



EASTERN TULE
GROUNDWATER
SUSTAINABILITY
AGENCY
JOINT POWERS
AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE HELD AUGUST 16, 2018

At approximately, 2:00 p.m. on August 16, 2018, at the ETGSA Office at 881 W. Morton Avenue, Suite D, Porterville, CA 93257, Chairman Eric Borba, called to order a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Eastern Tule Groundwater Sustainability Agency Joint Powers Authority (“ETGSA”).

Members Present: Eric Borba Denise England
Steve Drumright Sean Geivet
Steve Etchegaray Steven Dalke
Eric Limas

Members Absent: Mike Reed Keith Norris

Others Present: Julia Inestroza Tom O’Sullivan
Bill Bennett Don Castle
Mike McKenzie Bill Samarin
Bruce Howarth Deanna Jackson
David De Groot Ryan Jensen
Mike Knight

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Eric Borba announced public comment period. Public comment was received from Bill Samarin.

MINUTES

Approval of Joint Stakeholder and Executive Committee Minutes for July 19, 2018 Meeting

Committee member Drumright moved for approval of the July 19, 2018 minutes. The motion was seconded by Committee member Dalke and the board unanimously approved the motion.

ADMINISTRATION

Master Calendar of Regular ETGSA Meetings (FY19) – Review Approved Master Calendar

Executive Director McAteer referred the committee to the agenda packet. Attached here and incorporated by reference as Agenda Item #4a is a copy of the Master Calendar. Executive Director McAteer reported he will likely be moving all committee meetings back to the City of Porterville's Transit Center due to space issues.

*Steve Etchegary arrived at this time.

Amendment to Bylaws and JPA – Review Recommended Revisions to Language of Bylaws 5.3.3 and JPA Section 4.01(b) and Make a Recommendation to the Board

Executive Director McAteer referred the committee to Agenda Item #4b, attached hereto and incorporated by reference, a recommendation for amendments to the bylaws and JPA regarding appointments to the Executive Committee. General Counsel Mauritsen reported that as currently written each Director is allowed to appoint a member to the Executive Committee. Instead, she proposed that each Member Agency shall appoint a member to the Executive Committee, with the County of Tulare entitled to appoint two members to the Executive Committee.

Committee member Geivet moved to recommend the revisions as recommended by General Counsel. Committee member Drumright seconded and the committee unanimously approved.

Financial Audit for RY 2017-2018 – Review Audit Proposal and Make a Recommendation to the Board

Executive Director McAteer provided a summary of proposals received from CPAs for an audit. He will be working on receiving additional proposals.

Committee member Geivet moved to recommend that the board accept the lowest bid received from the proposals. Committee member Etchegary seconded and the committee unanimously approved.

Public comment was received from Sopac Mulholland and Bill Bennett.

Technical Assistance – Review 4Creeks Technical Assistance Budget and Make a Recommendation to the Board

Executive Director McAteer referred the committee to a revised proposal from 4Creeks identified as Agenda Item #4d, attached hereto and incorporated by reference in the agenda packet. David DeGroot from 4Creeks provided a summary of his proposal.

Committee member Geivet moved to recommend approval to the board. Committee member Etchegary seconded and the board unanimously approved.

Treasurer and Fiscal Agent – Discuss Potential Amendments to JPA Sections 5.03-4 and 6.01 for Appointment of New Treasurer and Transfer of Custodial Function to a Member Agency or Separate Account; May Make Recommendation to the Board

Executive Director McAteer referred the committee to Agenda Item #4e, attached hereto and incorporated by reference, a copy of the current JPA language regarding the Treasurer and Fiscal Agent as well as citation from the Joint Powers Authority Act.

Discussion amongst the committee ensued.

Committee member Geivet moved to recommend the board consider pursuing a CPA as the Treasurer and Fiscal Agent. Committee member Dalke seconded and the committee unanimously approved the motion.

FY19 Budget – Discuss Current FY19 Budget and Whether Revisions or Increases Should be Made; May Make a Recommendation to the Board

Executive Director McAteer referred the committee to Agenda Item #4f, attached hereto and incorporated by reference, a copy the current budget and discussed potential revisions.

Discussion amongst the committee ensued regarding the amount listed for facilitation services on outreach.

Public comment was received from Bruce Howarth, Mike McKenzie (DWR) and Ryan Jensen.

Committee member Geivet moved to approve to recommend to the board the revisions to the budget as illustrated by Executive Director McAteer. Committee member Etchegary seconded and the committee unanimously approved.

TULE SUBBASIN TAC

Report on the Tule Subbasin MOU Managers Meeting (August 14th, 2018) and Technical Advisory Committee (August 15th, 2018) and Discuss Most Recent Developments; May Make a Recommendation to the Board

Executive Director McAteer provided a report of the Tule Subbasin TAC meetings. Attached hereto and incorporated by reference is Agenda Item #5a, a copy of a reformatted Coordination Agreement outline as prepared by General Counsel Mauritsen and himself. Four major issues appear to be challenging the progress of the Tule Subbasin Coordination Agreement: 1) format; 2) policy points within the current draft; 3) the need for updated information within the agreement; and 4) the continuing development of sections of the agreement.

The Subbasin TAC had met the following day where Dr. Harder presented the preliminary results from the Groundwater Flow Model. Consulting Engineer David DeGroot provided a summary of Dr. Harder's report. The purpose of the model is to use a planning tool for each GSA to assist with the drafting of each respective GSP. The best available data is all that there is to start.

Discussion amongst the committee ensued.

Consulting Engineer DeGroot reported that policy decisions are needed at the basin level so particular models can be run.

Public comment received from Don Castle.

Executive Director McAteer recommended the ETGSA begin to formulate sustainable management criteria.

Public comment received from Bill Samarin.

Discussion amongst the committee ensued.

Committee member Dalke reported on a meeting with the Kern Groundwater Authority. More communication will be taking place.

Committee member Geivet moved to recommend staff and legal merge the content of the draft Coordination Agreement previously circulated to the format presented in the agenda packet. Committee member Drumright seconded and the committee unanimously approved.

Executive Director McAteer sought recommendations on the preparation of sustainable management criteria.

Committee member England moved to recommend staff bring back recommendations to the board on sustainable management criteria. Committee member Geivet seconded and the committee unanimously approved.

Discussion Papers – Review Draft Coordination Agreement Discussion Papers and Make a Recommendation to the Board for Posting to ETGSA Website and Inclusion as Outreach Materials

- i. (Stakeholder Committee Recommendation: Recommend to the Board that the Coordination Agreement Discussion Papers be developed, including Consulting Engineer recommendation, and placed on ETGSA website)

Executive Director McAteer provided a summary of the discussion papers prepared by himself and General Counsel. Attached hereto and incorporated by reference as Agenda Item #5b are the drafts.

Committee member England moved to direct staff to post the discussion papers on the website. Committee member Geivet seconded and the committee unanimously approved.

Discussion amongst the committee ensued on feedback from the discussion papers.

GSP AND POLICY ISSUES

Draft Timeline for GSP Creation – Review Draft Timeline for GSP Creation and Make a Recommendation to the Board

- i. *(Stakeholder Committee Recommendation: Recommend to the Board adoption of the Draft Timeline for GSP Development, as amended)*

Executive Director McAteer provided an overview of two timelines for GSP development attached hereto and incorporated by reference as Agenda Items #6a and 6b.

Committee member Geivet moved, and Committee member England seconded to recommend the timelines to the board. The committee unanimously approved.

Draft Updated Policy Points – Review Draft Updated Policy Points and Make a Recommendation to the Board for Edits and Other Policy Points or Questions to be Considered

- i. *(Stakeholder Committee Recommendation: Recommend to the Board the Updated Policy Points, as amended)*

Executive Director McAteer referred the committee to Agenda Item #6b, attached hereto and incorporated by reference, a reformatted copy of the ETGSA Policy Points.

Discussion amongst the committee ensued.

Executive Director McAteer identified three separate issues with the ETGSA Policy Points: 1) do we agree with the process; 2) do we agree with the timeline; 3) do we agree with the points.

- 1) Do we agree with the process?

Discussion amongst the committee ensued on the process being used to provide recommendations on the policy points.

Committee member Etchegary moved and Committee member England seconded to approve the current process being used to reach direction on the policy points.

Public comment was received from Bill Samarin and Bill Bennett.

Committee member Etchegary moved again to approve the current process. Committee member England seconded the motion.

Public comment was received from Bill Samarin.

The committee unanimously approved Committee member Etchegary's motion to maintain the current process.

2) Do we agree with the timeline?

Discussion amongst the committee ensued on the timeline for recommending certain components of the policy points to the board.

Committee member Etchegary moved to adjust the timeline to have the board consideration Point A on September 6, 2018, and Points B-G on October 4, 2018, with a priority towards B-D. Committee member England seconded the motion.

Discussion amongst the committee. General Counsel Mauritson suggested the committee could recommend a workshop be conducted in advance of the next regularly scheduled monthly meetings to review Dr. Harder's model. Consulting Engineer DeGroot reported he would be available to host that workshop.

Public comment was received from Sopac Mulholland and others.

Committee member Etchegary moved to adjust the timeline to have the board consideration Point A on September 6, 2018, and Points B-G on October 4, 2018, with a priority towards B-D, and have a workshop prior to the next regularly scheduled meetings to review Dr. Harder's model. Committee member England seconded the motion.

Public comment received from Deanna Jackson.

The committee unanimously approved Committee member Etchegary's motion.

3) Policy points

Discussion amongst the committee ensued regarding the inclusion of management areas to the Policy Points.

Committee member Geivet moved to approve the reformatted policy points for discussion amongst the committees and board, with the addition of management areas. Committee member England seconded.

Public comment received from Bill Samarin.

The committee unanimously approved Committee member Geivet's motion.

Management Areas – Discuss General Considerations Around ETGSA Management Areas

The committee did not discuss the topic of management areas further.

OUTSIDE ENGAGEMENTS

ETWAG – Report on August 7th, 2018 Meeting with Eastern Tule White Area Growers Association, Inc. (ETWAG)

Executive Director McAteer reported he met with the ETWAG. He reported the group will be presenting a policy paper soon. Committee member Etchegary reported on behalf of the ETWAG, and reported a policy paper would be coming out in the next couple of weeks.

KGA – Report on August 10th, 2018 Meeting with Kern Groundwater Authority (KGA), Consider ETGSA Representatives for September 26th, 2018 Meeting, and Make a Recommendation to the Board

Executive Director McAteer reported he and Committee member Dalke attended a meeting with KGA. Inquiries were received as to how the ETGSA would be addressing subsidence. Another meeting was scheduled for September 26, 2018. Executive Director McAteer was looking for a recommendation as to who should attend the next meeting. He recommended two individuals from the ETWAG attend.

Discussion amongst the committee ensued. The committee recommended to ask KGA for talking points prior to meeting with the representatives.

OUTREACH

Regional Groups – Report on Outreach Efforts with Tule Basin Water Quality Coalition and Tulare County Farm Bureau and Discuss Other Potential Collaborations

Executive Director McAteer reported he was continuing outreach efforts and would be discussing outreach with TBWQC and TCFB. Attached hereto and incorporated by reference as Agenda Item #8a is a copy of proposed outreach material. Committee member England moved and Committee member Drumright seconded to send out outreach material as presented in the packet. The committee unanimously approved the motion.

Porterville Recorder – Review Proposal for Two-Month Advertisement Term with Porterville Recorder and Make a Recommendation to the Board

Executive Director McAteer reported he had received proposals from the Porterville Recorder for running advertisements. Attached hereto as Agenda Items #8a and 8b are copies of the proposed ads.

Discussion amongst the committee ensued.

Committee member Geivet moved to run the ads as presented on Saturday only. Committee member England seconded.

Public comment received from Bill Samarin.

The committee unanimously approved the motion.

ETGSA Website – Review of Recent Updates to Website and Discuss Potential Developments

Executive Director McAteer reviewed recent updates to the website. Attached hereto and incorporated by reference is Agenda Item #8c is a copy of the updates.

ETGSA Social Media – Discuss the Creation of an ETGSA Social Media Platform and Make a Recommendation to the Board

Executive Director McAteer provided a report on potential ETGSA social media activity.

Public comment was received from Julie Inestroza.

Consulting Engineer DeGroot recommended waiting to engage in social media until a GSP has been developed and circulated.

Draft Postcard and Member Agency Outreach – Review Draft Postcard and Discuss Methods of Outreach to Stakeholders Within Member Agency Service Areas; Make a Recommendation to the Board

Executive Director McAteer reported he is still assessing the possibility of sending out a post card to all unique landowners. Attached hereto and incorporated by reference as Agenda Item #8e is a copy of the proposed text of the post card.

Committee member Geivet moved to recommend sending out the publication as presented in the agenda packet. Committee member England seconded.

Public comment received from Bill Samarin.

The committee unanimously approved the motion.

ETGSA Outreach Plan – Discuss the Need for a Formal ETGSA Outreach Plan and Proposal to Solicit Professional Assistance; May Make a Recommendation to the Board

- i. *(Stakeholder Committee Recommendation: Recommend to the Board that a Budget Item be created and Professional Assistance be sought for the purpose of Outreach and Communication)*

Executive Director McAteer reported the Stakeholder Committee recommended to seek professional assistance on an outreach plan.

Discussion amongst the committee ensued.

Committee member Geivet moved to recommend staff prepare an outreach plan agreement. Committee member Limas seconded and the committee unanimously approved.

Public comment received from Dale Brogan and Bill Samarin.

UPCOMING MEETING DATE

Agenda Items – Recommend Agenda Items to be Included on the Agenda of September 6, 2018, Board of Directors Meeting

The next meeting of the Board of Directors of the ETGSA Joint Powers Authority shall be a regular meeting, set for September 6, 2018, 2:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted,

Bryce McAteer, Executive Director