SOUTHWEST KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
Special Board Meeting
Minutes
March 19, 2026

The Board of Directors of the Southwest Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency met at 19813 Madison Avenue, Stratford, California, on Thursday, March 19, 2026, at the hour of 2:00 p.m.

Chair Vidovich presided and Staci Wilkins recorded the minutes.

Directors Present: John Vidovich
Craig Andrew
Jim Wilson

Directors Absent:

Others Present:

Amer Hussain
Staci Wilkins
Brett Stroud
Ceil Howe, Jr.
Ceil Howe III
Julie Martella
Johnny Gailey
Alex Young
Gunther Vecpuisis
Monserrat Solis
Riley Jones
Mark Gilkey

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

**The agenda items were taken out of order at this point of the meeting.

ACTION CALENDAR

2. Consider action to accept the resignation of John Kinsey as General Counsel

   On the motion of Director Andrew and seconded by Director Wilson, the Board voted to accept the resignation of Mr. Kinsey. (3-0)

3. Consider action to approve the Letter of Engagement with Young Wooldridge LLP to hire Brett Stroud as General Counsel.

   On the motion of Director Andrew and seconded by Director Wilson, the Board voted to approve the Letter of Engagement with Young Wooldridge LLP. (3-0)

CLOSED SESSION

The Board entered into Closed Session at 2:03 p.m.

8. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION
   Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) of Government Code section 54956.9 (one potential case)

   The Board returned to Open Session at 2:35 p.m. There was no reportable action taken.

**The meeting returned to its original order from this point.

ACTION CALENDAR

1. Approval of Minutes of the Special Board Meeting held on February 13, 2026

   On the motion of Director Andrew and seconded by Director Wilson, the Board voted to approve the Minutes as presented. (3-0)

4. Consider action to approve the draft New Well Installation Policy.

   Mr. Hussain reviewed the policy and received comments from the Board and public. He will update the policy and bring it back to the Board for consideration of approval at the next meeting.

5. Consider action to ratify the hiring of Guntars Vecpuisis as an independent contractor and approve scope of work.

   On the motion of Director Andrew and seconded by Director Wilson, the Board voted to approve the Scope of Work with revisions. (3-0)

6. Consider action to appoint a Board representative and alternate representative to the ACWA JPIA Board of Directors.

   On the motion of Director Vidovich and seconded by Director Wilson, the Board voted to name Director Andrew as the Board Representative and Director Wilson to the ACWA JPIA Board of Directors. (3-0)

UPDATES

7. Tulare Lake Subbasin

   Mr. Hussain provided the following update:

   - On March 9, communication with staff focused on water level SMCs. There will need to be revisions made to the GSP, including definitions of the water level SMC
   - On March 10, GSAs heard that Best Management Practices (BMP) criteria will need to be implemented. Coordination amongst GSAs was encouraged and they will hold meetings with each individual GSAs in the weeks to come.
   - The State Board will consider a resolution at its April 7 meeting to exclude pumpers who pump 20 AF or less from fees. If you wish to comment, March 30 at noon is the deadline.
   - GEARS – Landowners should have received Correspondence ID in the mail. If not, send email or call for that information. The State will be offering an online GEARS tutorial on March 26, 2:00 – 4:30 p.m.
   - Mr. Hussain will work with Mr. Stroud on revising the exclusion request to the State.

- Following the approval of the New Well Permitting Policy, the only remaining items for the GSP are the Subsidence Management Plan and Recharge Policy.

ADJOURNMENT

9. There being no further business to come before the Board on the occasion of the March 19, 2026, meeting, Chair Vidovich adjourned the meeting at 3:06 p.m. until the next Board meeting scheduled for 2:00 p.m. on April 17, 2026, at 19813 Madison Avenue, Stratford, or as otherwise directed by the Board.

Attest:

Craig Andrew, Vice Chair

Jim Wilson, Secretary