



EASTERN TULE  
GROUNDWATER  
SUSTAINABILITY  
AGENCY  
JOINT POWERS  
AUTHORITY

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE STAKEHOLDER COMMITTEE HELD MARCH 12, 2020

At approximately, 2:00 p.m. on March 12, 2020, at the Transit Multi-Purpose Center, 15 E. Thurman Ave., Ste. D, Porterville, California. Chairman Bill Bennett, called to order a meeting of the Stakeholder Committee of the Eastern Tule Groundwater Sustainability Agency Joint Powers Authority (“ETGSA”).

Stakeholder Members Present:      James Parsons                      Bill Bennett  
   Matt Watkins                      Julie Inestroza  
   Jason Guthrie                      Sopac Mulholland  
   John Konda

Stakeholder Members Absent:      Kathy Briano                      Tom O’Sullivan  
   Don Castle

### PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Bennett announced the public comment period. No public comment was presented

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

General Manager Rogelio Caudillo announced that the DWR public comment period for ETGSA’s GSP is underway as of Feb 19, 2020. The public comment period will last a total of 75 days, and will end on May 4, 2020. As of 11:00 a.m. this morning, no comments have been posted. Mr. Caudillo also advised that Joel Kimmelshue from Land IQ will provide a presentation to the Executive Committee on March 19, 2020 at 2:00 p.m.

### MINUTES

Approve the Minutes of the October 17, 2019 Special Joint Meeting of the Executive & Stakeholder Committees and the Minutes of the February 13, 2020 Meeting of the Stakeholder Committee.

Committee member Parson moved for approval of the minutes of both the October 17, 2019 Joint Meeting of the Executive and Stakeholder Committees and the February 13, 2020 meeting of the Stakeholder Committee. The motion was seconded by Committee member Watkins. Committee member Konda abstained. The remaining committee members unanimously approved the motion.

## COMMITTEE MATTERS

### Discussion of Potential Amendment to Bylaws Regarding Stakeholder Committee Structure

General Manager Caudillo provided a report on the potential amendment to the bylaws regarding the Stakeholder Committee structure.

Discussion ensued regarding the structure of both the ETGSA bylaws and the Stakeholder Committee.

Discussion ensued regarding the potential adoption of a rule under which members who miss more than two meetings lose their place on the Committee and are replaced by a new stakeholder.

The possibility of amending the bylaws to allow for alternates was considered.

Public comment was received from Bill Samarin.

Discussion ensued regarding the white area representative seats.

A future agenda item will be considered related to the structure of the Stakeholder Committee.

## ETGSA MEETING REVIEW

### Report on ETGSA Board Meetings

General Manager Caudillo referred the committees to Agenda Item #6a, a report on the ETGSA board meetings.

## TULE SUBBASIN AND REGIONAL REPORTS AND ITEMS

### Report and Discussion on Friant Water Authority Preliminary Financial Impact Analysis of Transitional Groundwater Pumping Technical Memorandum

General Manager Caudillo provided a report on the Friant Water Authority Preliminary Financial Impact Analysis of Transitional Groundwater Pumping Technical Memorandum. Attached hereto as Agenda Item #7a is a copy of the memorandum. Johnny Amaral of FWA provided a presentation on the memorandum.

Discussion ensued regarding financing, the ability of each GSA to determine its own financing method, and the use to which funds will be put.

Discussion ensued regarding future projects to gain access to surface water, as well as the current design of the Friant-Kern Canal capacity correction project.

Public comment was received from Sean Geivet.

Consulting Engineer De Groot reported on studies that Thomas Harder has completed to date regarding subsidence on the FKC.

Discussion ensued regarding overview of the capacity correction project.

Discussion ensued regarding financing and updates on Mr. Harder's report, as well as the technical data used for the memorandum.

Consulting Engineer De Groot reported on how the subbasin has analyzed subsidence on the canal to date.

Discussion ensued regarding various management actions to avoid damage to the FKC, including land following.

Discussion ensued regarding Thomas Harder's studies and ways to arrest/minimize subsidence moving forward.

Discussion ensued regarding the effect of pumping on land subsidence.

Public comment was received from Bill Wallace.

Discussion ensued regarding the amount of financing in the FWA memorandum, as well as the area addressed in the memorandum

#### Report and Discussion on Land IQ

General Manager Caudillo provided a report on Land IQ. Consulting Engineer De Groot reported that Joel Kimmelshue will provide a presentation at the next meeting of the Executive Committee. In short, Land IQ is doing work similar to the Cal Poly program. It takes satellite imagery and determines the evapotranspiration rate. The technology generates a report on total consumption. Ultimately, it will take a data set and create a program similar to the ILRP. We will be able to see evapotranspiration over the last 30 days.

Discussion ensued regarding ramp down, and the 90% goal identified in the GSP.

Consulting Engineer De Groot reported that Land IQ and Cal Poly are using the same data set.

Public comment was received from Stacie Ann Silva.

#### POLICY ISSUES

##### Discussion Regarding Potential ETGSA Recharge and Banking Policy

General Manager Caudillo provided a report on the potential ETGSA recharge and banking policy.

Discussion ensued concerning existing policies.

Public comment was received from Bill Wallace.

Discussion Regarding ETGSA Groundwater Financial and Accounting System

Consulting Engineer De Groot provided a presentation on a potential accounting system for ETGSA. Attached hereto and incorporated by reference is Agenda Item #8b is a copy of his “Cheat Sheet”.

Public comment was received from Stacie Ann Silva.

Consulting Engineer De Groot continued with his presentation describing annual allocations.

Public comment was received from John M. Domondon

Discussion ensued regarding a potential “cooling period,” in which notice would be provided, before growers were invoiced Tier 2 penalty water.

Consulting Engineer De Groot continued with his presentation on Table 2 of his PowerPoint.

Public comment was received from Stacie Ann Silva.

Consulting Engineer De Groot continued with his presentation on Table 2.

Discussion ensued on the timing of invoicing.

Consulting Engineer De Groot continued with his presentation on landowner tools to manage water budgets.

Discussion ensued regarding the next steps in the process.

NEXT MEETING DATE

Next Stakeholder Committee Meeting – Thursday, April 9, 2020 at 2pm at Transit Multi-Purpose Center (15 E. Thurman Ave., Suite D, Porterville

On a motion by Committee member Konda, seconded by Committee member Watkins, and carried unanimously, the next Stakeholder Committee Meeting will be on Thursday, March 26, 2020 at 2:00 p.m.

Discussion Regarding ETGSA Groundwater Financial and Accounting System

After establishing the next meeting date, the Committee returned to discussion Mr. De Groot’s presentation.

Discussion ensued regarding the concept of annual allocations, as opposed to 5-year blocks.

Public comment was received from Peter Harmon. Discussion ensued regarding transfers.

Public comment was received from Trelawney Bullis.

Discussion ensued regarding who would have access to accounts.

Discussion ensued regarding priorities of water.

Public comment was received from Bill Wallace.

Discussion ensued regarding grazing ground and how it is treated under this system.

Public comment was received from Bill Samarin.

#### ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted,

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Chairman Bill Bennett