

**EAST KAWEAH GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

MINUTES FOR THE MEETING ON JANUARY 21, 2019

The East Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“EKGSA”) Advisory Committee duly met for a meeting on Monday, January 21, 2019, at the Exeter Courthouse Museum, located at 125 South B Street, Exeter, CA 93221.

OPEN SESSION: Convened at 4:05 p.m.

- 1. MEMBERS PRESENT:** Matthew Watkins, Soapy Mulholland, Joe Russell, Carole Combs, Vito DeLeonardis, Dan Dreyer, Graham Burt.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Alan Lombardi, Cruz Rivera, Adriana Renteria, Carlos Bravo.

OTHERS PRESENT: Michael Hagman, Executive Director; Trilby Barton, Provost & Pritchard; Joe Ferrara, Chair; various members of the public.

- 2. APPROVE THE AGENDA:**

Motion to approve the agenda was made by Mr. Dreyer, seconded by Mr. DeLeonardis and carried by the following vote:

AYES: Watkins, Mulholland, Russell, Combs, DeLeonardis, Dreyer, Burt

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Lombardi, Rivera, Renteria, Bravo

- 3. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- 4. MINUTES:**

Motion by Ms. Mulholland to approve and ratify minutes from the November 19, 2018 Advisory Committee meeting, and seconded by Mr. Watkins with corrections regarding Ms. Combs was made and carried by the following vote:

AYES: Watkins, Mulholland, Russell, Combs, DeLeonardis, Dreyer, Burt

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Lombardi, Rivera, Renteria, Bravo

- 5. EKGSA ACTIVITY REPORT:**

A. TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

The Executive Director reported that the Technical Committee met.

B. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Executive Director reported regarding the recent Board of Directors meeting.

6. KAWEAH SUB-BASIN ACTIVITY REPORT:

- a. Kaweah Sub-Basin Management Team - The Executive Director led a discussion on the Kaweah Sub-Basin Water Budget.
- b. Other Sub-Basin Activity – The Executive Director briefly reviewed the Kaweah Sub-Basin Minimum Threshold Summary.

7. GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN EFFORTS:

- a. GSP Development and Chapter Review – No Report
- b. Policy Development – No report.
- c. Outreach Efforts – The Committee discussed recent outreach efforts. Trilby Barton of Provost & Pritchard provided a review of an updated Stakeholder Survey.
- d. Timeline and Next Steps: The Executive Director reported on chapters for the draft GSP that were either completed or almost completed. Also, discussion on project ideas.

8. OTHER MISCELLANEOUS:

Nothing to consider, no action taken.

9. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Mulholland seconded by Mr. Watkins and carried by the following vote:

AYES: Watkins, Mulholland, Russell, Combs, DeLeonardis, Dreyer, Burt

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Lombardi, Rivera, Renteria, Bravo

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

**EAST KAWEAH GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

MINUTES FOR THE MEETING ON FEBRUARY 19, 2019

The East Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency (EKGSA) Advisory Committee duly met for a meeting on Tuesday, February 19, 2019 located at the Exeter Courthouse Museum, located at 125 South B Street, Exeter, CA 93221.

OPEN SESSION: Convened at 4:05 p.m.

1. **MEMBERS PRESENT:** Matthew Watkins, Carlos Bravo, Joe Russell, Carole Combs, Vito DeLeonardis (arrived after Item 4), Dan Dreyer, Graham Burt. ***QUORUM ESTABLISHED at 4:05***

MEMBERS ABSENT: Alan Lombardi, Cruz Rivera, Adriana Renteria, Soapy Mulholland.

OTHERS PRESENT: Michael Hagman, Executive Director; Trilby Barton, Provost & Pritchard; Joe Ferrara, Chair; various members of the public.

2. **APPROVE THE AGENDA:**

M/S (Dreyer/Russell) – *To approve the agenda as provided.* **PASSED** by unanimous vote of those present.

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

4. **MINUTES:**

M/S (Russell/Combs) – *To approve the minutes as provide for the January 21, 2019 Advisory Committee meeting.* **PASSED** by unanimous vote of those present.

5. **EKGSA ACTIVITY REPORT:**

- a. Technical Committee - The Executive Director reported that the Technical Committee met and there were no policy actions Kaweah Sub-Basin Management Team - The Executive Director noted there is a budget over-run that was discussed.
- b. Board of Directors – ED reported regarding the recent Board of Directors meeting.

6. **KAWEAH SUB-BASIN ACTIVITY REPORT:**

- a. Kaweah Sub-Basin Management Team - The Executive Director noted there is a budget over-run that was discussed.
- b. Other Sub-Basin Activity – The Executive Director reported that there was no activity.

7. GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN EFFORTS:

- a. GSP Development and Chapter Review – Chapter 1 good development 95% complete. Chapter 2 will be 95% complete in about three weeks. Outlines are complete on the other chapters (represents about 50% completion).
- b. Policy Development
 - i. Minimum Thresholds – ED Hagman provided straw proposal to use a 2040 “No Action” curve to determine minimum thresholds. Substantial concerns existed that such a line could be too drastic and therefore the minimum threshold will expose a host of negatives on the other undesirable results. Hagman explained that the slope of the line will consider the water period that will be close to typical modified to address future conditions including impacts of climate change. In addition, he noted that this is a straw proposal, it gives us a scientific approach to defining minimum thresholds and we can easily modify the minimum threshold. He asked that the AC consider a recommendation to him for a place to start developing minimum thresholds. The AC by consensus agreed that this is a place to start and took the following action: **M/S (Watkins/Combs)** – *Recommend methodology to develop initial GSP based on “No Action Alternative Hydrograph Slope”, caution that where interconnected surface ecosystems are not associated with pumping not be a undesirable measurement, and to coordinate this approach with the other GSAs in the Subbasin.* **PASSED** by a unanimous vote of those present.
 - ii. Measurable Objectives – ED Hagman provided a straw proposal that recommends the use of groundwater elevations as proxy for determination of undesirable results. Substantial concern existed around this method because it may not focus directly on water quality in particular. After substantial discussion, the following action was taken: **M/S (Watkins/Combs)** – *Recommend using groundwater elevations as a proxy for all undesirable results and to condition it against the notion of collection of data on a set of water quality measurement criteria.* **PASSED** by unanimous vote of those present
 - iii. Management Areas – ED Hagman presented a proposed boundary breaking the GSA up into four separate management zones. In Klinchuch’s interpretation, the fewer the better. After much discussion the AC asked for advice from the TAC on what they thought would be important to define a management area. Group was leaning toward two and maybe three. No other action taken.

iv. Sub-basin Coordination Agreement – ED Hagman noted that there is an index circulating amongst the GSA leads and legal folks on the issues to be coordinated. He noted he does not have this available for the AC at this time but will have it at the next AC meeting.

- c. Outreach Efforts – No Report
- d. Timeline and Next Steps – No Report

8. OTHER MISCELLANEOUS:

Nothing to consider and no action taken.

9. ADJOURNMENT:

M/S (Watkins/Burt) – *To adjourn meeting.* PASSED by unanimous vote by those present

The meeting was adjourned at 6:12 p.m.

Michael D. Hagman
Secretary, East Kaweah GSA

**EAST KAWEAH GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES FOR THE MEETING ON
MARCH 18, 2019**

The East Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“EKGSA”) Advisory Committee duly met for a meeting on Monday, March 18, 2019, at the Exeter Courthouse Museum, located at 125 South B Street, Exeter, CA 93221.

OPEN SESSION: Convened at 4:05 p.m.

- 1. MEMBERS PRESENT:** Matthew Watkins, Soapy Mulholland, Alan Lombardi, Joe Russell, Cruz Rivera, Carole Combs, Adriana Renteria, Dan Dreyer, Carlos Bravo.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Vito DeLeonardis, Graham Burt.

OTHERS PRESENT: Michael Hagman, Executive Director; Joe Hughes, Legal Counsel; Trilby Barton and Matt Klinchuch, Provost & Pritchard; Joe Ferrara, Chair; various members of the public.

- 2. APPROVE THE AGENDA:**

Motion to approve the agenda was made by Mr. Rivera, seconded by Mr. Watkins, and carried by the following vote:

AYES: Rivera, Watkins, Mulholland, Lombardi, Russell, Combs, Renteria, Dreyer, Bravo

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: DeLeonardis, Burt

- 3. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

One member of the public spoke.

- 4. MINUTES:**

Motion to approve and ratify minutes from the February 19, 2019 Advisory Committee meeting, was made by Mr. Dreyer, seconded by Mr. Russell, and carried by the following vote:

AYES: Rivera, Watkins, Mulholland, Lombardi, Russell, Combs, Renteria, Dreyer, Bravo

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: DeLeonardis, Burt

- 5. EKGSA ACTIVITY REPORT:**

A. TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

The Executive Director reported that the Technical Committee met.

B. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Executive Director reported regarding the recent Board of Directors meeting.

6. KAWEAH SUB-BASIN ACTIVITY REPORT:

- a. Kaweah Sub-Basin Management Team - The Executive Director provided a report.

7. GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN EFFORTS:

- a. GSP Development and Chapter Review:
- b. Policy Development
 - i. Minimum Thresholds – Matt Klinchuch presented hydrographs for discussion. Members of the Advisory Committee and public expressed various concerns regarding the setting of minimum thresholds.

8. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Rivera seconded by Mr. Dreyer and carried by the following vote:

AYES: Renteria, Bravo, Watkins, Combs, Dreyer, Mulholland, Lombardi, Russell, Rivera

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: DeLeonardis, Burt

The meeting was adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Michael D. Hagman
Secretary, East Kaweah GSA

**EAST KAWEAH GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

MINUTES FOR THE MEETING ON APRIL 15, 2019

The East Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“EKGSA”) Advisory Committee duly met for a meeting on Monday, April 15, 2019, at the Exeter Courthouse Museum, located at 125 South B Street, Exeter, CA 93221.

OPEN SESSION: Convened at 4:39 p.m.

- 1. MEMBERS PRESENT:** Matthew Watkins, Soapy Mulholland, Joe Russell, Carole Combs, Adriana Renteria, Dan Dreyer, Vito DeLeonardis.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Alan Lombardi, Cruz Rivera, Graham Burt.

OTHERS PRESENT: Michael Hagman, Executive Director; Joe Hughes, Legal Counsel; Trilby Barton and Matt Klinchuch, Provost & Pritchard; Joe Ferrara, Chair; various members of the public.

- 2. APPROVE THE AGENDA:**

Motion to approve the agenda was made by Ms. Combs, seconded by Mr. Dreyer, and carried by the following vote:

AYES: Watkins, Mulholland, Russell, Combs, DeLeonardis, Renteria, Dreyer

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Rivera, Lombardi, Burt

- 3. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

There was no public comment.

- 4. MINUTES:**

Motion to approve and ratify minutes from the March 18, 2019 Advisory Committee meeting, was made by Ms. Renteria, seconded by Ms. Combs, and carried by the following vote:

AYES: Watkins, Mulholland, Russell, Combs, DeLeonardis, Renteria, Dreyer

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Rivera, Lombardi, Burt

- 5. EKGSA ACTIVITY REPORT:**

A. TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

The Executive Director reported that the Technical Committee met.

B. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Executive Director reported there would be a Board of Directors meeting on April 22.

6. KAWEAH SUB-BASIN ACTIVITY REPORT:

- a. Kaweah Sub-Basin Management Team - The Executive Director provided a report.
- b. Other Sub-Basin Activity – No report

7. GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN EFFORTS:

- a. GSP Development and Chapter Review:
- b. Policy Development
 - i. Minimum Thresholds – Matt Klinchuch presented.
 - ii. GW Elevations as Proxy for Sustainability Criteria
 - iii. Management Areas – TAC Perspective on MAs
 - iv. Sub-basin Coordination Agreement – Outline of CA
- c. Outreach Efforts
- d. Timeline and Next Steps

8. OTHER MISCELLANEOUS:

Mr. Ferrara advised that he will not be able to attend the next regular meeting of the Committee on May 20, but that the meeting should proceed in his absence rather than attempt to re-schedule the meeting.

The Committee discussed its role in the GSP development process.

9. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Mulholland, seconded by Mr. DeLeonardis, and carried by the following vote:

AYES: Watkins, Mulholland, Russell, Combs, DeLeonardis, Renteria, Dreyer, Lombardi

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Rivera, Burt

The meeting was adjourned at 6:07 p.m.

**EAST KAWEAH GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES FOR THE MEETING ON MAY 20, 2019**

The East Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“EKGSA”) Advisory Committee duly met for a meeting on Monday, May 20, 2019, at the Exeter Courthouse Museum, located at 125 South B Street, Exeter, CA 93221.

OPEN SESSION: Convened at 4: 10 p.m.

1. **MEMBERS PRESENT:** Matthew Watkins, Soapy Mulholland, Joe Russell, Carole Combs, Dan Dreyer, Graham Burt.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Joe Ferrara, Adriana Renteria, Vito DeLeonardis, Alan Lombardi, Cruz Rivera.

OTHERS PRESENT: Michael Hagman, Executive Director; Joe Hughes, Legal Counsel; Trilby Barton and Matt Klinchuch, Provost & Pritchard; Tim Gobler, Chair; various members of the public.

2. **APPROVE THE AGENDA:**

Motion to approve the agenda was made by Mr. Watkins, seconded by Mr. Dreyer, and carried by the following vote:

AYES: Matthew Watkins, Soapy Mulholland, Joe Russell, Carole Combs, Dan Dreyer, Graham Burt.

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Joe Ferrara, Adriana Renteria, Vito DeLeonardis, Alan Lombardi, Cruz Rivera.

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

There was no public comment.

4. **MINUTES:**

Motion to approve and ratify minutes from the April 15, 2019 Advisory Committee meeting, was made by Ms. Mulholland, seconded by Mr. Watkins, and carried by the following vote:

AYES: Matthew Watkins, Soapy Mulholland, Joe Russell, Carole Combs, Dan Dreyer, Graham Burt.

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Joe Ferrara, Adriana Renteria, Vito DeLeonardis, Alan Lombardi, Cruz Rivera.

5. EKGSA ACTIVITY REPORT:

A. TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

The Executive Director reported that the Technical Committee met immediately before the Advisory Committee meeting.

B. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Executive Director reported there would be a special Board of Directors meeting on June 24.

6. KAWEAH SUB-BASIN ACTIVITY REPORT:

- a. Kaweah Sub-Basin Management Team - The Executive Director provided a report.
- b. Other Sub-Basin Activity – No report

7. GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN EFFORTS:

- a. GSP Development and Chapter Review: Matt Klinchuch provided a status report and potential timeline for upcoming activities.
- b. Sustainability Management Criteria
 - i. Minimum Thresholds – Matt Klinchuch presented.
 - ii. GW Elevations as Proxy for Sustainability Criteria – Mike Hagman presented. Staff provided GW elevations and the Committee felt that using GW elevations for Subsidence and Water Quality was not appropriate. The Committee felt that staff/consultants should bring back the necessary documentation for developing a recommendation on the Sustainable Management Criteria at the next meeting.
- c. Outreach Efforts
 - i. Future Public Forums: Trilby Barton provided a status report and received direction.
- d. Timeline and Next Steps

8. OTHER MISCELLANEOUS:

9. ADJOURNMENT:

A quorum having been lost earlier in the meeting, there was no motion to adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:16 p.m.

**EAST KAWEAH GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES FOR THE MEETING ON JUNE 17, 2019**

The East Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“EKGSA”) Advisory Committee duly met for a meeting on Monday, June 17, 2019, at the Exeter Courthouse Museum, located at 125 South B Street, Exeter, CA 93221.

OPEN SESSION: Convened at 4: 05 p.m.

- 1. MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Joe Ferrara (non-voting), Matthew Watkins, Adrianna Renteria, Soapy Mulholland, Joe Russell, Carole Combs, Dan Dreyer, Vito DeLeonardis, and Alan Lombardi. (Quorum = 6 voting members)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Graham Burt, Cruz Rivera,

OTHERS PRESENT: Michael Hagman, Executive Director; Trilby Barton and Matt Klinchuch, Provost & Pritchard; various members of the public.

- 2. APPROVE THE AGENDA:** Motion to approve the agenda was made by Mr. Watkins, seconded by Mr. Russell, and carried by the following vote:

AYES: Matthew Watkins, Adrianna Renteria, Soapy Mulholland, Joe Russell, Carole Combs, Dan Dreyer, Vito DeLeonardis, Alan Lombardi.

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Graham Burt, Cruz Rivera.

- 3. PUBLIC COMMENT:** There was no public comment.

- 4. MINUTES:** Motion to approve and ratify minutes with the corrections made from the May 20, 2019 Advisory Committee meeting, was made by Mr. Watkins, seconded by Mr. Lombardi, and carried by the following vote:

AYES: Matthew Watkins, Adrianna Renteria, Soapy Mulholland, Joe Russell, Carole Combs, Dan Dreyer, Vito DeLeonardis, Alan Lombardi.

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Graham Burt, Cruz Rivera.

- 5. EKGSA ACTIVITY REPORT:**

a. Technical Committee – The Executive Director reported on the TAC efforts. He noted that the AC will be reviewing a Sustainable Management Criteria Policy matrix developed by the TAC. This will be worked on later in the meeting.

b. Board of Directors – The Executive Director reported there would be a special Board of Directors meeting on June 24 to give Staff direction on GSP policy issues. He also reported

that the regular meeting of the EKGSA Board on July 22nd will be considering a draft public release of the GSP.

6. KAWEAH SUB-BASIN ACTIVITY REPORT:

- a. Kaweah Sub-Basin Management Team - The Executive Director provided a report.
- b. Other Sub-Basin Activity – No report

7. GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN EFFORTS:

- a. GSP Development and Chapter Review: Matt Klinchuch provided a status report and potential timeline for upcoming activities.
- b. Sustainability Management Criteria
 - i. Minimum Thresholds Map – The AC was presented with the groundwater elevation threshold regions map. This map described the groundwater elevation conditions in calendar year 2040 with no action taken and assuming average hydrologic condition. After considerable discussion the following action was taken: Concur with the EKGSA TAC and recommend the minimum thresholds map as provided for setting the minimum thresholds – Renteria/Watkins (M/S) and passed unanimously by those present
 - ii. Sustainability Matrix – Hagman/Klinchuch presented the “Sustainable Management Criteria Policy Matrix” (SMCPM) to the AC that was developed in coordination with the TAC and approved by the TAC. The SMCPM provided needed policy for the AC to recommend to the Board of directors for developing the EKGSA criteria for each of the Undesirable Results (UR) that will be addressed in the EKGSA. This included Definition, Minimum Thresholds, Definition, Measurement Methodology, Minimum Threshold, Measurable Objectives, and Interim Milestones. The AC decided to address the SMCPM in three actions:

Action #1 – That the UR Groundwater Storage and Surface Water/Groundwater Interconnected use Groundwater Elevation as proxy for those observations. That the map indicates impacts to wells based on purpose of the well (Public, Domestic or Ag). That the Measurable Objective be set at the Spring 2017 measurements, and to Concur with the EKGSA TAC and recommend the Sustainable Management Criteria Policy Matrix as modified herein – Mulholland/Lombardi (M/S) and passed by unanimous vote of those present.

Action #2 – Land Subsidence UR as provided in the SMCPM: Watkins/Lombardi (M/S) and passed by unanimous vote of those present.

Action #3 – Groundwater Quality UR as provided in the SMCPM: Watkins/Dreyer (M/S) and passed by unanimous vote of those present. There was however concern provided by the members of the AC on several areas in the approach as follows:

- I. Recommendation that verbiage be added similar to “no degradation caused by groundwater pumping” as well as recharge efforts.

- II. Can the WQ map provide an area of concern around communities and the GSA take more aggressive actions when 75% of threshold is approached or where those areas already exceed the MCL?
- III. Consider the MCL and the rate of change in the SMC's.

Hagman explained that these concerns will be provided to the EKGSA Board and back to the TAC for review and consideration of how they may be addressed in the GSP itself.

- iii. Management Areas – Hagman/Klinchuch provided the management areas map as developed in coordination with the EKGSA TAC. After considerable discussion, the following action was taken: Recommend to the Board of Directors to adopt a “Two Management” area approach as opposed to the nine provided by the TAC. Watkins/DeLeonardis (M/S) and the motion passed on a 6/2 vote.

The AC wanted the Board to know that the reason for this departure from the TAC recommendation is for two reasons:

1. Nine areas, as provided, could make it so the Districts could ostensibly control where groundwater may or may not go. Hagman noted that individuals hold groundwater rights not the Districts. However, where provided by the law, federal contract and the Kaweah Sub-basin Water Accounting Framework, groundwater inflows from those surface water sources could be directed by the entity that has rights to the supply.
2. To many areas to manage would be difficult to administer. Hagman noted that the Federal Districts already provide the bulk of information for their areas that will be used to understand the demand of groundwater supply and the districts don't want to be saddled with the cost of other areas that do not already collect this data.

Hagman explained that these objections will be provided to the EKGSA Board of Directors along with the recommended AC Management Areas map.

- iv. Sub-basin Coordination Agreement – Hagman noted that the Agreement will be an appendix to the GSP. He indicated that there has been significant work on the document and much more is needed. There are likely very few areas of concern at this point because the more contentious aspects (water accounting framework) have been largely addressed.
- c. Outreach Efforts
 - i. Future Public Forums: Trilby Barton provided information regarding four upcoming “post draft release” public forums.
 - d. Timeline and Next Steps

8. OTHER MISCELLANEOUS: None provided

9. ADJOURNMENT: A quorum having been lost earlier in the meeting, there was no motion to adjourn. Therefore, the meeting was adjourned by the Chairman at 6:16 p.m.