.

1. Call to order

Advisory Committee Chair Jim Maciel called the meeting to order at 9:36 am.

Directors/Alternate Directors Present:

Paul Armendariz, City of Clovis (alternate)
Mary Fast, City of Reedley
Louis Franco, City of Selma
Bernard Jimenez, County of Fresno (alternate)
Phil Desatoff, Consolidated Irrigation District
(Alternate)
Bill Stretch, Fresno Irrigation District
Frank Fowler, Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control
District
Paul Peschel, Kings River Conservation District
(alternate)

Members Absent:

Alta Irrigation District
City of Fresno
City of Dinuba
City of Kerman
City of Parlier
City of Sanger
County of Tulare
Kings County Water District
Raisin City Water District

Interested Parties Present:

Jim Maciel, Armona Community Services District
Sean Ray, Bakman Water Company

Interested Parties Absent:

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
Community Water Center
County of Kings
Cutler Public Utilities District
East Orosi Community Services District
Easton Community Services District
El Rio Reyes Conservation Trust
Hardwick Water Company
James Irrigation District
Malaga County Water District
Kings River Conservancy
Kings River Water Association
Laguna Irrigation District
Lanare Community Services District

Liberty Canal Company
Liberty Water District
London Community Services District
McMullin Area GSA
Mid-Valley Water District
North Fork Kings GSA
Orosi Public Utilities District
Pinedale County Water District
Riverdale Irrigation District
Riverdale Public Utility District
Sanger Environmental Fund
Self-Help Enterprises
Sultana Community Services District
Sierra Club, Tehipite Chapter
Sierra Resource Conservation District
Terranova Ranch, Inc.
Tulare Basin Wildlife Partners
US Cooperative Extension – Fresno

Others Present:

Brock Buche, City of Fresno
Isaac Moreno, City of Selma
Michael Prado Sr., Sultana Community Services District
Michael Prado Jr., Sultana Community Services District
Charlotte Gallock, KRCD
Cristel Tufenkjian, KRCD

Brian Trevarrow, KRCD
Soua Lee, KRCD
Moises Ortiz, Malaga County Water District
Gabino Gomez, Malaga County Water District
Rebecca Quist, KRCD

2. Addition to or Deletion from the Agenda

None

3. Public Presentations

Alternate Director Desatoff spoke on concerns relating the McMullin On-Farm Flood Capture Project, Phase 2B sponsored by the Kings River Conservation District. Although the Advisory Committee and Board approved this project on March 20, 2019 to go into an application for Prop 1 IRWM Implementation Grant funding, some legal issues had arisen regarding water rights in the Kings River service area that has raised concerns with this project. Director Stretch also expressed support for Alternate Director Desatoff's concerns. Alternate Director Moreno stated that projects are required to be on the IRWM project list in order to apply for IRWM funding and questioned whether there were any concerns with this project when it was being considered for the IRWMP project list. Soua Lee clarified that there were no concerns with the project when it was being considered for the IRWMP project list. Concerns relating to the project were only recent developments. Director Fowler suggested that the Advisory Committee and Board get a better analysis from staff as to the issue in order for the Committee and Board to make a proper decision on next steps. Director Fast agreed and provided a recommendation that this issue be placed on the July 2019 Board agenda for further discussion. The Advisory Committee provided consensus to recommend that the Board revisit this project at the July 17, 2019 Board meeting.

4. Approval of the March 20, 2019 Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Director Fast, seconded by Director Franco and unanimously carried that the minutes of the March 20, 2019 meeting of the Advisory Committee be approved as presented.

5. Staff Reports

A. Planning and Implementation Contracts – Lee reported that the Water Authority is awaiting final invoice payment for the IRWM Planning Grant. Once final invoice payment is received, the Water Authority will request release of retention to close out the grant.

B. Inter-regional and Statewide Coordination – Lee reported that the Roundtable of Regions held a conference call meeting on May 6, 2019 to receive updates from DWR staff on the following: California Water Plan Update, perspectives on new leadership at the State, Governor Newsom's Executive Order – Water Resilience Portfolio, updates on the Prop 1 DAC Involvement Grant and IRWM Implementation PSP, and opportunities for State-Regional collaboration (e.g. videos, Water Atlas Pilot projects, etc.). The Roundtable also introduced the new Network Coordinator and reviewed the draft Roundtable charter. Lee further reported that an ACWA IRWM Subcommittee is working to update ACWA's IRWM Policy Principles. The policy principles serve as a foundation for ACWA to have general direction on policy relating to the IRWM Program.

C. Public Information – Lee reported that Senator Melissa Hurtado recently secured \$15 million in funding for safe and clean drinking water for the south central valley in the State budget bill. The City of Selma Rockwell Pond Groundwater Recharge Project is included on the list of projects that will receive funding. Lee noted that the City's project is also on the IRWMP project list and funding provided to this project will assist the region in moving one-step closer to meeting the goals and objectives of the IRWMP. Lee further reported that the public is invited to a Prop 1 IRWM Implementation Pre-Application Workshop with DWR staff will on June 25, 2019 at the California Regional Water Quality Control Board Fresno office beginning at 8:00 AM. The purpose of the Workshop is for IRWM regions to present to DWR their suite of projects that will be submitted for IRWM Implementation funding and to receive direct project feedback.

D. Legislation – Cristel Tufenkjian reported that the State legislature passed a \$214.8 billion budget. Included in the budget is \$130 million for safe drinking water of which \$100 million will come from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund, \$30 million from the General Fund for safe drinking water and \$3.4 million from the General Fund for State Water Board administrative costs.

E. Administrative Items – Lee reminded Member agencies that their Board or Counsel are required to re-adopt the updated IRWMP. Interested Parties are encouraged, but not required to re-adopt the updated IRWMP unless they are pursuing Prop 1 IRWM Grant funding. Lee also provided an update on the Water Authority’s social media accounts.

F. Other – None to report.

6. Recommendation to Approve Projects for Project Development Funds from the Prop 1 DAC Involvement Grant Program

Lee referred to the application summary handout and reported that the Water Authority received six applications for Project Development Funds (\$250,000 available). The Project Review Panel reviewed and scored all six applications. The Panel made a recommendation to award funding to the East Orosi Community Services District Well and Pipeline Design and Environmental Documents Project and to the Malaga County Water District (MCWD) Replace Well 3 Project. Lee noted that the MCWD Replace Well 3 Project, MCWD Replace Well 5 Project and Sultana Community Services District (SCSD) Storm Water Project tied at 16 points. Tie-breaker points were awarded to each project based on other categories that the Panel considered including whether the community has been awarded IRWM funding in the past, whether the community has been consistent in their participation of Water Authority activities, and whether the community has paid their annual voluntary Interested Party fee. MCWD Replace Well 3 and Replace Well 5 projects were each awarded three tie-breaker points and SCSD was awarded one tie-breaker point. MCWD Replace Well 3 Project was recommended instead of the Replace Well 5 Project due to its central location to the community. An additional \$12,656 was recommended to the MCWD Replace Well 3 Project for additional project design work. The SCSD Storm Water Project was recommended by the Panel to be submitted to the Project Advisory Committee to compete for funding from the regional competitive pot. Due to the lack of quorum, the Committee was unable to take formal action on this item; however, the Committee provided consensus to recommend that the Board approve the projects as recommended by the Project Review Panel.

7. Next Meeting Date:

The next regularly scheduled meeting for the Advisory Committee is September 18, 2019 at 9:30 a.m. at the Fresno County Farm Bureau.

Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:28 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Maciel
Chair

Approved