

**MID-KAWEAH GROUNDWATER SUB-BASIN JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY BOARD**

SUMMARY MINUTES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016
3:00 p.m.
Tulare Public Library & Council Chambers
491 North "M" Street, Tulare, CA 93274

MEMBERS PRESENT: Carlton Jones^(3:14 p.m.), Craig Vejvoda, David Bixler, Scott Rogers^(3:05 p.m. - TID Alt.), Steve Nelsen, Greg Collins

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dave Martin

STAFF PRESENT: Mike Olmos, Leslie Caviglia, Aaron Fukuda, Paul Hendrix, Kathy Artis, Kim Loeb, Ken Richardson, Don Dorman, Trisha Whitfield, Roxanne Yoder

1. CALL TO REGULAR ORDER:

Chair Bixler opened the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Chair Bixler called for public comment. No public comment was presented.

3. GENERAL BUSINESS:

- a. **Approval of minutes of March 8, 2016 GSA meeting.** It was moved by Vice Chair Nelsen, seconded by C. Vejvoda and unanimously carried to approve the minutes as presented.
- b. **Retention of GEI - Status.** P. Hendrix provided an update and addressed questions. He noted that the services agreement was executed on April 5th, and that GSA staff will be meeting with GEI representatives tomorrow to discuss their initial coordination and outreach efforts with others in the sub-basin as well as the pursuit of grant funds. G. Collins inquired as to any consultations held regionally that will help ensure that duplicative efforts are not undertaken by others in the sub-basin, and Mr. Hendrix replied that this will be part of the discussion.
- c. **Review of Mid-Kaweah GSA FY 2016-17 Budget*.** P. Hendrix reviewed the budget, noting that it is comprised of expenditures for outside consultants and legal counsel as well as in-kind contributions from staffs of the three members. He also fielded several questions from the Board, including the particulars of any legal analyses on surface and groundwater rights as they relate to SGMA compliance. It was moved by G. Collins, seconded by Vice Chair Nelsen and unanimously carried to approve the budget as presented.
- d. **State Regulations for GSPs – Status*.** P. Hendrix provided an update and indicated that some 160 comments were provided to DWR, including those from Mid-Kaweah. He said that about 20% of the comments came from cities and counties. He added that it appears to

be DWR's intent to address the governance concerns expressed by Mid-Kaweah and many others in their comment letters. C. Vejvoda asked when the regulations become final, to which Mr. Hendrix said on June 1st.

- e. **County Prop 1 Grant for Facilitation/Coordination - Status.** P. Hendrix reiterated that Tulare County has received Prop 1 a "stressed county" grant from DWR in the amount of \$500,000, and that the funds should be available by July. He then reviewed the timeline for additional Prop 1 monies will be available to GSAs for the development of GSPs development. C. Vejvoda inquired as to whether such grant monies when and if awarded next year could be used to cover Mid-Kaweah's expenditures per the contract with GEI, to which Mr. Hendrix said this will be looked into. Discussion was also held as to when a GSA may seek grant funding for groundwater supply and management projects.
- f. **Update on Advisory Committee Meeting of May 9.** L. Caviglia provided an update on the first Advisory Committee Meeting. She noted that eight of the nine appointees attended the meeting, along with eight members of the public. She reviewed the agenda, saying it consisted of an overview of SGMA, a review of Mid-Kaweah's joint powers agreement, a review of the Brown Act, and recent board actions. She reminded the board that two empty seats on the committee remain for appointment at a later date if deemed desirable.
- g. **Other business.** C. Vejvoda requested information on the proposed Pixley/Earlimart groundwater recharge project. P. Hendrix indicated that Tulare ID had previously evaluated the feasibility of participating in it. D. Bixler added that it was concluded that there are more cost-effective means locally by which surplus water in wet years can be brought into and stored within the Kaweah Sub-Basin.

4. ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Bixler adjourned the meeting at 3:27 p.m.

Groundwater Sustainability Agency
Board Chair

Attest:

Groundwater Sustainability Agency
Board Secretary