

**MID-KAWEAH GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

MINUTES

February 4, 2020 – 3:00 p.m.
City of Visalia Water Reclamation Facility
7579 Ave 288 – Visalia, CA

MEMBERS PRESENT: Richard Garcia, Ed Henry, Blake Wilbur, Mike Lane, Eric Furtado,
Jessi Snyder, Lee Johnson, Mark Boyes

MEMBERS ABSENT: James Nichols, Soapy Mulholland

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: None

GSA MEMBER STAFF PRESENT: Paul Hendrix (GSA Manager), Aaron Fukuda, Trisha Whitfield,
Leslie Caviglia, Jeremy Barroll

PUBLIC ATTENDEES: John Gailey, Geoffery Vanden Heuvel, Trelawney Bullis, Wayne Scott

1. CALL TO REGULAR ORDER

The meeting was opened by Chairman Wilbur at 3:06 p.m.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments from any members of the public were provided.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Wilbur asked if any Committee members had any changes to be brought up regarding the minutes of the special meeting held November 5, 2019. A motion and second were made by M. Boyes and M. Lane, respectively, to approve the minutes as presented.

4. KAWEAH SUBBASIN GSP SUBMITTALS

P. Hendrix stated that all three Subbasin Plans, as well as the Coordination Agreement, were submitted to DWR on January 31st. Mr. Hendrix further indicated that, to his knowledge, all of the southern Valley Plans were submitted by the SGMA deadline. He added that DWR has specified a 75-day public comment period for GSPs posted on the SGMA website.

5. TID WATER MARKETING GRANT AWARD - OVERVIEW

J. Barroll summarized the grant awarded to Tulare ID from USBR. He indicated that the award is for \$400,000 with a local cost match requirement. He stated that the award is for the potential development of a groundwater marketing program on behalf of the Kaweah Subbasin. The work consists of five tasks, namely outreach, scoping/planning, market strategy formulation, implementation of a pilot program and grant administration. There ensued considerable discussion among Committee members as to the viability of a marketing/trading program and relationship to other implementation efforts over the next 20 years. J. Vanden Heuvel commented that developing a groundwater market may be premature until such time as more is known about the Subbasin, including monitoring and extraction measurement efforts.

6. COMMITTEE MEMBER REAPPOINTMENTS AND TENURE

Chair Wilbur asked for input from Committee members regarding their interests in continued service on the Committee. He made reference to a January 9th staff report that proposed three member groups based on the length of their terms starting in January. He stated that the purpose of the group arrangement is to ultimately establish an orderly staggered term for members in groups of three to four each. After some discussion a motion was made by M. Lane, seconded by M. Boyes, to place members into the three groups as indicated by alternative A per the staff report, with the exception of B. Wilbur, who was to be moved to Group II. The motion passed by unanimous vote of the Committee.

7. COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS/UPDATES

E. Henry made mention of an economic study conducted on behalf of the Friant WA regarding the impacts of SGMA on the San Joaquin Valley. He indicated that the imputed job losses and agricultural land fallowing were significant. Discussion followed of the implications of the study and its findings.

P. Hendrix next announced his intention to retire as the GSA Manager within the next several months, and that the Board and Management Committee have been so informed. He added that a recruitment effort to replace him will soon be underway.

8. ADJOURN

There being no other matters to come before the Committee, Mr. Wilbur adjourned the meeting at 4:45 p.m.

Advisory Committee Chair

Attest:

GSA Board Secretary