

South Fork Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency
Regular Meeting Minutes

September 19, 2024 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 – departed 5:40 pm
Patricia Matthews, City of Lemoore - Alternate seated 5:45 pm
Michael Newton, Stratford Irrigation District
Scott Mercer, Stratford Public Utility District

Members Absent:

None.

Others Present:

Amer Hussain, Geosyntec (Technical Consultant)
Johnny Gailey (Administrative Consultant)
Ken Richardson (Legal Counsel)
Doug Freitas
Julie Freitas
Gary Quintel
Doug Jackson

Frank Coelho
Antonio Solorio, WWD
Bill Miguel
E.A. Silva
Joseph Fernandes
Monserat Solis
Randy Rodruigues

Item 1: CALL TO ORDER **Presenter:** Vice Chair Howe

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m., and the Roll was called to establish a quorum.

Roll Call:

- Director Neves: Absent
- Director Gornick: Present
- Director Howe: Present
- Director Newton: Present
- Director Mercer: Present

Item 2: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE **Presenter:** Vice Chair Howe

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

Discussion:

None.

Actions:

None.

Item 4: PUBLIC COMMENT **Presenter:** Vice Chair Howe

Discussion:

None

Actions:

None.

Item 5: APPROVAL OF MINUTES **Presenter:** Vice Chair Howe

Discussion:

Minutes were presented for SFKGSA Board Meeting held on August 15, 2024

Actions:

It was moved by Michael Newton and seconded by Scott Mercer to approve the minutes from the August 15, 2024 Regular Board Meeting.

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

Item 6: DIRECTOR REPORTS **Presenter:** Directors

Discussion:

None

Actions:

None

Item 7: REPORT OF GROWER ADVISORY COMMITTEE **Presenter:** Frank Coelho

Discussion:

Frank reported that the grower committee continued to make progress on the various policies that are needed to go along with the GSP update. Frank reported on progress involving proposed changes to the JPA to add grower board seats. Discussion followed regarding growers that also own property within the boundaries of the city of Lemoore.

Actions:

None

Item 8: REPORT OF POLICY COMMITTEE **Presenter:** Vice Chair Howe

Discussion:

The Policy Committee Reviewed the draft Well Registration Policy and Voted to recommend it for approval.

Actions:

None

Item 9: CONSIDER ADOPTION OF POLICY 2024-01 WELL REGISTRATION POLICY **Presenter:** Vice Chair Howe

Discussion:

The Board was asked to consider adopting the Well Registration Policy

Actions:

It was moved by Director Newton and seconded by Alternate Director Matthews to adopt the Well Registration Policy.

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

Item 10: ADMINISTRATIVE CONSULTANT REPORT **Presenter:** Johnny Gailey

Discussion:

Johnny reported on a meeting with State Water Board staff on September 4th regarding feedback on the draft single GSP that had been submitted for review. Staff have given feedback on water level sustainable management criteria. Staff also indicated the need for triggers in the plan with associated management actions. We did not get any feedback on subsidence, but there is another meeting scheduled for 9/23/2024 to discuss that.

There was robust discussion about the need for the draft Well Mitigation Policy that is being refined by the grower committee. There was also discussion regarding a Groundwater Recharge Policy. Discussion followed about potential pumping fees to fund these policies.

Actions:

None

Item 11: GEOSYNTEC REPORT

Presenter: Amer Hussain

Discussion:

Amer gave an update on progress on revising the GSP to incorporate comments received by State Board Staff. He described changes incorporating water level and subsidence triggers into the plan. There was also discussion of creating a grid of management zones within the SFKGSA.

Actions:

None

Item 12: NEXT MEETING DATE AND AGENDA ITEMS

Presenter: Vice Chair Howe

Discussion:

The next regular meeting is scheduled for October 17, 2024 at 429 C Street, Lemoore, CA 93245

Actions:

None

Item 13: ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned: 7:02 p.m.