

**Upper Kings Basin Integrated Regional Water Management Authority  
Board of Directors Meeting, July 17, 2024 at 9:30 AM  
Fresno County Farm Bureau, 1274 W. Hedges, Fresno, CA 93728**

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of the Upper Kings Basin Integrated Regional Water Management Authority (Kings Basin Water Authority) held July 17, 2024.

1. Call to order

Vice Chair Stretch called the meeting to order at 9:31 am.

**Directors/Alternate Directors Present:**

Chad Wegley, Alta Irrigation District (alternate)  
Scott Redelfs, City of Clovis (alternate)  
Dejan Pavic, City of Fresno (alternate)  
Alma Beltran, City of Parlier  
Frank Gonzalez, City of Sanger  
Beverly Cho, City of Selma  
Buddy Mendes, County of Fresno  
Eddie Valero, County of Tulare  
Phil Desatoff, Consolidated Irrigation District (alternate)  
Bill Stretch, Fresno Irrigation District (alternate)  
Sarge Green, Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District  
David Merritt, Kings River Conservation District (alternate)  
Don Cameron, Raisin City Water District

**Members Absent:**

City of Dinuba  
City of Kerman  
City of Reedley  
Kings County Water District

**Interested Parties Present:**

Sean Ray, Bakman Water Company  
Sarge Green, CA State University Fresno  
Manny Amorelli, James Irrigation District, Reclamation District No.1606  
Steve Haugen, Kings River Water Association  
Buddy Mendes, North Fork Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency  
Don Cameron, Terranova Ranch, Inc.  
Steve Haze, Tulare Basin Watershed Network

**Interested Parties Absent**

Armona Community Services District  
Biola Community Services District  
California Native Plant Society, Sequoia Chapter  
City of Kingsburg  
City of Orange Cove  
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  
Malaga County Water District  
Kings River Conservancy  
Laguna Irrigation District  
Lanare Community Services District

Liberty Canal Company  
Liberty Water District  
London Community Services District  
McMullin Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency  
Mid-Valley Water District Agency  
Orosi Public Utilities District  
Pinedale County Water District  
Riverdale Irrigation District  
Riverdale Public Utility District  
Sanger Environmental Fund  
Self-Help Enterprises  
Sierra Club, Tehipite Chapter  
Sultana Community Services District  
US Cooperative Extension – Fresno

**Others Present:**

Steve Haze, Tranquillity Resource Conservation District      Soua Lee, KRCD  
Peter Sanchez, Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District      Binu Brar, KRCD

## 2. Addition to or Deletion from the Agenda

None.

## 3. Public Presentations

None.

## 4. Consider Approval of the April 17, 2024 Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Director Cameron, seconded by Director Valero and unanimously carried that the minutes of the April 17, 2024 meeting be approved as presented.

## 5. Member/Interested Party Report

Steve Haugen, Water Master for the Kings River Water Association, provided a report on water conditions in the Kings River watershed for 2024. Haugen noted that most of the precipitation received in the southern Sierra occurred in February, March, and April of 2024 which made up most of the watershed's water supply and that this year is considered an average runoff year. Haugen also shared information on Pine Flat storage, inflow of water into Pine Flat Reservoir and outflow for distribution. To date, based on the current water year, the watershed has received 15.25 inches of precipitation which is 80% of average.

## 6. Director Reports

None.

## 7. Advisory Committee Report

No report. The June 19, 2024 meeting of the Advisory Committee was cancelled.

## 8. Staff Reports

*A. Planning and Implementation Contracts* – Soua Lee provided an update on Proposition 1, Rounds 1 and 2 IRWM Implementation grant activities. Under Prop 1 Round 1 IRWM Grant, Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District's Basin CF Project continues to be on hold pending delivery of the pump station electrical panel. Under Prop 1 Round 2 IRWM Grant, the Fresno Irrigation District's Kenneson-Sanchez Recharge Basin Project is complete and a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate its completion is planned for August 2024. Bakman Water Company's Nitrate Analyzer Project continues to be on hold until the construction of treatment facilities on their existing wells begins. The nitrate analyzers may only be installed once the treatment facilities are under construction. The City of Parlier's Project is continuing with design and engineering work.

*B. Inter-regional and Statewide Coordination* – Lee reported that the Roundtable of Regions is continuing to meet on a quarterly basis and is working on a transition plan. The goal of the transition plan is for the Roundtable of Regions to realign itself with state goals and policies with the intent to hopefully garner more support for the IRWM Program and find ways to secure more funding. The next step for the transition plan is to meet with key state leaders to discuss where IRWM can fit into the priorities of the state.

*C. Public Information* – None to report.

*D. Legislation* – Lee reported that SB 867(Allen) was signed in early July and will appear on the November 2024 ballot. The bond measure will include \$100M for projects related to integrated regional water management to improve climate resilience on a watershed basis.

*E. Administrative Items* – Lee provided an update on the Strategic Planning Workgroup. The Workgroup has started to meet to brainstorm ideas and develop recommendations for how the Water Authority may move forward in the event that state funding is no longer allocated to the IRWM Program. Lee also provided a reminder that Brian Trevarrow, who previously served as Assistant

Treasurer for the Water Authority, retired from KRCD and at the April 17, 2024 Board of Directors meeting, the Board appointed KRCD Director of Finance Binu Brar as the new Assistant Treasurer for the Water Authority.

*F. Other* – None to report.

9. Request to Approve Quarterly Financial Reports

Binu Brar provided an overview of the quarterly financial reports for the period April 1, 2024 – June 30, 2024. It was moved by Director Beltran, seconded by Director Mendes, and unanimously carried that the quarterly financial reports be approved as presented.

10. Recommendation to Approve Proposed Fiscal Year 2024-25 Budget

Binu Brar provided an overview of the proposed Fiscal Year 2024-25 Budget. Brar noted that KRCD staff administrative costs were increased by 8% to account for inflation; however, other budgetary costs remained the same. It was moved by Director Valero, seconded by Director Beltran and unanimously carried that the FY 2024-25 budget be approved as presented.

11. Next Meeting Date:

The next regularly scheduled meeting for the Board of Directors is October 16, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. at the Fresno County Farm Bureau.

Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:20 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

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David Merritt  
Secretary/Treasurer

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Approved