

Meeting Minutes

Special Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Of the East Turlock Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

March 21, 2023, 12:00 p.m.

Held in person and made available to public on Zoom

1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTION OF BOARD MEMBERS

Chairperson Sarah Woolf called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m.

Members Present: Roll Call- Chair, Sarah Woolf (Eastside Water District), Matt Beaman (*arrived at 12:06 p.m. following the approval of the minutes*) (Merced Irrigation District), Lacey McBride (Merced County) (*arrived at 12:12 p.m. following the approval of the minutes*), Christy McKinnon (Stanislaus County) and Adriel Ramirez (Merced County Alternate *arrived at 12:00 pm and stood in for Lacey McBride until she arrived*).

Members Absent: Dennis Yotsuya (Ballico Cortez Water District).

On-line Attendees: Nicole Bonna, Allison Boucher, Dave Boucher, Jessica Johnson, Walt Ward, and Karen Whipp.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

3. TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Member Christy McKinnon moved, seconded Alternate Member Adriel Ramirez to approve the February 14, 2023 Technical Advisory Committee minutes. **The motion passed unanimously.**

4. REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR PROP 218 FEE STUDY

Mike Tietze reviewed the draft Request for Proposal for the Prop 218 Fee Study. There was discussion about three different fee options, and their pros and cons. The TAC agreed that going through the fee study would be the best way to determine which fee options would be best. Those options are; a Prop 218 Land-Based Assessment, Prop 218 Volume-Based Assessment, and a SGMA Volume-Based penalty fee through Prop 26. They would share this discussion with the board at the board's March 23 meeting for their direction.

5. OTHER GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN (GSP) IMPLEMENTATION MATTERS

The committee discussed the following items:

- a. Working schedule for Implementation Support Activities through July 2023-that was briefly reviewed.
- b. There was discussion to support the ACWA coalition by submitting letters of opposition on three water rights bills that threaten California's water rights system.
- c. Grant Pursuit Status- Mike said he would share information during the joint TAC meeting that is following the ETS GSA TAC meeting at 2:00 p.m.
- d. Replenishment Water Update-There was nothing new to report.
- e. Status of the Groundwater Monitoring Program-There was nothing new to report.
- f. Discussion of policies to promote surface water usage-There was nothing new to report.

- g. Discussion regarding the Multibenefit Land Repurposing grant application to the California Department of Conservation-Mike reported that he is continuing to work on the proposal. He said that he had commitments from several agencies including Merced and Stanislaus Counties, Merced Irrigation District, Turlock Irrigation District, WTS GSA, Eastside Water District and Sand Creek Flood Control District.

These items were information only.

6. SECOND ANNUAL REPORT

Mike Tietze gave an update on the second annual report that will be submitted. He stated there are declines in the monitoring wells and the majority of the wells are below the thresholds. He also gave a brief update on the water quality analysis. He said there are some minor differences in opinion of who is responsible for the water quality and how that should be defined.

7. WATER ALLOCATIONS

Jessica Johnson, legal counsel, had nothing to report. **This item was information only.**

8. CLOSED SESSION: CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – POTENTIAL LITIGATION

Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9: (1 case). There was no closed session.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Sarah Woolf adjourned the February 14,2023 meeting at 1:33 p.m.

I hereby certify that this is a full and correct copy of the minutes of the Board of Directors of the East Turlock Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency of Merced and Stanislaus Counties, California.

March 21, 2023



KAREN L. WHIPP

EAST TURLOCK SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
BOARD SECRETARY