

**SOUTHWEST KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY
AGENCY
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MINUTES
June 4, 2021**

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, June 4, 2021, at the hour of 1:00 p.m. Per Executive Order N-29-20, the meeting was conducted via Zoom.

Chairman Jackson presided and Executive Director Jackson kept the minutes.

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Steve Jackson
Mark Grewal
Jim Wilson
Bernard Puget

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Kim Brown

OTHERS PRESENT: Deanna Jackson, Executive Director
Staci Wilkins, Executive Assistant
Jason Howard, McCormick Barstow
David Armanasco, California Strategies
Amer Hussain, Geosyntec
Riley Jones, Tulare Lake Compost
Zac Just
Kendrick (last name unavailable)

Chairman Jackson called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

POTENTIAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Chairman Jackson indicated that he would recuse himself during the voting on Item 7 due to a conflict of interest.

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

1. Minutes of the March 26, 2021, Regular Board Meeting

2. Warrants and Finances (3/17/2021 – 5/14/2021)
3. Treasurer's Report

ACTION CALENDAR

4. Consider for acceptance the resignation letter received for Pam Silkwood.

On the motion of Director Grewal and seconded by Director Puget, the Board voted to accept Ms. Silkwood's resignation. (4-0)
5. Consider for approval Agreement for Legal Services with McCormick Barstow to retain Jason Howard as General Counsel for Southwest Kings.

Executive Director Jackson introduced Mr. Howard and asked him to say a few words about himself.

On the motion of Director Grewal and seconded by Director Wilson, the Board voted to approve the Agreement for Legal Services. (4-0)
6. Consider for approval the Proposal for Engineering Support for Fiscal Year 2022, Tulare Lake Subbasin.

Amer Hussain presented the proposal for the Tulare Lake Subbasin support that was to be offered during 2022. All of the managers within the Subbasin were being asked to approve the proposal for their allotted share of the total cost of \$53,000. Geosyntec will also be the Point of Contact for the Subbasin.

On the motion of Director Puget and seconded by Director Wilson, the Board voted to approve the proposal for engineering support for 2022. (4-0)
7. Consider for approval moving financial accounts from Bank of America to Suncrest Bank.

Executive Director Jackson explained that Bank of America has been charging an excessive amount of fees for the agency's checking account. Suncrest Bank is willing to offer a no-fee account with a machine that can be maintained onsite for check deposits. The LAIF account will not be affected by changing the checking account to a different institution.

On the motion of Director Grewal and seconded by Director Wilson, the Board voted to direct staff to begin the process of establishing a new checking account with Suncrest Bank. (3-0-1)

COMMUNICATIONS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

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

Director Grewal noted that he had taken members of Geosyntec throughout the area to give them better understanding of Tulare Basin's conveyance systems.

9. **Reports of General Interest**

a) Tulare Lake Subbasin Update – Deanna Jackson/Amer Hussain

The Annual Report was submitted on April 1 for the entire Subbasin. It was noted that there was a change in storage of 35,000 AF. Amer noted that it is their goal to provide maps and reports to Boards throughout the year so they can see what's going on more often than once a year.

The DWR has just released the first set GSP comments for a few GSAs along the coast. We will hope to receive comments on our plan in the next few months.

The Governor's Budget shows \$300 million being made available for SGMA implementation (projects) and \$500 million for land repurposing. We will want to make sure that we have projects and policies in place to take advantage of these funds.

ACWA will be advocating for new conveyance and IRWM funds.

b) California Strategies – David Armanasco

GSP letters will be going out over the next few days for some of the plans submitted.

c) Other updates, as appropriate

None

ADJOURNMENT

12. There being no further business to come before the Board on the occasion of June 4, 2021, meeting, Chairman Jackson adjourned the meeting at 1:26 pm until the next Regular Meeting on August 6, 2021, at 944 Whitley Avenue, Corcoran, or as otherwise directed by the Board.

Attest:



Mark Grewal, Vice-Chairman



Steve Jackson, Chairman