North Fork Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency
Regular Meeting Minutes

March 27, 2019 at 5:30 p.m.  
Riverdale Community Education  
Center Board Room

Members Present:
Buddy Mendes, Division 1
Frank Zonneveld, Division 2
Lucy Nino, Division 3
Mark McKean, Division 4
Leonard Acquistapace, Division 5
Stephen Maddox Jr., Division 6
John Coelho, Alternate Division 7

Members Absent:

Others Present:
Cristel Tufenkjian, Kings River Conservation District
Brian Tervarrrow, Kings River Conservation District
Charlotte Gallock, Kings River Conservation District
Corey McLaughlin, Kings River Conservation District
Ilse Lopez-Narvaez, Self-Help Enterprises
Jerry Gragnani, Stinson Canal & Irrigation Company
Bret Sill, Sill Properties
Jesus Rodriguez, Akhavi LLC
Juan Maciel, Akhavi LLC
Kevin Johansen, Provost & Pritchard
Julianne Phillips, Kings County
Frank Coelho, Lasaca Vineyards
Juan Maciel, Akhavi LLC
Antonio Solorio, Westlands Water District
Bill Miguez, Clarks Fork Reclamation District
Amanda Monaco, Leadership Counsel
Danielle Roberts, Lanare Community Service District

Item 1: CALL TO ORDER

Presenter: Chair McKean

The meeting was called to order at 5:31 p.m.

Item 2: PUBLIC COMMENT

Discussion: None.
Actions: None.

Item 3: CONSIDER APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Discussion: None.
Actions:

It was moved by Director Maddox, seconded by Director Aquistapace, and unanimously carried to approve the February 27, 2019 Regular Meeting minutes, as presented.

(AYES: Mendes, Zonneveld, Nino, McKean, Acquistapace, Maddox, Coelho; NOES: None; ABSTAIN: None)
Item 4:  DIRECTOR REPORTS
Presenter: Chair McKean

Discussion: None.
Actions: None.

Item 5:  STAFF REPORTS
Presenter: Charlotte Gallock

Discussion: Charlotte Gallock reported that the Technical group has met frequently; they have been discussing the monitoring network, sustainable criteria, measurable objectives, etc. The coordinated group for the Kings Subbasin has met often, discussing GSP development.

Actions: None.

Item 6:  RURAL COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT
Presenter: Cristel Tufenkjian

Discussion: Nothing to report.

Actions: None.

Item 7:  CONSIDER APPROVING CHANGE ORDER FOR PROFESSIONAL TECHNICAL SERVICES
Presenter: Kevin Johansen

Discussion: Kevin Johansen explained the need to approve Change Order 3, Task Order 4: Groundwater Sustainability Plan Development. The original budget in the grant submitted to DWR was the guideline followed by Provost and Prichard in their cost estimates due to the rapidity with which it seemed the North Fork Kings GSA was moving at the time. It has happened that NFKGSA is a more complicated region than originally anticipated, and thus it has taken more time than originally included in the budget, and thus the costs are higher. This Change Order would get the NFKGSA through the draft GSP. There will be further adjustments for the next fiscal year. Actions:

It was moved by Director Mendes, seconded by Director Zonneveld, and unanimously carried to approve the increases found in Change Order 3, Task Order 4: Groundwater Sustainability Plan Development.

(AYES: Mendes, Zonneveld, Nino, McKean, Acquistapace, Maddox, Coelho; NOES: None; ABSTAIN: None)

Item 8:  CONSIDER APPOINTING AD HOC NORTH FORK REGIONAL RECHARGE PROJECT COMMITTEE
Presenter: President McKean

Discussion: An ad hoc committee is needed to assist the Board in development of the North Fork Regional Recharge Project.

Actions:

Chair McKean appointed himself, Director Campos, and Director Mendes to serve on this committee.
Item 9: UPDATE ON STRATEGIES AND POLICIES RELATED TO GSP DEVELOPMENT

Presenter: Kevin Johansen

Discussion:

a. The NFKGSA’s IRWMP grant application received a high score, but was ultimately not funded. While it was acknowledged that the project is a good one, it was too conceptual for the review panel to recommend letting the NFKGSA continue to pursue this particular funding, due to lack of a clear cost-sharing mechanism and lack of an ability to complete CEQA in a timely manner. The Laton North Project, however, did receive a recommendation to pursue funding for a conveyance system to get water to the 160 acre basin for recharge.

b. The initial tasks for the Kings Coordination are complete (tasks 2-4). The others are in progress. Data management systems are a key question, primarily whether the GSAs will be using their own individual systems or one common system. The agreed upon responsibility for any overdraft is also a tricky path to navigate in terms of how to ensure liability can be properly assigned.

c. Development of the GSP has seen some setbacks/delays, but the work continues to proceed.
   i. Sustainable management criteria are being developed in light of the undesirable outcomes identified in SGMA. The measurable objectives will have impacts on the contour/flow map.
   ii. Monitoring network section is almost complete.
   iii. Projects list continues to grow and is nearing comprehensiveness, especially recharge projects.
   iv. All of these things must be done in April so that Plan Implementation can be done in early May.

d. Getting an accurate picture of active/inactive wells, depth/quality of wells, etc. is taking time but is vital.

e. Subsidence is definitely present in the southern portion of the NFKGSA, though the exact locations are not identified yet; other than that it is in the B and C clays.

f. Some shallow monitoring wells will be necessary in order to record how much saturation is affecting the quantity of water that makes it into the amount of groundwater being pumped.

g. Three water budgets are required: historical, current (avg. of ‘16 and ‘17 demand), and future use.

h. Climate change impacts on water supply are also required by the State to be considered by the GSA.

Actions: None.

Item 10: FINANCIAL REPORT

Presenter: Brian Trevarrow

Discussion:

a. Brian Trevarrow highlighted the Schedule of Member Contributions, especially the column reflecting the total amount budgeted to be reimbursed to members by June 30, 2020.

b. Agency has $974,000 in the bank currently. The first invoice for State grant reimbursement should be paid to the agency within 45 days and equals $864,000.

c. Appointment of an ad hoc budget committee: President McKean appointed himself, Director Maddox, and Director Zonneveld to this committee.

d. Mr. Trevarrow talked to JPIA about insurance. To have JPIA insurance requires being a member of ACWA. The dues this year would be $750 due to being calculated two years in arrears. However, within two years this could become $9,000 to $10,000 annually. SDRMA insurance would require being part of CSDA, but no quotes have been received yet from this group. More follow-up will be needed.

Actions: None.
Item 11: STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATIONS  Presenter: Cristel Tufenkjian

Discussion:
GSP outreach will be starting in June. In the meantime a mailer may be sent out just to touch base with stakeholders. E-updates continue after Board meetings with a stakeholder survey. 58% of recipients opened that update. 711 people viewed the website. 7 individuals were added to the update list, making the total number 236.

Actions: None.

Item 12: OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION  Presenter: Chair McKean

Discussion:
Chair McKean proposed starting in the technical group to begin developing policies that will be required in order to implement the GSP. He went on to mention that the Board should consider filing a letter, as a GSA, supporting a fully appropriated stream for the Kings River.

Actions: None.

Item 13: NEXT MEETING DATE AND PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS  Presenter: Chair McKean

Discussion:
Regular Board meeting scheduled for Wednesday, April 24, 2019. A proposed agenda item is to set repayment to members of the money they fronted for the startup of the GSA at two installments – one in 2019, and one in 2020 (calendar years). Also, a resolution to appoint a new Treasurer and update bank signatories will be presented.

Actions: None.

Item 14: ADJOURNMENT  Adjourned: 6:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

_________________________________
Stephen Maddox Jr., Board Secretary

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Mark McKean, Board Chair