

# MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING HELD DECEMBER 3, 2020

At approximately 2:00 p.m. on December 3, 2020, Chairman Eric Borba called to order the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Eastern Tule Groundwater Sustainability Agency Joint Powers Authority ("ETGSA"). Consistent with Executive Order N-29-20 and social distancing directives, the meeting was conducted by teleconference only, with no physical location for the meeting.

Members Present: Eric Borba Dyson Schneider

Steve Kisling John Corkins

Curt Holmes Geoffrey Galloway

Matthew Leider Monte Reyes

Dennis Townsend

Members Absent: None.

Others Present: Aubrey Mauritson Rogelio Caudillo

Justine Massey Todd Turley
David DeGroot Andrew Hart

### **ROLL CALL**

General Manager Caudillo called the roll as follows:

**Director Corkins** 

Director Galloway

Director Schneider

Director Leider

**Director Reyes** 

Director Townsend

**Director Kisling** 

Chairman Borba

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

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

#### **ANNOUNCMENTS**

General Manager Caudillo announced that letters have been sent with information on the BasinSafe account. Mr. Caudillo provided a demonstration using the BasinSafe website.

### **MINUTES**

## Approval of Minutes of the November 5, 2020 Meeting of the Board Minutes

Director Corkins moved for the approval of the minutes of November 5, 2020 board meeting. The motion was seconded by Director Leider, and approved by way of the following roll call vote:

## In Favor:

**Director Corkins** 

Director Galloway

Director Schneider

Director Leider

Director Reyes

**Director Kisling** 

Chairman Borba

Opposed: None

Abstain: Townsend

### Approval of Minutes of the November 13, 2020 Special Meeting of the Board Minutes

Director Corkins moved for the approval of the minutes of November 13, 2020 special board meeting. The motion was seconded by Director Kisling, and approved by way of the following roll call vote:

#### In Favor:

**Director Corkins** 

Director Galloway

Director Schneider

Director Leider

Director Reyes

**Director Kisling** 

Chairman Borba

Opposed: None

Abstain: Townsend

### **ADMINISTRATION**

# Approval of ETGSA Groundwater Banking Policy

General Manager Caudillo provided a report on ETGSA Groundwater Banking Policy. Attached hereto and incorporated by reference as Agenda Item #5a is a copy of Groundwater Banking Policy.

Discussion ensued regarding the draft policy and potential revisions.

Director Schneider moved to approve the Groundwater Banking Policy, with the following revisions: (1) the addition of language clarifying that additional entities may be added to Appendix A, and (2) revise Appendix A to correctly identify Porterville Irrigation District and Saucelito Irrigation District. The motion was seconded by Director Corkins, and approved by way of the following roll call vote:

#### In Favor:

Director Corkins
Director Galloway
Director Schneider
Director Leider
Director Reyes
Director Townsend
Director Kisling
Chairman Borba

Opposed: None

Todd Turley provided public comment.

#### Discussion of Groundwater Extraction Fee and Transitional Pumping Invoice

General Manager Caudillo reported on the groundwater extraction fee and transitional pumping invoice. Attached hereto and incorporated by reference as Agenda Item #5b is a copy of groundwater extraction fee and transitional pumping invoice staff report. At the November 2020 board meeting, the board authorized staff to send invoices on Sustainable Yield and Transitional Pumping in February 2021.

Consulting Engineer David De Groot provided a report. Mr. De Groot advised that the account information has been distributed. Staff reported that the Sustainable Yield invoices could be sent in December, with transitional pumping invoices to be issued in February.

Discussion ensued regarding which landowners have received the notice letter. Discussion also ensued regarding the 2021 allocations.

No action was taken.

Public comment was received from Justine Massey.

Discussion ensued regarding the extraction fee's application to de minimis water users.

### Review and Discussion of ETGSA Rules and Regulations

General Manager Caudillo provided a report on the Rules and Regulations. Attached hereto and incorporated by reference as Agenda Item 5c is a copy of the Rules and Regulations.

Discussion ensued regarding Section 3.05(a) and the past committee recommendations. Discussion ensued regarding ITRC.

Public comment was received from Andrew Hart.

Discussion ensued regarding the appeals process, and discussions with ITRC.

The Board instructed staff to secure a proposal from ITRC, and to forward the proposal to the Finance Committee.

Discussion ensued regarding the content of the notification letter.

The Board instructed General Counsel to review potential five-year limitations for carryover of sustainable yield and transitional pumping allocations.

#### Update on ETGSA Groundwater Management Zone

General Manager Caudillo provided an update on the groundwater management zone. De Groot provided an update on the land subsidence management ad hoc committee. He hopes to have a recommendation back to the board in January or February on how to move forward with a land subsidence management zone.

#### STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

#### Report on Ongoing ETGSA Outreach Efforts

General Manager Caudillo provided a report on the ongoing outreach efforts and upcoming events. A copy of his report is attached as Agenda Item #6a and incorporated by reference.

#### REPORT FROM COMMITTEES

### Receive Reports from Executive Committee Members

General Manager Caudillo provided a report on the meetings of the Executive Committee. A copy of his report is attached as Agenda Item #7a and incorporated by reference.

### Receive Reports from Stakeholder Committee Members

General Manager Caudillo provided a report. Attached hereto and incorporated by reference as Agenda Item #7b is a copy of the report on the meeting of the Stakeholder Committee.

#### BILLS AND WARRANTS

### Receive Finance Committee Monthly Reports

General Manager Caudillo provided a report. Attached hereto and incorporated by reference as Agenda Item #8a is a copy of the report on the meeting of the Finance Committee.

Review the Financial Statements; Consider Ratification of Bills Paid and Approval of Bills to be Paid

General Manager Caudillo provided a report on current financial standing and accounts payable. The finance committee recommends payment of the accounts. Attached hereto and incorporated by reference as Agenda Item #8b is a copy of the financial statements.

Director Kisling moved to approve the financial statement, ratification of bills paid, and approval of bills to be paid, as presented in the agenda packet. The motion was seconded by Director Schneider, and approved by way of the following roll call vote:

#### In Favor:

**Director Corkins** 

Director Galloway

Director Schneider

Director Leider

Director Holmes

**Director Reyes** 

Director Townsend

Director Kisling

Opposed: None

#### TULE SUBBASIN AND REGIONAL REPORTS AND ITEMS

Report on Tule Subbasin Coordination and TH&Co Task Items.

General Manager Caudillo provided a report. Attached hereto and incorporated by reference as Agenda Item #9a is a copy of the report.

#### CLOSED SESSION

## CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION

[Significant Exposure to Litigation Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2)]

Number of Potential Cases: One Claimant: Friant Water Authority

The Board of Directors, while in closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2), met with General Counsel Aubrey Mauritson regarding one potential item of anticipated litigation.

### <u>CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION</u>

PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT

[Government Code Section 54947]

Title: Administrative Assistant

The Board of Directors, while in closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54947, met with General Counsel Aubrey Mauritson regarding public employment.

## **CLOSED SESSION ITEMS**

Report Action Taken in Closed Session Required by Government Code 54957.1

Chairman Borba reported there was no reportable action from closed session.

### **NEXT MEETING DATE**

Next Regular Meeting- Thursday January 7, 2021 at 2:00 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the ETGSA Joint Powers Authority shall be held on January 7, 2021, 2:00 p.m.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Rogelio Caudillo, General Manager

There being no further business before the Board, Chairman Borba adjourned the meeting.
Respectfully submitted,