

SKJPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING MINUTES

TELECONFERENCE

Wednesday, July 13, 2022

5:30 PM

Chairman Kazarian called the meeting to order at 5:34 pm.

Board Members Present: Chairman Kazarian, E. Hurtado, D. Ramirez, T. Pimentel

Board Members Absent: J. Hurtado

Staff Present: David Peters, Josh Rogers, Michael Linden

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

2.1 *Public Comment on Items not on Agenda*

None

CONSENT CALENDAR

3.1 *Approve minutes of May 11, 2022 meeting.*

Motion by member T. Pimentel, second by member E. Hurtado. Motion passes unanimously via voice roll call.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

4.1 *Technical Advisory Committee Meeting*

Advisory Committees focused on revising GSP to address DWR comments. Nothing new to report at this time.

4.1 *Administrative Committee Meeting*

Administrative Committee met to discuss DWR comments, DWR well mitigation program, and Fowler Recharge Basin Agreement Amendment. Nothing new to report at this time.

GENERAL ITEMS

5.1 *Review DWR comments and Approve Groundwater Sustainability Plan revisions – Oral Report by Josh Rogers*

Revisions to GSPs conducted through Kings Basin to meet comments have been coordinated with each GSA in Kings Basin. Have been reviewed by Technical Advisory Committee and Administrative Committee and recommended for approval by board. Mr. Rogers reviews

schedule. January 28, 2022 DWR submitted letter noting incomplete determinations from all GSPs submitted in Kings Basin. Letter included deficiencies and corrective actions to revise plans within 180 days. Deadline is July 27, 2022. Kings Basin has had 5 meetings to address comments or concerns with GSAs in regards to DWR comments.

Most comments were the same for all GSAs; however, a few comments were GSA specific. South Kings GSA is to address lands subsidence. Initial plan stated no real concerns with land subsidence because there are no concerns for clay soils in the SKGSA jurisdiction.

Primary deficiency was that there was not a firm enough discussion about what the undesirable results are when groundwater declines. DWR is looking for a numeric undesirable result and has stated that if a single well goes dry and the owner, or community using that well, were unable to deepen or drill a new well, that would be considered significant and unreasonable. Solution is to develop a shallow well mitigation program, which would identify all possible wells that could go dry and propose a policy or program that would allow a well owner to approach GSA for mitigation.

DWR requires compliance of GSP in next 20 years and wanted to see more description regarding interim milestone check-ins and how interim milestones will be managed, how to make sure Kings Basin doesn't drop below objectives and when to start taking corrective actions.

Second deficiency was regarding the SKGSA land subsidence, which Mr. Rogers had already addressed.

Third deficiency stated there was not a consistent identification of interconnected surface water systems, locations where rivers and streams are physically connected to groundwater table. GSAs did not have a plan to address it at this point because it would take extensive research to find out where all of these locations are, but would begin a study and provide mitigation and more data by 5-year GSP revision date. DWR expects GSAs to come up with a way to measure this.

Fourth deficiency stated GSPs did not provide adequate information regarding municipal water systems and water quality. Does not apply to SKGSA because our drinking water is monitored by Division of Drinking Water.

Member Ramirez raises a question concerning water issues in Sanger. Mr. Rogers stated that this was due primarily to total capacity in the system. One well was off-line and another was previously off-line. No wells are dry, just under producing at this time.

Member Hurtado asks for further information on the deficiency and recommended actions for Deficiency 2 regarding land subsidence and SKGSA. Mr. Rogers reiterates the details of the deficiency and the recommended corrective action. Member Hurtado asks whether SKGSA will revise their GSP to prove that there is no land subsidence or if SKGSA will take the recommendations from DWR and implement into their GSP. Mr. Rogers states that SKGSA will take recommendations from DWR and update the GSP with similar approach as the other GSAs. Member Hurtado also points out that Sanger has found clay soils in their water and wonders if this has to do with subsidence. Mr. Rogers explains that a layer of clay soil "confines" water at a certain depth, and if water is pumped from under the clay soil layer the layer is at risk of collapsing and causing subsidence. Land subsidence has been measured in the SKGSA and results showed little to no concern. In Sanger's case this does not seem to be related to subsidence.

Member Hurtado's second question is in regards to Deficiency 1 and the depth of the minimum threshold of the Indicator Wells. Mr. Rogers states that each Indicator Well has a different minimum threshold and that it depends on multiple factors including each well's water levels, historical conditions, surface elevation, but that each Indicator Well's minimum threshold can be found in the GSP.

After no public comment, member E. Hurtado makes a motion, second by member Ramirez. Motion passes unanimously via voice roll call.

Mr. Linden brings up that unfortunately all five members need representation to vote on item 5.1 regarding the GSP revisions. Chair Kazarian asks if the recording of the presentation could be provided to the member J. Hurtado prior to the special meeting to re-approve item 5.1. Mr. Linden says that will be fine. Mr. Peters will arrange for a special meeting on Friday, July 15.

5.2 Approve letter to DWR regarding well mitigation program – Oral Report by Josh Rogers

Mr. Rogers states that there was a lot of discussion about the GSAs feeling that DWR was overstepping their bounds and not following SGMA by asking GSAs to define undesirable results, defining what are significant and unreasonable impacts to users in the basin. DWR is stipulating what is significant and unreasonable while SGMA says each GSA should define and manage this for themselves based on their users and uses. Kings Basin wanted to send a letter to DWR letting them know they are over-stepping. However, SKGSA did not have time to take it to their board and did not want to be included in the initial letter, and could follow up with their own letter once they have brought it to the board.

Member E. Hurtado asks what the current plan is for anyone who has a dried up well. Mr. Rogers states that there is not currently a plan in the GSP, but one will be developed.

Member E. Hurtado asks if the GSP will come back to SKGSA for revision or will it be a joint decision with all GSAs. Mr. Rogers states that each GSA will put together a GSP but they will all be put together into one GSP for the Kings Basin for consistency.

Member Ramirez asks if engineers are the ones who will bring any water related comments, concerns, or data to the SKGSA. Mr. Rogers states that the Technical Advisory Committee is actually comprised of the engineers of each member agency, and they discuss all water related activities and bring it either to the board directly or through the Administrative Committee prior to bringing it to the board.

After no public comment, member E. Hurtado makes a motion, second by member Pimentel. Motion passes unanimously via voice roll call.

5.3 Approve Reimbursement Policy – Oral Report by David Peters

Allows member agencies to submit reimbursements on behalf of the GSA.

After no public comment, member Pimentel makes a motion, second by member E. Hurtado. Motion passes unanimously via voice roll call.

5.4 Approve Fowler Recharge Basin Agreement Amendment – Oral Report by David Peters

SKGSA has entered into an agreement with K. Hovnanian Homes to purchase 2 acre parcel for a recharge basin. The amendment changes the closing date from end of July to end of September. Both parties are in favor of this amendment.

After no public comment, member E. Hurtado makes a motion, second by member Pimentel.

Motion passes unanimously via voice roll call.

5.5 Continuation of Virtual Meetings – Oral Report by Michael Linden

Mr. Linden says the meetings will continue to be virtual for at least the next few months, unless the legislature changes the law.

After no public comment, member Hurtado makes a motion, second by member Pimentel. Motion passes unanimously via voice roll call.

SECRETARY REPORT

Time & Place for next meeting: July 15, 2022 at 2:30pm via teleconference.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business Chairman Kazarian adjourned the meeting at 6:59pm.