

Kings River East Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Regular Board Meeting

Minutes

Per Executive Order N-29-20, which allows local and state legislative bodies to hold meetings via teleconference and to make meetings accessible electronically, this Regular Meeting of the Board of Kings River East Groundwater Sustainability Agency

was held via telephone conference call on
Thursday August 20, 2020

and was accessed as follows:
Teleconference Number (559) 823-8500

The public participated in the meeting as otherwise permitted under the Brown Act by calling into this telephone number.

1. **Call to Order:** The Regular Board Meeting of the Kings River East Groundwater Sustainability Agency was called to order by Chairman Ernest “Buddy” Mendes at 2:04 p.m. and the following directors were present via the telephone conference line, Ag Production, Steve Boos, Cities Alternate, Linda Launer, Drinking Water Districts, Fernie Rubalcaba, Tulare County, Eddie Valero, Alta Irrigation District, Jack Brandt, and Irrigation Districts, David Brown. Also, in attendance – Alta Irrigation District, General Manager Chad Wegley, Operations Manager Marc Limas, and attorney Lauren D. Layne. Eleven (11) members of the public were also on the telephone conference line.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** None
3. **Potential Conflicts of Interest:** None.
4. **Public Comment:** Don Wright mentioned a webinar is available on his website regarding the San Joaquin Valley Blueprint.
5. **Communications:** None
6. **Board of Director Reports:** None
7. **Consent Calendar Items** – It was M/S by Valero/Brandt to approve the Consent Calendar. The vote was taken by roll call as follows: Director Valero aye, Director Brandt aye, Chairman Mendes aye, Director Boos aye, Alternate Director Launer aye, Director Rubalcaba aye, Director Brown aye. The motion passed unanimously.
 - 7.1. Payables – Review and approve payment of May, June, and July 2020 invoices (see Insert 7.1)
 - 7.2. Board Meeting Minutes – Review and approve minutes of February 20, 2020 and May 21, 2020 regular Board meetings.
 - 7.3. Conflict of Interest Code – Approve revised Conflict of Interest Code and authorize it’s submittal to the FPPC. (see Insert 7.3)
8. **Other Board Items – Take Action**

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- 8.1. Treasurer's Statement – Board of Directors reviewed the Treasurer's statement for the periods ending May, June, and July 2020 and it was M/S by Brandt/Valero to accept the Treasurer's Statement. The vote was taken by roll call as follows: Director Brandt aye, Director Valero aye, Chairman Mendes aye, Director Boos aye, Alternate Director Launer aye, Director Rubalcaba aye, Director Brown aye. The motion passed unanimously. (see Insert 8.1)
- 8.2. Grant Reimbursements – Reimbursements one through five were paid by DWR with a retention of approximately \$21,000 outstanding. The final report was delivered to DWR along with a request for payment of retention.
- 8.3. Quarterly Board Meetings – It was M/S by Brown/Valero to set the Board meeting schedule to quarterly Board meetings instead of monthly Board meetings. The vote was taken by roll call as follows: Director Brown aye, Director Valero aye, Chairman Mendes aye, Director Brandt aye, Director Boos aye, Alternate Director Launer aye, Director Rubalcaba aye. The motion passed unanimously.

9. Groundwater Sustainability Activities – Review for Possible Action

- 9.1. GSA Invoices – Approximately \$1,000,000 was billed in Prop 26 fees for a three-year period covering 2018, 2019, and 2020, with ninety-three percent (93%) collected to date. Staff is working on collecting the remainder of unpaid bills from landowners.
- 9.2. Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) – Chad Wegley gave an update on the GSP and explained that DWR has two (2) years to complete its review. Comments submitted on the GSP are being compiled and will be taken into consideration as part of the 2025 update to the GSP.
- 9.3. Professional Services – It was M/S by Rubalcaba/Valero to approve a contract with Provost & Pritchard to provide professional assistance with a Proposition 68 grant to investigate how a well in the monitoring network was constructed. The vote was taken by roll call as follows: Director Rubalcaba aye, Director Valero aye, Chairman Mendes aye, Director Brandt aye, Director Boos aye, Alternate Director Launer aye, Director Brown aye. The motion passed unanimously. (see Insert 9.3)

10. Legal Issues – Review for Possible Action

- 10.1. Attorney Legal Update – Attorney Layne gave an update on various bills introduced during the legislative session.

11. Future Agenda Item(s): None.

12. **Adjournment:** There being no further items to discuss, the meeting was adjourned by Ernest "Buddy" Mendes at 2:26 p.m., until the next regular scheduled meeting on November 19, 2020.

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Kings River East – GSA

Signed: _____
Jack Brandt, Secretary

JB:ml