

**Upper Kings Basin Integrated Regional Water Management Authority
Board of Directors Meeting, April 15, 2026 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 April 15, 2026.

1. Call to order

Chair Fast called the meeting to order at 9:33 am.

Directors/Alternate Directors Present:

Paul Armendariz, City of Clovis (alternate)
Dejan Pavic, City of Fresno (alternate)
Jesus Gonzalez, City of Kerman (alternate)
Alma Beltran, City of Parlier
Mary Fast, City of Reedley
Roy Jimenez, County of Fresno (alternate)
Eddie Valero, County of Tulare
Bill Stretch, Fresno Irrigation District (alternate)
Sarge Green, Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District
David Stanfield, Kings County Water District
David Merritt, Kings River Conservation District (alternate)

Members Absent:

Alta Irrigation District
City of Dinuba
City of Sanger
City of Selma
Consolidated Irrigation District
Raisin City Water District

Interested Parties Present:

Sarge Green, CA State University Fresno
Manny Amorelli, James Irrigation District, Reclamation District No.1606

Interested Parties Absent

Armona Community Services District
Bakman Water Company
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
Kings River Water Association
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
North Fork Kings Groundwater Sustainability 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
Terranova Ranch, Inc.
Tulare Basin Watershed Network
US Cooperative Extension – Fresno

Others Present:

Peter Sanchez, Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District	Nick Torstensen, City of Clovis
Merribeth Martella, Sierra Resource Conservation District	Brandy Swisher, KRCD
Binu Brar, KRCD	Brian German, KRCD
Soua Vang, KRCD	

2. Addition to or Deletion from the Agenda

None.

3. Public Presentations

Brandy Swisher representing the Kings Water Alliance provided updates on the Ripple Effect Initiative Grant Project. Swisher shared that as part of the project, there will be two roundtables in June with water organizations and training and education providers to discuss the results of a recent water workforce survey and to drill down on what water organizations need, what is being done now and concerns about workforce in the water industry. Swisher invited Committee members to participate in the June roundtables.

4. Consider Approval of the October 15, 2025 Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Director Valero, seconded by Director Beltran, and unanimously carried that the minutes of the October 15, 2025 meeting be approved as presented.

5. Director Reports

None to report.

6. Advisory Committee Report

Chair Fast called on Soua Vang to provide a report on Advisory Committee activities on March 18, 2026. Vang noted that Committee Chair Ray could not attend this Board meeting and reported that at the March 18th Advisory Committee meeting, the Committee received staff reports on ongoing grant activities and shared DWR's concept proposal for release of Proposition 4 Watershed Resilience Grant Program funds.

7. Staff Reports

A. Planning and Implementation Contracts – Soua Vang provided an update on Proposition 1, Round 2 IRWM Implementation grant activities. The Bakman Water Company's Nitrate Analyzer Project continues to be on hold until the construction of treatment facilities on three of their existing wells begins. The nitrate analyzers may only be installed once the treatment facilities are under construction. The City of Parlier began project construction on March 20, 2026.

B. Inter-regional and Statewide Coordination – Vang reported on activities of the IRMW Roundtable of Regions. The Roundtable has been in communication with the Department of Water Resources (DWR) regarding the rollout of Prop 4 Watershed Resilience Program grant funds. Vang provided an overview of a recent letter from DWR responding to some of the Roundtable's questions regarding technical assistance, the application process, and funding for planning activities.

C. Public Information – Vang provided updated information on DWR's concept for how they may solicit projects for the Prop 4 Watershed Resilience Program.

D. Administrative Items – Lee reported that most Board members have filed their Statement of Economic Interests Form 700 with the Water Authority. There are a few Board members who have yet to file their Statement of Economic Form 700 so Vang will continue to follow up with those members.

8. Request to Approve the Kings Basin Water Authority 2024-25 Annual Report

Vang provided an overview of the activities and accomplishments of the Water Authority for Water Year 2024-25. It was moved by Director Green, seconded by Director Valero, and unanimously carried that the Kings Basin Water Authority 2024-25 Annual Report be approved as presented.

9. Request to Approve Quarterly Financial Reports

Binu Brar provided an overview of the quarterly financial reports for the period October 1, 2025 – March 31, 2026. It was moved by Alternate Director Jimenez, seconded by Director Beltran, and unanimously carried that the quarterly financial reports be approved as presented.

10. Next Meeting Date:

A special meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled for June 17, 2026 immediately following the Advisory Committee meeting at the Fresno County Farm Bureau.

Adjournment

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

Respectfully submitted,

David Merritt
Secretary/Treasurer

Approved