



ETGSA

**MINUTES OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING HELD NOVEMBER 2, 2023**

At approximately 2:00 p.m. on November 2, 2023, at the City of Porterville, Council Chambers, Chairman Eric Borba called to order the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Eastern Tule Groundwater Sustainability Agency Joint Powers Authority (“ETGSA”). The meeting was also conducted remotely for members of the public.

Members Present:	Eric Borba	John Corkins
	Steve Kisling	Matthew Leider
	Don Weyrauch	Dyson Schneider
	Dennis Townsend	

Members Absent: Geoff Galloway

Others Present:	Aubrey Mauritson	Rogelio Caudillo
	Anthony Moore	Andrew Hart
	Tien Tran	Sean Geivet
	David De Groot	Bill Bennett
	Don Castle	John M. Donomdon

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

General Manager Caudillo advised that applications for the Stakeholder Committee are due December 1, 2023. The board will take action at the regular December board meeting on December 7, 2023, to appoint new members. Staff has sent a letter to the Bureau of Reclamation seeking a Section 215 Contract for flood waters.

CONSENT CALENDAR

General Manager Caudillo referred the Board to Agenda Items #3a – #3c on the Consent Calendar portion of the agenda. A copy of the Minutes of the October 5, 2023, Board Meeting is attached as Agenda Item #3a. A copy of the financial statements is attached as Agenda Item #3b. A copy of the Independent Auditor’s Report & Audited Financial Statements for the year ended June 30, 2023 are attached as Agenda Item #3c.

Director Corkins moved to approve Items #3a - #3c. Director Leider seconded.

The board unanimously approved the motion.

ADMINISTRATION

Report from 4Creeks on ETGSA Accounting and Invoicing

Consulting Engineer Dave De Groot of 4Creeks provided a report on ETGSA accounts and invoicing. Enrollment in BasinSafe continues. ET data was just received for the fourth quarter, which will close out the water year. Approximately 1,756 accounts have been opened in BasinSafe.

GOVERNMENTAL AND LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

Report on State Advocacy Efforts

General Manager Caudillo provided a report. Attached to the Board packet as Agenda Item #5a is a copy of the report.

Discussion ensued.

STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Report on Ongoing ETGSA Outreach Efforts

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

Public comment from Tien Tran.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

Receive Report from the Finance Committee

General Manager Caudillo provided a report, a copy of which is attached to the Board packet as Agenda Item #7a.

Receive Report from the Stakeholder Committee

General Manager Caudillo provided a report, a copy of which is attached to the Board packet as Agenda Item #7b.

Receive Report from Executive Committee

General Manager Caudillo provided a report, a copy of which is attached to the Board packet as Agenda Item #7c.

Public comment from Tien Tran.

TULE SUBBASIN AND REGIONAL REPORTS AND ITEMS

Consider Approval of Revised Methodology and Revised Sustainable Management Criteria for Addressing DWR Comments

General Manager Caudillo provided a report on revised methodology and revised sustainable management criteria for addressing DWR comments as presented at the last regular board meeting. General Counsel Mauritsen clarified that the direction from the board at this time would be to agree to include the revised SMC for groundwater levels in the amended GSP, which will be circulated for public comment.

Public comment from Tien Tran.

Discussion ensued.

Director Corkins moved to approve the Revised Methodology and Revised Sustainable Management Criteria for Addressing DWR Comments as presented at the last regular board meeting. Director Townsend seconded.

The board unanimously approved the motion.

Report on Tule Subbasin Coordination and TH&Co Task Items

General Manager Caudillo provided a report on Tule Subbasin Coordination and TH&Co Task Items. Attached to the Board packet as Agenda Item #8b is a copy of the report.

NEXT MEETING DATE

Next Regular Meeting – Thursday, December 7, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the ETGSA Joint Powers Authority shall be held on December 7, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.

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: Five

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

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION

[Paragraph (1) of Subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9]

Setton Pistachio of Terra Bella, Inc. v. Eastern Tule Groundwater Sustainability Agency
Tulare County Superior Court Case No. VCU302028

The Board of Directors, while in closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1), met with General Counsel Aubrey Mauritson regarding existing litigation named above.

CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

Report Action Taken in Closed Session Required by Government Code 54957.1

Chairman Borba announced that there was no reportable action from closed session.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted,

Rogelio Caudillo, General Manager