

# Kings River East Groundwater Sustainability Agency

## Regular Board Meeting

### MINUTES

City of Dinuba – Council Chambers  
405 East El Monte Way, Dinuba, CA 93618  
February 17, 2022

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 2:01 p.m. and the following directors were present, Ag Production, Steve Boos; Alta Irrigation District, Jack Brandt; Cities, Mary Fast; Drinking Water Districts, Fernie Rubalcaba; and Tulare County, Eddie Valero. Director(s) absent: Irrigation Districts, Jack Paxton. Also, in attendance – Alta Irrigation District, General Manager Chad Wegley, Operations Manager Marc Limas, Collector Indira Trevino, and attorneys Douglas B. Jensen and Jessica S. Johnson.
2. **Potential Conflicts of Interest** – None.
3. **Public Comment** – None.
4. **Communications – Review and Consider for Action**
  - 4.1. ACWAJPIA Presidents Special Recognition Award in the Liability Program. (Insert 4.1)
5. **Board of Director Reports – Discuss and Consider for Action** – None.
6. **Consent Calendar Items** – It was M/S/C unanimously (Director Paxton absent) on motion by Director Brandt, seconded by Director Rubalcaba, to approve the consent calendar as presented.
  - 6.1. Payables – Review and approve payment of October, November, December 2021, and January 2022 invoices (see Insert 6.1).
  - 6.2. Board Meeting Minutes – Review and approve minutes of October 21, 2021, special Board meeting.
7. **Other Board Items – Take Action**
  - 7.1. Treasurer’s Statement – Board of Directors reviewed the Treasurer’s statement for the periods ending October, November, December 2021, and January 2022, and it was M/S/C unanimously (Director Paxton absent) on motion by Vice Chairman Fast, seconded by Director Brandt to accept the Treasurer’s Statement. (see Insert 7.1)
  - 7.2. Grant Reimbursements – The retention of approximately \$21,000 due from DWR on the Prop 68 grant is outstanding. The final report was delivered to DWR along with a request for payment of retention. Approximately \$4,663 was received for the well construction information grant.
  - 7.3. Irrigation/Water District Representative and Alternate – Tabled until next meeting.
8. **Groundwater Sustainability Activities – Review for Possible Action**
  - 8.1. GSA Invoices – Approximately \$1,000,000 was billed in Prop 26 fees for a three-year period covering 2018, 2019, and 2020, with ninety-seven percent (97%) collected to date. Staff is working on collecting the remainder of unpaid bills from landowners.

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- 8.2. Groundwater Sustainability Activities – General Manager Wegley reported the 2020 GSP was determined to be incomplete by DWR. The GSA was not provided the opportunity for a pre-consultation with DWR prior to the determination, but that process is now starting. The GSA has one hundred eighty (180) days to correct and resubmit the GSP. The main sections of the GSP determined incomplete were chronically lowering of ground water levels, subsidence, interconnected groundwater, and degraded groundwater quality.
- 8.3. Provost & Pritchard Proposal for Well GPS Surveying Services – It was M/S/C unanimously (Director Paxton absent) on motion by Director Brandt, seconded by Director Valero to approve a proposal from Provost & Pritchard to provide professional services for \$20,000 to \$32,000 (time and materials basis) to improve groundwater level mapping and analysis by collecting survey grade information about elevations of well pads and ground surfaces, measuring distance to reference points, verifying of well power source, determining well operational status, etc. (see Insert 8.3)
- 9. Legal Issues – Review for Possible Action** – Attorney Jensen reviewed potential legislation that could affect the implementation of SGMA.
- 10. Future Agenda Item(s)** – None.
- 11. Adjournment** – There being no further items to discuss, the meeting was adjourned by Ernest “Buddy” Mendes at 2:36 p.m. until the next regular scheduled meeting on May 19, 2022.

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Jack Brandt, Secretary

JB:ml