

**Upper Kings Basin Integrated Regional Water Management Authority
Board Meeting, October 16, 2019
Fresno County Farm Bureau, 1274 W. Hedges, Fresno, 93728**

Notes of the Meeting of the Board of the Upper Kings Basin Integrated Regional Water Management Authority (Water Authority) held October 16, 2019. Lee requested for the nomination of an interim chair in the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair. Director Frank Fowler was nominated to act as interim chair.

1. Call to order

Interim Chair Fowler called the meeting to order at 9:37 am.

Directors/Alternate Directors Present:

Paul Armendariz, City of Clovis (alternate)
Philip Romero, City of Parlier (alternate)
Russ Robertson, City of Reedley (alternate)
Bernard Jimenez, County of Fresno (alternate)
Denise England, County of Tulare (alternate)
Frank Fowler, Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District
Paul Peschel, Kings River Conservation District (alternate)

Members Absent

Alta Irrigation District
City of Dinuba
City of Fresno
City of Kerman
City of Sanger
City of Selma
Consolidated Irrigation District
Fresno Irrigation District
Kings County Water District
Raisin City Water District

Interested Parties Present:

Jim Maciel, Armona Community Services District
Sean Ray, Bakman Water Company
Michael Prado Sr. Sultana Community Services District
Jim Anderson, Malaga County Water District

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
Kings River Conservancy
Kings River Water Association
Laguna Irrigation District
James 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 Utility District
Pinedale County Water District
Riverdale Irrigation District
Riverdale Public Utility District
Sanger Environmental Fund
Self-Help Enterprises
Sierra Club, Tehipite Chapter
Sierra Resource Conservation District
Sultana Community Services District
Tulare Basin Wildlife Partners
Terranova Ranch, Inc.
UC Cooperative Extension - Fresno

Others Present:

Michael Prado Jr., Sultana Community Services District
Jennifer Alt, Malaga County Water District
Brian Trevarrow, KRCD
Debra Dunn, KRCD

Soua Lee, KRCD
Cristel Tufenkjian, KRCD
Rebecca Berg, County of Tulare

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Interim Chair Fowler led the Water Authority in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Additions to or Deletions from the Agenda

None.

4. Public Presentations

Former General Manager Jim Anderson of Malaga County Water District announced that he has retired from the Water District and introduced Jennifer Ahl as the new General Manager.

5. Consider Approval of the July 17, 2019 Meeting Minutes

This item was continued until the next regularly scheduled Board of Directors meeting.

6. Director Reports

None.

7. Advisory Committee Report

Interim Chair Fowler called on Advisory Committee Chair Jim Maciel to provide a report on Advisory Committee activities on September 18, 2019. Maciel reported that the Advisory Committee did not have quorum at their September meeting, but did provide consensus to send a letter to Nancy Vogel to urge that the State consider using the collaborative nature of IRWM as the framework for developing the Governor's Water Resilience Portfolio. The Committee also discussed ideas for getting quorum at future meetings and received an update on the Prop 1 DAC Involvement Grant Program.

8. Staff Reports

a. Planning and Implementation Contracts – Soua Lee referred to the grants matrix in the Board packet and reported that the Prop 1 IRWM Planning Grant was closed out, but State Water Resources Control Board have yet to approve the Kings Basin Stormwater Resources Plan. Staff is working with Provost & Pritchard to submit additional information requested by State Board. Regarding the Prop 1 DAC Involvement Grant, Lee reported that the Sultana CSD Stormwater project was submitted to the Tulare-Kern Funding Area regional competitive pot and was awarded \$72,600 in August 2019. Sultana CSD's project will be considered for additional funding at the October 17 Project Advisory Committee meeting in Visalia. A handout of the projects from the Water Authority and other Tulare-Kern IRWM regions that were awarded project development funds were included in the agenda packet. Lee reported that the Prop 1 Round 1 IRWM Implementation Grant application was submitted on September 6, 2019 and included six implementation projects. Lastly, Lee provided an update on the Prop 1 Stormwater Grant Program. It is anticipated that this grant program will open in March 2020 and Water Authority Members and Interested Parties were encouraged to submit their stormwater projects to the Water Authority project list if they plan to pursue this grant.

b. Inter-regional and Statewide Coordination – Lee reported that the updated ACWA IRWM Policy Principles were approved by the ACWA Board of Directors on July 26, 2019. The Policy Principles will guide ACWA on how to advocate or engage with state legislation and policies relating to IRWM. Lee reported that the Advisory Committee provided consensus to submit a letter to Nancy Vogel, who is directing the development of the Governor's Water Resilience Portfolio, to encourage using the IRWM program as the framework for the Portfolio. The letter is included in the agenda packet.

c. Legislation – Cristel Tufenkjian reported on three legislative bills:

- AB 658 (Arambula) Water Rights and Water Management – This bill would create permanent beneficial use for groundwater under a temporary permit. The issue surrounding this bill are concerns about agencies having to subsidize these temporary permits for other. Language was put into the bill to say that these permits should align with Prop 26 and that the cost for these permits should not be subsidized.

- SB 487 (Caballero) Airborne Snow Observatory Program – This is a joint program with DWR and NASA to do aerial survey of the watershed to better forecast weather conditions in order to more effectively manage water in the watershed. This bill was vetoed by the Governor due to lack of funding.
- SB 1 California Environmental Public Health and Workers Defense Act of 2019 – The intent of this bill is to ensure federal laws and regulations concerning environmental labor issues would remain in place if there were regulatory changes by the Trump administration. The bill was vetoed by Governor.

D. Administrative Items – Brain Trevarrow reported that at the July Board meeting, a question was raised about what the Water Authority can do if a Member does not pay their member dues. Section 4.05 of the Joint Powers Agreement states that if a body does not budget the funds to pay the dues then that agency become subject to termination procedures. Trevarrow noted that all Members have paid their dues for the current fiscal year. Lee reported that in order to increase attendance at meetings, she will be conducting outreach to KBWA Board Members and Interested Parties. Lastly, Lee reported that the 2020 KBWA meeting dates was provided as a handout.

E. Other – None.

9. Request for a Letter of Support by the City of Clovis and Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District for a Bureau of Reclamation 2020 WaterSMART Grant Application

Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District General Manager Alan Hofmann spoke on the District and City of Clovis project to develop a weather monitoring network in the Big Dry Creek watershed. Although there was lack of quorum, the Board provided consensus to provide a letter in support of the District and City of Clovis application to the Bureau of Reclamation.

10. Request to Approve Quarterly Financial Reports

Trevarrow provided an overview of the quarterly financial reports for the period July 1, 2019 – September 20, 2019. Due to lack of quorum, the quarterly financial reports was continued until the next regularly scheduled Board of Directors meeting.

11. Next meeting date: April 15, 2020 at 9:30 am, at the Fresno County Farm Bureau

There being no further business, Interim Chair Fowler adjourned the meeting at 10:19 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul G. Peschel
Secretary/Treasurer

Approved