

**SOUTHWEST KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY
AGENCY
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
MINUTES
July 28, 2020**

The Board of Directors of the Southwest Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency met in the second-floor conference room, 944 Whitley Avenue, Corcoran, California, on Tuesday, July 28, 2020 at the hour of 10:00 a.m.

Chair Steve Jackson presided and Executive Director Jackson kept the minutes.

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Steve Jackson
Mark Grewal
Kimberly Brown
Bernard Puget
Jim Wilson

DIRECTORS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Pam Silkwood, General Counsel, Horan Lloyd
Rusty Areias, California Strategies
Sonja Theide, KRCD
Riley Jones, Tulare Lake Compost
Michael Cuttone, Cuttone & Mastro
Ann Heil, LA County Sanitation District

Chair Jackson called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None offered

CONSENT CALENDAR

- 1-3.** Upon the motion of Director Grewal and the second of Director Wilson, the following items on the consent calendar were approved. (5-0-0)
1. Minutes of the Special Board Meeting held on June 17, 2020.
 2. Warrants and Finances (06/01/20 – 07/23/20)
 3. Treasurer's Report

PUBLIC HEARING

4. Public Hearing to Consider the 2021 Land-Based Assessment Rate and Invite Public Comment on the Establishment of the 2021 Assessment Rate.

The public hearing opened at 10:07 AM.

Public Comment:

After reviewing the Resolution 20-01 counsel suggested removing Section 1, referring to collections, before approval. Mr. Jones related that the County of Kings would bear the responsibility of delinquency collections.

No other public comments were received.

The public hearing closed at 10:13 AM.

a. Consider for adoption Resolution No. 20-01 SOUTHWEST KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY RESOLUTION STATING THE POWERS OF A JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY TO FIX AND COLLECT CHARGES ON THE 2020-21 YEAR KINGS COUNTY TAX ROLL.

On the motion of Director Brown and the Second of Director Grewal, the Board adopted the amended Resolution 20-01, removing Section 1. (5-0-0)

b. Consider for adoption Resolution No. 20-02 A RESOLUTION OF THE SOUTHWEST KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY APPROVING THE LEVYING OF THE 2020-2021 ASSESSMENTS.

Upon the motion of Director Puget and the Second of Director Wilson, the Board adopted the Resolution. (5-0-0)

ACTION CALENDAR

5. Consider for adoption Resolution No. 20-03 A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SOUTHWEST KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY AUTHORIZING ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES IN THE LOCAL AGENCY INVESTMENT FUND.

Resolution 20-03 was created to update the signatories to the fund and agency's address. Upon the motion of Director Grewal and the Second of Director Brown, the Board adopted Resolution 20-03. (5-0-0)

6. Consider for approval the **SOUTHWEST KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019.**

Mr. Cutone presented the 2019 Audit to the Board of Directors. No discrepancies or management issues were found and the agency received a clean report. Upon the motion of Director Grewal and the second of Director Wilson, the Board approved the Auditor's Report. (5-0-0)

Note: The Board of Directors asked to consider Item 8 before considering item 7.

8. Consider for approval **CALIFORNIA STRATEGIES & ADVOCACY CONTRACT.**

David Armanasco and Rusty Areias presented the California Strategies Proposal for SWKGSA and TCWA. After discussion, it was decided that the Board would form an ad hoc committee to help inform California Strategies of the GSAs' goals and objectives and to hear updates from the Cal Strategy's team on developments. Director Jackson and Director Brown volunteered to serve on the committee. The signatories to the contract, TCWA and SWKGSA, approved a 70/30 split, with SWKGSA agreeing to 30% of the contracted cost. Upon the motion of Director Grewal and the second of Director Wilson, the Board approved the contract. (5-0-0)

7. Consider for adoption **Southwest Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency 2021 Draft Budget.**

After Board discussion and consideration, and upon the motion of Director Grewal and the second of Director Brown, the Board adopted the 2021 draft budget. (5-0-0)

* Director Brown left the meeting

9. Consider for approval **KINGS RIVER CONSERVATION DISTRICT ELEVATION MONITORING COST-SHARING AGREEMENT.**

Sonja Thiede provided a presentation showing the current work being performed by KRCD to collect subsidence data. The agreement between GSAs within the Tulare Lake Subbasin and the Kings Subbasin would provide KRCD with the funding necessary to complete yearly data collections and reporting. Upon the motion of Director Grewal and the second of Director Wilson, the Board decided to approve the agreement pending final legal review. (4-0-1)

10. Consider for discussion and approval **Mid Kings River GSA's call for funds for payment of Tulare Lake Subbasin's outstanding invoices due to cash flow disruption of the Round 2 SGMA Grant Money disbursements.**

Grant funding has been delayed due to Covid and bridge funding is necessary to meet the outstanding obligations. The funds will likely be reimbursed to the GSA when the Grant payments are received by MKRGSA. Upon the motion of Director Grewal and the second of Director Puget, the Board authorized the payment. (4-0-1)

11. Consider for discussion and possible action to amend Southwest Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency's Bylaws.

Amendments to the bylaws update include the office location and contact information for the Agency as well as the meeting times and frequencies. Upon the motion of Director Wilson and the second of Director Puget, the Board approved the action to amend the Bylaws by the following roll call vote:

Jackson	Puget	Grewal	Wilson	Brown
Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Absent

COMMUNICATIONS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

12. **Director's Reports/Comments/Suggestions**

None.

13. **Reports of General Interest**

1.) Tulare Lake Subbasin Update – Deanna Jackson

The annual report for the Subbasin has been uploaded to the portal. The Tulare Lake Subbasin managers set regular meeting dates to discuss the implementation of the GSP. The Subbasin GSAs will consider forming an operations agreement, or a coordination agreement, to guide the implementation process.

2.) Legal Counsel Report – Pam Silkwood

None.

3.) Other Updates, as appropriate

Director Grewal mentioned the passing of Jack Woolf. The members of the Board expressed their condolences.


The meeting was adjourned at 11:17 AM.

ADJOURNMENT

14. There being no further business to come before the Board on the occasion of the July 28, 2020 meeting, Director Jackson adjourned the meeting until the next Regular Meeting to

be held on October 2, 2020 at 10:00 a.m., at 944 Whitley Avenue, Corcoran or as otherwise directed by the Board.

Attest:



Kimberly M. Brown, Secretary-Treasurer



Steve Jackson, Chair