



MAY 25, 2017 EASTERN TULE
GSA MINUTES

**EASTERN TULE
GROUNDWATER
SUSTAINABILITY
AGENCY JOINT
POWERS AUTHORITY**

County of Tulare

City of Porterville

Porterville Irrigation District

Saucelito Irrigation District

Teapot Dome Water District

Vandalia Water District

Terra Bella Irrigation District

Kern-Tulare Water District



Eric Borba
Chairman

Steve Kisling
Vice-Chairman

Aubrey Mauritsen
Legal Counsel

Michael K. Reed
Secretary to the Board

**Minutes of the Meeting of
the Board of Directors
held on May 25, 2017**

City of Porterville
Council Chambers
291 N. Main St.
Porterville, California

At approximately, 2:06 p.m. on May 25, 2017, at the City of Porterville Council Chambers, Eric Borba, Chair, called to order a meeting of the Board of Directors of Eastern Tule Groundwater Sustainability Agency Joint Powers Authority (“ETGSA”).

1. **ROLL CALL:** Secretary Reed conducted Roll Call and noted the following Directors were present: Monte Reyes, Mike Ennis, Dyson Schneider, Curt Holmes, Eric Borba, Steve Kisling, Lorren Wheaton, Tim Allan.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Chairman Borba opened the meeting for public comment. Bill Samarin requested that he be allowed to comment during the Stakeholders Agenda Item. No other comment was received.

3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Secretary Reed reminded those on the Board who have not already completed their Conflict of Interest Form 700 to do so.

It was also noted that an Oath of Office form needs to be completed by each Board member including alternates. The Oath will be given at the end of the meeting for those in attendance.

4. **MINUTES:** GSA meeting of April 20, 2017.

Chairman Borba noted the following correction in the April 20, 2017 minutes: removal of “The Directors discussed” at the end of the second paragraph on Page 3, also on the same

page, third paragraph, remove “and” between “groundwater sustainability plan” and “with the intent to incorporate...”

Director Ennis moved for approval of the corrected April 20, 2017 minutes, seconded by Director Allan.

Ayes: Ennis, Schneider, Holmes, Borba, Kisling, Wheaton, Allan

Noes: None

Abstain: Reyes

Disposition: Passed

5. GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY UPDATE:

Ms. Denise England, Groundwater Resources Director for Tulare County, stated that the Tulare County Board of Supervisors have scheduled a public hearing for June 6, to act on a contractual agreement to manage some areas identified by the Department of Water Resources Control Board to be “unmanaged.”

Secretary Reed gave an update on the Eastern Tule GSA’s notification to the Department of Water Resources. ETGSA is not exclusive as of this date and has no overlaps, but everything looks good for a June 6 exclusivity determination by the DWR.

6. COMMITTEE FORMATION AND REPORTS:

Executive Committee Monthly Report - Secretary Reed provided a monthly report to the Board on recent activities of the Executive Committee. The committee is currently working on the bylaws. A change in the oral communications process between the last meeting of the Board of Directors and this meeting was discussed. The committee brought this before the Board of Directors for direction.

A motion was made by Director Schneider to assign the drafting of the next month’s agenda to the Executive Committee for a final determination on procedure. Director Wheaton seconded.

Ayes: Ennis, Schneider, Holmes, Borba, Kisling, Wheaton, Allan, Reyes

Noes: None

Disposition: Passed

Stakeholder Committee. Secretary Reed provided a report to the Board on the status of the Stakeholder Committee formation. Fifteen applications have been received with two are from Ducor and one from Richgrove. A matrix was developed indicating desirable criteria, and the Board of Directors was asked to rate the criteria of interest listed in the matrix. The Board of Directors discussed the appointment process of applicants to the Stakeholder Committee and gave direction to the Executive Committee to come back to the board with recommendations to fill the following categories on the committee: small

farm, large farm, corporate farm, family owned, water entity, environmental, and ranching.

Public comment was received from Mr. Bill Samarin about the importance of the Stakeholders Committee. He also spoke of reports he has read, basic guidelines and effective engagement of stakeholders.

Public comment was also received from Ms. Kristen Dobbins of Community Water Services encouraged the board and the executive committee to think of representatives as conduits of the larger population they speak for.

Discussion resumed by the Board of Directors regarding the number of seats for the stakeholders committee.

Director Ennis motioned to keep the stakeholders committee seats at nine. Director Kisling seconded.

Ayes: Ennis, Schneider, Holmes, Borba, Kisling, Wheaton, Allan, Reyes

Noes: None

Disposition: Passed

Ad Hoc Committee appointments to formulate a Groundwater Sustainability Plan – The Board of Directors received a report that the Executive Committee has recommended four members to an Ad Hoc Committee to analyze the initial steps necessary for a Groundwater Sustainability Plan only. The Ad Hoc Committee is made up of Mr. Reed, Mr. Allan, Mr. Geivet and Mr. Dalke.

A motion was made by Director Ennis, seconded by Director Holmes, to approve the Ad Hoc Committee and members as shared.

Ayes: Ennis, Schneider, Holmes, Borba, Kisling, Wheaton, Allan, Reyes

Noes: None

Disposition: Passed

Secretary Reed shared that public notification for initiation of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan must be submitted to the DWR via a letter. Attorney Mauritson noted that submission of the notification should wait until ETGSA is deemed exclusive.

7. GROUNDWATER RECHARGING

An article was published in the Porterville Recorder Newspaper about the position of the ETGSA Board of Directors encouraging groundwater recharge.

8. AGENCY BUDGET:

Secretary Reed informed the Board of Directors a budget was not ready for approval at this time. Determining a dollar value and a cost sharing component is of great concern, and thoughts of using an acreage base percentage method appears to be the consensus.

Director Ennis moved for the Executive Committee to distribute costs based on acreage. Director Allan seconded.

Ayes: Ennis, Schneider, Holmes, Borba, Kisling, Wheaton, Allan, Reyes

Noes: None

Disposition: Passed

Secretary Reed provided an overview of the total acreage of the ETGSA and acreage overlaps of the member agencies.

9. SET NEXT MEETING DATE:

The next meeting of the Board of Directors of the Eastern Tule Groundwater Sustainable Authority is June 15, 2017.

10. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 3:19 p.m.

