

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Kings River Watershed Coalition Authority (Kings River Coalition) held October 20, 2015. 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 11:25 a.m.

DIRECTORS / ALTERNATES PRESENT (20 of 27 Members Present)

CLARK'S FORK RECLAMATION DISTRICT #2069- Director Clarence Lima
 CONSOLIDATED IRRIGATION DISTRICT- Director Larry Cruff, Alternate Director Phil Desatoff
 CORCORAN IRRIGATION CO.- Proxy Mark Unruh
 CRESCENT CANAL COMPANY – Director Mark McKean
 FRESNO IRRIGATION DISTRICT - Alternate Director Gary Serrato
 JOHN HEINLEN MUTUAL WATER CO.- Alternate Director Ronnie Silva
 JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT - Alternate Director Steve Stadler
 KINGS RIVER CONSERVATION DISTRICT - Alternate Director Mark McKean
 LAGUNA IRRIGATION DISTRICT- Director Frank Zonneveld, Alternate Scott Sills
 LAST CHANCE WATER DITCH CO. - Proxy Mark Unruh
 LEMOORE CANAL & DITCH CO. - Ronnie Silva
 LIBERTY CANAL CO. - Director Mike Nordstrom
 LIBERTY MILL RACE CO. - Alternate Director Rodney Kamper
 LOVELACE WATER CORPORATION - Alternate Director Mark Unruh
 PEOPLES DITCH CO. - Proxy Mark Unruh
 REED DITCH CO. – Director Mark McKean
 RIVERDALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT - Director Leonard Acquistapace, Alt. Director Mike Nordstrom
 SOUTHEAST LAKE WATER CO. - Alternate Director Mark Unruh
 TULARE LAKE BASIN WATER STORAGE DIST- Proxy Mark Unruh
 TULARE LAKE CANAL CO. - Alternate Director Mark Unruh
 UPPER SAN JOSE WATER CO. - Director Mike Nordstrom

OTHERS PRESENT

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Eric Athorp, KRCD | Brian Trevarrow, KRCD |
| Casey Creamer, Coordinator | Randy Shilling, Treasurer |
| Rick Hoelzel, KRCD | Bill Stretch, Fresno Irrigation District |
| Donna Pepper, KRCD | |
| Cristel Tufenkjian, KRCD | |

ADDITION TO OR DELETION FROM THE AGENDA: None

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS: None

REPORTS

Policy Updates: Casey Creamer, Coalition Coordinator, updated the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board), Region 5 on the vacant seat left by Jenny Lester Moffitt. Mr. Creamer reported a letter from the Southern San Joaquin Valley Water Quality Coalition, on behalf of the Kings Coalition, was sent in support of James L. Sullins, for the appointment, however the Regional Board is seeking someone from the Sacramento Valley area and Mr. Sullins is from the Central Valley.

Nitrogen Management Plan Technical Advisory Work Group (NMP TAWG): Mr. Creamer reported on a meeting between the Coalition groups and the TAWG which was held on September 4th. The focus of the meeting was to decide on a metric to be presented to the full group as the recommended method for the NMP Summary Report. Several options, including Nitrogen Applied/Nitrogen Removed (A\R), Nitrogen Applied/Yield (A/Y), and A/R were evaluated by Michael L. Johnson and Associates. The conclusion was that A/R as recommended by the Expert Panel and the A/Y as proposed by the Kings Coalition are equivalent metrics for grower reporting. As the Removal is not scientifically known for many of the crops in the Central Valley the Applied/Yield ratio was determined to be the best available option and thus the recommendation from the participants as the preferred metric. Mr. Creamer further reported the full NMP TAWG committee met on September 21st and reviewed the recommended metric from the Coalitions and as a group supported the A/Y metric as the recommendation.

Mr. Creamer also reported a Stakeholders meeting for the CV-SALTS Alta Archetype was held on October 15th, and a follow-up meeting is scheduled for November.

Outreach: Cristel Tufenkjian reported grower workshops are schedule for October through February educating growers on the Farm Evaluation form and Nitrogen Management Plan. Ms. Tufenkjian stated that if any board members would like to schedule workshops for their growers they should contact her.

Alta Isotope Study: Rick Hoelzel presented and update of the Alta Isotope Study. Mr. Hoelzel reported Lawrence Livermore National Laboratories (LLNL) is close to completion of the initial analyses of the study, including nitrate, chloride and sulfate concentrations, isotopic compositions of nitrate nitrogen and oxygen, and isotopic composition of water oxygen and hydrogen. LLNL is in the process of selecting eight (8) wells of the 20 wells sampled for tritium/helium-3 to age date the sample. The eight wells selected will comprise an east to west transect which includes one well that has high anion concentrates and conductivity. It was noted that a tomato processing facility was active in this area some 20 years ago. It was also suggested to include in the suite of wells a relatively new constructed well drilled to bedrock. When this well was constructed, water samples collected indicated nitrate levels below the maximum contaminant limit (MCL). Samples extracted from this well indicate levels just above the MCL. Sample tests for tritium/helium-3 are expected to be completed by the middle of October.

ACTION ITEMS

Minutes of the August 18, 2015 meeting

It was moved by Director Serrato, and seconded by Director Zonneveld, and unanimously approved, the meeting Minutes from the August 18, 2015 meeting of the Kings River Watershed Coalition Authority as presented.

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 No-None)

Financial Report

Brian Trevarrow, Assistant Treasurer, presented an expense to budget comparison report for the period ending September 30, 2015 for FY 2015-16.

It was moved by Director Serrato, and seconded by Director Nordstrom , and unanimously approved, the expense to budget comparison report for the period ending September 30, 2015 for FY 2014-15 as presented.

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 No-None)

MPEP Contractor Technical Services Agreement

Mr. Creamer presented an overview of the Waste Discharge Requirements General Order for Growers within the Tulare Lake Basin Area (Order R5-2013-0120). Mr. Creamer reported the Order requires the Third-party Groups to develop and implement a Management Practices Evaluation Program (MPEP). The goal of the MPEP is to determine the effects, if any, irrigated agricultural practices have on first encountered groundwater under different conditions that could affect the discharge of waste from irrigated lands to groundwater in high vulnerability groundwater areas.

The Order allows Third-party Groups to fulfill the MPEP requirements individually or jointly with other Third-party Groups. Timelines for the development of a MPEP workplan and the implementation of the plan are given an additional year if the Third-party Group is undertaking the Group Option.

The Order also requires identification of the technical experts who will prepare and implement the work plans and their qualifications. To satisfy this requirement, the participants in the agreement prepared a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for a Technical Consultant to prepare and implement the work plan on behalf of the group.

After completion of the RFQ and an extensive interview process, the participants selected Dr. John Dickey of PlanTierra LLC, as the Technical Consultant for the group. PlanTierra has prepared a standard client/contractor Technical Services Agreement in order to conduct the necessary consulting work on behalf of the participants. The Technical Services Agreement has been reviewed by legal counsel.

It was moved by Director Zonneveld, and seconded by Director Kamper, and unanimously approved, authorizing the Board President and/or his designee to execute on behalf of Kings River Watershed Coalition Authority, the MPEP Technical Services Agreement with PlanTierra, LLC, and the other group participants.

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CV-SALTS/Antidegradation Policy Cost Share Agreement

Mr. Creamer presented an overview of the revised Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for participation in the Central Valley Salinity Alternatives for Long-term Sustainability (CV-SALTS) and legal representation in the activities of the State Water Resources Control Board's potential revision of the Antidegradation Policy.

Mr. Creamer reported a compromise between acreage and equal share contribution was reached by the Buena Vista Coalition, the Kaweah Basin Water Quality Coalition, the Kern River Watershed Coalition Authority, the Kings River Watershed Coalition Authority, and the Tule Basin Water Quality Coalition through a MOU that was approved by the Kings Coalition Board on February 17, 2015.

The first fiscal year of the cost share agreement ended on September 30, 2015. During budget discussions for the 2015-2016 fiscal year, Buena Vista Coalition advised the participants that they were no longer going to participate in the cost share agreement. With the withdrawal of one of the parties the MOU will be revised and a revision to the cost share allocations needed to be renegotiated.

The following budget and cost share arrangement was agreed to by the participating entities representatives pending approval from each of the entities board of directors:

| Coalition | Percentage | Amount |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Kings River WQC | 33.33% | \$26,664 |
| Kaweah Basin WQA | 16.67% | \$13,336 |
| Kern River WCA | 33.33% | \$26,664 |
| Tule Basin WQC | 16.67% | \$13,336 |
| Buena Vista Coalition | 0 | \$0 |
| Total | 100% | \$80,000 |

Mr. Creamer noted a final revised and amended cost share agreement has been reviewed by legal counsel.

It was moved by Director Serrato, and seconded by Director Cruff, and unanimously approved, authorizing the President and/or his designee to sign the Amended and Restated cost share agreement for CV-SALTS and the Antidegradation Policy.

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No -None)**

4Creeks Database Management Agreement

Mr. Creamer presented an overview of the data management agreement with 4Creeks Engineering of Visalia, California. 4Creeks serves as the technical lead for the Tule Basin Water Quality Coalition and in that capacity, they developed a database management system utilizing Microsoft SQL. The system was developed in order to minimize staffing and administrative costs to the Tule Basin Water Quality Coalition and has been in use for two membership cycles.

The online database management system offers administrative features for Coalition staff such as adding and subtracting members, adding or deleting APN's, membership invoicing, and an online dashboard for displaying key statistics among other features. The system also allows members to create user accounts to manage their membership information and complete reporting requirements and is integrated with the Tule Basin Coalition website.

During discussions with Coalition groups on coordinating data management in order to streamline grower reporting, Kings Coalition staff were approached with possibility of using the system that was being used by the Tule Basin Water Quality Coalition. Staff investigated the database proposed by 4Creeks and has also reviewed database systems used by the East San Joaquin Valley Water Quality Coalition and one being developed for the Kern River Watershed Coalition Authority and the Kaweah Basin Water Quality Association. Staff's review identified the

4Creeks database management system as the preferred system because it has been demonstrated in operation, its use of existing software, and its consistency with the Kings Coalition's needs in implementation of the General Order.

A Proposal from 4Creeks sets an initial license fee of \$15,000 and will charge time and materials for converting the Coalition's existing database system, staff training, and customization. The anticipated costs are within the Kings Coalition's 2015-2016 Budget. An annual renewal fee similar to the initial license fee will be assessed upon completion of the beta phase. A Master Service Agreement has been prepared which outlines the Provider and Customer responsibilities, representations, warranties, and limitations of liabilities.

It was moved by Director Kamper, and seconded by Director Zonneveld, and unanimously approved, authorizing the Board President and/or his designee to execute on behalf of Kings River Watershed Coalition Authority, the Online Database Management Agreement in its substantial form with 4Creeks upon acceptance of final contract terms and legal counsel review.

After some discussion, an amended motion was made by Director Serrato, and seconded by Director Stadler, and unanimously approved, to include language in the final Online Database Management Agreement to reflect the fees charged by 4Creeks Engineering are not to exceed \$50,000 for coalition expenses on data management with 4Creeks during the 2015-2016 fiscal year.

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 No -None)

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, President McKean adjourned the meeting at 12:17 P.M.

Approved: _____
 President

Attest: _____
 Vice President