



TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING September 19, 2024 MEETING MINUTES

At approximately 1:30 p.m. on September 19, 2024, 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

Present:

Dennis Mills -

Chair

Scott Wagner

Larry Dotson

Don Tucker

Dennis Keller

David DeGroot

Mark Larsen

Absent:

Aaron Bock

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:

General Manager Larsen gave an update

MINUTES: Chairman Dennis Mills presented the Technical Advisory Committee meeting minutes of August 27, 2024. A motion was made to approve the minutes by Member Dotson and Member Wagner following the amended next meeting date, Keller abstained due to absence and the minutes were unanimously approved.

SUBBASIN TECHNICAL WORK REVIEW:

Intera consultant Kait Palys provided an update on the ongoing GSP (Groundwater Sustainability Plan) revisions during her presentation. These revisions addressed deficiencies related to groundwater quality

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and interconnected surface water. The groundwater quality section covered topics such as constituents, RMS wells, exceedances, minimum thresholds (MTs), and potential impacts.

Chair Mills raised concerns about the effects on domestic wells, to which General Manager Larsen responded, emphasizing that this issue is being addressed concurrently. He noted that the mitigation program will ensure domestic users have access to drinking water within 24 hours and provide long-term solutions. The interconnected surface water portion of the presentation highlighted data gaps, icon sets, and the overall approach. It was noted that the St. Johns Rivers Association helped identify areas potentially interconnected within the Kaweah Subbasin. The presentation also covered local critical habitats, streamflow locations, and diversion points.

Committee Member Mills expressed concerns about extending the sycamore alluvial groves into areas without riparian diverters, emphasizing that there are significant irrigated pastures being used by surface water rights holders. He suggested caution in further extending these areas, as they are not currently subject to interference.

Discussion Ensued

While Kait's review of the presentation was brief, the committee agreed that the revisions are progressing in the right direction.

GREATER WY 2025 ALLOCATION:

Consultant Thomas Harder of Harder and Co., along with David DeGroot, a consultant from 4Creeks, provided a presentation on water allocations. Harder stated that he would review revisions to the groundwater flow meter budget and present a recommendation for overdraft allocation. He emphasized the need for a clear definition of overdraft in the GKGSA Rules and Regulations, a point also noted by Attorney Mauritson.

Member Dotson requested confirmation regarding the accuracy of the inflow M&I data. Tom Harder confirmed that the data is metered and provided by the groundwater pumpers.

Harder continued his presentation by reviewing the model data.

Public Comment received by John Gailey regarding historical data.

Discussion Ensued

Consultant Harder continued with his presentation by reviewing the model data.

Committee Member Keller addressed the concerns he has with the precipitation data, and the potential for double counting.

The committee made the following recommendations:

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- The committee agreed that precipitation values need further review and recommended continuing the process of revising these values, suggesting that the board address these issues.
- The committee recommended that the board include 2011 data in the evaluation to adjust the overdraft estimate to 124,600 acre-feet. Using 90% of this figure, they proposed calculating the overdraft at 112,000 acre-feet, resulting in a total overdraft of 0.7 acre-feet per acre, .31 af/acre for tier 1 and .39 af/acre tier 2. They also recommended keeping the Native Yield at its current allocation of 0.62 acre-feet and maintaining the precipitation allocation based on the 25-year rolling average, adjusted per zone.

Public Comment received from Craig Hornung

- Chair Mills moved, and Member Dotson seconded, to approve the recommendation regarding allocation calculations, with the amendment to revise precipitation data to reflect 80% of actual precipitation. Member Keller abstained from the vote.

Public Comment received from Andrew Hart.

Discussion Ensued.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND MEETING DATES:

The next meeting was scheduled for October 17, 2024, at 1:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Dennis Mills, Committee Chair