



EASTERN TULE
GROUNDWATER
SUSTAINABILITY
AGENCY
JOINT POWERS
AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE HELD MARCH 19, 2020

At approximately, 2:00 p.m. on March 19, 2020, at the City of Porterville Transit Main Purpose Conference Room, Chairman Eric Borba, called to order a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Eastern Tule Groundwater Sustainability Agency Joint Powers Authority (“ETGSA”). Pursuant to Executive Order N-29-20, several members of the committee appeared telephonically, as well as members of the public.

Executive Members Present:	John M. Domondon	Eric Limas
	Steve Dalke	Steve Etchegaray
	Sean Geivet	Eric Borba
	Denise England	Nick Keller
	Michael Knight	

Executive Members Absent: Glenn Fowler

Others Present:

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Borba announced public the comment period. Geoff Vanden Heuvel provided public comment.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

General Manager Caudillo announced that, for the foreseeable future, meetings of the ETGSA will be conducted through Zoom Technologies telecommunication.

MINUTES

Approve the February 20, 2020 Meeting of the ETGSA Executive Committee Minutes

Committee member Geivet moved for approval of the February 20, 2020 meeting of the Executive Committee minutes. The motion was seconded by Committee member Knight and the committee unanimously approved the motion.

ETGSA MEETINGS REVIEW

Report on ETGSA Board Meetings

General Manager Caudillo referred the committee to Agenda Item #5a, a report on the ETGSA Board Meetings. Attached hereto and incorporated by reference as Agenda Item #5a is a copy of the report.

TULE SUBBASIN AND REGIONAL REPORTS AND ITEMS

Report and Discussion on Friant Water Authority Preliminary Financial Impact Analysis of Transitional Groundwater Pumping Technical Memorandum

General Manager Caudillo reported on the Friant Water Authority Preliminary Financial Impact Analysis of Transitional Groundwater Pumping Technical Memorandum. Attached hereto and incorporated by reference as Agenda Item #6a is a copy of the memorandum. Doug DeFlicht¹, from FWA, provided an overview of the memorandum.

Discussion ensued regarding updates to the memorandum. Specifically, updates are expected concerning an additional 3 feet of subsidence, as well as an expansion of the transitional time period. The updated memo is expected from Stantec by the close of business today, and it will likely be distributed early next week.

Discussion ensued regarding how to engage with FWA moving forward.

Discussion ensued regarding the methodology for valuation of water as determined by the water commission.

Public comment was received from Geoff Vanden Heuvel.

Discussion ensued regarding Table 1 and the amount of water delivered on average south of the pinch point. Discussion ensued regarding damages resulting from loss of high flow waters.

Presentation and Discussion by Land IQ

Joel Kimmelshue of Land IQ provided a presentation on Land IQ. Attached hereto and incorporated by reference as Agenda Item #7 is a copy of his presentation.

Discussion ensued regarding matching the ET with changes in groundwater storage.

Mr. Kimmelshue continued with his presentation.

¹ Mr. DeFlicht appeared telephonically.

Discussion ensued regarding the data sets utilized and how these data sets compared to those utilized by Cal Poly's IRTC program.

Mr. Kimmelshue continued with his presentation.

Discussion ensued regarding data being provided to DWR concerning clients' usage.

Mr. Kimmelshue continued with his presentation.

Public comment was received from Tim Allan.

Mr. Kimmelshue continued with his presentation.

Discussion ensued regarding the turnaround time for deliverables.

Public comment was received from Tim Allan.

Mr. Kimmelshue continued with his presentation.

Public comment was received from Tim Allan.

Discussion ensued regarding irrigation practices and how they relate to consumption.

Discussion ensued regarding switching from Cal Poly ITRC to Land IQ.

Joel Kimmelshue described the Land IQ methodology. Consulting Engineer De Groot also provided comment regarding the two entities.

Discussion continued regarding switching to Land IQ. Discussion also ensued regarding committee recommendations on Land IQ. Discussion ensued regarding timing of Land IQ equipment and installation.

POLICY ISSUES

Discussion Regarding Potential ETGSA Recharge and Banking Policy

General Manager Caudillo provided a report on the potential ETGSA recharge and banking policy. He advised that a draft policy is currently under development by staff.

Discussion Regarding ETGSA Groundwater Financial and Accounting System

Consulting Engineer De Groot provided a report on the Greater Tule Management Area SGMA Cheat Sheet, which is attached hereto and incorporated by reference as Agenda Item #9.

Discussion ensued regarding caps on Tier 1 and Tier 2 water.

Mr. De Groot continued with his presentation on Table 2 regarding definitions and quantities of water.

Discussion ensued regarding the categories of landowners to whom the total precipitation and native sustainable yield applies (i.e., irrigated vs non irrigated lands).

Mr. De Groot continued with his presentation.

Discussion ensued regarding the possibility that someone pumps so much Tier 2 that they start to reach minimum thresholds.

Mr. De Groot continued with his presentation.

Discussion ensued regarding annual allocations vs five-year block allocations.

Public comment was received from Stacie Ann Silva.

Discussion ensued regarding annual allocations and five-year blocks.

Public comment was received from Brad Samuelson.

Discussion ensued regarding the Stakeholder Committee and its recommendation or lack thereof.

Discussion ensued regarding the process for preparing a Stakeholder Committee recommendation to the board. Discussion was also held regarding carry-over between five-year blocks.

Public comment was received from Tom O'Sullivan.

Discussion ensued regarding the use some of Year 2 water in Year 1, but subject to penalty.

Discussion ensued regarding Tier 1 allocation to IRLP lands. Discussion continued regarding longer allocation periods.

Public comment was received from Sopac Mulholland.

Discussion ensued regarding the prospect of a water market.

Public comment was received from Staci Ann Silva and Geoff Vanden Heuvel.

NEXT MEETING DATE

Next Executive Committee Meeting – Thursday, April 16, 2020 at Transit Multi-Purpose Center (15 E. Thurman Ave., Ste. D, Porterville)

The next meeting of the Executive Committee is set for April 16, 2020, at 2:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business to come before the Committee, Chairman Borba adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Eric Borba