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

February 20, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. Riverdale Community Education Center, **Board Room**

Members Present:

Dan Conway

Angel Hernandez

Amanda Monaco

Isabel Solorio

Andrew Zonneveld

Members Absent:

Jim Petty

Tommy Fritz

Vicente Hernandez

Pablo Avila

Others Present:

Cristel Tufenkjian, Kings River Conservation District Rebecca Quist, Kings River Conservation District Kevin Johansen, Provost & Pritchard

Item 1: **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:54 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Discussion: None.

Actions: None.

Item 2:

Item 3:

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Presenter:

Presenter:

Presenter:

Chair Zonneveld

Chair Zonneveld

Chair Zonneveld

Discussion: None.

Actions:

Motion by Conway, seconded by Solorio. The Committee unanimously carried to approve the December 19, 2018 meeting minutes.

(AYES: Conway, A. Hernandez, Monaco, Solorio, Zonneveld; NOES: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: Petty, Fritz, V. Hernandez, Avila)

Item 4: **COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS** Presenter:

Chair Zonneveld

Discussion:

Due to lack of quorum, agenda item 4 was presented for discussion before the meeting was called to order.

Monaco reported on a SGMA workshop held for community residents. There were fifty in attendance at the workshop held at Fresno State. Self-Help Enterprises has a Leadership Institute for rural community residents to participate in to learn more about water management.

Actions: None.

Item 5: STAFF UPDATES Presenter: Chair Zonneveld

Discussion:

Due to lack of quorum, agenda item 5 was presented for discussion before the meeting was called to order.

Quist informed the Committee of a Kings Subbasin Watershed Tour taking place on April 26th. KRCD and Self-Help Enterprises are hosting the tour with stops at Pine Flat Dam, a recharge basin, community water system and more. Quist reported the Water Budget explanation video with Spanish subtitles will be available shortly.

Actions:

None.

Item 6: NORTH FORK KINGS GSA BOARD DISCUSSION ITEMS Presenter: Kevin Johansen

Discussion:

Due to lack of quorum, agenda item 6 was presented for discussion before the meeting was called to order.

Johansen provided information on the Board's progress as a GSA and at the Subbasin level. The water budget will be discussed at the next Board meeting. The Kings Subbasin coordination group is evaluating overdraft in the Kings Subbasin, specifically actual changes in water elevations from Spring of 1997 to the end of the evaluated period, Spring of 2012. The change in elevation will be used to calculate change of storage. The North Fork Kings is responsible for 50,000 AF of the 122,000 AF overdraft total for the Kings Subbasin.

A challenge for the North Fork Kings GSA is estimating an amount of groundwater pumping for the water budget. A data gap exists for confined aquifer groundwater flows, information that could supplement the water budget.

The North Fork Kings GSA will submit a project pre-application to the Kings Basin Water Authority for Prop 1 Integrated Regional Water Management Plan grant funding. The GSA will submit a proposal for the North Fork Regional Recharge Project with an estimated 15,000 AF recharge capacity. The proposed location for the project is at the corner of Highway 41 and Elkhorn, the northeastern portion of the GSA where soil type is most suitable for recharge. Because groundwater flows west the recharged groundwater would benefit the rest of the GSA's service area, including disadvantaged communities of Lanare, Laton, and Riverdale. Liberty canal improvements need to be made to increase conveyance and capacity to the project basins. The project will rely on Kings River floodwater, typically available every 3-4 years. Johansen stated the GSA should continue to pursue the project if grant funds are not awarded. The Committee discussed to the possibility of pursuing federal or private grant funding.

Actions: None.

Item 7: GSP DRAFT AREA CHAPTER DISCUSSION Presenter: Kevin Johansen

Discussion:

Johansen presented the draft Plan Area chapter. The chapter gives background information on water supply, an overview of GSA members, and a summary of issues faced in the service area. The communications sections were not completed in the draft chapter provided to the Committee, but have since been amended with additions.

Johansen provided an overview of the draft GSP chapters' status. The draft Hydrogeologic Conceptual Model section of Chapter 3 is being reviewed by the technical group. Mid-April is the target for all draft chapter completion. The goal is for the Board to authorize public review of the draft GSP at the July Board meeting. This would begin the 90-day review period at the conclusion of which a public hearing will take place. Comments received during the 90-day review will be considered in GSP revisions prior to submittal to DWR.

Item 8: UNDESIRABLE RESULTS PRESENTATION Presenter: Amanda Monaco

Discussion:

Monaco presented the role of undesirable results in sustainable groundwater management. The GSA uses technical data to set discretionary sustainability criteria, measurable objectives and minimum thresholds, for six sustainability indicators:

- 1. Degraded water quality
- 2. Lowering groundwater levels
- 3. Reduction in groundwater storage
- 4. Seawater intrusion (not applicable in the North Fork Kings GSA)
- 5. Significant land subsidence
- 6. Interconnected surface water depletion

SGMA's goal is to avoid undesirable results that are significant and unreasonable. Significant and unreasonable undesirable results are guided by the sustainability criteria set by the GSA. Monaco emphasized that sustainability needs to be stakeholder-driven because the GSA is responsible for setting sustainable management criteria; the interests of all beneficial users must be considered. The Committee discussed that criteria must be reasonable for the State to accept the GSP.

Monaco facilitated discussion among the committee with a graph illustrating sustainability criteria. The graph presented three options for groundwater elevation measurable objectives. The Committee agreed that to allow groundwater levels to drop below the average private well and community well depth would be unacceptable and likely not allowed by the Department of Water Resources. Johansen presented a map of the GSA's well density, showing high concentration of wells along Highway 41.

Actions: None.

Item 9:	OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION	<u>ON</u>	Presenter:	Chair Zonneveld	
<u>Discussion</u> : None.					
Actions: None.					
Item 10:	NEXT MEETING DATE AND PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS		Presenter:	Chair Zonneveld	
<u>Discussion</u> :					
The next meeting will take place April 17, 2019 at 6:00 pm.					
Actions: None.					
Item 11:	<u>ADJOURNMENT</u>		Adjourned:	7:58 pm	•
		Respectfully submitted,			
			Stephen Mad	ddox Jr., Board Secretary	

approved on April 1	17, 2019			
Andrew Zonneveld, Committee Chair				
	Page 4 of 4			