

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

**MINUTES FOR THE SPECIAL MEETING ON MARCH 28, 2022**

The East Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“EKGSA”) Board of Directors duly met for a Regular meeting on Monday, March 28, 2022, via video/phone conference and in person – COVID -19 protocol.

**OPEN SESSION:** Convened at 2:00 p.m. with a quorum.

1. **DIRECTORS PRESENT:** Buldo, Ferrara, Hornung, Micari, Milanesio E., Peltzer, Watson

**DIRECTORS ABSENT:** Caudillo, George, Roberts

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

2. **APPROVE THE AGENDA:** Motion to approve the agenda was made by Director Peltzer, seconded by Director Hornung, and carried by the following vote:

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

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Caudillo, George, Roberts

3. **ADOPTION OF ALTERNATIVE TELECONFERENCING REQUIREMENTS:** A motion to approve the continued state of emergency and have Board attendance in person was made by Director Ferrara, seconded by Director Micari, and carried by the following vote:

AYES: Buldo, Ferrara, Hornung, Micari, Milanesio E., Peltzer, Watson

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Caudillo, George, Roberts

4. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** Public comments on boundaries of the GSAs and Rules & Regulations.

5. **MINUTES:** Motion to adopt and ratify the minutes provided by the Secretary from the February 28, 2022, Special Board Meeting was made by Director Buldo, seconded by Director Hornung, and carried by the following vote:

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

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Caudillo, George, Roberts

6. **ADMINISTRATION:**

a. Accept County appointment to the EKGSA Board of Directors: Tulare County Board of Supervisors voted on March 1, 2022, to appoint Steve Milanesio to represent its second seat on the Board of Directors. A motion to accept Steve Milanesio as director on the EKGSA board to fill the second seat for Tulare County on the EKGSA Board of Directors was made by Director Peltzer, seconded by Director Micari, and carried on the following vote:

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

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Caudillo, George, Roberts

b. Staffing Updates: Executive Director noted current staff is working through what needs to be done until we find a staff engineer.

c. Prop 68: WCB-RCIS: Executive Director reported on the status of the RCIS effort. We have received comments back from the State regarding the RCIS document. It is expected to have final approval by Department of Fish and Wildlife by late September.

d. Prop 68: Basin Planning Grant: Executive Director provided an update on the grant. EKGSA is the administrator and staff has submitted a modification to include replacement monitoring projects and extend the deadline on the grant.

e. Prop 68: Basin Implementation Grant: Executive Director reminded the Board that this grant is awarded to the Mid Kaweah GSA and focuses on DAC benefits and reviewed the two projects that we had that qualified – Lewis Creek Re-charge and the Mariposa Basin connection to Lindmore ID.

- f. Basin Implementation Grant: Executive Director reminded the Board that this grant will be administered by the Greater Kaweah GSA if awarded. The application was submitted on time.
- g. MALRP Grant: Executive Director noted the grant is being applied for by KDWCD by March 30 and is from the Department of Conservation. If awarded, the grant dollars would be used to develop projects and programs that repurpose currently irrigated lands into multiple benefit properties such as recharge facilities, habitat, solar farms, etc.

**7. GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN IMPLEMENTATION:**

- a. Technical Advisory Committee Efforts: Klinchuch reported on the most recent TAC meeting since the last Board meeting. TAC discussion focused mostly on the Projects and Management Actions.
- b. Subbasin Efforts: Klinchuch provided an update on the projects and coordination activities in the subbasin. The annual report for 2021 will be done by April 1<sup>st</sup>. He also reported on modifying the GSP to meet the issues defined in DWR's determination of the GSP as incomplete. The updated GSP is due back to DWR by July 27<sup>th</sup>. The Program Manager noted that there is a coordinated effort in the subbasin for water marketing and how landowners could trade supplies and mostly focusing on landowners being able to look at water balance on the Water Dashboard project.
- c. GSP Implementation: Executive Director and Program Manager provided an update on Implementation.
  - AdHoc – Land IQ - ET: Program Manager reported the AdHoc has had three sessions and looking at Land IQ data accuracy. There will be recommendations to the board from their discussions.
  - Monitoring Network: Executive Director reported on the monitoring network.
  - Rules and Regulations “Term Sheet”: Executive Director noted the Rules and Regulations were posted on website on March 11, 2022, and a card mailer went out to EKGSA landowners notifying them of the process and how to provide comments and where and when the public hearing will be held. He asked for comments to be provided a few days before the Board of Directors meeting on April 25, 2022.
  - Summary of deficiencies on the GSP “Incomplete Designation”: Executive Director reported what DWR wants the EKGSA (and the other basin GSAs) to change on its GSP in order to approve it as complete.
  - Status of Projects/MA direction by Board: Executive Director noted the TAC and AC will be developing the Project & Management Actions matrix.
- d. OTHER: Nothing to Report

**8. CLOSED SESSION:** Board went into closed session at 4:28 p.m. and after discussion, came out of closed session at 5:13 p.m. There was no reportable action.

**9. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING:**

The Executive Director reported that the next regularly scheduled board meeting will be held on April 25, 2022.

**10. ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

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**Michael D. Hagman**  
**Secretary, East Kaweah GSA**