

SOUTHWEST KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

December 4, 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 Friday, December 4, 2020, at the hour of 9:00 a.m. Per Executive Order N-29-20, the meeting was conducted via Zoom.

Chair Jackson presided and Executive Director Jackson kept the minutes.

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Steve Jackson
Mark Grewal
Kim Brown
Jim Wilson

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Bernard Puget

OTHERS PRESENT: Deanna Jackson, Executive Director
Staci Wilkins, Administrative Assistant
David Armanasco, California Strategies
Rusty Areias, California Strategies
Riley Jones, Tulare Lake Compost
Karen Ormsby, Grand Jury
Cody Tolbert, Chevron
Antonio Solorio
Ashley Goldsmith

Chairman Jackson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT - None offered

CONSENT CALENDAR

Upon the motion of Director Grewal and seconded by Director Brown, the Consent Calendar was unanimously approved. (4-0)

1. Minutes of the October 2, 2020, Regular Board Meeting.
2. Warrants and Finances (9/29/2020 – 11/30/20)
3. Treasurer's Report

ACTION CALENDAR

4. Liability Insurance for Southwest Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency.

Executive Director Jackson reported that quotes were being obtained to put General Liability and Public Officials Liability insurance in place since it had been discussed in previous years but never purchased. At the time of the meeting, only one firm quote had been received and at least one other was in process. Both Director Grewal and Director Brown suggested pursuing a quote from ACWA and all agreed that this type of insurance is essential. In order for the GSA to qualify for ACWA membership, at least one of the signatories to the JPIA must be a member, and Dudley Ridge Water District is a qualifying member.

No action was taken but direction was given Executive Director Jackson to firm up a quote with ACWA and if necessary, to hold a special meeting to pass a resolution in order to join.

5. Consider for discussion and possible action to approve the **Land IQ Scope of Work Proposal** for calculation of ET consumptive use in the Tulare Lake Subbasin.

Executive Director Jackson reported that Land IQ is working with other GSA's to provide valuable data obtained from satellite imagery for field-by-field evapotranspiration (ET) (consumptive use). The Land IQ Proposal included 2021 data and/or a historical review for 2020. The Directors discussed the options and preferred to approve a contract for 2021 data only. The Directors will review the data to determine if the analysis would be of benefit to Southwest Kings GSA going forward. The contract does not include undeveloped land. Cost for one year would be \$13,278 (\$.65/acre/year) for limited stations.

On the motion of Director Grewal and seconded by Director Wilson, the Board voted unanimously to approve the proposal for a one-year contract. (4-0)

6. Consider for discussion and possible action to approve a **Letter of Support for Tri-County Water Authority's Liberty Project.**

Executive Director Jackson presented a draft copy of a letter to support Tri-County Water Authority's Liberty Project. This project would be working in conjunction with Tulare Lake Subbasin to coordinate the use of Proposition 68 grant funds, totaling approximately \$2.5 million. Almost all of the GSA's within Tulare County will be submitting grant applications for projects and it will be a very competitive process.

On the motion of Director Brown and seconded by Director Grewal, the Board voted to approve putting forth a letter from Southwest Kings GSA to support the project. (4-0)

COMMUNICATIONS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

7. **Director's Reports/Comments/Suggestion**

None

8. **Reports of General Interest**

1) Tulare Lake Subbasin Update – Deanna Jackson

The subbasin will submit an application for Proposition 68 grant funding. Geosyntec will be the consultant writing the application on behalf of the subbasin. Projects to be included have yet to be determined.

The County of Tulare is providing well drilling applications to the GSA in which the well is being proposed for drilling and it would be good to work with Kings County to propose a similar action.

- 2) California Strategies – David Armanasco and Rusty Areias
David Armanasco and Rusty Arias reported on a recent meeting that was held with Governor Newsom. Most of the meeting was spent discussing how to handle COVID but he did make a few additional comments regarding items of importance. One of Governor's priorities was his Water Resiliency Portfolio and water projects for the Central Valley.
- 3) Legal Counsel Report – Deanna Jackson
Executive Director Jackson gave an update on Westlands Water District GSA. The current tolling agreement will be in place until the end of January, 2021, and it is likely to be extended. They will continue to collaborate inflow and outflow data sharing.
- 5) ~~Other updates as appropriate~~
Depending upon any conflicts with other meetings scheduled for February 5, 2021, the next meeting may have to be adjusted to start at 9:00 am. As we get closer to that time, notifications will be sent out for the correct time.

ADJOURNMENT

12. There being no further business to come before the Board on the occasion of December 4, 2020, meeting, Chair Jackson adjourned the meeting at 9:47 a.m. until the next Regular Meeting to be held on February 5, 2021 at 10:00 a.m., at 944 Whitley Avenue, Corcoran, or as otherwise directed by the Board.

Attest:



Kim Brown, Secretary/Treasurer



Steve Jackson, Chair