

**Upper Kings Basin Integrated Regional Water Management Authority
Advisory Committee Minutes, September 21, 2022 at 9:30AM
Fresno County Farm Bureau, 1274 W. Hedges, Fresno, CA 93728**

Minutes of the Meeting of the Advisory Committee (Committee) of the Upper Kings Basin Integrated Regional Water Management Authority (Water Authority) held September 21, 2022.

1. Call to order

Advisory Committee Vice Chair Bill Stretch called the meeting to order at 9:32 am.

Directors/Alternate Directors Present:

Paul Armendariz, City of Clovis (alternate)
Rachel Nerio-Guerrero, City of Dinuba (alternate)
Sonia Hall, City of Parlier (alternate)
Russ Robertson, City of Reedley (alternate)
Fernando Santillan, City of Selma (alternate)
Roy Jimenez, County of Fresno (alternate)
Denise England, County of Tulare (alternate)
Bill Stretch, Fresno Irrigation District (alternate)
Brent Sunamoto, Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District (alternate)
David Merritt, Kings River Conservation District (alternate)
Don Cameron, Raisin City Water District

Members Absent:

Alta Irrigation District
City of Fresno
City of Kerman
Consolidated Irrigation District
City of Sanger
Kings County Water District

Interested Parties Present:

Sean Ray, Bakman Water Company
Manny Amorelli, James Irrigation District, Reclamation District No. 1606
James Petty, Riverdale Public Utility District
Don Cameron, Terranova Ranch, Inc.
Steve Haze, Sierra Resource Conservation District

Interested Parties Absent:

Armona Community Services District
Biola Community Services District
California Native Plant Society, Sequoia Chapter
California State University, Fresno
City of Orange Cove
City of Kingsburg
City of San Joaquin
Community Water Center
County of Kings
Cutler Public Utilities District
East Orosi Community Services District
Easton Community Services District
El Rio Reyes Conservation Trust
Hardwick Water Company
Kings River Conservancy
Kings River Water Association
Laguna Irrigation District
Lanare Community Services District
Liberty Canal Company

Liberty Water District
London Community Services District
Malaga County Water District
McMullin Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency
Mid-Valley Water District
North Fork Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency
Orosi Public Utilities District
Pinedale County Water District
Riverdale Irrigation District
Sanger Environmental Fund
Self-Help Enterprises
Sierra Club, Tehipite Chapter
Sultana Community Services District
Tulare Basin Watershed Partnership
US Cooperative Extension – Fresno
XIO, Inc.

Others Present:

Dejan Pavic, City of Fresno
Soua Lee, KRCD

2. Additions to or Deletion from the Agenda

None.

3. Public Presentations

None.

4. Approval of the June 15, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Staff noted an edit to the minutes to show that Steve Haze with Sierra Resource Conservation District was present at the June 15, 2022 Advisory Committee meeting. It was moved by Alternate Director Armendariz, seconded by Alternate Director Merritt, and carried that the minutes of the June 15, 2022 meeting of the Advisory Committee be approved with an edit to the Sierra Resource Conservation District representative.

5. Staff Reports

A. Planning and Implementation Contracts – Soua Lee referred to the grant matrix in the agenda packet and reported on the Proposition 1 Round 1 IRWM Implementation Grant and Proposition 1 Disadvantaged Community Involvement Grant (Prop 1 DACI). Lee reported that the KBWA submitted a grant application to the Prop 1 Round 2 IRWM Implementation Grant on August 19, 2022. DWR completed a completeness review of the application and requested additional information for the projects. The supplemental information was provided to DWR and the application is now in technical review.

B. Inter-regional and Statewide Coordination – Lee reported that the next general meeting of the IRWM Roundtable of Regions is scheduled for September 21 at 1:30PM.

C. Public Information – Lee reported that DWR is working on a video to celebrate 20 years of the IRWM Program. The goal of the video is to highlight the partnerships that were formed through the IRWM Program and its project successes. DWR is conducting statewide interviews with IRWM representatives and highlighting projects that were completed with IRWM funds. Soua and Alternate Director Stretch met DWR staff at the Fresno Irrigation District Southwest Groundwater Banking Project on September 15th for an interview. Alternate Director Stretch noted that he highlighted the partnership with James Irrigation District on the development and completion of the groundwater banking project. The video is anticipated to be released before the end of the year.

D. Legislation – Lee reported that Governor Newsom did not allocate money to the IRWM Program in his 2022-23 State Budget. Lee shared that DWR released the draft 2022 Urban Community Drought Relief Grant Program in August 2022 for public comment. The grant funds projects that address drought impacts and the minimum per award is \$5M. Smaller projects may be bundled together in a single application to meet the minimum grant award requirement. IRWM regions are eligible applicants.

E. Administrative Items – None to report.

F. Other – None to report.

6. Selection of a Chair Officer to the Advisory Committee

Vice Chair Stretch reported that due to health reasons, Chair Maciel submitted a letter to KRCD indicating his desire to step down as Chair. Vice Chair Stretch shared remarks thanking Chair Maciel for his time and dedication to the Committee. Vice Chair Stretch called on Soua to speak on the roles and responsibilities of the Chair position and opened the meeting to nominations. Alternate Director Merritt nominated Sean Ray with Bakman Water Company for Chair. Hearing no other nominations, the Advisory Committee unanimously approved Sean Ray as the new Advisory Committee Chair.

8. Next Meeting Date:

The next regularly scheduled meeting for the Advisory Committee is March 15, 2023, at 9:50 a.m. at the Fresno County Farm Bureau.

Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9:50 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Stretch
Vice Chair

Approved