



TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING January 23, 2025 MEETING MINUTES

At approximately 1:30 p.m. on January 23, 2025, at the office of the Kaweah Delta Water Conservation District ("District"), Dennis Mills, Chair of the Technical Advisory Committee, called to order a meeting of the Committee Members.

Members

Dennis Mills - Larry Dotson
Chair Dennis Keller
Scott Wagner Mark Larsen
David DeGroot
Aaron Bock

Present:

Absent:

Staff and Agency consultants presented an agenda packet that followed the agenda. Attached hereto and incorporated by reference is the packet.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Following calling the meeting to order, Chairman Dennis Mills conducted Committee member roll call (documented above) and then opened the meeting for public comment.

No public comment was received.

CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Work is progressing from planning to implementation of GSAs.

Minimal interaction with state agencies; no major concerns were raised.

Hiring process for a new program technician is ongoing to assist with invoicing and customer relations.

MINUTES:

Minutes from the November 21, 2024, meeting were reviewed and approved by Member Keller and seconded by Member Dotson with minor edits.

WELL MITIGATION EVALUATION:

Discussion of a well mitigation process for impacted wells.

Concerns were raised about mitigating one well without understanding broader community risks.

Greater Kaweah GSA TAC Meeting

Several mitigation strategies were discussed, including groundwater recharge, fallowing programs, and community-wide solutions.

Plan to assess well conditions, potential recharge opportunities, and funding options.

Emphasis on long-term monitoring agreements with well owners who receive mitigation support.

Discussion on Self Help Enterprises' role in mitigation and data management.

Public Comment received from Andrew Hart

Potential issues with well failures due to compression were highlighted.

Recommendation from Chairman Mills seconded by Member Keller for a Mitigation ad hoc committee to be formed with three consultants a county representative and a local driller, in addition to Self-Helps involvement as the contractor and recipient of claim.

GREATER KAWEAH 2025 WATER ALLOCATION POLICY DISCUSSION:

Consideration of reallocating unused tiered water to landowners in need.

Concerns about localized overdraft and sustainability goals were discussed.

Public Comment received from Geoff VandenHeuvel, Rachel Glauser & Andrew Hart

Proposal to limit water transfers within defined geographic constraints to prevent adverse impacts.

Discussion on implementing a pricing structure and potential tiered cost mechanisms.

Emphasis on ensuring program effectiveness through real-time monitoring.

Recommendation to develop a pilot program with built-in safeguards made by Chairman Mills.

Agreement to refine the policy proposal further and bring it back for additional discussion.

NEXT STEPS:

Staff and consultants to refine the water allocation proposal and prepare a draft for the next meeting.

Future discussions on sub-basin coordination and mitigation strategies.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Continue work on the well mitigation strategy, including further assessment of affected communities.
2. Gather cost estimates and feasibility studies for long-term mitigation solutions.

Greater Kaweah GSA TAC Meeting

3. Develop a draft document outlining the proposed water allocation adjustments for committee review.
4. Ensure coordination with other GSAs regarding mitigation planning.
5. Conduct technical analysis to evaluate potential impacts of reallocating unused water.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND MEETING DATES:

The next meeting was scheduled for February 20, 2025, at 1:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dennis Mills, Committee Chair