South Fork Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency
Regular Meeting Minutes

June 19, 2025 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)
Michael Newton, Stratford Irrigation District
Frank Gornick – City of Lemoore

Members Absent

Scott Mercer, Stratford Public Utility District

Others Present:

Amer Hussain, Geosyntec (Technical Consultant)
Johnny Gailey (Administrative Consultant)
Ken Richardson (Legal Counsel)
Doug Freitas
Julie Freitas
Gary Quintel
Cheri Dodd
Joseph Fernandes
Antonio Solario (WWD)
Steve Jackson
Frank Coelho Jr.
E. A, Silva
Monserrat Solis

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

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 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

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

Discussion:

None.

Actions:

None.

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

Discussion:

None.

Actions:

None.

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

Discussion:

Doug Freitas Provided public comment in regard to the addition of 2 Board seats.

Actions:

None.

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

Discussion:

Minutes were presented for SFKGSA Regular Board Meeting held on May 15, 2025

Actions:

It was moved by Director Newton and seconded by Director Howe to approve the minutes from the May 15, 2025 Regular Board Meeting.

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

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

Discussion:

None

Actions: None

Item 7: FINANCIAL REPORTS **Presenter:** Johnny Gailey

Discussion:

The financial Reports as of May 31, 2025 were presented by Johnny. The board was asked to accept the financial report.

Actions:

It was moved by Director Howe and seconded by Director Gornick to accept May 31 financials as presented.

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

Item 8: APPROVAL OF BUDGET FY 2025-26 **Presenter:** Johnny Gailey

Discussion:

The proposed budget for the Fiscal Year 2025 -2026 was Presented by johnny. The Board was asked to approve the Budget as presented for FY 2025-26. There was discussion and public comment regarding several budget items.

Actions:

It was moved by Director Howe and seconded by Director Newton to Approve the FY 2025-26 Budget.

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

Item 9: APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 2025-01 LEVYING ASSESSMENTS **Presenter:** Johnny Gailey

Discussion:

The Board was Asked to approve Resolution 2025-01 For Levying Assessments based on the 2-29-2024 Prop 218 Election at $9.80 per acre.

Actions:

It was moved by Director Howe and seconded by Director Newton to Approve the Resolution 2025-01.

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

Item 10: APPROVAL OF IT SUPPORT CONTRACT WITH PC SOLUTIONS **Presenter:** Johnny Gailey

Discussion:

The Board was asked to approve an IT support contract with PC solutions for the amount of $1,488. There was discussion and public comment with questions answered regarding the contract that covers the single laptop and Microsoft account for SFKGSA.

Actions:

It was moved by Director Newton and seconded by Director Gornick to Approve IT support Contract with PC Solutions.

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

Item 11: GROWER COMMITTEE REPORT **Presenter:** Frank Coelho

Discussion:

Frank Coelho reported that the grower committee has been meeting about every 2 weeks and is making progress on the groundwater allocation policy. He noted frustration with the process to add 2 board seats. The grower committee is reviewing Version 9 of the Groundwater Allocation Policy, They are also reviewing the Subsidence Management Plan along with a first look at the Water Level management plan. Public discussion ensued.

Actions:

None

Item 12: ADMINISTRATIVE CONSULTANT REPORT AND CONTRACT EXTENSION **Presenter:** Johnny Gailey

Discussion:

Johnny reported on the Status of the Tulare Lake subbasin. There still is no contact with the State Board due to the ongoing Farm Bureau Lawsuit. The State Board held a fee workshop where an alternative fee schedule was presented for Probationary Pumpers. No fees are currently being collected in the Tulare Lake subbasin. An update was given on the status of the Well Registration process. Currently 23% of the acreage in SFKGSA has been Registered in Watermark. The current Deadline is July 1, 2025 for Well Registration. The effort to amend the JPA to add 2 board seats is at the County Counsel.

It was determined that the existing contract did not require an extension so there was no action taken on this item.

Actions:

None

Item 13: GEOSYNTEC REPORT AND APPROVAL OF PROPOSAL **Presenter:** Amer Hussain

Discussion:

Amer remarked that his report was covered in the Grower committee report. The Board was asked to approve a contract that covers GSP development and implementation efforts for FY 2025-26 not to exceed $145,000

Actions:

It was moved by Director Howe and seconded by Director Newton to approve the Geosyntec Contract for FY 2025-26 not to exceed $145,000.

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

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

Discussion:

The Next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for July 17, 2025 at 5:30 PM

Actions:

None.

Item 15: ADJOURNMENT **Adjourned:** 6:58 p.m.