

KINGS COUNTY WATER COMMISSION MINUTES

DISTRICT 1
John Howe

DISTRICT 2
Mark Gilkey - Chair

DISTRICT 3
Jim Verboon

DISTRICT 4
Vacant

DISTRICT 5
Don Mills

MEMBER AT LARGE
Brian Ehlers – Vice Chair

**SPECIAL DISTRICT
REPRESENTATIVE**
Harold Reed

CITY REPRESENTATIVE
Sid Palmerin

CITY REPRESENTATIVE
Harlin Casida

**KINGS COUNTY
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY STAFF:** Greg Gatzka (559) 852-2682 Chuck Kinney (559) 852-2674

CALL TO ORDER: A meeting of the Kings County Water Commission (KCWC) was called to order by Chairman Gilkey at 5:01 p.m., on November 23, 2015. The KCWC meeting was held in the Ag Commissioner's Multi-Purpose Room, 680 N. Campus Drive, Hanford, California.

Roll call of members was conducted by Secretary Gatzka, and a quorum of appointed Committee members were in attendance.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: John Howe, Don Mills, Mark Gilkey, Jim Verboon, Harlin Casida, Brian Ehlers, Laura Brown

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Sid Palmerin, Harold Reed

STAFF PRESENT: Greg Gatzka - Director, Erik Kaeding –County Counsel, Chuck Kinney – Deputy Director - Planning, Terri Yarbrough – Executive Secretary, Pam Contreras

VISITORS PRESENT: Joe Neves, Larry Spikes, Kathy Clendaniel, Mike Nordstrom, Dale Melville, Dennis Mills, Eric Osterling, Scott Sills, Carolyn Parde, Deb West, Joe McGahan, Colleen Carlson, Roger Reynolds, Kristin Dobbins, Steve Stadler

UNSCHEDULED COMMENTS: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made and seconded (Mills/Ehlers) to approve the minutes of the July 20, 2015 meeting with a spelling correction of Chantal Ouellet's name. Motion carried unanimously with Palmerin and Reed absent.

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Discussion concerning a Joint Powers Authority to identify and pursue funding for new water facilities and projects that improve and insure water supply availability, reliability and sustainability.

Mr. Larry Spikes reported on the progress of the JPA. He reported that the Board of Supervisors had approved the JPA and it has also been approved by Madera, Merced, Fresno and Tulare Counties.

On November 24, 2015 the Board of Supervisors will take the last step to appropriate the funds. A meeting will be held after Thanksgiving.

B. Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Implementation and Activities:

1. Groundwater Sustainability Agency progress – update

Mr. Dennis Mills provided an update on the Groundwater Sustainability Agencies progress. He reported that there has been discussion on the maps and changing some areas. One GSA has been formed in the Kaweah basin with the lead taken by Kaweah Delta and several entities have signed on. The final application is out for adjustments. The adjustments will need to be applied for in the beginning of 2016 with the Department of Water Resources. Mr. Eric Osterling reported on the boundary changes taking place in the Tulare Lake sub-basin. He also reported that if Kings River Conservation District didn't receive submittals from other partner agencies by the end of November they will have to submit on their own. Boundary adjustments are to be submitted by March 2016 and the Groundwater Sustainability Agency are to be formed by June of 2017. Those areas that are critically over drafted will have until 2020 to submit a development plan. Brian Ehlers asked if there has been any outreach to areas that aren't engaged. Dennis Mills stated that most of the outreach has been organized more at the GSA level.

2. Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant Program - Update

Mr. Dennis Mills provided an update on the planning grant process. The grant applications are due December 8, 2015, preliminary award announcement is February 2016 and funds will be available June 2016. Kings County is economically disadvantaged so there would be no shared cost for the grant. Mr. Greg Gatzka reported that the Community Development Agency is authorized to work on the grant and enter into a contract. This will be going before the Board of Supervisors on November 24, 2016 for authorization through a resolution.

NEW BUSINESS:

None

MISCELLANEOUS

- A. **Future Agenda Items** – Mr. Jim Verboon asked to have the county evaluate if there was a need at some point to go to adjudication to find a funding mechanism that spreads that cost out. Mr. Mark Gilkey will work with the county and find the best way to proceed.
- B. **Staff Comments** – None
- B. **Member Comments** – Mr. Gilkey reported that the Bay Delta Conservation Plan is now the California Water Fix and may start moving. As it proceeds there may be something to bring to the Commission.
- C. **Correspondence** – None

ADJOURNMENT

The next scheduled regular meeting of the Water Commission is Monday, February 22, 2016. The meeting was adjourned at 5:50pm.

Respectfully submitted
KINGS COUNTY WATER COMMISSION



Greg Gatzka, Secretary