

**Upper Kings Basin Integrated Regional Water Management Authority
Board Meeting, April 21, 2021 at 9:30 AM
Microsoft Teams Teleconference**

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of the Upper Kings Basin Integrated Regional Water Management Authority (Water Authority) held April 21, 2021.

1. Call to order

Chair Mary Fast called the meeting to order at 9:33 am.

Directors/Alternate Directors Present:

Chad Wegley, Alta Irrigation District (alternate)
Paul Armendariz, City of Clovis (alternate)
Maribel Reynosa, City of Dinuba
Brock Buche, City of Fresno (alternate)
Bill Nijjer, City of Kerman
Philip Romero, City of Parlier (alternate)
Mary Fast, City of Reedley
Isaac Moreno, City of Selma (alternate)
Roy Jimenez, County of Fresno
Denise England, County of Tulare
Bill Stretch, Fresno Irrigation District
Buzz Burleson, Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District
Dennis Mills, Kings County Water District (alternate)
David Merritt, Kings River Conservation District (alternate)
Don Cameron, Raisin City Water District

Members Absent:

City of Sanger
Consolidated Irrigation District

Interested Parties Present:

Jim Maciel, Armona Community Services District
Sonia Sanchez, Self-Help Enterprises
Michael Prado Sr., Sultana 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
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 Groundwater Sustainability Agency
Mid-Valley Water District
North Fork Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency
Orosi Public Utilities District
Pinedale County Water District
Riverdale Irrigation District
Riverdale Public Utility District
Sanger Environmental Fund
Sierra Resource Conservation District
Sierra Club, Tehipite Chapter
Tulare Basin Watershed Partnership
US Cooperative Extension – Fresno

Others Present:

Ronnie Samuelian, Provost & Pritchard
Peter Sanchez, Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District
Brian Trevarrow, KRCD
John Jansons, City of Kerman

2. Addition to or Deletion from the Agenda

None.

3. Public Presentations

None.

4. Consider Approval of the October 21, 2021 Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Director Stretch, seconded by Alternate Director Wegley, and unanimously carried that the minutes of the October 21, 2021, Board of Directors meeting be approved as presented.

5. Director Reports

None.

6. Advisory Committee Report

Chair Fast called on Advisory Committee Chair Jim Maciel to provide a report on Advisory Committee activities on March 17, 2021. Maciel reported that the Advisory Committee received staff reports and considered updates to the Joint Powers Agreement, mainly concerning quorum, but the Committee decided that updates to the JPA was not warranted at this time and asked staff to inquire with legal regarding interpretations of the bylaws relating to quorum.

7. Member/Interested Party Report

Chair Fast called on Matt Meadows with the Kings River Water Association to provide a report on water conditions. Meadows shared a PowerPoint presentation and reported on storage conditions of Pine Flat Reservoir and hydrologic outlook for 2021. Chair Fast requested that a copy of the presentation be forwarded to the Water Authority members.

8. Staff Reports

A. Planning and Implementation Contracts – Soua Lee provided an update on the status of Proposition 1, Round 1 IRWM Implementation Grant and Proposition 1 DAC Involvement Grant Program. Lee reminded that any Member or Interested Party looking to place a project on the IRWMP project list may submit a Project Information Form (PIF) at any time. The PIF can be found on the Water Authority's website.

B. Inter-regional and Statewide Coordination – Lee reported that the IRWM Roundtable of Regions will be hosting a special meeting on April 21, 2021, to discuss status of the IRWM Program and gather consensus from its members on recommendations to the State Legislature regarding two bills (AB 1500, E. Garcia, Mullin and SB 45, Portantino) that are beginning to make their way through the legislature. The IRWM Roundtable of Regions is requesting amendments to the language in AB 1500 to include \$500M for the IRWM Program.

C. Public Information – None to report.

D. Legislation – None to report.

E. Administrative Items – None to report.

F. Other – None to report.

9. Appointment of Secretary/Treasurer

Lee reported that Paul G. Peschel is no longer with Kings River Conservation District (KRCD) and therefore the secretary/treasurer position is vacant. Lee shared that the secretary/treasurer position has

historically been held by a KRCD staff, typically the general manager, for reasons that KRCD also serves as the fiscal agent for the Water Authority and signing Water Authority business documents would be expedited; however, Lee noted that any Board Member may serve as secretary/treasurer. Lee also provided information on the role and responsibilities of the secretary/treasurer. It was moved by Director Cameron, seconded by Alternate Director Moreno, and unanimously carried that KRCD interim general manager David Merritt be appointed as secretary/treasurer.

10. Consideration of Funding Commitment to the Roundtable of Regions and Entering into a Cost-Sharing Agreement

Lee reported that the IRWM Roundtable of Regions would like to continue to staff a Network Coordinator to assist in the activities of the Roundtable and requested that IRWM regions consider extending their cost-sharing for this Network Coordinator for another two fiscal year (2021-22 and 2022-23). Lee provided an overview of the work that has been accomplished by the current Network Coordinator and shared the future work objectives and tasks of the Network Coordinator for 2021-2023). The Water Authority approved cost-sharing a little over \$10K in the last two fiscal year. The total requested contribution from the Water Authority for 2021-2023 would be \$10,200. It was moved by Alternate Director Buche, seconded by Director Burluson, and passed by a minor decision that the Water Authority extend the cost-sharing agreement with the IRWM Roundtable of Regions for the next two fiscal year in the amount of \$10,200.

Ayes: Director Reynosa, Nijjer, Fast, Stretch, Burluson, Merritt, Cameron, Alternate Director Armendariz, Buche, Romero, Moreno, Jimenez, England,

Noes: Alternate Director Wegley, Mills

Abstain: None

Absent: Director Hurtado, Ritchie

11. Request to Approve Kings Basin Water Authority 2019-20 Annual Report

Lee provided an overview of the updates made to the Annual Report. The purpose of the Annual Report is to document the accomplishments of the Water Authority during the water year and track how the Water Authority is doing compared to its goals and objectives. It was moved by Director Stretch, seconded by Alternate Director Merritt, and unanimously carried that the Kings Basin Water Authority 2019-20 Annual Report be approved as presented.

12. Request to Approve Quarterly Financial Reports

Brain Trevarrow provided an overview of the quarterly financial reports for the period October 1, 2020 – March 31, 2021. It was moved by Alternate Director Moreno, seconded by Director Nijjer, and unanimously carried that the quarterly financial reports be approved as presented.

13. Next Meeting Date:

The next regularly scheduled meeting for the Board of Directors is July 21, 2021, at 9:30 a.m. via Microsoft Teams.

Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:57 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Fast
Chair

Approved