CAWELO GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

BOARD MEETING
Conference Room at Cawelo Water District’s Office
Thursday, July 11, 2019
8:30 a.m.

MINUTES

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Keith Watkins, Mark Smith, Eric Miller, John Gaugel, Brian Blackwell

STAFF PRESENT: David Ansolabehere, Dave Hampton, LeeAnn Giles, Celynn Lyman

LEGAL COUNSEL: Robert Hartsock

OTHER ATTENDEES: Jeff Looker, Andy Schweikart, Hayden Cornwell, Garratt Burns, Bruce Kelsey

A. CALL TO ORDER
The meeting was called to order by President Watkins at 8:30 a.m. in the Cawelo Water District’s Conference Room located at 17207 Industrial Farm Road, Bakersfield, CA.

B. PUBLIC COMMENT
The floor was open for any public comments at which time there were none.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PRIOR MEETINGS
The minutes of Board meeting for June 13, 2019 were presented for approval. After review and discussion, it was motioned by Director Miller, seconded by Director Smith and unanimously carried that the minutes from June 13, 2019 be approved as presented.

D. GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

1) Update on SGMA Activities – Mr. Hampton provided an update on local SGMA activities, and discussed non-distressed lands that continue to inquire about SGMA coverage after the Kern Groundwater Authority’s July 1st deadline. There is an issue with adding lands late in the GSP process and KGA members have agreed to add their new lands via appendix within their GSP chapter. Weekly managers meetings still continue with recent emphasis on basin-wide water budget checkbook budget. KGA is proposing a basin annual groundwater deficit of 100-500k AF with a native yield range of .15 to .3 AF. Mr. Hampton continued with a discussion regarding how the KGA is proposing to handle precipitation, demand (for the open areas,) and native yield for the basin water budget. Mr. Hampton has noted Cawelo’s discussion and input with the KGA regarding Cawelo’s suggested recommended methodology to calculate the basin budget.

2) Update on Basin/Cawelo Groundwater Model – Mr. Hampton presented draft basin wide projections using baseline conditions, 2030 climate change conditions, and 2070 climate change conditions that were prepared by Todd GW. Some of the projections showed definite downward trends and there is a need to show sustainability through 2070. The projections considered potential conditions with and without management actions.
3) **Update on Cawelo GSP** – Mr. Hampton presented the KGA GSP development schedule, and CWD GSP updates. The Cawelo GSP is approximately 72% complete and significant work need to be completed. An administrative draft is due to the KGA by the end of July. Approximately 60% of the GSP budget has been expended. The sections for monitoring, minimum thresholds, measurable objectives, basin setting, management actions, and costs have been updated. Sustainable yield is still being developed and Mr. Hampton proposed that an ad hoc committee be established to discuss sustainable yield and associated policies. Director John Gaugel and Director Brian Blackwell agree to form the ad hoc committee with initial meeting to occur July 23, 2019 at 9am. Additionally, a landowner meeting was scheduled for August 5, 2019 at 9am.

4) **Update on CGSA Expansion Area** – Mr. Hampton reported that CGSA, Kern River GSA, and the KGA boundary changes submitted to DWR were approved and posted June 14, 2019. Director John Gaugel advised that Kern County has sent out over 800+ letters and, to date, received over 200 phone calls from non-districted landowners that indicated they hadn’t been informed by Kern County and were seeking coverage by signing up with a KGA member.

E. **CLOSED SESSION:**
   1) **To confer with legal counsel regarding potential litigation under authority of Government Code Section 54956.9 (d)(2)(3):**

   The Board did not go into closed session.

F. **RETURN TO OPEN SESSION**

G. **ADJOURNMENT** – The Cawelo Groundwater Sustainability Agency meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

__________________________
Brian Blackwell, CGSA Board Secretary