

South Fork Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency  
Regular Meeting and Workshop Minutes

April 21, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.  
429 C Street, Lemoore, CA 93245  
and via Zoom

**Members Present:**

- Joe Neves, County of Kings (Chair)
- Ceil Howe, Jr., Empire West Side Irrigation District (Vice Chair)
- Patricia Matthews, City of Lemoore
- Michael Newton, Stratford Irrigation District
- Scott Mercer, Stratford Public Utility District, via Zoom

**Members Absent:**

**Others Present (All via Zoom):**

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|--|---------------|
| Charlotte Gallock, Kings River Conservation District | Frank Coelho  |
| James Reynolds, Kings River Conservation District    | Steve Jackson |
| Amer Hussain, Geosyntec (Technical Consultant)       | Nathan Olson  |
| Alex Pytlak, Geosyntec (Technical Consultant)        |               |
| Kenneth Richardson (Legal Counsel)                   |               |

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**Item 1:** CALL TO ORDER **Presenter:** Chair Neves

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m., and the Roll was called to establish a quorum. The Policy Committee had decided at their April 15, 2022 meeting that this Board would meet in a hybrid manner – in person and via web teleconference, pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e) as amended by AB 361 (2021).

Roll Call:

- Director Neves: Present
- Director Matthews: Present
- Director Howe: Present
- Director Newton: Present
- Director Mercer: Present

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**Item 2:** PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE **Presenter:** Chair Neves

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**Item 3:** ADDITIONS TO OR DELETIONS FROM THE AGENDA **Presenter:** Chair Neves

Discussion:  
None.

Actions:  
None.

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**Item 4:** PUBLIC COMMENT **Presenter:** Chair Neves

Discussion:  
None.

Actions:  
None.

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**Item 5:**                    CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES                    **Presenter:**    Chair Neves

Discussion:

None.

Actions:

It was moved by Director Newton, seconded by Director Howe, and unanimously carried by Roll Call vote to approve the minutes of the March 17, 2022 Board Meeting.

Roll Call:

Director Neves: Aye  
Director Matthews: Aye  
Director Howe: Aye  
Director Newton: Aye  
Director Mercer: Aye

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**Item 6:**                    DIRECTOR REPORTS                    **Presenter:**    Chair Neves

Discussion:

Director Matthews noted the upcoming Pizza Festival in Lemoore and invited everyone to attend.

Actions:

None

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**Item 7:**                    STAFF REPORT                    **Presenter:**    Charlotte Gallock

Discussion:

Charlotte Gallock reported on previous and upcoming staff activities, meetings, and items of relevance to the GSA's operation, including GSP amendment and County conversations regarding well permitting and other matters.

Actions:

None

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**Item 8:**                    STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATIONS                    **Presenter:**    Outreach Staff

Discussion:

Cristel Tufenkjian reported on outreach activities within the GSA for the past quarter, including statistics on engagement.

Actions:

None.

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**Item 9:**                    FINANCIAL REPORT                    **Presenter:**    Finance Staff

Discussion:

The Board received financial information for the GSA from Brian Trevarrow for the period ending March 31, 2022.

Actions:

It was moved by Director Newton, seconded by Director Howe, and unanimously carried to accept the Financial Report for the period ending 3/31/2022.

Roll Call:

Director Neves: Aye  
Director Matthews: Aye  
Director Howe: Aye  
Director Newton: Aye

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**Item 10:**            APPROVAL OF LETTER OF ENGAGEMENT – DEVELOPMENT OF TULARE LAKE SUBBASIN INTEGRATED HYDROLOGIC MODEL (TULIM)            **Presenter:**     Technical Consultants

Discussion:

Amer Hussain provided information on a proposed Scope of Work for Luhdorff and Scaladini for model development. The Board was asked to approve the portions of the Scope of Work in the Letter of Engagement related to the SGMA Implementation Grant equaling \$200,000.00 of awarded grant funds; none of which financially obligates the South Fork Kings GSA. The Board had many questions and felt there were still some items that required answers.

Actions:

It was moved by Director Howe, seconded by Director Newton, and unanimously carried to approve the requested portions of the Scope of Work for development of the Tulare Lake Subbasin Integrated Hydrologic Model (TuLIM), subject to staff verifying certain requirements in agreements related to creating the model, including staff access to raw public data that is not otherwise proprietary along with required and acceptable confidentiality agreements.

Roll Call:

- Director Neves: Aye
  - Director Matthews: Aye
  - Director Howe: Aye
  - Director Newton: Aye
  - Director Mercer: Aye
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**Item 11:**            GOVERNOR NEWSOM EXECUTIVE ORDER N-7-22 – WELL PERMITS            **Presenter:**     Charlotte Gallock

Discussion:

The Board received information on and discussed the section of Governor Newsom’s Executive Order N-7-22 pertaining to GSAs and the well permitting process. The official process has not yet been determined by the County but should be forthcoming. Director questions were addressed.

Actions:

None.

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**Item 12:**            SGMA IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE            **Presenter:**     Technical Consultants

Discussion:

Amer Hussain reported to the Board regarding the status of, and progress on, GSP implementation in both the Tulare Lake Subbasin and the SFKGSA in particular. The update included coordination activities in the subbasin; grant related activities; monitoring program and filling data gaps; ASR data; and GSP revision progress. Questions and comments from the Board and attendees were addressed.

Actions:

None

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**Item 13:**            MANNER OF SFKGSA BOARD MEETINGS            **Presenter:**     Chair Neves

Discussion:

The Board was asked to consider taking action to determine either that the Board will return to in-person meetings, or that the Board will either meet in a hybrid in-person/remote manner or continue teleconference/webconference meetings as provided for in Government Code Section 54953(e) as amended by AB361 (2021).

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Actions:

It was moved by Director Howe, seconded by Director Matthews, and unanimously carried by Roll Call Vote to find, pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e), that:

1. A declared state of emergency exists and the state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person, and
2. State or Local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing;

and to determine that the South Fork Kings GSA Board will continue hybrid in person / teleconference/webconference meetings; as well as continuing to allow the Policy Committee to make such determinations in the interim between Board Meetings.

Roll Call:

Director Neves: Aye  
Director Matthews: Aye  
Director Howe: Aye  
Director Newton: Aye  
Director Mercer: Aye

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**Item 14:**                    NEXT MEETING DATE AND AGENDA ITEMS                    **Presenter:**      Chair Neves

Discussion:

The next meeting may be May 19, 2022, and certainly will be June 16, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. at 429 C Street, Lemoore, CA 93245 with a possible hybrid remote option.

Actions:

None.

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**Item 15:**                    CLOSED SESSION                    **Presenter:**      Chair Neves

Discussion:

The Board adjourned the regular meeting's open session at 7:28 p.m. and entered Closed Session pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2), to confer with legal counsel regarding two (2) matters of potential exposure to litigation.

Actions:

None.

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**Item 16:**                    RETURN TO OPEN SESSION/ADJOURNMENT                    **Presenter:**      Chair Neves

Discussion:

No reportable action was taken, so the Board adjourned the meeting entirely at 8:06 p.m.

Actions:

None.

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**Item 17:**                    ADJOURNMENT                    **Adjourned:**                    8:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Board Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_ approved on \_\_\_\_\_

Joe Neves, Board Chair