

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Kings River Watershed Coalition Authority (Kings River Coalition) held June 17, 2014. The meeting was held at the offices of the Kings River Conservation District (KRCD) located at 4886 E. Jensen Avenue, Fresno, CA 93725.

### **CALL TO ORDER**

President Mark McKean called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m.

### **DIRECTORS / ALTERNATES PRESENT (22 of 27 Members Present)**

ALTA IRRIGATION DISTRICT - Director Norman Waldner  
 CORCORAN IRRIGATION CO. - Director Walter Bricker  
 CONSOLIDATED IRRIGATION DISTRICT, Alternate Phil Desatoff  
 CRESENT CANAL COMPANY - Director Mark McKean  
 EMPIRE WEST SIDE IRRIGATION DISTRICT-Director John Howe  
 FRESNO IRRIGATION DISTRICT – Alternate Gary Serrato  
 JOHN HEINLEN MUTUAL WATER COMPANY - Alternate Ronnie Silva  
 KINGS RIVER CONSERVATION DISTRICT - Director Mark McKean/Alternate David Orth  
 KINGS RIVER WATER DISTRICT - Director Jack Paxton  
 LAGUNA IRRIGATION DITRICT - Director Frank Zonneveld/Alternate Scott Sills  
 LAST CHANCE WATER DITCH CO. - Director Walter Bricker  
 LEMOORE CANAL AND IRRIGATION CO. - Alternate Ronnie Silva  
 LIBERTY CANAL CO. - Alternate Mike Nordstrom  
 LOVELACE WATER CORP. - Director Walter Bricker/Alternate Mark Unruh  
 PEOPLES DITCH CO. - Director Walter Bricker  
 REED DITCH CO. - Director Mark McKean  
 RIVERDALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT - Director Leonard Acquistapace,  
 SOUTHEAST LAKE WATER CO. - Director Walter Bricker/ Alternate Mark Unruh  
 STRATFORD IRRIGATION DISTRICT- Alternate Charles Meyer  
 TULARE LAKE BASIN WATER STORAGE DIST - Director Walter Bricker  
 TULARE LAKE CANAL CO. - Director Walter Bricker/Alternate Mark Unruh  
 UPPER SAN JOSE WATER CO. - Director Mike Nordstrom

### **OTHERS PRESENT**

Eric Athorp, KRCD	Donna Pepper, KRCD
Steve Haugen, KRWA	Gary Sawyers, Legal Counsel
Cristel Tufenkjian, KRCD	Randy Shilling, KRCD
Casey Creamer, KRCD	Steve Stadler, KRCD
Rick Hoelzel, KRCD	Dennis Mills, Kings County Water District
Tom Hurlbutt, J.G. Boswell	JJ Westra, TLBWSD
George Meyer	Jared Martin
David Kahn	
Gene Kilgore	

**ADDITION TO OR DELETION FROM THE AGENDA:** None

**PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:** None

### **REPORTS**

Enrollment and Outreach Update: Cristel Tufenkjian provided an overview of the Coalition enrollment and outreach programs reporting between October 2013 and the May 19, 2014 deadline, the Kings River Coalition held 36 workshop events and contacted over 1600 landowners, participated in five radio interviews, and several articles were published in the Fresno Bee, Hanford Sentinel and the American Vineyard. The Coalition anticipated enrolling 793,000 acres, however, expectations were exceeded and a total of approximately 875,000 acres were enrolled prior to the deadline.

Ms. Tufenkjian also reported outreach events planned for the future are two workshops to inform and update landowners/growers of their responsibilities under the new Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program (ILRP), two newsletters may be mailed, and the Coalition website will continue to provide information and will begin to have an instant email communication program.

Enrollment Process: Rick Hoelzel reported prior to open enrollment the number of Coalition members was 1,841. During the six month period of open enrollment, and after the May 19<sup>th</sup> deadline, 3,969 new members were enrolled which brings the total to 5,810 members. Mr. Hoelzel also reported the Coalition membership list will be submitted to the Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) June 18, 2014 as required. Landowners now seeking to join the Coalition will need to submit a membership form and fees to receive a temporary membership identification number, which must be submitted with a Notice of Intent (NOI) along with additional fees to the Regional Board. Once the landowner receives confirmation from the Regional Board, the Coalition will convert the membership from temporary to permanent status. Those who have not signed up with a coalition will receive a Notice of Violation (NOV) from the Regional Board. Mr. Hoelzel further reported failure to participate in the Regulatory Program, either as a member of a coalition or as an individual will subject the landowner to penalties by the Regional Board under California Water Code section 13267.

Surface Water Monitoring Plan: Eric Athorp reported under the provisions of the General Order, the Coalition is required to submit a surface water monitoring plan which was submitted on May 19<sup>th</sup>. The plan maintains a monthly monitoring schedule at all sites with a few changes. Three rotating assessment sites were added. The ACOE Bridge, Cross Creek at Hwy 198, and Empire #1, will be sampled for a one year period every three years. Mr. Athorp further reported no response or approval has been received from the Regional Board as of this date.

Templates Update: Casey Creamer reported on the status of the Farm Evaluation template and the Nitrogen Management Plan template. The South Valley coalitions had an opportunity to comment on a proposed Farm Evaluation template that was developed by the agricultural and coalition representatives and approved by the Regional Board. Each coalition had an opportunity to comment on and modify the template to fit their specific needs. The South Valley Coalitions did this collectively and submitted joint comments on May 28<sup>th</sup>. There has not been any response from the Regional Board on the joint comment letter to date. The Nitrogen Management Plan template is still on hold and awaiting the SWRCB Expert Panel's Final Report prior to the Regional Board taking action to approve the template.

Landowner Advisory Group: Mr. Creamer reported at the April meeting, recommendations were made to form an Advisory Group composed of approximately sixteen (16) members. Mr. Creamer further reported eight (8) names have been nominated from irrigation districts and commodity groups within the Coalition boundaries. Mr. Creamer also reported if there are any other names to be nominated, they should be submitted at this time, and that the Advisory Group will now move forward. The Advisory Group will be responsible for informing and updating their respective industry groups about ILRP developments and share information with their community of growers.

SureHarvest Agreement Update: David Orth reported discussions continue with legal counsel regarding a draft agreement concerning a patent held by SureHarvest, and gathering data from landowners for the reporting requirements under the General Order.

Southern San Joaquin Valley Water Quality Coalition Update: Mr. Orth reported the Southern San Joaquin Valley Water Quality Coalition (South Valley Coalition) met on June 4<sup>th</sup> to consider the amendments to the MOU to include Third Parties formed for purposes of ILRP implementation. The Kings River Coalition, as a Third Party, may remain a member of the South Valley Coalition to coordinate on ILRP related issues, and Kings River Conservation District and the Kings River Water Association will be given a pathway to withdraw their memberships before the end of the current fiscal year.

### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

It was moved by Director Desatoff, and seconded by Director Bricker, and unanimously approved, the meeting Minutes from the April 15, 2014 Special meeting of the Kings River Watershed Coalition Authority as presented.

**(VOTE: YES-** ALTA IRRIGATION DISTRICT - Director Norman Waldner  
 CORCORAN IRRIGATION CO. - Director Walter Bricker  
 CONSOLIDATED IRRIGATION DISTRICT, Alternate Phil Desatoff  
 CRESENT CANAL COMPANY - Director Mark McKean  
 EMPIRE WEST SIDE IRRIGATION DISTRICT-Director John Howe  
 FRESNO IRRIGATION DISTRICT - Alternate Gary Serrato  
 JOHN HEINLEN MUTUAL WATER COMPANY - Alternate Ronnie Silva  
 KINGS RIVER CONSERVATION DISTRICT - Director Mark McKean/Alternate David Orth  
 KINGS RIVER WATER DISTRICT - Director Jack Paxton  
 LAGUNA IRRIGATION DISTRICT - Director Frank Zonneveld/Alternate Scott Sills  
 LAST CHANCE WATER DITCH CO. - Director Walter Bricker  
 LEMOORE CANAL AND IRRIGATION CO. - Alternate Ronnie Silva  
 LIBERTY CANAL CO. - Alternate Mike Nordstrom  
 LOVELACE WATER CORP. - Director Walter Bricker/Alternate Mark Unruh  
 PEOPLES DITCH CO. - Director Walter Bricker  
 REED DITCH CO. - Director Mark McKean  
 RIVERDALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT - Director Leonard Acquistapace,  
 SOUTHEAST LAKE WATER CO. - Director Walter Bricker/ Alternate Mark Unruh  
 STRATFORD IRRIGATION DISTRICT- Alternate Charles Meyer  
 TULARE LAKE BASIN WATER STORAGE DIST - Director Walter Bricker  
 TULARE LAKE CANAL CO. - Director Walter Bricker/Alternate Mark Unruh  
 UPPER SAN JOSE WATER CO. - Director Mike Nordstrom  
**VOTE: NO-** None, **VOTE: ABSTAIN:** None)

### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Mr. Shilling presented an expenditure-to-budget comparison report and a report on the bills paid for the period ending May 31, 2014.

It was moved by Director Bricker and seconded by Director Paxton, to accept the financial report as presented.

**(VOTE: YES-** ALTA IRRIGATION DISTRICT - Director Norman Waldner  
 CORCORAN IRRIGATION CO. - Director Walter Bricker  
 CONSOLIDATED IRRIGATION DISTRICT, Alternate Phil Desatoff  
 CRESENT CANAL COMPANY - Director Mark McKean

EMPIRE WEST SIDE IRRIGATION DISTRICT-Director John Howe  
 FRESNO IRRIGATION DISTRICT – Alternate Gary Serrato  
 JOHN HEINLEN MUTUAL WATER COMPANY - Alternate Ronnie Silva  
 KINGS RIVER CONSERVATION DISTRICT - Director Mark McKean/Alternate David Orth  
 KINGS RIVER WATER DISTRICT - Director Jack Paxton  
 LAGUNA IRRIGATION DISTRICT - Director Frank Zonneveld/Alternate Scott Sills  
 LAST CHANCE WATER DITCH CO. - Director Walter Bricker  
 LEMOORE CANAL AND IRRIGATION CO. - Alternate Ronnie Silva  
 LIBERTY CANAL CO. - Alternate Mike Nordstrom  
 LOVELACE WATER CORP. - Director Walter Bricker/Alternate Mark Unruh  
 PEOPLES DITCH CO. - Director Walter Bricker  
 REED DITCH CO. - Director Mark McKean  
 RIVERDALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT - Director Leonard Acquistapace,  
 SOUTHEAST LAKE WATER CO. - Director Walter Bricker/ Alternate Mark Unruh  
 STRATFORD IRRIGATION DISTRICT- Alternate Charles Meyer  
 TULARE LAKE BASIN WATER STORAGE DIST - Director Walter Bricker  
 TULARE LAKE CANAL CO. - Director Walter Bricker/Alternate Mark Unruh  
 UPPER SAN JOSE WATER CO. - Director Mike Nordstrom  
**VOTE: NO-** None, **VOTE: ABSTAIN:** None)

## **2014-15 BUDGET**

Mr. Shilling presented an overview of the proposed Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Budget, associated fee schedule, and a Cash Position Report through the 2018 fiscal year and then answered related questions.

Mr. Creamer discussed the staff's analysis of tier rates based on surface water and groundwater, and/or high and low vulnerability areas. Staff's recommendation to the board was that distinguishing surface and groundwater members from groundwater only members would be a less desired approach and that a high and low vulnerability tier would be a favored approach if the board does decide that a tiered dues structure is appropriate. The ability to tier dues based on high and low vulnerability would only be an option after the Regional Board approves the Coalition's Groundwater Assessment Report (GAR), which is expected prior to the next fiscal year.

After some discussion, it was moved by Director Bricker and seconded by Director Paxton, approving the 2014-15 Budget as presented, with a Landowner Program flat rate of \$1.40 per acre, and authorizing staff to invoice landowners these rates plus the State Water Resources Control Board per acre fee once it is established.

**(VOTE: YES-** ALTA IRRIGATION DISTRICT - Director Norman Waldner  
 CORCORAN IRRIGATION CO. - Director Walter Bricker  
 CONSOLIDATED IRRIGATION DISTRICT, Alternate Phil Desatoff  
 CRESENT CANAL COMPANY - Director Mark McKean  
 EMPIRE WEST SIDE IRRIGATION DISTRICT-Director John Howe  
 FRESNO IRRIGATION DISTRICT – Alternate Gary Serrato  
 JOHN HEINLEN MUTUAL WATER COMPANY - Alternate Ronnie Silva  
 KINGS RIVER CONSERVATION DISTRICT - Director Mark McKean/Alternate David Orth  
 KINGS RIVER WATER DISTRICT - Director Jack Paxton  
 LAGUNA IRRIGATION DISTRICT - Director Frank Zonneveld/Alternate Scott Sills  
 LAST CHANCE WATER DITCH CO. - Director Walter Bricker  
 LEMOORE CANAL AND IRRIGATION CO. - Alternate Ronnie Silva  
 LIBERTY CANAL CO. - Alternate Mike Nordstrom

LOVELACE WATER CORP. - Director Walter Bricker/Alternate Mark Unruh  
PEOPLES DITCH CO. - Director Walter Bricker  
REED DITCH CO. - Director Mark McKean  
RIVERDALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT - Director Leonard Acquistapace,  
SOUTHEAST LAKE WATER CO. - Director Walter Bricker/ Alternate Mark Unruh  
STRATFORD IRRIGATION DISTRICT- Alternate Charles Meyer  
TULARE LAKE BASIN WATER STORAGE DIST - Director Walter Bricker  
TULARE LAKE CANAL CO. - Director Walter Bricker/Alternate Mark Unruh  
UPPER SAN JOSE WATER CO. - Director Mike Nordstrom  
**VOTE: NO-** None, **VOTE: ABSTAIN:** None)

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, President McKean adjourned the meeting at 12:45 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

David Orth  
Secretary/Treasurer

---

Approved