

**CAWELO GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY  
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING**

***Cawelo Water District Conference Room***

***Thursday, December 9, 2021 – 8:50a.m.***

***17207 Industrial Farm Road, Bakersfield CA 93308***

**Public Participation Possible via Zoom 1-(669)-900-6833**

**Meeting ID: 842 3850 8752 / Password: 755643**

**Or via Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84238508752?pwd=R3NjNnlyODhSY2VTbDFXNG9aaGxVUT09>**

---

***MINUTES***

---

<b>DIRECTORS PRESENT:</b>	Keith Watkins, Brian Blackwell, Mark Smith
<b>DIRECTORS ABSENT:</b>	John Gaugel, Spencer Birch
<b>STAFF PRESENT:</b>	David Ansolabehere, Dave Halopoff, LeeAnn Giles, Celynn Lyman
<b>LEGAL COUNSEL:</b>	Robert Hartsock
<b>OTHER ATTENDEES:</b>	Jessica Bertao, Taylor Blakslee, Cody Tolbert

---

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

The Special Board Meeting was called to order by President Watkins at 8:50 a.m.

**B. PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no public comments at this time.

**C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PRIOR MEETINGS**

The minutes of Special Board Meeting for November 11, 2021 were presented for approval. After review and discussion, *it was motioned by Director Blackwell, seconded by Director Smith and unanimously carried, that the minutes from November 11, 2021 be approved as presented.*

**D. UPDATE ON LOCAL SGMA ACTIVITIES**

In addition to providing a written report, Mr. Halopoff reported that semi-annual groundwater level reporting for fall 2021 has been submitted to the Kern Groundwater Authority (KGA). The KGA will submit the fall semi-annual groundwater levels for the basin to DWR December 9, 2021.

Mr. Halopoff reported that Todd Groundwater has made minor revisions to the Basinwide Water Budget Upgrades and Model Calibration for the Kern County Subbasin (Basin Study) proposal based on comments and discussions at the November Managers Meeting. The main revision to the Basin Study included the additional task of coordinating with Management Area's (MA's) and Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSA's) local consultants that have knowledge and experience with local specific issues related to updating the hydrogeological conceptual model (HCM). Costs associated with coordinating with the respective MA's and GSA's consultants and the consultant's time have been included in the scope of work and budget.

The Basin Study budget is \$2,910,450 to be completed over approximately 44 months – with most technical work being completed over the first 24 months. To meet the pending 2025 GSP Update submittal date a start date of April 2022 is necessary. DWR grant funding is expected to be available for the Basin Study.

Mr. Halopoff reported that LandIQ has provided a proposal for developing monthly field by field estimates of actual ET occurring within the Cawelo Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CGSA) boundary. The proposal includes utilizing the LandIQ Data Driven Method (LDDM) developed and utilized to estimate actual ET for other agencies. The LDDM is used to interpret image data and leverages repeated ground station data as well as more direct imaging analysis which is intended to yield more accurate results when repeated and representative ground calibration data are available. Monthly ET and precipitation data will be provided within 25-30 days from the end of the previous month. In addition, LandIQ will provide field by field crop mapping within the CGSA at least two (2) times per year.

The CGSA encompasses approximately 62,616 gross acres and 639 urban acres, for a net analysis are of 61,977 acres. The annual cost is \$0.76/acre/year divided into twelve (12) monthly payments of \$3,925/month for a contract term of three (3) years. The cost includes all equipment (LandIQ stations), labor, expenses, supplies and maintenance. It is important to note that the proposal does not include any potential credits that may be realized through grant monies received, or to be received, by the KGA.

Mr. Halopoff advised that the KGA is expecting to receive an initial DWR comment letter on the GSP before the end of the year. The formal DWR comment letter is expected January 2022, which will begin the 180-day timeline to address the comment letter and update the Kern Subbasin GSP, if needed.

The KGA has started meetings to discuss how to address the upcoming DWR comment letter.

DWR has released the Proposition 68 SGM Grant Program for SGMA Implementation (Grant) and applications are due January 31, 2022. The Grant varies significantly from before and provides up to \$7.6 million for basins categorized as critically overdrafted. Grant applications for subbasins are to be submitted utilizing a spending plan concept to DWR. The KGA Managers Group has begun discussions regarding what to include in the spending plan for the Grant. Preliminary discussions have identified the following projects for the subbasin:

- Basin Study
- Subsidence Monitoring Network
  - Two (2) extensometers on the Friant-Kern Canal
  - Two (2) extensometers on the California Aqueduct
- LandIQ Remote Sensing ET for 5 Years

A copy of the November 2021 KGA Board Meeting Agenda was included.

**E. ADJOURNMENT**

The CGSA Special Board meeting adjourned at approximately 9:03 a.m. The next regular CGSA Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 13, 2021.

*John Gaugel*

---

John Gaugel, CGSA Board Secretary