



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HELD AUGUST 12, 2024

At approximately 1:00 p.m. on August 12, 2024, at KDWCD, 2975 N. Farmersville Blvd., Farmersville California, Chairman Chris Tantau of the Greater Kaweah GSA called to order a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Greater Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency Joint Powers Authority (“GKGSA”).

Directors	Pete Vander Poel Paul Boyer Chris Tantau Brian Watte Eric Shannon	Joe Cardoza Ernie Taylor Clinton Church Stephen Johnson
Directors Absent:	None	
Also Present:	Mark Larsen Aubrey Mauritson David De Groot Shawn Corley Blake Mauritson Dennis Mills Rachel Glauser Jeff Ritchie John Gailey Andrew Hart Jason Linman	Don Tucker Geoff Vanden Heuvel Craig Wallace Cornell Kasbergen William Stample Scott Rogers Dino Giacomazzi Luis Verdugo Mark Hoffman Jared DeGroot Paul Nunes

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Tantau opened the meeting for public comment.

CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Miscellaneous Items

General Manager Larsen introduced Luis Verdugo, who has joined KDWCD as its new engineer. Mr. Larsen also introduced Kaitlyn Sartuche from 4Creeks.

2023 Water Year Invoicing Update

Program Manager Stephanie Ruiz provided a report on invoicing. Ms. Ruiz advised that the deadline for purchase of carryover of Tier 1 has passed.

Public comment was received from Geoff Vanden Heuvel.

General Manager Larsen reported that currently, approximately \$12,000,000.00 has been received, but staff is still auditing and accounting for the revenue.

WATER SALE FORUM

Presentation of online program

Alfred Nutile from Break9 provided a presentation of options for a water sale forum.

Discussion ensued.

Public comment was received from Andrew Hart.

Discussion continued.

Public comment was received from Shawn Corley.

Public comment was received from Cornell Kasbergen.

Discussion continued.

Chairman Tantau reported that the effort will keep moving forward, with the trial run.

GSA REPORTS AND COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

Technical Advisory Committee

Summary of July 18, 2024, Cancelled

General Manager Larsen advised that the July 18, 2024 meeting was cancelled.

Next Meeting Scheduled for August 15, 2024 at 1:30 p.m.

General Manager Larsen advised that the next Technical Advisory Meeting will be held on August 15, 2024 at 1:30 p.m. Mr. Larsen advised that the discussion will include updates on sustainable management criteria, allocations, and replenishment of water.

Combined Rural Communities & Stakeholder Committees

July 22, 2024, Cancelled

General Manager Larsen advised that the July 22, 2024, meeting was cancelled.

Next Combined Meeting August 26, 2024 at 1:30 p.m.

General Manager Larsen advised that the next combined meeting of the Rural Communities and Stakeholder Committees will be held on August 26, 2024, at 1:30 p.m.

Kaweah Subbasin Management

Grants

General Manager Larsen advised that this would be discussed later in the meeting.

LandIQ/Dashboard

General Manager Larsen advised that there were no matters to report.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Consider Approval of Minutes for the July 8, 2024, Board Meeting

General Manager Larsen referred the Board to Agenda Item #5a, a copy of the July 8, 2024, minutes, which are attached hereto and incorporated by reference.

Director Watte moved and Director Vander Poel seconded to approve the July 08, 2024, minutes. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

Public comment was received from Johnny Gailey.

JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT

Status Report (Second Amended Agreement to Form a Joint Powers Authority Circulating for Approval – All Parties Have Approved)

General Manager Larsen provided a report. Mr. Larsen referred the Board to Agenda Item #5a, a copy of the Agreement, which is attached hereto and incorporated by reference. Mr. Larsen advised that all parties have approved the agreement.

Groundwater Dependent Board Seat Application Process

General Manager Larsen provided a report. He advised that three applications have been received so far. The next step will be to take the matter to the committees for recommendation, before coming back to the Board.

Discussion continued.

BYLAWS

Status Report

General Manager Larsen reported that the agenda packet included a draft copy of the Amended Bylaws that are reflective of the new JPA. A copy of the Amended Bylaws is attached hereto and incorporated by reference as #6a.

Discussion ensued.

Consider Approval of Amended Bylaws

Director Shannon moved and Director Vander Poel seconded to approve the Amended Bylaws as presented in the agenda packet.

The matter was opened to discussion.

Discussion ensued.

The Board unanimously approved the motion.

FINANCIALS

Consider Approval of the Financial Report for the Quarter Ending June 30, 2024

General Manager Larsen reported on the Financial Report for the Quarter Ending June 30, 2024. Attached hereto and incorporated by reference as Agenda Item #7a is a copy of the Financial Report.

Discussion ensued.

Public comment was received from Johnny Gailey.

Director Shannon moved and Director Johnson seconded to approve the Financial Report for the Quarter Ending June 30, 2024. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

Review 2024 Reserves Budget and Advise Staff on Use

General Manager Larsen provided a report.

KAWEAH SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLANS

Status Report on Draft Amended GSP for 30-Day Public Comment and the Process of Addressing Board GSP Deficiencies

General Manager Larsen provided a status report. Mr. Larsen advised that work continues on outreach for the amendments, but the timeline is admittedly very tight. Attached hereto and incorporated by reference as Agenda Item 9 is a copy of comments received to date on the circulated draft amended GSP.

Status on Subbasin Technical Work. Review, Discuss and Advise Staff on Sustainable Management Criteria (SMC) for Groundwater Quality and Interconnected Surface Water

Don Tucker of 4Creeks, provided a report on updates specific to groundwater quality.

Public comment was received from Geoff Vanden Heuvel.

Discussion ensued.

Public comment was received from Geoff Vanden Heuvel and Dino Giacomazzi.

Discussion continued.

Public comment was received from Dennis Mills.

Discussion continued.

Public comment was received from Geoff Vanden Heuvel.

Tom Harder provided an update on interconnected surface waters.

Discussion ensued.

WATER YEAR 2025 ALLOCATION

Status Report

Consulting Engineer Dave De Groot provided a status report. Mr. De Groot provided a quick update on the precipitation allocation, the native yield allocation, and the transitional allocation. He advised that calculation of precipitation is relatively straightforward, in that the entire subbasin is using a 25-year average, which is easy to calculate and is being done by zone and contour. With respect to native yield, the current plan is to repopulate the accounting framework to recalculate native sustainable yield. Regarding mountain front recharge, questions have arisen concerning the original calculation and underlying assumptions, as have comment letters on the water budget and flow models. Assuming there is consensus, the parties will move forward with the allocation. A meeting is planned for this Wednesday.

For transitional water, based on the Rules & Regulations, the ramp down period is a project and management action that is being implemented, and the relevant information has been provided to Montgomery & Associates. At this time, we are attempting to confirm with Montgomery & Associates that the information was included in modeling. At present, the data appears fairly consistent and the transitional allocation and should hopefully be similar to prior years.

Public comment was received from Cornell Kasbergen.

Discussion continued.

Public comment was received from Cornell Kasbergen.

Discussion continued.

Public comment was received from Geoff Vanden Heuvel.

Discussion continued.

Public comment was received from Cornell Kasbergen.

Discussion continued.

GREATER LAND FALLOWING PROGRAM

Review and Discussion 2024 Program

Chairman Tantau provided an update. He advised that the Committee has gotten together to discuss the program for the upcoming year. One consideration is a uniform pricing option, rather than a reverse option.

Public comment was received from Committee Member Dino Giacomazzi. Mr. Giacomazzi presented an update on recent discussions.

Discussion ensued.

Public comment was received from Cornell Kasbergen.

Public comment was received from Dino Giacomazzi.

Consider Approval of 2024 Program Specifics

Director Cardoza moved, and Director Johnson seconded to approve the 2024 program specifics, which is change to uniform pricing and change to allow cover cropping without harvest but to allow grazing. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

Land Fallowing Meeting – Scheduled August 19, 2024, 1:00 p.m. Elks Lodge

General Manager Larsen advised that the Land Fallowing meeting will be held on August 19, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. at the Elks Lodge.

DWR SGM IMPLEMENTATION GRANT

Status Report

General Manager Larsen provided a report. Mr. Larsen noted that GKGSA manages the grant, and there are 13 approved projects for the grant. There are multiple projects for each GSA. Mr. Larsen advised that there are two challenges: (1) a very wet 2023 year absorbed the bandwidth of all engineers and consultants, and many projects did not proceed; and (2) one of the projects was simply too challenging and did not come to fruition. As a result, at least one project will not be able to proceed. As a result, money is available and the hope is to redistribute those funds to the other projects.

MITIGATION

Status Report

General Manager Larsen provided a report. Mr. Larsen reported the construction for the well subject of the pilot well mitigation program is underway. He should have a further report next month.

CLOSED SESSION

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION

[Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2)]

Number of Potential Cases: One

The Board of Directors, while in closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2), met with General Counsel Aubrey Mauritson regarding one potential item of anticipated litigation.

CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

Report Action Taken in Closed Session Required by Government Code 54957.1

The Board of Directors returned to open session. Chairman Tantau advised that there was no reportable action.

NEXT MEETING DATE

Scheduled Meeting Monday, September 09, 2024 at 1:00 P.M.

Chairman Tantau announced the next regular meeting of the Groundwater Sustainability Agency will commence on Monday, September 9, 2024, at 1:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business to come before the Board of Directors, the meeting was concluded.

Mark Larsen, Secretary