North Fork Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency Rural Community Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

September 19, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. Riverdale Community Education Center, Board Room

Members Present: Amanda Monaco Andrew Zonneveld Angel Hernandez Isabel Solorio Vicente Hernandez	Members Absent: Dan Conway Pablo Avila Jim Petty Tommy Fritz				
Others Present:					
Charlotte Gallock, Kings River Conservation District Cristel Tufenkjian, Kings River Conservation District					
Rebecca Quist, Kings River Conservation District					
Item 1: CALL TO ORDER	Presenter: Chair Monaco				
The meeting was called to order at 6:28 p.m.					
Item 2: <u>PUBLIC COMMENT</u>	Presenter: Chair Monaco				
Discussion: None.					
<u>Actions</u> : None.					
Item 3: CONSIDER APPROVAL OF MINUTES	Presenter: Chair Monaco				
Discussion: None.					
Actions:					
Motion by Zonneveld, seconded by Solorio. The Co meeting minutes.	mmittee unanimously carried to approve the June 27, 2018				
(AYES: Monaco, Angel Hernandez, Zonneveld, Solorio, Vicente Hernandez; NOES: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: Conway, Avila, Petty, Fritz)					
Item 4: CONSIDER AND REAPPOINT COMMITTE	E CHAIR Presenter: Chair Monaco				
Discussion:					
Monaco expressed she cannot fulfil her desired purpose on the committee while serving as Chair. Monaco plans to step down in order to provide technical assistance and be a source of information to the Committee.					
The Committee decided to hold over the item of nominating a new chair until the next meeting.					
Committee staff Tufenkjian reminded the Committee that it is the responsibility of the Chair to report Committee updates to the North Fork Kings GSA Board.					

Actions:

The Committee tabled this agenda item for the next meeting.

Discussion:

Item 5:

Tufenkjian reviewed what the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) is, and the role the North Fork Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency (NFKGSA) plays in implementing the Act. The NFKGSA Board is working to develop a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) by the State deadline of January 2020; the GSP is the roadmap to achieve sustainability of groundwater in the NFKGSA.

The GSP elements include a description of the groundwater management area, a water budget, monitoring program, projects for mitigation, measurable objects and minimum thresholds. The elements will work together to reach the GSA's sustainability goals. Tufenkjian emphasized the State mandate that subbasins as a whole must reach sustainability, not just individual GSA's. There are seven GSA's in the Kings Subbasin and all must coordinate their individual GSP's in order to comply with the State and reach sustainability as a subbasin.

Reaching sustainability is defined as management of groundwater during GSP implementation that does not cause significant and unreasonable undesirable results, including chronic lowering of groundwater levels, reductions in groundwater storage, degraded water quality, land subsidence, surface water depletions that have adverse impacts on beneficial uses, and seawater intrusion. Seawater intrusion is not relevant to the Kings Subbasin.

Tufenkjian explained that the Rural Community Advisory Committee has a unique role to play in advising the Board on decisions throughout the GSP process. The Committee is included in the Special Act legislation that formed the North Fork Kings GSA Board.

Actions: None.

		_	
Item 6:	NORTH FORK KINGS GSA BOARD DISCUSSION ITEMS	Presenter:	Charlotte Gallock

Discussion:

Gallock explained one of the main tasks of the GSA is to coordinate with the other six GSA's in the Kings Subbasin to align GSP's and reach sustainability.

Currently the Board is coordinating with the subbasin to select a methodology to assign groundwater storage change responsibility. The Kings Subbasin as a whole has overall storage change of 206,000 AF, although this number is subject to change due to new surface water information. Storage change is an important metric, as it plays a large role in determining what projects will be included in the GSP that will mitigate loss in groundwater storage. Gallock explained that of the 5 alternative methodologies presented by the technical consultant, the North Fork Kings GSA Board has agreed on methodology 4B. This methodology uses storage change plus historical groundwater boundary flows between GSA's, adjusting for aquifer thickness.

Vicente Hernandez asked how the GSA will achieve sustainability; the Committee discussed the need to deliberate what they believe the best solutions are to mitigate groundwater storage change. It is important for the GSA to meet its sustainability goals to avoid State Intervention.

Zonneveld expressed concern regarding a State mandate to reach groundwater sustainability, yet lack of support for water storage that captures flood water to offset groundwater use and recharge the aquifer. Monaco contributed that it is important remember ecological limits and balance technology with ecology.

Vicente Hernandez asked if possible projects might include groundwater recharge basins. The Committee discussed storm-water drainage needs in the community of Lanare. Zonneveld recapped to the Committee that the GSA is working to reach sustainability as a whole and that projects located outside of a community will still benefit the groundwater of that community, as water flows throughout the aquifer. Solorio expressed support for groundwater recharge basins, as she understands how it benefits the underground aquifer.

Other items the North Fork Kings GSA Board will discuss at their upcoming meeting include the water budget, projects, and hydrographs that utilize individual well depths throughout a historic period.

Actions: None.

Item 7:	STAFF UPDATES	Presenter:	Chair Monaco,
			Rebecca Quist

Discussion:

Monaco informed the Committee of a groundwater tour being planned by Leadership Counsel, Self Help, and KRCD. The Committee will be invited to attend the tour that will look at various beneficial uses of groundwater and existing projects. The tour will take place in early November.

Quist reiterated the role of the Committee as advisor to the Board. The Chair has the responsibility to present Committee updates and advice to the Board. If the Chair is unavailable, the responsibility will fall upon the Vice Chair, and finally to Committee staff.

Monaco informed the Committee there are two upcoming workshops hosted by Self-Help Enterprises, Union of Concerned Scientists, Community Water Center, and Leadership Counsel for Justice & Accountability: Groundwater Quality & SGMA Roundtable, and Groundwater Sustainability Plan Workshop.

Actions: None.

Item 8:	NEXT MEETING DATE	Presenter:	Chair Monaco				
<u>Discussi</u>	<u>on</u> :						
	The Committee approved a regular meeting schedule as required by the bylaws.						
	2018 meeting dates: October 17, December 19						
	2019 meeting dates: February 20, April 17, June 19, August 21, October 16, December 18						
Actions:							
	Motion by Zonneveld, seconded by Solorio. The Committee unanimously carried to approve the regular meeting schedule.						
	(AYES: Monaco, Angel Hernandez, Zonneveld, Solorio, Vicente Hernandez; NOES: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: Conway, Avila, Petty, Fritz)						
Item 9:	ADJOURNMENT	Adjourned:	7:49				
	Respectfully	y submitted,					

Stephen Maddox Jr., Board Secretary

_ approved on December 19, 2018

Amanda Monaco, Committee Chair