

**MINUTES OF THE  
REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF THE WEST TURLOCK SUBBASIN  
GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY**

Turlock Irrigation District Office  
333 E. Canal Drive, Turlock, CA

6:00 p.m.  
June 1, 2017

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**A. CALL TO ORDER**

GSA Chair Joe Alamo called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

PRESENT: Directors Alamo, Alvarez, Chiesa, Alternate Director Espinoza, Jorritsma,  
Odom, Soiseth, Worsham and Young

ABSENT: Directors Pareira and Vierra

**B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**ACTION:** Motion by Director Chiesa, seconded by Director Young, that the minutes of the Special Meeting of March 2, 2017 be approved as submitted. All voted in favor with none opposed. Directors Pareira and Vierra were absent. The Chair declared the motion carried.

**C. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

There were no comments from the public.

**D. STAFF UPDATES**

**1. JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT EXHIBITS**

Michael Cooke explained that at their initial meeting the Board took action to amend Exhibit E of the JPA to remove Monterey Park Tract. However, staff overlooked the fact that other exhibits in the JPA also mentioned the Monterey Park Tract. The action taken reflects removing Monterey Park Tract as an Associate Member of the GSA, so the other exhibits have been amended accordingly without having the Board take another formal action.

**E. ACTION ITEMS**

**1. ADOPTION OF BYLAWS**

Michael Cooke presented the staff report and said that the Bylaws were reviewed by legal counsel, and by the Technical Advisory Committee, who is recommending approval.

Director Alamo asked for a change to Article 3.1 to eliminate the phrase "on the first Thursday of every month". General Counsel Phaedra Norton responded that Article 3.1 of the Bylaws could be amended to read, "The Board shall hold at least one (1)

regular meeting each calendar quarter, or as often as the Board deems necessary, as set forth in the resolution establishing the regular board meeting dates...". After some discussion, the Board took the following action.

**ACTION:** **Resolution No. 2017-02**. Adopting Bylaws. Moved by Director Chiesa, seconded by Director Jorritsma, that the foregoing resolution, including the modification to the Bylaws as provided by General Counsel Norton, be adopted. Upon roll call, the following vote was had:

Ayes: Directors Alvarez, Jorritsma, Chiesa, Alternate Director Espinoza, Soiseth, Young, Odom, Worsham and Alamo  
Noes: None  
Absent: Directors Pareira and Vierra

The Chair declared the resolution adopted.

## 2. CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE

Michael Cooke presented the staff report on the proposed Conflict of Interest Code, which was drafted by GSA General Counsel with input from the Fair Political Practices Commission. After some discussion, the Board took the following action.

**ACTION:** **Resolution No. 2017 – 03**: Adopting a Proposed Conflict of Interest Code Pursuant to the Political Reform Act. Moved by Alternate Director Espinoza, seconded by Director Chiesa, that the foregoing resolution be adopted. Upon roll call, the following vote was had:

Ayes: Directors Alvarez, Jorritsma, Chiesa, Alternate Director Espinoza, Soiseth, Young, Odom, Worsham and Alamo  
Noes: None  
Absent: Directors Pareira and Vierra

The Chair declared the resolution adopted.

## 3. ETHICS POLICY

Michael Cooke advised that the Bylaws require that an Ethics Policy be adopted. The TAC has reviewed the Policy and is recommending it for adoption. The Board took the following action.

**ACTION:** **Resolution No. 2017 -04**. Adopting an Ethics Policy Pursuant to the Political Reform Act, and as Recommended by the Technical Advisory Committee. Moved by Alternate Director Espinoza, seconded by Director Soiseth, that the foregoing resolution be adopted. Upon roll call, the following vote was had:

Ayes: Directors Alvarez, Jorritsma, Chiesa, Alternate Director Espinoza, Soiseth, Young, Odom, Worsham and Alamo  
Noes: None  
Absent: Directors Pareira and Vierra

The Chair declared the resolution adopted.

#### 4. ADOPTION OF MEETING DATES

Michael Cooke presented the staff report on the adoption of meeting dates and noted some changes as per the green sheet. He said to be consistent with the Bylaws, the reference to the first Thursday of the month would be removed. Directors provided dates they were not available, and the consensus was to change the December dates. After some discussion the Board took the following action.

**ACTION:** **Resolution No. 2017 – 05.** Establishing Regular Meeting Dates, amending the resolution to remove the reference to the first Thursday of the month, and to change the December 2017 meeting date to December 14, 2017; and to change the December 2018 meeting date to December 13, 2018. Moved by Director Soiseth, seconded by Director Jorritsma, that the foregoing resolution be adopted. Upon roll call, the following vote was had:

Ayes: Directors Alvarez, Jorritsma, Chiesa, Alternate Director Espinoza, Soiseth, Young, Odom, Worsham and Alamo  
Noes: None  
Absent: Directors Pareira and Vierra

The Chair declared the resolution adopted.

#### 5. CLARIFYING TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS' REPRESENTATION AND ROLES WHEN PARTICIPATING IN TURLOCK GROUNDWATER BASIN ASSOCIATION (TGBA) MEETINGS

Michael Cooke provided a brief history of the TGBA and referenced how members of the TGBA can also be members of the TAC. He noted that the TGBA has no statutory authority to implement SGMA, but that the GSAs have a statutory obligation to do so. In 2017 the West Turlock Subbasin Joint Powers Authority was formed, and they appointed the TAC to act as the Executive Director. However, a quorum of TAC members at a TGBA meeting becomes an official TAC meeting and may create Brown Act issues. To help clarify individual roles, the requested action is to authorize TAC members to represent the West Turlock Subbasin GSA at TGBA meetings, and that the TAC can act on behalf of the West Turlock Subbasin GSA at TGBA meetings. The Board took the following action:

**ACTION:** **Motion** by Director Jorritsma, seconded by Director Soiseth, Authorizing Members of the West Turlock Subbasin Technical Advisory Committee to Represent the West Turlock Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency when Participating in TGBA meetings. All voted in favor with none opposed. Directors Pareira and Vierra were absent. The Chair declared the motion carried.

#### 6. DRAFT PROPOSAL SOLICITATION PACKAGE (PSP) FOR GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLANS (GSPs) AND PROJECTS

Michael Cooke noted that the DWR has released the PSP and is administering the Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant Program. TAC members have reviewed the PSP and are concerned that the funding is targeting critically overdrafted basins.

Although the Turlock Subbasin is not “critically overdrafted”, it adjoins two critically overdrafted subbasins so many of the requirements apply to Turlock. As discussed at the last meeting it may be beneficial to complete the Turlock Subbasin GSP soon to be consistent with the other basins. If approved, the WTS GSA will hire Todd Groundwater to facilitate the grant application, and will be responsible for payment based on transferring the existing funding and pledges to fund this action to the WTS GSA to cover the contract cost. There was discussion about how Todd Groundwater was selected to submit the grant for the WTS GSA. The Board took the following action:

**ACTION:** *Motion* by Director Chiesa, seconded by Director Young, Authorizing the TAC to Develop and Submit Comments on the PSP Related to Maximizing the Success of a Grant Application from the Turlock Subbasin. All voted in favor with none opposed. Directors Pareira and Vierra were absent. The Chair declared the motion carried.

**ACTION:** *Motion* by Director Espinoza, seconded by Director Young, Authorizing the Chair of the WTS GSA to Execute a Contract with Todd Groundwater to Complete a Grant Funding Application and Direct the TAC to Work with Benefitting Agencies to Transfer the Existing Funding of the Effort to the WTS GSA Under this Contract. All voted in favor with none opposed. Directors Pareira and Vierra were absent. The Chair declared the motion carried.

## F. REPORTS

### 1. TURLOCK GROUNDWATER SUBBASIN MANAGEMENT PUBLIC WORKSHOPS

Herb Smart reported on the May 31<sup>st</sup> public workshops that were held to update the public on GSA formation and to provide stakeholder engagement opportunities. Workshops were held due to grant funding that was awarded to the TGBA. He also provided information on Subbasin outreach events. Director Jorritsma also commented on the workshops and thanked staff and the public who attended. It was a well done workshop.

### 2. PRESENTATION BY TODD GROUNDWATER

Debbie Liebersbach, on behalf of Todd Groundwater, provided background information on the grant application process for the roadmap project. The initial planning efforts objectives include developing a planning document, develop considerations for data management, and to prepare a public outreach plan. She reviewed the elements of a GSP, the data that is needed to prepare a GSP, public outreach roles and deliverables, the PSP Grant Application funding options, available funding, and grant parameters. She advised that the Turlock Subbasin is eligible for \$1M in funding.

There was discussion about the communication with the Delta Mendota subbasin, and if we will coordinate with other subbasins. Phyllis Stanin (*arriving at 7:00PM*) responded that there will be coordination with surrounding basins, said that sub-surface flows will be a key issue.

7:00 PM – Director Jorritsma leaves the meeting.

There was discussion of the number of GSAs in the Delta Mendota basin and how they will need to coordinate their efforts.

**G. COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD**

None.

**H. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Alternate Director Espinoza, seconded by Director Soiseth, to adjourn the meeting at 7:03 p.m.

Michael Cooke noted that the next meeting is scheduled for September 7, 2017 at 6:00 PM, TID Board Room 105, 333 E. Canal Drive, Turlock.



Interim Agency Secretary