

JPA Special Board Meeting Minutes
Kern Groundwater Authority
Wednesday, May 18, 2016

JPA DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES AND ALTERNATES PRESENT

Dave Fenn, Cawelo, Cawelo WD
Michael James, City of Shafter
Royce Fast & Marty Milobar, KCWA
Supervisor Couch, County of Kern
Rich Tillema & Kevin Antongiovanni, Kern Delta WD
Andrew Pandol, Kern-Tulare WD
Bill Taube and Kim Brown, Kern Water Bank Authority
Kevin Andrew, North Kern Water Storage District
Jeff Siemens, Olcese WD
Jason Selvidge & Gary Unruh, Rosedale-Rio Bravo WSD
Rick Wegis, Semitropic WSD
Jim Regan, SSJMUD
Roger Riley, Shafter-Wasco ID
Gary Morris, West Kern WD
Michael Blaine & George Cappello, Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa WSD

JPA DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES AND ALTERNATES ABSENT

Kevin Pascoe, Arvin-Edison WSD
Dennis Atkinson, Tejon-Castaic WD
Joe MacIlvaine, Westside District Water Authority

OTHERS PRESENT

Steve Collup & Jeevan Muhar, Arvin-Edison WSD
Maurice Etchechury, Buena Vista WSD
Dave Ansolabehere, Cawelo WD
Dave Hampton, Cawelo WD
Dave Beard, ID4
Mark Mulkay, Kern Delta WD
Steve Dalke, Kern-Tulare WD
Jon Parker, Kern Water Bank Authority
Eric Averett, Rosedale-Rio Bravo WSD
Lori Honea, Rosedale-Rio Bravo WSD
Jason Gianquinto, Semitropic WSD
Harry Starkey, West Kern WD
Greg Hammett, Westside District Water Authority
Deborah Wordham, Best, Best & Krieger
Jonathan Lilien, Chevron
Steve Teglia, City of Bakersfield
T. Mark Smith, Clifford & Brown

Dee Jaspar, Dee Jaspar & Associates
Larry Rodriguez & Tim Gobler, GEI Consultants
John Ayres, GEI Consultants
Patty Poire, Grimmway Farms
Alan Christensen, Kern County
Greg Fenton, Kern County
Florn Core, Kern County
Phil Hall, Kern County
Beatris Sanders, Kern County Farm Bureau
Jeff Rasmussen, Kern County Farm Bureau
Holly Melton, KCWA
Gene Lundquist, ID4
Joe Hughes, Klein Law
Ravi Patel, Klein Law
Robert Kuhs, Kuhs Parker Law
Jon Reiter, Maricopa Orchards
Alex Shafer, Materra Farming
Patrick Mize, North Kern WSD
Doug Nunneley, Oildale Water
Pres Brittian, Pacific Resources
Jeff Eklund, Provost & Pritchard
Bret Sill, Sill Properties
Todd Turley, South Valley Farms
Angelica Martin, Tejon-Castaic WD
Sunny Kapoor, West Kern WD
Wendy Rosenberger, West Kern WSD
Tom Suggs, Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa WSD
Robert Goff, Wonderful Orchards
Ernest Conant, Young Wooldridge
Doug Gosling, Young Wooldridge
Scott Kuney, Young Wooldridge
Devon Yurosek, Yurosek Farming
Don Wright
Sheridan Nicholas
Joe Ashley, via conference call

1. **Call to Order** – Director Couch called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m. after it was confirmed there was a quorum. He announced we meet the threshold under the JPA and will be operating under it.
2. **Public Comments** – There was discussion in regard to the County filing their own GSA at their June 7th Board of Supervisors public meeting. Director Couch informed the Board and audience that this GSA filing won't act upon the entire Basin; it was only filed for the undistracted areas. The County isn't filing to be the only GSA for Kern and it won't usurp the roles of the other Districts.

There was a lot of discussion from various Directors and audience members regarding this subject. Mr. Averett stressed the following points:

1. There is value in everyone working together
2. The KGA was formed to have a GSA with “chapters” under it
3. The deadline is 03/2017 to form a GSA
4. The GSP Plan is the important piece – everyone needs to work together and agree under this aspect

3. **Minutes** – A motion was made by Director Riley and seconded by Director Selvidge to approve the April 27, 2016 special board meeting minutes. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously carried.

4. **Treasurer’s Report** –

a. **Accounts Payable/Receivable** - Mr. Mize, Controller for North Kern WSD, presented the Treasurers Report to the Authority Board. A motion was made by Director Andrew and seconded by Director Taube to accept the Treasurer’s Report and authorize disbursements of the accounts payable as of April, 2016. The motion was unanimously carried.

b. **Bank Change Memo** – Mr. Mize reported that NKWSD has moved its banking relationship from Rabobank to Valley Republic Bank. Since NKWSD is the Fiscal Agent for the KGA it would make sense for consistency and ease of administration to move KGA’s account to Valley Republic as well. A motion was made by Director Taube and seconded by Director Riley to approve the transfer of banking services from Rabobank to Valley Republic Bank and authorize North Kern Water Storage District Management to execute any forms necessary to facilitate the transfer. The motion was unanimously carried.

Mr. Mize reported that NKWSD believes that the KGA should specifically designate authorized signers for the KGA checking account. After discussion, the Board would like this to be discussed/approved at the next board meeting after NKWSD puts together a proposal together.

5. **Groundwater Management Work Plan**

a. **GEI Update** – Mr. Rodriguez reviewed the Activity Report from GEI with the Authority Board. This report summarized activities performed by GEI Consultants, Inc. during the month of April, 2016. He reported on the following activities they’ve been working on:

Continued work on TO #'s 4, 6-9.

TO #4 – no report

TO #6 – Assisted KC with grant agreement information for DWR.

TO #7 – GEI’s CY 2016 KGA work

i. Project Management

ii. KGA Meetings

TO #8 – Coordination White Papers

- i. Work on a white papers summary document
 - ii. Developed a coordination items presentation for review with Coordination Committee
- TO #9 – DWR Agricultural Water Use Efficiency Grant
- i. Final review and submittal of grant application and backup documents
1. **Water District/Basin Boundary Modification Map(s)** - will be discussed during Workshop immediately following this meeting.
 2. **Workshop on Draft White Paper(s)** – will be discussed during Workshop immediately following this meeting.

b. **Committee Reports**

1. **Urban Committee Report** – Mr. Beard reported the committee will meet on 05/19. No other report.
 - a. **Consideration of new committee chair** – Mr. Starkey from West Kern WD will take over as committee chair.
2. **Coordination Committee** – Mr. Mulkey reported the committee met on 05/09. The topics of discussion included:
 - Future Board Workshop
 - ii. Would like to put together additional workshops on contentious items – setting up GSA’s, etc. – later this summer
 - Reviewed 05/18 Workshop presentation
 - Future GEI work plan going forward – GEI will present TO at next meeting
 - Governance Reports
 - GSP’s

The next meeting is scheduled for 06/06/2016.

- b. **Consideration of new committee chair** – No action.

6. **Discussion on Approach to Implementation of Groundwater Regulations**

- a. **DWR Draft Groundwater Sustainability Plan Regulations**– Mr. Averett reported that the regulation changes made are “positive.” DWR received roughly 100 comments and they’ve incorporated most of them. The biggest issue that was changed – Eliminated the “single point of contact” for a Coordinating Agency. Other changes included:

1. **Every plan** must describe Basin
2. Groundwater model for sustainability
 - a. Must have narrative for coordination
3. Eliminated best management practices – more flexibility
4. Groundwater elevation – implemented comments
5. Land Use Plans – optional requirement now
6. One Model – characterizes whole Basin

7. Water Budget – estimate of safe yield
8. Triggers that may cause undesirable results designation
9. DWR timeline to review – 2 year window
10. DWR removed “conflict resolution” language
- b. **Update on DWR Funding Request** – Mr. Averett reported that he spoke with David Gutierrez at ACWA regarding hosting workshops. Legal briefings will be prepared and will be brought back to the Board to reduce any conflicts. DWR is willing to fund at least \$50K for facilitation. We need to provide a scope of work for DWR funding. DWR said they would be open to funding mediation. Mr. Averett reported that he has reached out to four different groups outside of the Basin regarding this and will discuss further at the June board meeting.
7. **Retention of Legal Counsel** – No recommendations yet. Mr. Averett reported that they interviewed a candidate and that the second interview has been rescheduled before the June meeting. He is hoping to have a recommendation by the June board meeting.
8. **Coordination Activities**
 - a. **SB4** – No report.
 - b. **CASGEM** – No report
 - c. **AB1390** – No report
9. **Old or New Business** - none.
10. **Attorney(s) Report** – No report
11. **Adjournment** – Director Couch adjourned the special board meeting at 9:07 a.m. to resume at 9:08 a.m. for the Kern Groundwater Authority Workshop.

Director Couch adjourned the Workshop at 10:30 a.m.