

KINGS COUNTY WATER COMMISSION MINUTES

DISTRICT 1
John Howe

DISTRICT 2
Mark Gilkey - Chair

DISTRICT 3
Jim Verboon

DISTRICT 4
Craig Pedersen

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 5:00 p.m., on November 24, 2014. 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: Don Mills, Mark Gilkey, Craig Pedersen, Jim Verboon, Harold Reed, Sid Palmerin

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: John Howe, Harlin Casida, Brian Ehlers

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

VISITORS PRESENT: Joe Neves, Mike Nordstrom, Lou Camara, Roger Reynolds, Ceil Howe, Steve Smaer, Matt Hurley, Carole Combs, Scott Sills, Carolyn Pande, Dale Melville

UNSCHEDULED COMMENTS: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made and seconded (Verboon/Pedersen) to approve the minutes of the August 25, 2014 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made and seconded (Pedersen/Mills) to approve the August 25, 2104 special meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014 (AB 1739 (Pavley), SB 1168 (Dickinson), and SB 1319 (Pavley)) – David Orth

Mr. Orth of Kings River Conservation District (KRCDD) provided an overview of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. He reported that the south valley is a high priority designation area and that counties are presumed to be responsible for areas not otherwise covered. He also stated that

plans must cover the entire basin and that plans are exempt from CEQA but the implementation is not. Mr. Orth went over the timeline and stated that if a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) fails to respond to a deficiency within 180 days the State Regional Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) is authorized to designate the area as probationary and could create an interim plan that would remain in place until the local GSA could take over and manage for sustainability. Mr. Orth stated DWR will be holding some public stakeholder meetings. KRCD is preparing an issues list and would welcome input. Mr. Mills inquired about how to approach Department of Water Resources (DWR) if an agency has special circumstances. Mr. Orth stated that is one of the things that will be addressed by DWR in the rulemaking process and feels that it is important to engage early in the rulemaking process.

Review of Proposed Draft Agricultural Groundwater Guiding Principles

It was the consensus of the Commission that this topic no longer needed to be addressed since legislation has already been passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Yuba Accord Dry Year Water Purchase Program Amendment – Jacob Westra

Mr. Westra provided background on Yuba Accord Dry Year Water Purchase Program. The intent is to increase water supply reliability. The current purchase agreement is through 2025 and the pricing terms expire September 30, 2015. Mr. Westra explained the components and pricing structure. He also reported that December 4, 2014 is the deadline to confirm participation in the program and to submit an executed agreement. Mr. Westra stated that if Kings County wants to continue participation in the program the agreement from DWR will need to be executed and returned to DWR by December 4, 2014.

A motion was made and seconded (Mills/Verboon) to recommend that the BOS that Kings County continues to participate in the program. Motion carried unanimously with Reed absent.

B. Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) and Delta Habitat Conservation and Conveyance Program (DHCCP) – Mark Gilkey/Chantel Quellet

Mark Gilkey provided a brief background on the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) and the Delta Habitat Conservation and Conveyance Program. Chantel Quellet discussed BDCP's Delta conveyance benefits such as water supply conditions, water quality, reliability and increased transfer capacity. Chantel Quellet provided estimated costs and funding for the project. She also stated that capacity through the tunnel is what is being purchased, not water. Mark Gilkey mentioned that if the Lemoore Naval Air Station participates the County may have to participate also. Jim Verboon expressed a concern regarding reliability.

No action was taken by the Commission.

C. Consideration of a Joint Meeting of the Kings County and the Tulare County Water Commissions

Mark Gilkey reported that the Tulare County Water Commission meeting is scheduled for January 10, 2015. It was the consensus of the commission to wait until after the next regularly scheduled KCWC meeting to discuss holding a joint meeting. Colleen Carlson stated that there will be three meetings regarding the new groundwater legislation held around the state in 2015 and one will be in Tulare County. Colleen Carlson will get the dates and get that information out to Commission.

MISCELLANEOUS

- A. Staff Comments – None**
- B. Member Comments – none**

C. Correspondence – None

ADJOURNMENT

The next scheduled regular meeting of the Water Commission is Monday, February 23, 2015. The meeting was adjourned at 6:44 pm.

Respectfully submitted
KINGS COUNTY WATER COMMISSION



Greg Gatzka, Secretary

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