

**Upper Kings Basin Integrated Regional Water Management Authority  
Advisory Committee Notes, December 15, 2010  
Fresno County Farm Bureau, 1274 W. Hedges, Fresno, 93728**

Notes of the Regular Meeting of the Advisory Committee of the Upper Kings Basin Integrated Regional Water Management Authority (Water Authority) held December 15, 2010.

1. Call to order

Advisory Committee Acting Chair David Orth called the meeting to order at 9:40 am. There were eight Advisory Committee members present, which did not constitute a quorum.

**Directors/Alternate Directors Present:**

Lisa Koehn, City of Clovis (alternate)  
Gary Serrato, Fresno Irrigation District (alternate)  
Phil Desatoff, Consolidated Irrigation District (alternate)  
David Orth, Kings River Conservation District (alternate)  
Dean Uota, City of Dinuba (alternate)

**Members Absent:**

Alta Irrigation District  
City of Fresno  
City of Kerman  
City of Kingsburg  
City of Parlier  
City of Reedley  
City of Sanger  
City of Selma  
County of Fresno  
County of Tulare  
Kings County Water District  
Raisin City Water District

**Interested Parties Present:**

Laurel Firestone, Community Water Center  
Breanne Slimick, Self-Help Enterprises  
Carole Combs, Tulare Basin Wildlife Partners

**Interested Parties Absent:**

Biola Community Services District  
California Native Plant Society, Sequoia Chapter  
City of San Joaquin  
County of Kings  
Crescent Canal Company  
Cutler Public Utilities District  
El Rio Reyes Conservation Trust  
James Irrigation District  
Kings River Conservancy  
Kings River Water Association  
Laguna Irrigation District  
Laton Community Service District  
Liberty Canal Company  
Liberty Water District  
Mid-Valley Water District

Orange Cove Irrigation District  
Orosi Public Utilities District  
Reed Ditch Company  
Riverdale Irrigation District  
Riverdale Public Utility District  
Sierra Club, Tehipite Chapter  
Sierra Resource Conservation District  
Terranova Ranch, Inc.

**Others Present:**

Rick Hoelzel, KRCD  
Eric Osterling, KRCD  
Cristel Tufenkjian, KRCD  
Ron Samuelian, Provost & Pritchard  
Darrel Schmidt, County of Fresno  
Steve Pickens, Bakman Water Company  
Brock Buche, City of Fresno  
Noelle Willbanks, BSK

2. Addition to or Deletion from the Agenda  
There were no additions to or deletions from the agenda.
3. Public Presentations  
None
4. Review Notes of the September 22, 2010 Special Meeting of the Advisory Committee  
Orth stated that the notes of the September 22, 2010 Advisory Committee Meeting were in the agenda packet for the Committee members' review.
5. Work Group Reports and Recommendations  
*Project Work Group* - Orth called on staff member Eric Osterling to report on Project Work Group activities. Osterling reported that on the October 20, 2010 Authority Board meeting, the Board approved the Advisory Committee's recommendation to task the Project Work Group with activities related to the vetting of projects for application to Round 1 of the Proposition 84 IRWM Implementation Grant Program. Furthermore, the Project Work Group was authorized to report directly to the Board its recommendation of projects to include in the application.

Osterling reported that on October 27, the Project Work Group met to review the pre-ranking results of the projects submitted to the online database by project proponents. A draft project scoring matrix, as well as a draft project development template which were prepared by Authority staff and the Authority's consultant, were presented to the Work Group. Also on the agenda, was the nomination and confirmation of Project Review & Prioritization Panelists (Panel). The Panel was tasked with reviewing and ranking individual projects submitted in the next phase of the vetting process. The Panel was comprised of Project Work Group members Brock Buche, Lisa Koehn, Paul Boyer, Eric Osterling, Rick Hoelzel and Phil Desatoff. During the comment period for the project scoring matrix and project application template, only one comment was received, which was related to addressing benefits to Disadvantaged Communities. The comment was addressed by making a slight correction to the matrix.

On November 12, thirteen project applications were received and copies of each distributed to the six panelists for evaluation and ranking. On November 23, the Panel met to compare and compile each of the panelist's independent project rankings. Project proponents not

already represented through participation on the Panel were also invited and did attend either in person or via conference call. The two additional project proponents were Ruben Moreno representing Biola CSD and Ron Samuelian representing Bakman Water Company. The following table presents the average ranking and a brief summary for each of the projects:

Ave. Rank	Sponsor(s)	Partners/Interested Parties	Project	Imp / Study	Request	DAC?
1	CID	none	South and Highland Basin Project	Imp	\$4,227,000	no
2	City of Clovis	FID, City of Fresno	City of Clovis Surface Water Treatment Plant Expansion	Imp	\$3,000,000	no
3	City of Fresno	none	City of Fresno Residential Water Meter Project (Area IV)	Imp	\$5,111,250	no
4	FID, City of Fresno	Bakman Water Company	Bakman Water Company Water Meter Installation	Imp	\$2,950,000	yes
5	KCWD	SHE, Hardwick Water Co.	Hardwick Safe Drinking Water Project	Study & Imp	\$55,000	yes
6	County of Tulare	SHE, Seville Water Co.	Seville Water Distribution System Rehabilitation & Storage Project	Imp	\$500,000	yes
7	County of Tulare	SHE, Seville Water Co.	Seville Safe Drinking Water Project	Imp	\$87,750	yes
8*	County of Fresno	SHE	Drummond Jensen Avenue Sewer Connection Feasibility Study	Study	\$119,090	yes
8*	FID	Biola CSD	Biola CSD Drinking Water Implementation Project	Imp	\$3,423,200	yes
9	AID	SHE, East Orosi CSD	East Orosi Water Well Rehab Project	Imp	\$102,600	yes
10	AID	SHE, Sultana CSD	Monson & Sultana Safe Drinking Water Project	Study	\$123,750	yes
11	AID	SHE, London CSD	London New Source and Water System Rehabilitation Project	Imp	\$500,000	yes
12	AID	SHE, East Orosi CSD	East Orosi Water Supply Sustainability Project	Study	\$152,788	yes

\* = average ranking was tied

Total: \$20,352,428

Project proponents spent a considerable amount of time discussing various opportunities and constraints of the Round 1 Implementation Grant solicitation and strategies for a successful application. It was decided by the group that an individual project should reserve priority consideration over numerical rankings if it appeared that one or more deficiencies could significantly affect the successfulness of the application. Project scalability was also a major factor in determining which projects would be recommended for inclusion in the application. As such, the following determinations were made: 1) Because the budgets of the 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, and 7<sup>th</sup> ranked projects were presented to be dependant upon matching funding that has yet to be fully secured, these projects were excluded from consideration. 2) Due to limited available grant funds remaining after budgets of higher ranked projects were served, and a lack of scalability sufficient to meet the limited remaining resources, the 8<sup>th</sup> ranked Biola CSD project was passed on in favor of the 9<sup>th</sup> ranked East Orosi project.

The Project Work Group came up with two scenarios to be submitted in the application. Scenario 1 would total \$13,333,333, which is the potential maximum amount of grant funding available for the region. Scenario 2 would total the base funding area maximum of \$6,666,667 and which is a scaled down request of Scenario 1.

#### Scenario 1

Total Application for \$13,333,333
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Rank	Agency	Project	Total Project Cost	Local Cost Share		Grant Amount Requested
1	Consolidated ID	South and Highland Basin Project	\$4,627,000.00	\$400,000.00	8.6%	\$4,227,000.00
2	City of Clovis	Surface Water Treatment Plant Expansion	\$4,250,000.00	\$1,250,000.00	29.4%	\$3,000,000.00
3	County of Fresno	Drummond Jensen Avenue Sewer Connection Study	\$119,090.00	DAC Waiver	n/a	\$119,090.00
4	East Orosi CSD	Water Well Rehabilitation Project	\$137,000.00	DAC Waiver	n/a	\$137,000.00
5	City of Fresno	Residential Water Meter Project (Area IV)	\$6,815,000.00	\$2,273,000.00	33.4%	\$4,542,000.00
6	Bakman WC	Water Meter Installation Project	\$1,342,643.00	DAC Waiver	n/a	\$1,308,243.00
		Totals =	\$17,290,733.00			\$13,333,333.00
		Total Project Cost (not including DAC Waiver Projects) =	\$15,692,000.00			
		Required Cost Share (25% of non-DAC Waiver Projects) =	\$3,923,000.00	\$3,923,000.00	25.0%	

## Scenario 2

Intended Prioritized for Reduced Amount of \$6,666,667 to be Noted in Application						
Rank	Agency	Project	Total Project Cost	Local Cost Share		Grant Amount Requested
1	Consolidated ID	South and Highland Basin Project	\$3,200,000.00	\$400,000.00	12.5%	\$2,800,000.00
2	City of Clovis	Surface Water Treatment Plant Expansion	\$4,250,000.00	\$1,250,000.00	29.4%	\$3,000,000.00
3	County of Fresno	Drummond Jensen Avenue Sewer Connection Study	\$119,090.00	DAC Waiver	n/a	\$119,090.00
4	East Orosi CSD	Water Well Rehabilitation Project	\$137,000.00	DAC Waiver	n/a	\$137,000.00
5	City of Fresno	Residential Water Meter Project (Area IV)	\$6,815,000.00	\$6,204,423.00	91.0%	\$610,577.00
		Totals =	\$14,521,090.00			\$6,666,667.00
		Total Project Cost (not including DAC Waiver Projects) =	\$14,265,000.00			
		Required Cost Share (25% of non-DAC Waiver Projects) =	\$3,566,250.00	\$7,854,423.00	55.1%	

. Desatoff mentioned that the panelists did not rank their own projects. It was also noted that the final projects were agreed upon unanimously by the Panel. Advisory Committee members Serrato and Desatoff thanked staff and the panelists for the considerable time they contributed to this process.

Advisory Committee member Firestone suggested that discussions occur with DWR about considering scoring projects differently with less emphasis on project readiness and more on priority projects, like water quality improvements. Firestone also suggested using planning grant funds to help develop local projects further for grant funding readiness.

Discussion ensued about working at the State level to get criteria changed to support DACS and that the DAC grant can help communities get their projects to a point to be funding ready.

The committee discussed having more Project Work Group meetings to better prepare project proponents for IRWMP and other funding opportunities. It was suggested that the Prop. 84 grant should not only update the plan but also make the plan more strategic in planning how the committee approach projects that can branch out beyond the IRWMP funding process.

*Groundwater Monitoring Work Group* - Orth called on staff member Rick Hoelzel to give a report on the CASGEM, which is the statewide groundwater monitoring program. Hoelzel reported that a draft final MOU has been sent out to all agencies involved in the program. KRCD continues to move forward on good faith as the local monitoring agency even without the draft guidelines having not been published.

6. Staff Reports

*Planning and Implementation Contracts* - Orth called on Osterling to report on planning and implementation contracts. Osterling reported that the Authority has been recommended to receive full funding for the Prop. 84 IRWM Planning Grant to update the Authority's IRWMP. Timing for the contract is uncertain due to state fiscal issues. The contract amount is \$236,890.

Osterling reported that the Disadvantaged Communities (DAC) pilot project is still waiting on a contract. The purpose of the pilot project is to empower DACs within the Kings Basin region to effectively participate in the region's integrated regional water management planning and develop long-term solutions to DAC water challenges. The information from the pilot project will also be used in the update of the Upper Kings Basin IRWMP. The contract amount is \$500,000.

The Proposition 13 Grant is the construction of two groundwater storage and recharge projects located within Alta Irrigation District (AID). The City of Dinuba is a project partner with AID. Osterling stated construction is complete on the Dinuba project and that final invoicing is being prepared.

Osterling reported that the Proposition 50 Round 2 Grant is moving forward, which is a grant for the construction of two groundwater storage and recharge projects located within the AID and FID, along with the installation of 10,000 of the City of Fresno's planned 110,000 residential water meters. Construction is nearly completed on FID's Jameson Pond Project. The City of Fresno will be submitting final invoice for their metering project. AID is working through the CEQA process.

The Proposition 50 Supplemental Grant involving FID's Jameson Pond Expansion Project and Phase II of the City of Fresno Residential Water Meter Project has been awarded partial funding. Staff is still waiting on a contract.

*Inter-regional and Statewide Coordination* – Osterling reported that there is a statewide conference call for IRWMPs to discuss subjects of mutual interest. Some of the topics discussed included availability for grant funding, application costs, and cost shares for plan updates. Osterling also reported that staff members attend a monthly meeting with stakeholders in the Tulare Lake Funding Area.

Orth reported that a letter drafted by the stakeholders in the Tulare Lake Funding Area has been included in the December 15 Authority Board's agenda packet. The letter has been drafted by the group with participation by Committee members Orth and Serrato. The letter's content acknowledges that the funding needs for the Tulare Lake Basin region are significantly greater than the funding that is currently available to the region. The letter also acknowledges that there are other sources of funding that DWR should make available to the region considering the Disadvantaged Communities and groundwater issues the region has. The letter also discusses that there is an opportunity for collaboration for the broader group of IRWMPs in the region. It suggests that the group could provide input to DWR before they make a final decision on the applications submitted by the region's IRWMPs.

Orth also reported that the Kern County IRWMP will not be a party to signing the letter. All of the others, including Kaweah Basin IRWMP, Southern Sierra IRWMP, Poso Creek IRWMP and Deer Creek/Tule River IRWMP have stated that they would sign the letter in its current form.

Discussion followed by the committee regarding the content of the letter. While the committee felt that it would be prudent to sign on to the letter, they would not recommend signing the letter unless the second paragraph under the heading *Opportunity for Collaboration* was deleted. The committee felt that this paragraph implied that we have some position or authority to tell DWR how to score the region's applications. Orth stated that the Advisory Committee did not have a quorum for a recommendation, but that he would forward the Committee's suggestion to the Board.

*Public Information* - Orth called on staff member Cristel Tufenkjian to report on public information efforts. Tufenkjian reported that staff members will have media events for the Planning and Mini-50 grant awards once contracts have been issued.

*Legislation* – No report.

**Recommendation to Approve East Orosi Community Services District, Sultana Community Services District, London Community Services District, and Hardwick Water Company as Interested Parties**

Orth reported that request letters have been received by East Orosi Community Services District, Sultana Community Services District, London Community Services District, and Hardwick Water Company to join the Authority as Interested Parties. He reported that the East Orosi Community Services District appointed Ana DeSantiago as their representative and Lucy Rodriguez as their alternate. The Sultana Community Services appointed Paul Boyer as their representative and Breanne Slimick as their alternate. The London Community Services District appointed Dorothy Castro as their representative and Carolyn Thomas as their alternate. The Hardwick Water Company appointed Paul Boyer as their representative and Breanne Slimick as their alternate.

The committee decided to suggest to the Board of Directors to approve the addition of the East Orosi Community Services District, Sultana Community Services District, London Community Services District, and Hardwick Water Company as Interested Parties

**OTHER ITEMS**

7. Other items for discussion or reporting

There were no items for discussion or reporting.

8. Next Meeting Date

It was noted that the next regularly scheduled meeting for the Advisory Committee is March 23, 2011 at 9:30 am at the Fresno County Farm Bureau.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:46 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Orth  
Secretary/Treasurer

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Approved

