

**Upper Kings Basin Integrated Regional Water Management Authority
Board meeting January 21, 2015
Fresno County Farm Bureau, 1274 W. Hedges, Fresno, 93728**

Notes of the Meeting of the Board of the Upper Kings Basin Integrated Regional Water Management Authority (Water Authority) held January 21, 2015. Tufenkjian requested for the nomination of an interim chair in the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair. It was moved by Alternate Director Koehn, and seconded by Alternate Director Desatoff and unanimously carried that Director Worthley act as interim chair.

1. Call to order

Interim Chair Steve Worthley called the meeting to order at 9:37 am. Worthley noted that there was a quorum.

Directors/Alternate Directors Present:

Lisa Koehn, City of Clovis (alternate)
Mary Fast, City of Reedley
Steve Worthley, County of Tulare
Dean Uota, City of Dinuba (alternate)
Buzz Burleson, Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District
Bill Stretch, Fresno Irrigation District (alternate)
Chris Kapheim, Alta Irrigation District (alternate)
Phil Desatoff, Consolidated Irrigation District (alternate)
Ken Moore, City of Kerman (alternate)
Mark McKean, Kings River Conservation District (alternate)
Jim Avalos, City of Selma (alternate)
Buddy Mendes, County of Fresno (alternate)

Members Absent:

City of Sanger
City of Parlier
Kings County Water District
City of Fresno

Interested Parties Present:

Carole Combs, Tulare Basin Wildlife Partners
Steven Pickens, Bakman Water Company
Phil Desatoff, City of Kingsburg
Jim Anderson, Malaga County Water District
Sue Ruiz, Self-Help Enterprises, Easton Community Services District

Interested Parties Absent:

Biola Community Services District
California Native Plant Society, Sequoia Chapter
California State University Fresno
City of Orange Cove
City of San Joaquin
Community Water Center
County of Kings
Cutler Public Utilities District
East Orosi Community Services District
Fresno County Farm Bureau
Hardwick Water Company
James Irrigation District
Kings River Conservancy
Kings River Water Association
Laguna Irrigation District

Lanare Community Services District
Liberty Canal Company
Liberty Water District
London Community Services District
Mid-Valley Water District
Orange Cove Irrigation District
Orosi Public Utilities District
Raisin City Water District
Riverdale Irrigation District
Riverdale Public Utility District
Sanger Environmental Fund
Sierra Resource Conservation District
Sultana Community Services District
Terranova Ranch, Inc.
UC Cooperative Extension - Fresno

Others Present:

Eric Osterling, KRCD
Randy Shilling, KRCD
Cristel Tufenkjian, KRCD
Kevin Fabino, City of Reedley
Bernard Jimenez, County of Fresno
Chelsea Kemple, Assembly Jim Patterson's Office

Alan Hofmann, Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control Dist.
Shay Bakman, Bakman Water Company
Ryan Jensen, Community Water Center
Ron Samuelian, Provost & Pritchard
Jose A. Robledo, SWRCB – D.D.W.

2. Addition to or Deletion from the Agenda

None

3. Public Presentations

None

4. Approval of Minutes of the October 15, 2014

It was moved by Director Burleson, seconded by Alternate Director Desatoff, and unanimously carried that the minutes of October 15, 2014 meeting of the Board of Directors be approved as presented.

5. Advisory Committee Report

Interim Chair Worthley called on Advisory Committee Chair Lisa Koehn to provide a report on Advisory Committee activities. Koehn reported that the Advisory Committee met on December 17, 2014 and discussed the Water Authority annual report and the Advisory Committee 2015 goals. Koehn noted that the goals are attached under agenda item #5. Koehn reported that she was elected chair of the Advisory Committee to replace outgoing Chair Brock Buche. Koehn reported that Alternate Director Dean Uota was elected vice chair.

6. Staff Reports

Planning and Implementation Contracts – Osterling reported on the status of planning and implementation contracts. Osterling referred to the contracts matrix included in the agenda packet for updates on specific projects. Osterling reported that the Water Authority is down to completing Round 1 and Round II implementation grants.

Inter-regional and Statewide Coordination – Osterling reported that Maria Herrera from Self-Help Enterprises and he attended a workshop in Calistoga in early December that brought together DAC pilot study grant recipients to extract lessons learned from the projects and create a sustainable vision for the future. Osterling reported that DWR held a capacity building workshop in Stockton to build capacity by participants in the IRWMP regions related to DACs, inform them of available planning tools and resources, and improve regional management.

Public Information – No report

Legislation – Tufenkjian reported that it is the beginning of a new 2-year session for the state legislature and that February 27 is the last day for bills to be introduced. Tufenkjian reported that the Governor introduced his 2015-16 budget. Tufenkjian reported that some of the new features in the budget include a rainy day fund created from the passage of Prop. 2, a proposal for paying down the debt, and the allocation of Prop. 1 funding in the amount of \$532.5 million. Tufenkjian reported that the bond earmarked \$2.7 billion for storage. Tufenkjian reported that storage could mean the construction of a reservoir or it could also mean increasing storage underground. Tufenkjian reported that the decision on how to spend the \$2.7 billion will come from the California Water Commission. Tufenkjian reported on the spot bill SB 13 (Pavley) Groundwater. This bill is believed to be a placeholder for technical clean-up legislation for the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. Tufenkjian reported that the Valley Ag Water Coalition and the Association of California Water Agencies are both considering groundwater clean-up legislation.

Other – Osterling reported that he will be scheduling a Project Work Group meeting in anticipation of DWR releasing guidelines this spring for the final round of Prop. 84 grant proposals. Tufenkjian reported that Policy No. UKB-005 Requirements for Applications to Join the UKBIRWMA was attached under agenda item 6.e. Tufenkjian reported that one of the requirements in this policy was the adoption of the Kings Basin IRWMP. Tufenkjian reported that the Board also required the adoption of the updated Kings Basin IRWMP by current Members and Interested Parties by July 1, 2013. Tufenkjian reported that Mid-Valley Water District, Lanare Community Services District, Sierra Resources Conservation District, and U.C. Cooperative Extension have not adopted the updated IRWMP. Tufenkjian reported that Mid-Valley and Lanare do not have full Boards and are unable to administratively adopt the IRWMP. After discussion, the Board directed staff to send a

letter to Sierra Resources Conservation District and the U.C. Cooperative Extension providing a deadline to adopt the IRWMP prior to the April 15 Water Authority board meeting and to hold off taking action with Mid-Valley and Lanare until they have constituted full Boards.

7. Request to modify the IRWMP Project List

Interim Chair Worthley reported that Alta ID and the City of Reedley have requested that the Reedley Pond Project be added to the Project List. Kapheim reported that the project consists of using storm water which is currently being discharged from the City of Reedley to the Kings River by means of a NPDES permit and recharge that storm water in recharge/banking facilities. It was moved by Alternate Director Kapheim, and seconded Alternate Director Mendes and unanimously carried to add the Reedley Pond Project to the Project List.

8. Request to approve Kings Basin Water Authority 2014 Annual Report

Interim Chair Worthley called on staff member Osterling to report on the 1014 Annual Report. Osterling reported that all of the comments received were incorporated into the final annual report. It was moved by Alternate Director Kapheim, and seconded by Alternate Director Uota, and unanimously carried to approve the Kings Basin Water Authority 2014 Annual Report.

9. Request to approve quarterly financial reports

Interim Chair Worthley called on staff member Randy Shilling to provide an overview of the quarterly financial reports for the period October 1– December 31, 2014. Shilling reminded the Board that Form 700s are due. Shilling provided an overview of the quarterly financial reports included in the agenda packet. It was moved by Director Fast, and seconded by Alternate Director Kapheim, and unanimously carried to approve the quarterly financial reports.

10. Other items for discussion or reporting

Interested Party Representative Carole Combs provided a report on the conclusion of the Tulare Basin Watershed Coordinator grant. Combs reported that the grant amount of \$300,000 was one of the largest in the state. Combs reported that the outcomes of the grant included assisting with regional collaboration, the tripling of the value of the grant through additional funding sources, and making a strong case to the Department of Conservation and the Department of Water Resources for equal scoring for ecosystem benefits in project applications. Combs reported that another outcome was the creation of the Watershed Connections Working Group led by one of DWR's climate change specialists. Combs reported that Vollmar Natural Lands Consulting assisted her in managing the last two quarters of the grant. Combs reported that Vollmar Natural Lands Consulting my consider becoming an Interested Party in the Water Authority.

Alternate Director Kapheim reported that Tulare County is working on creating a drinking water authority. Kapheim reported that this would include seven communities and that Tulare County will sign a contract in February to initiate the governance process. Kapheim reported that the engineering study will be finalized in February for the surface water treatment plant. Kapheim reported that Prop. 1 will be the possible funding mechanism for the project.

Interested Party Representative Sue Ruiz reported that Self-Help Enterprises has been working with residents in Tulare and Fresno counties to install temporary tanks on households that do not have a water supply due to a dry well. Ruiz reported that tanks are currently being installed in Tulare County, and Fresno County efforts are still being developed. Ruiz reported that these are interim solutions until wells can be drilled. The money for the Fresno project was provided from a grant from the Fresno Regional Foundation. Ruiz also stated that the Water Authority needs to continue to consider how to create a voting member representing DACs on the Board.

11. Next meeting date: April 15, 2015 at 9:30 am, at the Fresno County Farm Bureau

Interim Chair Worthley reported that the next regularly scheduled meeting is on April 15 at the Fresno County Farm Bureau office.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Interim Chair Worthley adjourned the meeting at 10:27 am.
Respectfully submitted,

David Orth
Secretary/Treasurer

Approved

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