

CAWELO GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

BOARD MEETING

Conference Room at District Office

Thursday, November 8, 2018

8:30 a.m.

MINUTES

DIRECTORS PRESENT:	Keith Watkins, Mark Smith, Eric Miller, John Gaugel
DIRECTORS ABSENT:	Brian Blackwell
STAFF PRESENT:	David Ansolabehere, Dave Hampton, Emilie Ortiz, LeeAnn Giles, Candice Valdez
LEGAL COUNSEL:	Robert Hartsock
CONSULTING ENGINEER:	R.L. Shafer
OTHER ATTENDEES:	Andy Schweikart, Megan Chicoine, Scott Hamilton, Tim Gobler, Dana Munn

A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Watkins at 8:30 a.m. in the Conference Room of the District office located at 17207 Industrial Farm Road, Bakersfield, CA.

B. PUBLIC COMMENT

The floor was open for any public comments. No comments were made.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PRIOR MEETINGS

The minutes of Board meeting for October 11, 2018 were presented for approval. After review and discussion, *it was motioned by Director Gaugel, seconded by Director Smith and unanimously carried that the minutes from October 11, 2018 be approved as presented.*

D. GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

- a) **Update on SGMA Activities** – Mr. Hampton provided a brief update on the Kern Groundwater Authority (KGA) in regards to coordination related issues, including weekly manager meetings covering topics such as undesirable results, minimum thresholds, and that Todd Groundwater provided an updated presentation of the Groundwater Model on behalf of the Kern River GSA that highlighted general updates and model performance.

Mr. Hampton also reported that the KGA held their monthly board meeting on October 24, 2018 and the primary issue was Kern County's desire to withdraw from responsibility for non-district lands. Kern County submitted a letter to the KGA citing a desire to relinquish their responsibility for non-district areas to the KGA for SGMA purposes. After discussions, the KGA drafted a proposed response letter regarding the county's request.

Mr. Hampton also presented an updated map of the proposed CGSA boundaries.

Mr. Hampton further reported that staff has met with representatives from the East Side Water Management (ESWM) and Kern Tulare group to discuss the potential of an MOU for coordination management and safe yields. ESWM proposed that the groups develop an MOU that could include cost sharing, dispute resolution and coordination elements.

Staff made no commitments but will continue to discuss coordination elements with the groups. ESWM did express concern regarding CGSA potentially bringing in lands adjacent to the east of the district that may be potential ESWM participants. CGSA does not intend to force any landowner to participate in the CGSA and would advise landowners that they have a choice of which agency they can participate in. CGSW will work with ESWM regarding landowner participation.

Mr. Hampton further reported that staff and legal counsel have been in contact with Chevron representatives and are addressing concerns and comments in regards to a draft agreement for inclusion of lands. One of the biggest areas of concern is Chevrons desired ability to withdraw from the GSA, and the ability to transfer and market groundwater. Staff and legal counsel continues to work through these concerns and have scheduled a meeting with Chevron and representatives in the upcoming weeks.

Lastly, Mr. Hampton reported that the Board advised staff to work with Todd Groundwater in an effort to reduce the costs of the GSP proposal related to including additional lands into the Cawelo GSA (\$267,000.) Staff received an updated proposal for \$146,000. Staff recommends approval of the updated proposal from Todd Groundwater. After review and discussion, ***it was motioned by Director Miller, seconded by Director Gaugel that the updated GSP Proposal from Todd Groundwater at \$146,000 be approved, subject to additional lands being included within the Cawelo GSA's GSP.***

Dana Munn, from Shafter Wasco Irrigation District, commented that some individuals in his district have concerns regarding the concept of providing a groundwater allocation to landowners who have not used groundwater in the past.

- E. ADJOURNMENT** – The Cawelo Groundwater Sustainability Agency meeting adjourned at 9:18 a.m.

Brian Blackwell, CGSA Board Secretary