

# SOUTHWEST KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES August 6, 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, August 6, 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  
Kim Brown  
Jim Wilson  
Bernard Puget

**DIRECTORS ABSENT:**

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Deanna Jackson, Executive Director  
Staci Wilkins, Executive Assistant  
Jason Howard, McCormick Barstow  
Amer Hussain, Geosyntec  
Riley Jones, Tulare Lake Compost  
Kiti Campbell, Westlands Water District

Chairman Jackson called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment

**CONSENT CALENDAR** (Agenda items 1 – 3)

Upon the motion of Director Grewal and seconded by Director Brown, the Consent Calendar consisting of Minutes of the June 4, 2021 Regular Board Meeting, Warrants and Finances dated between 05/15/2021 and 07/29/2021, and the Treasurer’s Report was approved as presented by the following roll call vote:

Brown	Wilson	Grewal	Puget	Jackson
Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye

**ACTION CALENDAR**

- Agenda item 4 was to review and consider for adoption the 2022 Budget for Southwest Kings GSA. Executive Director Jackson presented the proposed budget and reviewed the estimated starting and ending balances for 2022 based on an assessment rate of \$1.50/acre. After some discussion, Director Brown motioned to adopt the 2022 Budget and it was seconded by Director Grewal. The Directors voted as follows:

<b>Brown</b>	<b>Wilson</b>	<b>Grewal</b>	<b>Puget</b>	<b>Jackson</b>
Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye

- Agenda item 5 was to consider adoption of Resolution 21-01 A RESOLUTION OF THE SOUTHWEST KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY APPROVING THE LEVYING OF THE 2022 ASSESSMENTS. Executive Director Jackson indicated that the Board is able to assess up to \$5/acre but that there is plenty of money to work with in the budget and that \$1.50/acre would be her recommendation for the 2022 assessments. Director Grewal motioned to adopt Resolution 21-01 as presented which was seconded by Director Wilson. The Directors voted as follows:

<b>Brown</b>	<b>Wilson</b>	<b>Grewal</b>	<b>Puget</b>	<b>Jackson</b>
Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye

- Agenda item 6 was to consider for adoption Resolution 21-02 A RESOLUTION STATING THE POWERS OF A JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY TO FIX AND COLLECT CHARGES ON THE 2021-22 YEARS KINGS COUNTY TAX ROLL. Executive Director Jackson explained that this is a resolution that is required by Kings County to place assessments on their tax roll. Director Brown motioned to adopt Resolution 21-02 as presented which was seconded by Director Puget. The Directors voted as follows:

<b>Brown</b>	<b>Wilson</b>	<b>Grewal</b>	<b>Puget</b>	<b>Jackson</b>
Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye

**COMMUNICATIONS/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- **Director’s Reports/Comments/Suggestion** Agenda item 7

Director Grewal noted that he would be touring the area with the attorney for Reclamation District 761 on Tuesday, August 10.

- **Reports of General Interest** Agenda item 8

- a) California Strategies – Deanna Jackson

There was no representative available from California Strategies but Deanna noted that she and David Armanasco had recently discussed the proposed Equity Resolution put forth by the State Board and its impact on water.

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

Amer noted that we have still not have not received comments on the GSP from DWR and that they probably won't be received until closer to the end of the year. The Tulare Lake Subbasin will only receive one set of comments and the response will be for the entire subbasin. Geosyntec is contracted to respond to those comments once they are received within the 180-day period.

For the next annual report, fall water levels will be collected at the end of September from the two data points. Contour lines for the spring water collections are not yet available due to missing data from one of the other GSAs in the subbasin. From what they've seen so far, the results are not out of line of what they are expecting to see relative to data collected in 2020.

Westlands Water District and Tulare Lake Subbasin continue to exchange data on water levels that are being provided to DWR. No meetings or additional requests have been made.

DWR will be conducting Aerial Electromagnetic Surveys beginning in October at no cost to the GSA. It will be useful in identifying areas for groundwater recharge and is able to look approximately 1000' into the ground. The results will not be available for review until June or July, 2022.

Amer briefly mentioned an Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ACR) pilot program that is being done for South Fork Kings. It's a way of taking surface water and injecting it into a landowner's ag well for storage and then recovering it at a later time, such as when there is no longer water in the river. Beneficial during wet years, it may prove to be extremely useful during dry years when there's a limited supply of surface water. So far, the pilot program is going well and they will hopefully be able to share those results once the data is compiled and reviewed.

Deanna Jackson mentioned that Intrabasin coordination meetings will be continuing.

c) Legal Counsel Report – Jason Howard

Mr. Howard updated the Board on the upcoming expiration of Executive Order N-29-20 on September 30 which allows for meetings to be held via teleconference. Boards can continue to choose to offer the teleconference option for the public but Directors should be at the meetings. If not physically at the meetings, the location of the Director must be posted and available to the public. He did note that the State Legislature realizes how convenient this type of meeting format has become and may adjust the Brown Act in the future. For now, however, we will continue to follow the requirements of the Brown Act.

d) Other updates, as appropriate

None

## **ADJOURNMENT**

12. There being no further business to come before the Board on the occasion of August 6, 2021, meeting, Chairman Jackson adjourned the meeting at 1:30 pm until the next Regular Meeting on October 1, 2021, at 944 Whitley Avenue, Corcoran, or as otherwise directed by the Board.

Attest:

Handwritten signature of Kim Brown in blue ink, consisting of stylized initials and a surname.

Kim Brown, Secretary

Handwritten signature of Mark Grewal in blue ink, written in a cursive style.

Mark Grewal, Vice Chairman