Kings River East Groundwater Sustainability Agency
Regular Board Meeting
MINUTES

City of Dinuba – Council Chambers
405 East El Monte Way, Dinuba, CA 93618
March 20, 2025

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 2:00 p.m. and the following directors were present: Alta Irrigation District, Alternate John Kalender; Cities, Matthew Tuttle; Drinking Water Districts, Fernie Rubalcaba; Irrigation/Water Districts, Jack Paxton; Tulare County, Eddie Valero(arrived at 2:03 p.m.); Ag Production seat vacant. Also in attendance were Alta Irrigation District, General Manager, Chad Wegley; Operations Manager, Marc Limas; Administrative Analyst, Penny Durham, and Attorney Kaitlin Bursey.

2. **Potential Conflicts of Interest** – None.

3. **Public Comment** – None.

4. **Communications** – None.

5. **Board of Director Reports** – None.

6. **Consent Calendar Items** – It was M/S/C unanimously on motion by Director Tuttle, seconded by Director Rubalcaba, (Ag Production seat vacant, Director Valero absent) to approve consent calendar agenda items.

   6.1. Payables – Review and approve payment of January and February 2025, invoices (see Insert 6.1)

   6.2. Board Meeting Minutes – Review and approve minutes of September 19, 2024, and December 19, 2024, Regular Board meetings, and January 21, 2025, Special Board Meeting

7. **Other Board Items – Take Action**

   7.1. Treasurer's Statement - The Board of Directors reviewed the Treasurer's Statement for the periods ending January and February 2025. It was M/S/C unanimously, (Ag Production seat vacant) on motion by Director Tuttle, seconded by Director Paxton to accept the Treasurer's Statement as presented. (see Insert 7.1)

   7.2. Proposal for a Proposition 26/218 Consultant – The Board of Directors reviewed the proposal from Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group to provide professional services to KREGSA on a time and materials basis, not to exceed $125,500, for developing a fee/rate structure that complies with the Proposition 26/218 and generates revenue to support the agency's SGMA activities. It was M/S/C unanimously (Ag Production seat vacant) on motion by Director Paxton, seconded by Director Valero to accept the proposal as presented (see Insert 7.2)

   7.3. Filling Production Ag Seat – The Board of Directors reviewed potential candidates for possible appointment to fill the vacant board seat representing agricultural interests within the boundary of the KREGSA. Candidate Elliott Rossotti was nominated by Director Paxton and seconded by Alternate Director Tuttle. It was M/S/C unanimously (Ag Production seat vacant) on motion by Alternate Director Kalender, seconded by Director Valero to accept Elliott Rossotti as the Production Ag Director. (see Insert 7.3)

7.4. Fiscal Year End September 2024 Audit –Mike Cuttone, a CPA with Cuttone & Mastro CPAs, reviewed the fiscal year end September 30, 2024, audit. It was the opinion of Cuttone & Mastro, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Kings River East Groundwater Sustainability Agency as of September 30, 2024, and the changes in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. It was M/S/C unanimously (Ag Production seat vacant) on motion by Director Valero, seconded by Director Rubalcaba to accept the Fiscal year End September 2024 Audit as presented (see Insert 7.4)

8. Groundwater Sustainability Activities – Review for Possible Action

8.1. WY 2024 Annual Report – Chad Wegley Provided an update on the status of the WY 2024 Annual Report that is due to be submitted at the end of March 2025.

8.2. Formation of an Ad Hoc Committee for the Proposition 26/218 and Domestic Well Mitigation Projects - It was M/S/C unanimously (Ag Production seat vacant) on motion by Director Tuttle, seconded by Director Paxton to authorize formation of an Ad Hoc Committee with members appointed subject to the Chairman's approval.

9. Legal Issues – Review for Possible Action

9.1. Attorney Legal Update on Matters Affecting the GSA and Legislation – Attorney Bursey gave an update on the status of the Kern Subbasin Probational Hearing held on February 20, 2025, and a reminder on the deadline to file Form 700s online.

10. Future Agenda Item(s) – update on the WY 2024 Annual Report.

Adjournment - There being no further items to discuss, it was M/S/C unanimously on motion by Director Valero, seconded by Director Paxton (Ag Production seat vacant) to adjourn, the meeting was adjourned by Ernest "Buddy" Mendes at 2:31 p.m. until the next regular meeting scheduled on June 19, 2025

Kings River East Groundwater Sustainability Agency

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Jack Brandt, Secretary

JB:pd