

# Kings River East Groundwater Sustainability Agency

## Special Board Meeting

### MINUTES

City of Dinuba – Council Chambers  
405 East El Monte Way, Dinuba, CA 93618  
December 21, 2023

1. **Call to Order** – The Special 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: Cities, Matthew Tuttle, Tulare County, Eddie Valero, Drinking Water Districts, Fernie Rubalcaba, and Irrigation Districts, Jack Paxton. Alta Irrigation District Director Jack Brandt was absent. Production Ag seat is vacant. Also in attendance – are Alta Irrigation District, General Manager Chad Wegley, Operations Manager Marc Limas, Administrative Analyst Penny Durham, and KREGSA attorney Lauren D. Layne.
2. **Potential Conflicts of Interest** – None.
3. **Public Comment** – None.
4. **Communications – Review and Consider for Action**
  - 4.1. Audit Engagement Letter from Cuttone & Mastro Certified Public Accountants for the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Audit. It was M/S/C unanimously (Brandt absent, Production Ag vacant) on motion by Director Paxton, seconded by Director Rubalcaba, to approve the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Audit Engagement Letter. (see Insert 4.1)
5. **Board of Director Reports – Discuss and Consider for Action** – None.
6. **Consent Calendar Items** – It was M/S/C unanimously (Brandt absent, Production Ag vacant) on motion by Director Valero, seconded by Director Rubalcaba, to approve the consent calendar as presented.
  - 6.1. Payables – Review and approve payment of August, September, October, and November 2023 invoices (see Insert 6.1)
  - 6.2. Board Meeting Minutes – Review and approve August 17, 2023, special Board meeting minutes.
7. **Other Board Items – Take Action**
  - 7.1. Treasurer’s Statement – The Board of Directors reviewed the Treasurer’s Statement for periods ending August, September, October, and November 2023, and it was M/S/C unanimously (Brandt absent, Production Ag vacant) on motion by Director Tuttle, seconded by Director Valero, to accept the Treasurer’s Statement. (see Insert 7.1)
  - 7.2. Grant Reimbursements – DWR is still holding the retainer of a grant awarded to prepare the 2020 Groundwater Sustainability Plan. Since DWR added a second round of funding under that grant program, the retainer should be released once the second grant is closed.
  - 7.3. 2024 Meeting Calendar – It was M/S/C unanimously (Brandt absent, Production Ag vacant) on motion by Director Paxton, seconded by Director Tuttle, to approve the 2024 Meeting Calendar (see Insert 7.3)

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#### 8. Groundwater Sustainability Activities – Review for Possible Action

- 8.1. Provost & Pritchard Proposal for Land Subsidence Data Gap Analysis – It was M/S/C unanimously (Brandt absent, Production Ag vacant) on motion by Director Paxton, seconded by Director Valero to approve proposal from Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group to provide professional services to KREGSA for its pro rata share (\$4,000) of an \$86,000 cost estimate for collecting additional information regarding inelastic subsidence, evaluating influence of neighboring areas on subsidence in the Kings Subbasin, and improving management of subsidence. (see Insert 8.1).
- 8.2. Provost & Pritchard Proposal for Kings River Surface Water Groundwater Interconnection Data Gap Analysis – It was M/S/C unanimously (Brandt absent, Production Ag vacant) on motion by Director Rubalcaba, seconded by Director Tuttle to approve a proposal from Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group to provide professional services to KREGSA for its pro rata share (\$39,000) of a \$99,000 cost estimate to i) determine interconnection status of the Kings River, ii) conduct meetings/discussions with relevant river management agencies and stakeholders, iii) estimate surface water depletion from groundwater pumping, and iv) establish preliminary sustainable management criteria for 2025 groundwater sustainability plans. (see Insert8.2).

#### 9. Legal Issues – Review for Possible Action

- 9.1. Attorney Legal Update on Matters Affecting the GSA and Legislation - Attorney Layne gave an update on various bills from the current legislative session and the ACWA comment letter submitted to the State Water Resources Control Board included in the Board Package insert 4.1. She also provided an update on the status of other subbasins in the probationary hearing process.

#### 10. Future Agenda Item(s) – Review for Possible Action – RFP for Proposition 218 Consultant.

11. **Adjournment** – There being no further items to discuss, it was M/S/C unanimously (Brandt absent, Production Ag vacant) on motion by Director Tuttle, seconded by Director Valero to adjourn the meeting at 2:43 p.m. until the next regular scheduled meeting on March 21, 2024.

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Jack Brandt, Secretary

JB:pd