

MINUTES

Meeting of the

Technical Advisory Committee

Friday, October 13, 2023, at 8:30 a.m.

Lindmore ID Board Room

240 West Lindmore Street, Lindsay CA 93247

TAC Members Present:

Paul Buldo (Sentinel Butte)
Matt Klinchuch (Non-Voting)
Craig Wallace (Lindsay-Strathmore)
Craig Hornung (Wutchumna)
Neyba Amezcua (City of Lindsay)
Aaron Bock (County/County)
Nick Keller (Exeter/Ivanhoe)
Gene Kilgore (SCID)

TAC Members Absent:

Brian Watson (At-large)
Calvin Monreal (Lindmore)

Staff/Consultants:

Michael Hagman (EKGSA)
Chris Hunter (EKGSA)
Kaitlyn Palys (remote)

Members of the Public

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m.
2. **Self-Introductions:** Executive Director Hagman provided introductions and the roll was taken.
3. **Public Comment** – No public comment was provided.
4. **Committee Administration**
 - a. Review and Approve Meeting Minutes for September 8, 2023, meeting:
Noted that the precipitation credit motion was not unanimous that Keller (Exeter/Ivanhoe) voted no on the motion. After the corrections, Hornung/Keller made a motion to approve the minutes and it passed unanimously.
4. **Committee Business**
 - a. Status Report on Kaweah Subbasin Efforts to date was provided by Klinchuch, Hagman and Palys.
 - b. Executive Director Hagman provided his draft 2024 budget and asked the TAC for any further issues that should be constructed in the budget. Some discussion was had on the amount of revenue that may or may not be booked for both the year just finishing and the upcoming year. Hagman noted that the current revenues for 2023 are directly from the Water Dashboard and he noted that they would most certainly be lower, but that he will update it as we get closer to the Board budget hearing in December. Hagman noted that the FY2024 revenues are likely to be very small due to the high precipitation credit offset. He also reminded the TAC that the Board allocated 0.30 AF/acre in AY2023 at a price of \$500 AF and that is available for use by landowners through AY2027. That represents about \$13,500,000 in revenue. The TAC provided a few other insights.

c. GSP Implementation Items

- i. Kait Palys provided a status of the basin efforts to correct the deficiencies in the basin groundwater sustainability plans (GSPs). She identified the technical work being done to identify sustainable management criteria (SMC). It was noted that refining minimum thresholds around impacts to beneficial uses and users and basin wide impacts is the imperative. This concept still hasn't resonated with the GKGSA and so there is substantial effort. Kait and Tyler Hatch (Intera) reported on the subsidence issue in the subbasin and noted particularly how the EKGSA will need to look at subsidence SMCs. It was reported that since most of the eastern edge of the EKGSA see virtually no subsidence and submitting 0 as a threshold for the Friant Kern Canal (FKC) as critical infrastructure could create a problem if there actually was some, we'd have to take immediate action. He noted that the monitoring system has a variance of accuracy. He recommended that if in two consecutive years the subsidence exceeded the accuracy variance, that would be an observed "inelastic" change in subsidence. It was also discussed that the EKGSA could possibly get a letter of support from the FWA on this type of subsidence SMC. At the conclusion of discussion, the following was taken:

Motion (Keller/Wallace) to Direct the EKGSA GSP Technical team to use two consecutive years of inelastic change in elevation that exceeds the accuracy variance of the monitoring network for minimum threshold along the FKC. The motion passed unanimously.

- ii. LandIQ Update: Hagman reported on the LandIQ report for August 2023 and that September would be here later in October and we can close out AY2023 consumption numbers. Joel Kimmelshue provided his report on the Olive ETa issue. Kimmelshue noted that after working with a landowner who had substantial water delivery values and comparing that information to the LandIQ ETa, he noted that it appears that olive ETa is overstated by 33%. This would be an issue in AY2022, AY2023 and part or all of AY2024. This is because they will need sensor stations in olives for a solid period of time to better understand their ETa. After some discussion, the following action was taken:

Motion (Hornung/Keller) recommends to the Board that they direct staff to adjust the reported ETa of olives crops in the EKGSA downward by 33% for AY2022, AY2023, and AY2024. ETa. Motion passed unanimously.

- iii. Kaweah Subbasin Water Marketing Strategy: Reported on by Buldo/Hunter/Wallace.
- iv. attempting to determine and appropriate amount of those 11 inches that goes into the ground or is consumed by evaporation or the plant process (ETa).

Action: After substantial discussion a motion was made (Keller/Kilgore) that passed unanimously that the TAC recommends to the Board of Directors that a precipitation credit of 75% of 11 inches be provided to the landowners as an offset of precipitation impacts to ETa.

6. New/Other Business: None

7. Announcements

a. Next Regular Meeting Date and Time: Friday, November 10, 2023, 8:30 AM.

8. Closed Session: The meeting was moved into closed at 10:15 AM and returned from Closed Session at 11:30 AM on the following items with no reportable action:

GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.9(a)(2) and (a)(4) Anticipated Litigation
Number of Potential Cases: One

CONFERENCE WITH LEAD NEGOTIATOR Michael Hagman – APN: 052-040-007 easement, right of way or purchase of property. [Government Code Section 54957.6]

9. Adjournment: Committee Chair Buldo adjourned the meeting at 11:33 AM.