MINUTES of the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Southwest Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency ("SWKGSA") held on December 11, 2019 at the office of the Agency, 286 W. Cromwell Avenue, Fresno, California.

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Kimberly Brown, Dudley Ridge Water District
Steven Jackson, White Area representative
Bernard Puget, Dudley Ridge Water District
Mark Grewal, Tulare Lake Reclamation District 761
Jim Wilson, Tulare Lake Reclamation District 761

DIRECTORS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Dale Melville, Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group
Joe Hopkins, Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group
Rick Besecker, Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group
Lauren Layne, Baker, Manock and Jensen (by phone)
Rebecca Quist, Kings River Conservation District
Antonio Solorio, Westlands Water District
Riley Jones, Tulare Lake Compost
Julianne Phillips, County of Kings
Mike Cuttone, Cuttone & Mastro, CPAs

Chair Brown called the Board meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.

MINUTES

Upon a motion by Director Puget and second by Director Jackson, the minutes from the October 18, 2019 special meeting of the Agency were approved as presented by the following vote:

Brown	Puget	Grewal	VACANT	Jackson
Aye	Aye	Aye	-	Aye

DIRECTOR POSITIONS

Mr. Melville swore in Jim Wilson to fill the vacant seat as the second representative from RD 761. Director Wilson was welcomed by the Board and directed to fill out an economic interest form (Form 700) as well as signing his oath of office.

Next, Director Jackson expressed interest to serve another term as the White Area representative; Mr. Melville noted that no others had contacted him expressing an interest to serve in that Board position. After a short discussion, Director Puget motioned to re-appoint Director Jackson as the White Area representative. The motion was seconded by Director Grewal and the Board voted to adopt the motion. Following the vote, Chair Brown announced that the directors voted as follows:

Brown	Puget	Grewal	Wilson	Jackson
Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Mr. Besecker presented the Treasurer's Report with the budget to-date. After a short discussion, Director Jackson motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report. The motion was seconded by Director Grewal and the Board voted to adopt the motion. Following the vote, Chair Brown announced that the directors voted as follows:

Brown	Puget	Grewal	Wilson	Jackson
Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye

Mr. Besecker then presented the warrants to be ratified as paid, and the warrants to be paid. After a short discussion, Director Grewal motioned to ratify the prior warrants as paid and pay the current warrants. The motion was seconded by Director Jackson and the Board voted to adopt the motion. Following the vote, Chair Brown announced that the directors voted as follows:

Brown	Puget	Grewal	Wilson	Jackson
Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye

AUDIT

Mr. Melville introduced the SWKGSA's auditor, Mike Cuttone, CPA of Cuttone & Mastro. Mr. Cuttone presented the findings from the audit (attached to and made part of these minutes). He noted that the GSA is in conformance with generally accepted accounting principles, and noted the GSA's process of Board members signing checks was a good practice. It was noted that the GSA is on a 2-year audit cycle due to relatively low funds and minimal number of transactions. After a short discussion, Director Puget motioned to accept the audit and direct staff to file with the appropriate agencies. The motion was seconded by Director Jackson and the Board voted to adopt the motion. Following the vote, Chair Brown announced that the directors voted as follows:

Brown	Puget	Grewal	Wilson	Jackson
Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye

SUBBASIN ISSUES

Mr. Hopkins provided an update on the Groundwater Sustainability Plan ("GSP"). It was discussed that the draft GSP was released in September 2019, that two public meetings were held in October and that a Public Hearing was held on December 2, 2019. Mr. Hopkins noted that four written comments have been received through public outreach efforts, and that the Tulare Lake Subbasin group will be meeting soon to decide how to respond. A revised draft GSP will be provided by the consultant soon, that will then be circulated by GSA staff to the ad hoc committee. Finally, a final GSP will be provided on the SWKGSA website in early January for public review and for consideration by the Board to adopt at the SWKGSA January 17, 2020 Board meeting.

Mr. Hopkins then discussed that the Tulare Lake Subbasin has applied for Prop. 68 grant funding for SGMA planning. The Subbasin collectivity requested $500,000 to fund model refinements, monitoring, and coordination. Some funds have already been expended by the group, so the grant would also seek to recover those expenses.

Finally, Mr. Hopkins discussed that the Subbasin will collectively prepare an annual report, due to DWR by April 1, 2020; this first annual report will incorporate data from 2018 and 2019 into the GSP. The Subbasin received a proposal from Provost & Pritchard for $60,000 to prepare the report. Director Puget motioned to authorize participation in the annual report up to SWKGSA's proportional share of the cost. The motion was seconded by Director Jackson and the Board voted unanimously to adopt the motion. Following the vote, Chair Brown announced that the directors voted as follows:

Brown	Puget	Grewal	Wilson	Jackson
Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye

Mr. Melville reported on a proposed cost-sharing formula between the GSAs in the Tulare Lake Subbasin. The current cost sharing agreement defined in the Interim Operating Agreement did not include groundwater pumping as a consideration of each GSA's funding contribution. It was understood that the current formula would need to be adjusted once additional data was available; that is the now the case. Staff has proposed a revised cost-sharing method to the other Subbasin GSAs via a letter (attached to and made part of these minutes), to consider pumping volumes in the cost-sharing formula. The Board concurred with Mr. Melville and directed staff to continue discussions with the other Subbasin GSAs to effectuate a more equitable cost-sharing basis than in the Interim Operating Agreement.

METERING POLICY

Mr. Melville sought direction from the Board regarding developing and implementing a meter policy. Although pumping is minimal and the number of wells few, tracking this data is important in complying with SGMA. Mr. Melville proposed building off of what has been developed by Tri-County Water Authority. Staff directed Mr. Melville to proceed with developing a policy and procedures that could implement the policy within the next 6 months.

Director Grewal suggested staff solicit input from hydrogeologists Harder and Schmidt. Ms. Phillips noted that the County is willing to work with the GSAs by adopting an ordinance to include meters meeting the GSA's specifications when the County issues well permits.

REPORT OF COUNSEL

Ms. Layne reported that DWR and SWRCB will be holding a workshop in January to discuss how DWR will review GSPs. Mr. Hopkins plans to attend the workshop.

DATE, TIME, AND LOCATION OF NEXT BOARD MEETING

The Executive Director noted that the next Board meeting will be a special Board meeting on January 17, 2020 at 9:00 am.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, at 3:42 p.m. Chair Brown adjourned the meeting.

Steven D. Jackson, Secretary-Treasurer

APPROVED:

Kimberly M. Brown, Chair