



EASTERN TULE  
GROUNDWATER  
SUSTAINABILITY  
AGENCY  
JOINT POWERS  
AUTHORITY

## MINUTES OF THE ETGSA STAKEHOLDER COMMITTEE HELD NOVEMBER 8, 2018

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At approximately 2:04 p.m. on November 8, 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:	Don Castle	Jason Guthrie
	Kathy Briano	Bill Bennett
	John Konda	Matt Watkins
	Matthew Leider	Julia Inestroza
	Jim Parsons	

Members Absent:	Sopac Mulholland	Ben Magana
	Tom O’Sullivan	

Others Present:	Bryce McAteer	Mike Knight
	Alan Becker	Stacie Ann Silva
	Julie Allen	Lee Knudtson
	Tamara Kelly	Terry Schuler
	Armando Leal	Phil Pierre
	Michael Reed	Bill Wallace
	David DeGroot	John Michael
	Dan Howes	Bill Samarin

### PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Leider announced the public comment period.

No public comment was received.

### MINUTES

Approval of Stakeholder Committee Minutes of October 25, 2018

Executive Director McAteer presented the Minutes of the October 25, 2018 Stakeholder Committee Meeting.

Member Don Castle moved for approval of the Minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Member Kathy Briano and the Committee unanimously approved the motion.

\*John Konda arrived at this time.

\*Jim Parsons arrived at this time.

#### PRESENTATION – REMOTE EVAPOTRANSPIRATION (ET) MONITORING

Executive Director McAteer introduced Dr. Daniel Howes of Cal Poly San Luis Obispo's Irrigation Training and Research Center (ITRC) to the Committee. Dr. Howes then began a presentation on remote ET monitoring, attached hereto and incorporated by reference as Agenda Item #4.

Dr. Howes discussed the differences between gross and net metering and the importance of tracking consumptive use. He also reviewed ITRC's Net to-and-from groundwater technology, which evaluates the amount of water either taken from groundwater or recharged back into the basin. Dr. Howes then reviewed the pilot project that ITRC had undertaken with LTRID and Pixley ID.

Discussion ensued amongst the Committee regarding the errors observed during the pilot projects. Dr. Howes noted that one error was due to a faulty meter and the other was due to the temporal intervals of the satellite imagery being used, something which can be corrected through the use of additional satellites.

Public comment was received from Julie Allen and Alan Becker.

Discussion ensued amongst the Committee regarding cloud cover and the use of frost water in the ETGSA, due to the predominance of citrus in the area. Dr. Howes noted that ET is generally low during winter months and that new satellites could help fill those gaps if cloud cover was present in certain images.

Public comment was received from Bill Wallace.

Dr. Howes discussed the differences between university-published crop coefficients and the ITRC data.

Discussion ensued amongst the committee regarding how crop demand supplied by surface water would be evaluated.

Public comment was received by Armando Leal.

Discussion ensued amongst the Committee regarding how this might be used by a GSA.

Dr. Howes then concluded his presentation.

## ETGSA MEETINGS REVIEW

### Report on ETGSA Board Meeting of November 1, 2018

Executive Director McAteer provided a report to the Committee on the ETGSA Board Meeting of November 1, 2018. Attached hereto and incorporated by reference are a copy of his report as Agenda Item 5.a and a copy of the Board Meeting Agenda as Agenda Item 5.a Exhibit A.

Executive Director McAteer noted in his report the actions taken by the Board.

## TULE SUBBASIN COORDINATION

### Report on ETGSA's proposed TH&Co GWFM Projection Scenario Run proposals and process for finalization; **may make a recommendation**

Executive Director McAteer provided a presentation on ETGSA's proposed scenarios for the Thomas Harder & Co Groundwater Flow Model (GWFM) projection scenario runs that TH&Co will be doing for the Tule Subbasin MOU Group. The presentation also described the purpose of the scenario runs and the process by which ETGSA would incorporate member agency and stakeholder submissions of projects and finalize its scenarios. The presentation is attached hereto and incorporated by reference as Agenda Item #6.a.

Discussion ensued amongst the Committee regarding the scenarios and how they would be used to inform GSP development. Executive Director McAteer noted that these scenarios will help provide projections of potential future water budgets and allow the GSAs to evaluate the effect of proposed projects.

Member Konda asked for a calendar or schedule of the various TH&Co deliverables be provided.

Public Comment was received from Bill Samarin, Bill Wallace, and Terry Schulz.

No recommendations were made.

## GSP DRAFTING

### Report on progress of GSP drafting

Executive Director McAteer provided the Committee with an update on the current progress of GSP drafting. A draft of Chapter 1 of the GSP was completed the week prior and that it is going through a second round of edits. Technical materials related to groundwater monitoring and the basin setting are being prepared by TH&Co on behalf of the Tule Subbasin GSAs. It is expected that these materials will be delivered in Mid-to-Late November.

Discussion on transitional mechanism (Policy Point D) and its distribution; **may make a recommendation**

Executive Director McAteer noted that the Board had asked for the Stakeholder and Executive Committees to provide additional clarity on how to distribute transitional water, per Policy Point D, and to provide a definition of historical use, should that be a factor they recommend considering.

Executive Director McAteer began a presentation, attached hereto and incorporated by reference as Agenda Item #7.b, that included background information and concepts related to Policy Point D.

Discussion ensued amongst the Committee regarding the different attributes of the transitional water, including its tradability, price, and ability to be carried over. Discussion also ensued around how the transitional water might initially be distributed, and what effects this might within the context of a groundwater market.

Public comment from Mike Reed and Bill Samarin

Executive Director McAteer brought up the concept of tradable options to use transitional water that would allow users to use transitional water up to a limited amount for a fee. Discussion ensued amongst the Committee regarding how prices for transitional water might be set and the use of a tiered system of pricing.

Public comment was received from Bill Samarin.

Discussion ensued amongst the Committee regarding the ramifications of making policies too complicated. Additional discussion ensued around what acres might be eligible to receive transitional water and what date or period should be considered if based off of cropping patterns or historical use. The Committee discussed using TH&Co's upcoming data to potentially determine some of this. Other considerations included making certain tiers available to either white area or irrigation district growers and defining historical demand off of the average use of a mature crop.

\*Matt Watkins left at this time.

Discussion ensued amongst the Committee regarding uncropped acres, mitigating future development, and well drilling restrictions.

Public comment was received from Bill Wallace and Bill Samarin.

Member Konda moved to recommend that the Committee not make a recommendation to the Board. Member Parsons seconded the motion and the Committee unanimously approved.

## OUTREACH

This item was not discussed by the Committee.

## NEXT MEETING DATE

Next Meeting– Thursday, December 13, 2018 at Transit Multi Purpose Center (15 E. Thurman Ave, Suite D, Porterville)

Executive Director McAteer announced that the next regular meeting of the Stakeholder Committee will be on December 13, 2018 at 2pm and that the meeting location will take place at the Transit Multi Purpose Center.

## ADJOURMENT

Since there was no further business to come before the committee, Chairman Leider adjourned the meeting at 4:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Bryce G. McAteer, Secretary to the Board