

**EAST KAWEAH GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING ON APRIL 24, 2023

The East Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“EKGSA”) Board of Directors duly met for a Regular meeting on Monday, April 24, 2023, in person.

OPEN SESSION: Convened at 3:07 p.m. with a quorum.

1. **DIRECTORS PRESENT:** Buldo, Cerros (left 3:55 pm), Ferrara, George, Hornung, Milanesio E., Milanesio, S., Peltzer, Roberts (arrived 3:30 pm), Watson

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Micari

OTHERS PRESENT: Michael Hagman, Executive Director; Joe Hughes, Counsel; Chris Hunter, Program Manager; Matt Klinchuch, Consulting Engineer; Kathy Bennett, Senior Analyst; and various members of the committees and public.

2. **APPROVE THE AGENDA:** Discussion to add closed session for potential litigation to the agenda as #9. Motion to approve the agenda with the addition of #9 closed session was made by Director Watson, seconded by Director Buldo, and carried by the following vote:

AYES: Buldo, Cerros, Ferrara, George, Hornung, Milanesio E., Milanesio S., Peltzer, Watson
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Micari, Roberts

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** No public comment

4. **MINUTES:** Motion to adopt and ratify the minutes provided by the Secretary from the March 22, 2023, Special Board Meeting was made by Director Milanesio, S., seconded by Director Milanesio, E., and carried by the following vote:

AYES: Buldo, Cerros, Ferrara, George, Hornung, Milanesio E., Milanesio, S., Peltzer, Watson
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Micari, Roberts

5. **ADMINISTRATION:**

- a. Resolution 2023-02: Senior Analyst and Executive Director reviewed the board’s decision to deposit Agency funds into the Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF) and discussed the resolution and LAIF account information statement that directs the EKGSA Bank of the Sierra account for deposits and withdrawals. After discussion, a motion to adopt **Resolution 2023-02 - Resolution of the East Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board of Directors Authorizing the Investment of Monies in the Local Agency Investment Fund** was made by Director Watson, seconded by Director George, and carried by the following vote:

AYES: Buldo, Cerros, Ferrara, George, Hornung, Milanesio E., Milanesio, S., Peltzer, Watson

NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Micari, Roberts

- b. Ratify Payments: Executive Director provided the EKGSA check register. After some brief discussion on the financial reports and the payments, a motion to ratify payments made to meet the obligations of the EKGSA was made by Director George, seconded by Director Peltzer, and carried by the following vote:

AYES: Buldo, Cerros, Ferrara, George, Hornung, Milanesio E., Milanesio, S., Peltzer, Watson
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Micari, Roberts

- c. Financial Reports: Executive Director and Senior Analyst presented financial reports and answered questions from the Board. A motion was made to accept financial reports as presented by Director Milanesio, E., seconded by Director George, and carried by the following vote:

AYES: Buldo, Cerros, Ferrara, George, Hornung, Milanesio E., Milanesio, S., Peltzer, Watson
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Micari, Roberts

- d. Grant Updates: Executive Director provided updates on the RCIS and MBLRP grants. Program Manager updated the board on the Planning grant and \$3.6M & \$7.6M Implementation grants.

6. GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN IMPLEMENTATION:

- a. DWR GSP Determination and Placement under SWRCB: Executive Director noted the GSP is now in the hands of the SWRCB. Kaitlin Palys from Intera gave a presentation to the board regarding the GSP determination and what the SWRCB is asking of the subbasin and what the process for probation vs. approval will be. Further discussion was on the subbasin goal to avoid a probationary hearing and important information for moving forward.
- b. 2023 Groundwater Allocation: Program Manager gave an update on the implementation of the water Dashboard and noted the file with the 2022 Statements was sent to the printer for printing and mailing on April 13th.
- c. Rules and Regulations: The Program Manager informed the Board that the modifications to the Rules and Regulations were to codify the previous actions the Board had taken. These actions included the adjustment of ET for special use cases, and the ability for landowners of non-irrigated parcels to opt-out of the assessment and forego their groundwater allocations. The Board's previous requests for updates to the Rules and Regulations and a draft of the changes was provided in the board packet for review. Upon review of the Rules and Regulations the Program Manager noted that the draft changes to 6.2 and 6.3 would need to be tabled for further discussion. The Executive Director provided an update on sections 6.2 and 6.3 which constitute the "order of use" policy. After considerable discussion and review, the board asked the Program Manger to address the "order of use" by creating changes to the Dashboard to all landowners to determine the best priority for their conditions. The Program Manger clarified with the Board that Precipitation would be required to be first in the order or

use, and then any following allocations would be at the landowners discretion. The Program Manager requested sixty days to complete the requirement and the Board provided directions to complete the directive. After the discussion, the board was ready to consider Resolution 2023-03.

- d. Resolution 2023-03: After discussion, a motion to adopt **Resolution 2023-03 - Resolution of the Board of Directors of East Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency Amending Rules and Regulations for Sustainable Groundwater Management** was made with the draft changes in 6.02 removed, by Director George, seconded by Director Ferrara, and carried by the following vote:

AYES: Buldo, Ferrara, George, Hornung, Milanesio E., Milanesio, S., Peltzer, Roberts, Watson
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Micari, Cerros

- e. Subbasin Report: Executive Director reported on the Annual Report that has been completed and submitted.

7. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING:

The Executive Director reported that the next regularly scheduled board meeting is July 24, 2023 at 3:00 p.m.

8. CLOSED SESSION:

Board went into closed session at 6:27 p.m. and after discussion, came out of closed session at 6:47 p.m. There was no reportable action.

9. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

Michael D. Hagman
Secretary, East Kaweah GSA