# North Fork Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency Regular Meeting Minutes

January 10, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. Riverdale Public Utility District Annex

**Members Present:** 

Buddy Mendes, Division 1

Frank Zonneveld, Division 2

Danielle Roberts, Division 3

Mark McKean, Division 4

Leonard Acquistapace, Division 5

Stephen Maddox Jr., Division 6

Tony Campos, Division 7

**Others Present:** 

Amer Hussain, Geosyntec

Pablo Avila, Laton Unified School District

Bret Sill, Sill Properties

Dana Dominguez-Rogge, Self Help Enterprises

April Gonzon, Self Help Enterprises

Maria Herrera, Self Help Enterprises

Glenn Allen, Fresno County

Scott Sills, Laguna Irrigation District

Wendy Jenzen, Ag Seeds Unlimited

Jerry Gragnani, Stinson/Crescent

Kyle Moeller, Fowler Packing

**Members Absent:** 

None.

Luke Vanderhan, Crescent Canal

Ben Nydam

Amanda Monaco, Leadership Counsel

Julianne Phillips, Kings County

Jim Verboon, Farmer

John Coello, Liberty Canal

Jeff Coelho

Eric Osterling, Kings River Conservation District (via

conference call)

Randy Shilling, Kings River Conservation District

Cristel Tufenkjian, Kings River Conservation District

Kevin Johansen, Provost & Pritchard

Item 1: CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m.

Presenter:

Chair McKean

Item 2:

**PUBLIC COMMENT** 

Presenter:

Chair McKean

<u>Discussion</u>: None. <u>Actions</u>: None.

Item 3:

**CONSIDER APPROVAL OF MINUTES** 

Presenter:

Chair McKean

Discussion: None.

Actions:

Director Zonneveld motioned, Director Acquistapace seconded, and it was carried to approve the October 10, 2017 meeting minutes and the December 20, 2017 special meeting minutes, as presented. Directors Campos and Roberts were absent.

Item 4: DIRECTOR REPORTS

**Presenter:** Chair McKean

### Discussion:

Director Mendes updated the Board on conflict-resolution progress within the Kings Subbasin Coordination Group.

Actions: None.

Item 5: STAFF REPORTS Presenter: Cristel Tufenkjian

### **Discussion**:

Staff Member Cristel Tufenkjian reported a response letter from the North Fork Kings GSA to California Department of Water Resources' will be sent regarding the Best Management Practices (BMP) document providing comments from the Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) within the Kings Subbasin.

A Proposition 26 public hearing is scheduled for Kings River East GSA on February 1, 2018 at 2:00pm in Dinuba, with alternate opportunities for members of the public to provide comments at a Directors Meeting January 18, 2018 and a Committee meeting January 24, 2018.

Actions: None.

Item 6: CONSIDER MEETING SCHEDULE AND LOCATION CHANGE Presenter: Cristel Tufenkjian

### **Discussion**:

Due to a conflict with Laton CSD's Board of Directors meeting schedule, Tufenkjian recommended the Board schedule their meetings for the fourth Wednesday of the month, held bi-monthly.

### Actions:

Director Zonneveld motioned, Director Campos seconded, and it was unanimously carried to change the meeting schedule to the fourth Wednesday of the month, held every other month (bi-monthly) at the Riverdale Community Educational Center beginning February 28, 2018.

Item 7: REVIEW AND CONSIDER RESOLUTION 18-01 TO ADOPT Presenter: Cristel Tufenkjian AGENCY BYLAWS

## Discussion:

Tufenkjian communicated highlights of the bylaws up for approval. Items of note within the bylaws include information on the appointments of directors and officers, the role of the advisory committee and its makeup, the Board's meeting schedule and location, and voting thresholds.

A member of the public asked the Board to correct the title of the Rural Community Advisory Committee within the bylaws, for consistency.

### Actions:

Director Mendes motioned, Director Maddox seconded, and it was unanimously carried by Directors Mendes, Zonneveld, Roberts, McKean, Acquistapace, Maddox, and Campos to adopt the bylaws, as amended.

Item 8: REVIEW AND CONSIDER AN APPLICATION FOR RCAC Presenter: Cristel Tufenkjian

<u>APPOINTMENT</u>

**Discussion**:

Tufenkjian introduced Pablo Avila, Facilities Director of Laton Unified School District, and presented his application for consideration for the Rural Community Advisory Committee (RCAC).

### Actions:

Director Mendes motioned, Director Zonneveld seconded, and it was unanimously carried to approve Pablo Avila's application for the RCAC.

### Item 9: <u>CONSIDER ACTION ON PROPOSITION 218 ELECTION</u> Presenter: Kevin Johansen

### **Discussion**:

Kevin Johansen, Technical Consultant, presented the Draft Engineer's Report to the Board. A requirement for Proposition 218 land-based assessment elections, the Report establishes a budget and a maximum allowable assessment amount the Board can adopt.

Johansen commented that several water codes will need to be corrected in the Report, but these corrections do not change the substance of the Report. Additionally, staff will move the State Enforcement section of the Report earlier in the Report to emphasize the losses associated with State control versus local control.

Tufenkjian gave a brief overview of Proposition 218 outreach that will include a public hearing, community meetings, and landowner meetings. Johansen reported that there is a total assessable acreage of 163,653.7 acres within the GSA's boundaries, with over 4,900 parcels within NFKGSA and over 3,000 unique landowners, as listed within their respective counties.

### Actions:

Director Mendes motioned, Director Acquistapace seconded, and it was unanimously carried to adopt the Engineer's Report, subject to legal review.

Director Mendes motioned, Director Zonneveld seconded, and it was unanimously carried to authorize a Proposition 218 election.

Director Zonneveld motioned, Director Mendes seconded, and it was unanimously carried to set the date for the Proposition 218 public hearing for May 9, 2018 at 5:30pm.

Item 10: RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE EXECUTION OF Presenter: Randy Shilling

WESTLANDS WATER DISTRICT DATA SHARING

**AGREEMENT** 

### **Discussion**:

The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act requires that neighboring GSAs share common assumptions about water conditions. The agreement under review is to mutually share data with neighboring GSA, Westlands Water District. Agreements with other GSAs are under consideration.

Chair McKean brought to the Board's attention a need for NFKGSA monitoring wells within 2 miles of the Westlands Water District border. Johansen reported that Kings River Conservation District is compiling a list of eligibility and narrowing down options. Director Mendes informed the Board that the County will also be drilling four wells tied to this purpose. Additionally, Johansen informed of ongoing efforts to convert wells slated for destruction into monitoring wells.

### Actions:

Director Zonneveld motioned, Director Acquistapace seconded, and it was unanimously carried to authorize the Chair to execute the agreement.

Item 11: FINANCIAL REPORT Presenter: Randy Shilling

### Discussion:

Staff Member Randy Shilling presented to the Board liability insurance estimates for the 2018 year and recommended that, in order to save money and receive better coverage, the NFKGSA become an Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) member in order to be covered under the insurance program, ACWA Joint Powers Insurance Authority (JPIA). The Board directed Shilling to re-enroll in their current liability insurance, pursue ACWA membership, and cancel their current coverage after enrollment in ACWA JPIA's program.

While reviewing the Financial Report, as detailed in the agenda packet, Shilling drew the Board's attention to the expenses and income for the GSA, ending December 31, 2017. Shilling informed the Board that the contributing districts are being billed guarterly and will only bill earlier should expenses mandate it.

### Actions:

Director Acquistapace motioned, Director Maddox seconded, and it was unanimously carried to approve the financial statements.

Item 12: STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATIONS Presenter: Cristel Tufenkjian

### Discussion:

Tufenkjian reported to the Board electronic user views of the GSA's website, e-blasts, and videos.

Tufenkjian explained the Proposition 218 outreach campaign timeline beginning with an informational mailing at the end of January 2018. The GSA will co-host a community event for residents within the communities of Laton, Lanare, and Riverdale in February 2018. Tufenkjian reported that there will also be landowner workshops and a webinar in March. Staff will have a FAQ handout available online, in the mailings, and at public events explaining the purpose of the GSA and the Proposition 218 election. Tufenkjian reported that a 218 election webpage will be developed.

Director Mendes stressed the importance of communicating the GSA's efforts to avoid State control when conducting outreach.

Actions: None.

Item 13: OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION Presenter: Chair McKean

<u>Discussion</u>: None. Actions: None.

Item 14: NEXT MEETING DATE AND AGENDA ITEMS Presenter: Chair McKean

Discussion: None.

Actions:

February 28, 2018 at 5:30pm at Riverdale Community Center.

Item 15: ADJOURNMENT Adjourned: 6:16 p.m.

	Respectfully submitted,	
		Stephen Maddox Jr., Board Secretary
Mark McKean, Board Chair	approved on February 28, 2018	