

concentration or mobilization of exiting plumes (i.e. arsenic, uranium) due to groundwater pumping. Other challenges for SGMA include land subsidence, surface water depletion, and developing a water budget.

- GSAs must be public agencies with land or water-use authority. Counties are presumed to be responsible for areas not otherwise covered by a GSA.
- The SFKGSA was originally an MOU group under the name Upper Tulare Lake GSA MOU Group that began meeting in February 2015. The SFKGSA JPA agreement was executed in February 2017.
- There are six GSAs in the Tulare Lake Subbasin: Mid-Kings River GSA, South Fork Kings GSA, Southwest Kings GSA, El Rico GSA, Tri-County Water Authority GSA, and Alpaugh GSA.
- Some GSA responsibilities/authorities includes: Develop a GSP; procure surface water for replenishment; adopt rules, regulations, and ordinances; well registration, metering, reporting, and monitoring; regulate, limit or suspend groundwater production; enforcement actions; and administrative fees and assessments.
- Current GSA technical efforts include Kings County's development of a hydrologic model, data inventory and gap analysis, and coordination with related programs (i.e. IRWM, ILRP, DDW, CV-SALTS).
- Current inter-basin coordination includes: technical discussions surrounding hydrologic models and data, coordination with south valley SGMA practitioners, environmental justice groups, technical assistance providers, commodity groups, and farm bureaus.
- GSP requirements include the development of a water budget with a fifty-year planning horizon, achieve sustainability within 20 years, measurable objectives, annual reports to Department of Water Resources (DWR), and State evaluations for compliance every 5 years.
- DWR developed a Best Management Practices (BMPs) framework document for the sustainable management of groundwater. The BMPs includes a suggested outline of a GSP and a GSP checklist.
- DWR Role: Basin prioritization, basin boundary adjustments, GSP regulations (components of GSP), technical assistance, and assessment of GSPs.
- SWRCB Role: May intervene if GSA not formed or fails to adopt/implement compliant GSP, designate basin as "probationary", create interim plan until GSA formed and develop GSP.
- If the State Board intervenes the entire basin or subbasin becomes probationary even if only a portion is out of compliance; however, State Board has discretion to exempt certain GSAs who are in compliance with the law to continue implementing their plan while the GSA that is out of compliance will have the enforcement of a much stronger fee schedule and be required to report all of their data. State's interim plan would be strictly related to conservation and be limited to reducing or suspending groundwater pumping.
- SGMA has outreach requirements, most of which centers around the concept of providing opportunities for public engagement and involvement in activities of the GSA and GSP development.
- SFKGSA outreach efforts to date include inventory and identification of stakeholders and beneficial users, development of a SFKGSA website, outreach events, published newsletter articles in the Kings County Farm Bureau, development of educational materials for stakeholders and an interested persons list to receive notices of events, meetings, and newsletters.
- The SFKGSA has successfully engaged 300 stakeholders including Ag organizations, business groups, landowners, and the Tachi Yokut Tribe.
- SFKGSA outreach goals includes continued efforts to raise awareness and inform stakeholders about SGMA and its impacts, build support for assessments to fund GSP development and implementation, and encourage public involvement in GSP process.

Agenda Item 4: Adjournment

Adjourned 6:25 pm

Submitted by:

Troy Young, Board Secretary

_____ approved on June 15, 2017
Joe Neves, Board Chair