

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

MINUTES

Friday, April 6, 2018 – 4:00 p.m.
City of Visalia Wastewater Treatment Plant
7579 Ave 288 – Visalia, CA

MEMBERS PRESENT: Richard Garcia, Ed Henry, James Nichols, Jessi Snyder, Blake Wilbur, Mike Lane

MEMBERS ABSENT: Brett Taylor, Irene Lemons, Mark Boyes, Eric Charles, Soapac Mulholland

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Steve Nelsen, GSA Chair

GSA MEMBER STAFF PRESENT: Paul Hendrix – GSA Manager, Leslie Caviglia, Aaron Fukuda, Trisha Whitfield; Chris Petersen (GEI Consultants); Craig Moyle (Stantec)

PUBLIC ATTENDEES: Bob Ludekens, Trent Sherman

1. **CALL TO REGULAR ORDER:**

The meeting was opened by Chairman Wilbur at 4:04 p.m.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

No public comment was presented.

3. **INTRODUCTIONS:**

Self-introductions of the Committee members, GSA member staff and general public were made.

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

B. Wlibur brought to the Committee's attention the draft minutes of the December 18, 2017 committee meeting for review. With the motion of J. Snyder, second by M. Lane and unanimously carried by all members, the minutes of the meeting were approved for filing.

5. **ESSAYS ON WATER:**

P. Hendrix proceeded to summarize various water management agreements in existence between the GSA members, making reference to PowerPoint slides depicting each. He commented that these agreements served in part as the foundation upon which the GSA was formed and that the agreements will come into consideration when the GSA water budget is developed. E. Henry asked about the cost of effluent water produced from Visalia's wastewater treatment plant, and it was indicated that such information is not yet available given the plant's recent completion. B. Wilbur inquired about the feasibility of conducting recharge using injection wells, and A. Fukuda, C. Petersen and C. Moyle discussed this method of recharge in some detail.

6. INTRA-BASIN COORDINATION:

Prop 1 GSP Grant – P. Hendrix made note of the Prop 1 GSP grant awarded to the Kaweah Sub-Basin, saying that \$86 million was awarded to GSAs statewide, and that this sub-basin received \$1.5 million for coordination and GSP development. He added that the Mid-Kaweah GSA is to handle the fiscal administration of the grant projects included in this award.

Geophysical Data Collection and Funding – C. Petersen next described the SkyTEM project and the first pilot fly-over conducted by Stanford University within Tulare ID. He said the next phase being proposed for the sub-basin will produce very useful data, but likely not in time to fully incorporate into the GSP due January 2020. He reviewed the cost-sharing arrangement, noting that 37% would need to be funded from local interests and the balance from Stanford and DWR. P. Hendrix then added that the sub-basin GSAs are developing an arrangement to split the local cost amongst them. Mr. Petersen went on to explain the benefits of this type of data to supplement existing well log records. Three-dimensional maps were then displayed of the data collected from the original project within Tulare ID. B. Ludekens asked about the public availability of this data, and Mr. Petersen commented that, given the funding being proposed from the state, public access should not be encumbered. J. Nichols asked why the data cannot be collected over the cities, and it was noted that as a result of communications interference issues in such urban areas an FCC license to do so cannot be obtained.

Kaweah Sub-Basin Water Budget – C. Petersen reviewed the components that make up a water budget, and noted that much of the data for the Mid-Kaweah region is readily available. He then discussed the channel conveyance loss component as being subject to several alternatives as to how to allocate this inflow to groundwater across the sub-basin, and briefly described each of these. B. Wilbur then inquired how the GSA's water budget would fare based on each alternative, and Mr. Petersen noted that GEI is developing a cost estimate to embark upon this task as identified in their contract scope of work. E. Henry then asked which of the alternatives might be the most palatable to stakeholders and which is the least. M. Lane commented that the "ownership" method could yield more water from a water budget perspective, and P. Hendrix observed that each method might infer different outcomes to each Member of the GSA. Mr. Petersen added that all of the sub-basin GSAs are grappling with these same types of questions, and that incrementally we should arrive at an acceptable approach.

7. OUTREACH ACTIVITIES:

Committee Member Survey – C. Moyle proceeded to review the report provided which summarizes the nine interviews conducted with Committee members. He made note of some of the highlights of the interviews and indicated that the summary report may need some updates.

Communications & Engagement Plan – C. Moyle next presented a schedule of outreach activities from now through GSP adoption in 2020. He described four outreach groupings, being document compliance, DWR milestones and engagement, public/stakeholder reviews, and general outreach document strategies. He also highlighted the three groupings within which various stakeholders would be categorized, to wit:

- Those to inform, consult with and collaborate,
- Those to inform and consult with, and
- Those to inform only.

Mr. Moyle then said that the Plan should be out in draft form by the end of April.

Website Additions/Enhancements – C. Moyle lastly reviewed the elements being considered for the Mid-Kaweah website. He noted that no Committee input has been received as yet and that he may make further contact with members as to thoughts they may have.

8. REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULE:

B. Wilbur indicated that, now that the GSA board is planning on regular meetings every other month, the Advisory Committee could consider setting a regular schedule as well. It was discussed that the Committee should meet the week prior to the board, perhaps mid-week in the afternoon. He noted that a regular date and time will be arrived at soon.

9. ADJOURN:

There being no other matters to come before the Committee, Chairman Wilbur adjourned the meeting at 5:35 pm.

Advisory Committee Chair

Attest:

Groundwater Sustainability Agency
Board Secretary