



EASTERN TULE
GROUNDWATER
SUSTAINABILITY
AGENCY
JOINT POWERS
AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE HELD SEPTEMBER 20, 2018

At approximately, 2:00 p.m. on September 20, 2018, at the City of Porterville Transit Multi-Purpose Center, 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: Mike Reed Steve Drumright
Sean Geivet Steve Etchegaray
Eric Borba Skye Grass

Members Absent: Denise England Steve Dalke

Others Present: Bryce McAteer Aubrey Mauritson
Don Castle Burt Fugate
Tom B. Oglesly David Payne
Michael Knight Ryan Jensen
Tom O’Sullivan Todd Turley
Terry Schuler Peter Harman
John M. Domondon

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Eric Borba announced public comment period. No comment was received.

MINUTES

Approval of Executive Committee Minutes for August 16, 2018 Meeting

Committee member Geivet moved for approval of the August 16, 2018 minutes. The motion was seconded by Committee member Etchegaray 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 September 6, 2018, board meeting. Attached hereto and incorporated by reference as Agenda #4a is a copy of the September 6 agenda.

COORDINATION AGREEMENT

Report on Tule Subbasin MOU TAC Meeting of September 19, 2018, and Other Subbasin Developments

Executive Director McAteer provided a report. Attached hereto and incorporated by reference as Agenda Item #5a is a copy of the Tule Subbasin MOU September 19, 2018, meeting and scope of work from Dr. Harder.

Consulting Engineer David DeGroot provided a summary of the scope of work as outlined in Agenda Item #5a.

Discussion amongst the committee ensued. Topics discussed were issues related to agreements on model runs. Some groups are attempting to determine land subsidence issues.

Public comment was received from Bill Samarin.

Consulting Engineer DeGroot reported the Tule Subbasin TAC has recommended to move forward with Tasks 1 and 2 of Dr. Harder's proposed scope of work. It is not for the GSA boards to provide authority to move forward with all task orders under the scope of work as proposed.

Executive Director McAteer referred the committee to the 2019 Tule Subbasin Budget including in Agenda Item #5a.

Discussion amongst the committee ensued regarding the reimbursement of grant monies and when to receive those.

Committee member Geivet moved to recommend the board approve all five task orders as outlined in the scope of work as presented in the agenda packet. Committee member Reed seconded the motion and the committee unanimously approved.

Discuss Approach to Developing Sustainable Management Criteria within ETGSA; May Make a Recommendation

Executive Director McAteer provided a report on Sustainable Management Criteria. Attached hereto and incorporated by reference as Agenda Item #5b is a copy of the draft Sustainable Management Criteria white paper.

Consulting Engineer DeGroot recommended to the ETGSA set a goal for the end of November to fill out model run form for actions on projects, policies, transitional pumping, etc. Dr. Harder could then start running models in December.

Executive Director McAteer reported his goal is to have the ETGSA begin developing sustainable management criteria by the end of November.

Public comment received from Bill Samarin.

Executive Director McAteer reported he will reach out to agencies and landowners to determine and analyze potential projects.

GSP DRAFTING

Report on ETGSA Timeline for Draft GSP Creation

Executive Director McAteer provided a report on the GSP development timeline. Attached hereto and incorporated by reference as Agenda Item #6a is a copy of the approved ETGSA Timeline. He reported other GSAs in Tule Subbasin have similar timelines. The draft GSP is expected to be completed by Spring of 2019 to allow sufficient time for the 90-day public review.

Report on ETGSA Policy Points

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

Discussion amongst the committee ensued on the Stakeholder Committee's recommendation on the policy points.

Public comment was received by Bill Samarin.

Report on Eastern Tule White Area Growers, Inc. Policy Point Positions

Executive Director McAteer referred the committee to Agenda Item #6c, a copy of the ETWAG's policy position paper, attached hereto and incorporated by reference. Committee member Etchegaray described the process used by the ETWAG to create the paper.

Review Policy Points B-G; May Make Recommendation

Executive Director McAteer provided a PowerPoint presentation on policy points B-G. Attached hereto and incorporated by reference as Agenda Item #6d is a copy of the PowerPoint presentation.

Public comment received from Bill Wallace and Bill Samarin.

Policy Point B – Sustainable Yield Allocation

Discussion amongst the committee ensued regarding policy point B, related to how to allocate sustainable yield amongst the acres within the ETGSA. Management areas were discussed.

Public comment received from Don Castle and Peter Harman.

Discussion amongst the committee ensued on the ETWAG's position related to policy point B, including discussion of historical use, gross acreage, and the need to address transitional pumping.

Discussion also ensued regarding assessing transitional pumping as a block of water, or multiple blocks of water.

Public comment received from Bill Samarin.

Public comment received Bill Wallace.

Discussion ensued regarding M&I use as related to the City of Porterville and other small public water systems. Gross acreage may or may not result in the needs necessary for these entities.

Public comment received from Tom O'Sullivan, Bill Samarin, Ryan Jensen, and Mike Knight.

Discussion amongst the committee ensued on utilizing gross acreage but having it based on a "pool" and "weighted".

Committee member Reed moved to recommend to the board sustainable yield should be allocated based on gross acreage with further analysis to be conducted on a pool concept for M&I use.

Discussion amongst the committee ensued on transitional pumping.

Committee member Geivet seconded the motion. Committee members Reed, Geivet, Drumright, Etchegaray approved the motion. Committee member Grass voted nay. The motion was approved.

Policy Point D – Transitional Pumping

The committee discussed policy point D related to transitional pumping. Discussion regarding viewing transitional pumping as a block of water was discussed.

Committee member Etchegaray moved to recommend that the board consider establishing a total block (to be determined) of transitional pumping above sustainable yield, which will be available for purchase to water users up to a limit or cap.

Public comment received from Peter Harman.

Discussion amongst the committee ensued on the issue of carry over.

Committee member Reed seconded the motion. The committee unanimously approved.

Policy Point C – Allocation Decisions.

Discussion amongst the committee ensued on policy point C related to sustainable yield allocation decisions in different temporal intervals.

Committee member Etchegaray moved to recommend to the board that sustainable yield allocation decisions should be adopted on a five-year interval basis with annual reports. Committee member Geivet seconded the motion and the committee unanimously approved.

Policy Point J – Carryover.

Discussion amongst the committee ensued on the issue of carryover water.

Committee member Geivet moved to recommend to the board that an unused portion of the five-year allocation be allowed to be carried over, but only for the most recent five-year block of water. Committee member Reed seconded the motion and the committee unanimously approved.

Public comment received from Peter Harman.

Policy Point E – Transferability of Allocations.

Discussion amongst the committee ensued on the issue of keeping allocations within the jurisdiction of the ETGSA versus the subbasin as a whole. Discussion took place regarding impacts specifically to Kern Tulare Water District.

Committee member Reed moved to approve transfers of allocations of the sustainable yield within the ETGSA with a ratio of 1:1, with further analysis to take place regarding potential impacts. Committee member Geivet seconded the motion and the committee unanimously approved.

Discussion Regarding Additional Projects & Management Actions

Executive Director McAteer reported he will reach out to member agencies to determine what, if any, projects each are proposing.

OUTREACH

Review Draft Communication & Engagement Plan; May Make a Recommendation

Executive Director McAteer referred the committee to Agenda Item #7a, a copy of the draft C&E plan. Committee member Geivet moved to recommend approval of the draft C&E plan to the board on the condition that it will require routine updates. Committee member Drumright seconded the motion and the committee unanimously approved.

Discuss Contents of Potential Mailer to ETGSA Landowners; May Make a Recommendation

Executive Director McAteer referred the committee to Agenda Item #7b, a copy of proposed language to include in a mailer to landowners. Discussion amongst the committee ensued.

Public comment was received from Bill Samarin.

Committee member Reed moved to recommend to the board the proposed language of Agenda Item #7b, Exhibit B. Committee member Geivet seconded the motion and the committee unanimously approved.

Report on KGA & Tule Subbasin Coordination Meeting at Semitropic WSD on September 28, 2018

Executive Director McAteer reported the KGA has invited all Tule Subbasin GSAs to a meeting at Semitropic.

NEXT MEETING DATE

Next Regular Meeting – Thursday, October 18, 2018

The next meeting of the Executive Committee is set for October 18, 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