

South Fork Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Regular Meeting Minutes

April 20, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.
429 C Street, Lemoore, CA 93245

Members Present:

Joe Neves, County of Kings (Chair)
Ceil Howe, Jr., Empire West Side Irrigation District (Vice Chair)
Frank Gornick, City of Lemoore
Scott Mercer, Stratford Public Utility District (5:34 p.m.)
Michael Newton, Stratford Irrigation District

Members Absent:

Others Present:

Paul Stiglich, General Manager
Corey McLaughlin, Kings River Conservation District
Amer Hussain, Geosyntec (Technical Consultant)
Kenneth Richardson (Legal Counsel)

Frank Coelho
Savannah Tjaden, MLJ Environmental
Antonio Solorio
Steve Jackson
Bill Miguel

Item 1:	<u>CALL TO ORDER</u>	Presenter:	Chair Neves
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The meeting was called to order at 5:33 p.m., and the Roll was called to establish a quorum.

Roll Call:

Director Neves: Present
Director Gornick: Present
Director Howe: Present
Director Newton: Present
Director Mercer: Absent when roll first called; Arrived at 5:34 p.m.

Item 2:	<u>PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE</u>	Presenter:	Chair Neves
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Item 3:	<u>ADDITIONS TO OR DELETIONS FROM THE AGENDA</u>	Presenter:	Chair Neves
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Discussion:

None.

Actions:

None.

Item 4:	<u>PUBLIC COMMENT</u>	Presenter:	Chair Neves
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Discussion:

None.

Actions:

None.

Item 5: AMENDMENT OF JANUARY 19, 2023 MINUTES **Presenter:** Chair Neves

Discussion:

None.

Actions:

It was moved by Director Howe, seconded by Director Gornick, and unanimously carried to approve amendment of the January 19, 2023 Minutes to correctly reflect Director Mercer as absent under the initial Roll Call.

(Ayes: Directors Neves, Howe, Gornick, Newton, and Mercer; Noes: None; Abstentions: None; Absent: None)

Item 6: CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES **Presenter:** Chair Neves

Discussion:

None.

Actions:

It was moved by Director Howe, seconded by Director Newton, and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the March 16, 2023 Regular Meeting.

(Ayes: Directors Neves, Howe, Gornick, Newton, and Mercer; Noes: None; Abstentions: None; Absent: None)

Item 7: DIRECTOR REPORTS **Presenter:** Chair Neves

Discussion:

Director Gornick noted a question relating to the GSA's role in emergency response due to floodwaters, and Director Neves responded that there is no current role for the GSA in such emergency response.

Actions:

None.

Item 8: GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT **Presenter:** Paul Stiglich

Discussion:

General Manager Paul Stiglich noted his written report on previous and upcoming activities, meetings, correspondences, legislation, projects, and items of relevance to the GSA's operation. He invited comments and questions from Directors, and there were none.

Actions:

None.

Item 9: FINANCIAL REPORT **Presenter:** Paul Stiglich

Discussion:

General Manager Paul Stiglich presented the financial report for the SFKGSA through the period ending March 31, 2023.

Actions:

It was moved by Director Howe, seconded by Director Gornick, and unanimously carried to accept the financial report for the period ending March 31, 2023, as presented.

(Ayes: Directors Neves, Howe, Gornick, Newton, and Mercer; Noes: None; Abstentions: None; Absent: None)

Item 10: AUDIT REPORT **Presenter:** Paul Stiglich

Discussion:

General Manager Paul Stiglich presented the audit report for the Fiscal Year 2021-2022.

Actions:

It was moved by Director Gornick, seconded by Director Newton, and unanimously carried to receive the audit report for the Fiscal Year 2021-2022, as presented.

(Ayes: Directors Neves, Howe, Gornick, Newton, and Mercer; Noes: None; Abstentions: None; Absent: None)

Item 11: SGMA IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE **Presenter:** Amer Hussain

Discussion:

Consultant Amer Hussain reported to the Board regarding the status of, and progress on, GSP implementation, and related matters in both the Tulare Lake Subbasin and the SFKGSA in particular. Multiple items were noted related to the Annual Report and meetings attended with State administrators relating to the GSP Inadequate determination. Comments and questions from the Board and members of the public addressed.

Actions:

None.

Item 12: TULARE LAKE SUBBASIN – AMENDMENT 2 TO PROPOSAL FOR ENGINEERING SUPPORT FY 2022 - 2023 **Presenter:** Amer Hussain

Discussion:

Consultant Amer Hussain presented to the Board regarding the Geosyntec request for reallocation of previously agreed-to funds via Amendment No. 2 to the Geosyntec Consultants Proposal for Engineering Support for the Tulare Lake Subbasin. This re-allocation of \$30,000.00 met the increased need surrounding the GSP update.

Actions:

It was determined, in consultation with legal counsel, that no formal action was required, as the dollars had already been approved; the reallocation was met with no objection from the Board.

Item 13: APPROVAL OF ENGINEER'S REPORT FOR PROPOSITION 218 PROCESS **Presenter:** Amer Hussain

Discussion:

Consultant Amer Hussain presented on the Engineer's Report for use in the GSA's Proposition 218 process. Questions and comments from the Board and members of the public were addressed. The sense of the Board was to add an additional Town Hall meeting to the proposed schedule, and to correct one meeting date on the schedule. Additional changes included wording changes around the assessment amount to read "not to exceed \$20 per acre" versus "up to \$20 per acre."

Actions:

It was moved by Director Howe, seconded by Director Newton, and unanimously carried to approve the Engineer's Report with the date correction, additional Town Hall meeting, and wording changes.

(Ayes: Directors Neves, Howe, Gornick, Newton, and Mercer; Noes: None; Abstentions: None; Absent: None)

Item 14: APPROVAL OF CONTRACT FOR PROPOSITION 218 PUBLIC OUTREACH AND ELECTION SERVICES **Presenter:** Amer Hussain

Discussion:

Consultant Amer Hussain presented on the proposed contract for Proposition 218 Public Outreach and Election Services. It was noted that dates in the contract will need to be adjusted to match the schedule approved in the Engineering Report. Questions and comments by the Board and members of the public were addressed.

Actions:

It was moved by Director Gornick, seconded by Director Newton, and unanimously carried meeting the 4/5 majority vote required, to approve and authorize signature of a not-to-exceed \$28,900.00 contract with Lechowicz & Tseng Municipal Consultants for Proposition 218 public outreach and election services, with the noted corrections/additions to the dates in the contract.

(Ayes: Directors Neves, Howe, Gornick, Newton, and Mercer; Noes: None; Abstentions: None; Absent: None)

Item 15: 2023 TEMPORARY EMERGENCY RECHARGE POLICY FOR VOLUNTARY LANDOWNER-INITIATED SURFACE WATER RECHARGE **Presenter:** Amer Hussain and Paul Stiglich

Discussion:

Consultant Amer Hussain and General Manager Paul Stiglich presented the proposed 2023 Temporary Emergency Recharge Policy for Voluntary Landowner-Initiated Surface Water Recharge to the Board and those in attendance, noting the key features and timelines of the policy. Questions and comments from the Board and members of the public were addressed. It was noted that more specific language relating to vector control as relates to mosquito abatement needs to be added to section 5c.

Actions:

It was moved by Director Howe, seconded by Director Gornick, and unanimously carried to adopt the 2023 Temporary Emergency Recharge Policy for Voluntary Landowner-Initiated Surface Water Recharge, conditioned on the addition of adequate language relating to vector control as regards mosquito abatement.

(Ayes: Directors Neves, Howe, Gornick, Newton, and Mercer; Noes: None; Abstentions: None; Absent: None)

Item 16: NEXT MEETING DATE AND AGENDA ITEMS **Presenter:** Chair Neves

Discussion:

The next regular meeting is scheduled for June 15, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. at 429 C Street, Lemoore, CA 93245. A Special Meeting is set for May 18, 2023, and the location is being verified but should be at 429 C Street, Lemoore, CA 93245.

Actions:

None.

Item 17: ADJOURNMENT **Adjourned:** 7:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Board Secretary



Joe Neves, Board Chair

approved on 5/18/23