



EASTERN TULE
GROUNDWATER
SUSTAINABILITY
AGENCY
JOINT POWERS
AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF THE ETGSA STAKEHOLDER COMMITTEE HELD SEPTEMBER 13, 2018

At approximately, 2:01 p.m. on September 13, 2018, at the Transit Multi Purpose Center at 15 E. Thurman Ave, Suite D, Porterville, CA, Chairman Matthew Leider, called to order the meeting of the Stakeholder Committee of the Eastern Tule Groundwater Sustainability Agency Joint Powers Authority (“ETGSA”).

ROLL CALL

Members Present:	Bill Bennett Don Castle Julie Inestroza Matthew Leider Matt Watkins	Kathy Briano Jason Guthrie Ben Magana Tom O’Sullivan
Members Absent:	Sopac Mulholland Jim Pasons	John Konda
Others Present:	Sean Geivet Vincent Sola Brian Fischer Michael Knight Jenifer Pitcher Bryce McAteer	Michael Reed Stacie Ann Silva John Domondon Ryan Jensen Armando Leal

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Leider announced the public comment period.

Public comment was received from Bill Samarin.

MINUTES

Approval of Stakeholder Committee Minutes of August 9, 2018

Executive Director McAteer presented the Minutes of the August 9, 2018 Stakeholder Committee Meeting.

Member O’Sullivan moved for approval of the Minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Member Watkins and the Committee unanimously approved the motion.

BOARD MEETING

Report on September 6, 2018 Board Meeting and actions taken

Executive Director McAteer provided a report on the Board of Directors Meeting of September 6, 2018 and discussed the actions taken on the Board Agenda (attached hereto and incorporated by reference as Agenda Item #4.a).

COORDINATION AGREEMENT

Report on Tule Subbasin MOU TAC Meeting on August 15, 2018 and receive presentation on Groundwater Flow Model & Draft Tule Subbasin Monitoring Plan

Executive Director McAteer provided a report on the Tule Subbasin MOU Meeting of August 15, 2018 and described the items discussed in the TAC Agenda (attached hereto and incorporated by reference as Agenda Item #5.a). Executive Director McAteer noted that these meetings are open to the public and that the next meeting is scheduled for 2pm on Wednesday, September 19th, 2018 and is to be hosted at Lower Tule River Irrigation District.

*Committee Member Guthrie arrived at this time.

Executive Director McAteer then provided the Committee with a presentation (attached hereto and incorporated by reference as Agenda Item #5.a) on the Tule Subbasin Groundwater Flow Model and Draft Tule Subbasin Monitoring Plan. Executive Director McAteer noted that the presentation was a shortened version of the presentation made by Thomas Harder, who is developing the Groundwater Flow Model and Monitoring Plan on behalf of the Tule Subbasin GSAs.

The presentation described the Groundwater Flow Model’s domain, calibration process, and a number of future scenarios that were run analyzing the model’s projected effects on groundwater elevation and land subsidence.

Executive Director McAteer then discussed the Draft Monitoring Plan described in the presentation, which is intended to provide a minimum monitoring of groundwater elevations, surface water, land subsidence, and groundwater quality. He noted that Thomas Harder is continuing to evaluate wells for inclusion in the monitoring network and described the minimum criteria for wells that would be considered for inclusion in the monitoring network.

Discussion ensued amongst the Committee Members regarding the criteria for wells.

Public comment was received from Mike Reed, Bill Samarin, and Ryan Jensen.

Discussion ensued amongst the Committee regarding subsidence within the Tule Subbasin and data gaps.

Public comment was received from Bill Samarin, Mike Reed, Armando Leal, and Sean Geivet.

Potential improvements to the model were suggested by Committee Members and members of the public, including scenario analyses on the varying effects of pumping across the subbasin, improving the boundary condition assumptions, and considering cropping patterns.

Discuss Sustainable Management Criteria and discuss unreasonable groundwater conditions within ETGSA; may **make a recommendation**

Executive Director McAteer presented a draft document (attached hereto and incorporated by reference as Agenda Item #5.b) that discussed the Sustainable Management Criteria and described the four components of these criteria: Sustainability Goal, Minimum Thresholds, Measurable Objectives, and Undesirable Results.

Executive Director McAteer recommended that the Committee consider what groundwater conditions they felt would be considered unreasonable within the Eastern Tule GSA. Discussion ensued amongst the Committee.

Public comment was received from Jenifer Pitcher, Vincent Sola, Armando Leal, and Bill Samarin.

Discussion ensued amongst the Committee regarding what baselines and minimum thresholds should be used for groundwater levels.

No recommendation was made.

GSP DRAFTING

Report on ETGSA Timeline for Draft GSP Creation

Executive Director McAteer reported on the Timeline for Draft GSP Creation (attached hereto and incorporated by reference as Agenda Item #6.a), which was approved at the September 6, 2018 last Board Meeting.

Report on ETGSA Policy Points approved by the Board of Directors

Executive Director McAteer presented the ETGSA Policy Points (attached hereto and incorporated by reference as Agenda Item #6.b), which are intended to foster discussion and provide direction to the Board on the development of projects and management actions within the Draft GSP. Executive Director McAteer noted that the Policy Points are available online and that members of the public may provide their comments using an online portal found on ETGSA's website.

Report on Eastern Tule White Area Growers, Inc. policy point positions and other public comment received regarding ETGSA Policy Points

Executive Director McAteer presented a document received from the Eastern Tule White Area Growers, Inc (attached hereto and incorporated by reference as Agenda Item #6.c) describing the group's policy positions.

Review Policy Points B-G; **may make a recommendation**

Executive Director McAteer began a presentation (attached hereto and incorporated by reference as Agenda Item #6.d) to provide background and initial concepts for discussion related to Policy Points B-G, which were to be discussed by the Stakeholder Committee.

Discussion ensued amongst the Committee regarding the distribution of the sustainable yield and considerations around transitional pumping mechanisms. Further discussion was had regarding the subject of recharged groundwater and how surface water supplies might be considered within the ETGSA's policies.

Public comment was received from Bill Samarin, Sean Geivet, and Mike Reed.

Discussion ensued amongst the Committee regarding how the City of Porterville and other public water suppliers, such as the CSDs, would share the sustainable yield.

Public comment was received from Bill Samarin, Mike Reed, and Ryan Jensen.

Chairman Leider moved to schedule a special meeting of the Stakeholder Committee on Thursday, September 28 and that the Stakeholder Committee begin having special meetings on the fourth Thursday of every month thereafter in addition to their regularly scheduled meeting on the second Thursday of every month. Member Castle seconded the motion and the Committee unanimously approved.

No further discussion was had.

Discussion regarding other Projects & Management Actions not currently considered in Policy Points

No discussion was had on this subject.

OUTREACH

Report on ongoing ETGSA outreach activities and latest developments

Executive Director McAteer provided a report (attached hereto and incorporated by reference as Agenda Item #7.a) on ETGSA's ongoing outreach efforts. He noted that the Agency had

successfully working with the Tulare County Farm Bureau to advertise meetings and the Agency's interested parties sign-up form, and that the Agency was currently running an advertisement with the Porterville Recorder. Future email blasts and outreach correspondence is planned through other local community groups and organizations.

Review Draft Communication & Engagement Plan and **recommend** edits and areas for further development

Executive Director McAteer presented the Draft ETGSA Communication & Engagement Plan (attached hereto and incorporated by reference as Agenda Item #7.b) and asked for comments and recommendations from the Committee. Executive Director McAteer noted that the Agency had also reached out to Community Water Center, Self Help Enterprises, and other interested parties asking for their comments.

Member Watkins moved to recommend that the Communication & Engagement Plan be further improved and adopted as a living document by the Board. Member Bennet seconded the motion. The Committee unanimously approved the motion.

Review proposal for professional assistance and **make a recommendation**

Executive Director McAteer presented a proposal for professional assistance from Provost & Pritchard (attached hereto and incorporated by reference as Agenda Item #7.c) on further developing and administering the Communications and Engagement Plan.

Discussion ensued amongst the Committee.

No recommendation was made.

Invitation to Kern Groundwater Authority and Tule Subbasin Coordination Meeting at Semitropic WSD on September 28, 2018

Executive Director McAteer presented the details (attached hereto and incorporated by reference as Agenda Item #7.d) related to a meeting called by Kern Groundwater Authority that invited the Tule Subbasin GSAs and their stakeholders to discuss ongoing SGMA developments within each of their subbasins. The meeting is open to the public and is to be hosted at Semitropic Water Storage District from 1-2:30pm on September 28, 2018.

Discuss additional opportunities, venues, and events for near-term outreach

No discussion was had.

NEXT MEETING DATE

Consider additional September meeting and **make a recommendation**

Executive Director McAteer noted that this item was already addressed in the approved motion from earlier in the Committee meeting, and that the Committee would meet again on Thursday, September 27, 2018.

Next Regular Meeting – Thursday, October 11, 2018

Executive Director McAteer noted that the next regular meeting would be Thursday, October 11, 2018.

ADJOURNMENT

Since there was no further business to come before the Committee, Member Castle moved to adjourn the meeting and Chairman Leider seconded the motion. The Committee unanimously approved and Chairman Leider adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Bryce G. McAteer, Secretary to the Board