

**Upper Kings Basin Integrated Regional Water Management Authority  
Advisory Committee Notes, April 20, 2011  
Fresno County Farm Bureau, 1274 W. Hedges, Fresno, 93728**

Notes of the Special Meeting of the Advisory Committee of the Upper Kings Basin Integrated Regional Water Management Authority (Water Authority) held April 20, 2011.

1. Call to order

Advisory Committee Acting Chair David Orth called the meeting to order at 8:30 am. Orth noted that there were not enough members present to constitute a quorum.

**Directors/Alternate Directors Present:**

Harry Armstrong, City of Clovis  
Gary Serrato, Fresno Irrigation District (alternate)  
Robert Nielsen, Consolidated Irrigation District  
David Orth, Kings River Conservation District (alternate)  
Dean Uota, City of Dinuba (alternate)  
John Mulligan, City of Sanger (alternate)  
Bruce Blaney, City of Kingsburg  
Steve Worthley, County of Tulare  
Chris Kapheim, Alta Irrigation District (alternate)  
Joe Prado, County of Fresno (alternate)  
Lou Martinez, City of Parlier (alternate)

**Members Absent:**

City of Fresno  
City of Kerman  
City of Selma  
City of Reedley  
Raisin City Water District  
Kings County Water District

**Interested Parties Present:**

Breanne Slimick, Self-Help Enterprises  
Carole Combs, Tulare Basin Wildlife Partners  
James Mallyon, James Irrigation District  
Hank Urbach, Kings River Conservancy  
David Cehrs, Sierra Club, Tehipite Chapter, El Rio Reyes Conservation Trust  
Robert Nielsen, Liberty Canal Company, Liberty Water District  
Don Cameron, Terranova Ranch, Inc.

**Interested Parties Absent:**

Bakman Water Company  
Biola Community Services District  
California Native Plant Society, Sequoia Chapter  
City of San Joaquin  
County of Kings  
Crescent Canal Company  
Cutler Public Utilities District  
Kings River Water Association  
Laguna Irrigation District  
Laton Community Service District  
Mid-Valley Water District  
Orange Cove Irrigation District

Orosi Public Utilities District  
Reed Ditch Company  
Riverdale Irrigation District  
Riverdale Public Utility District  
Sierra Resource Conservation District

**Others Present:**

Rick Hoelzel, KRCD  
Eric Osterling, KRCD  
Cristel Tufenkjian, KRCD  
Ron Samuelian, Provost & Pritchard  
Phil Desatoff, Consolidated Irrigation District  
Rey Employ, City of Clovis  
Denise Akins, Tulare County  
Monica Reis, Department of Water Resources  
Jerry Lakeman, Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District  
TJ Cox, CMS Management  
Steve Stadler, KRCD  
Brock Buche, City of Fresno  
Karl Longley, California Water Institute  
Scott Anderson, The Penstar Group  
Elias Tijerina, WRIME  
Chrislie Capilea, Assemblymember Halderman  
Sarge Green, California Water Institute  
Philip Bachand, Bachand & Associates  
Sal Gonzales, Lance-Kashian

Addition to or Deletion from the Agenda

There were no additions to or deletions from the agenda.

Public Presentations

None

City of Fresno's request to modify the IRWMP Project List

Acting Chair David Orth reported that this Special Meeting of the Advisory Committee was called to consider a request by the City of Fresno to modify the IRWMP project list to include the Fancher Creek Flood Control Improvement Project and to consider a request by the Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District (Flood Control) to join the Water Authority as an Interested Party.

Orth reported that the City of Fresno had submitted this request in connection with a grant submittal made on April 15, 2011 under the Proposition 1E Stormwater-Flood Management program. Orth called on Eric Osterling to provide relevant background.

Osterling provided an overview of the Proposition 1E program noting that Water Authority staff sent out a call for projects to Water Authority members regarding the solicitation in late 2010 and again in January, 2011. There was no response from the members; some members' reason for not submitting a project was that the 50 percent cost share was prohibitive. Osterling reported further that KRCD staff was contacted by the Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District (Flood Control) staff on March 15, 2011, stating that they may have a project they would like to submit and requested information regarding the process for submitting a project for addition to the Water Authority's project list. Osterling reported that he forwarded information to Flood Control, Fresno Irrigation District, and City of Fresno staff members regarding this process.

Orth reported that Water Authority staff received an email request on April 13 from the City of Fresno requesting a special Advisory Committee meeting to place this on Board agenda. Orth called on Brock Buche from the City of Fresno to provide a report on the project.

Buche reported that the City of Fresno is the lead agency on behalf of Flood Control for the project. The project involves realignment of some of the flood control basins to improve the level of service and the grant funding will help offset some of the costs incurred and future costs for completion of the project. Buche reported that the Fresno City Council voted last week in support of grant application. Buche called on Flood Control staff member Jerry Lakeman to provide further details regarding the project.

Lakeman reported that the project deals with stormwater and flood management, which fit with Prop. 1E requirements. Lakeman reviewed the location and features of the Fancher Creek Flood Control Improvement Project. The Fancher Creek Detention Basin removes 682 acres from the 100-year floodplain, redirects runoff that may contain pollutants into stormwater management basins, and result in approximately 740 acre feet of additional surface water recharge per year. The total cost of the project is \$4,462,173. The grant funding request is \$2,231,086. Lakeman reported that this project fits the goals of the UKBIRWMA IRWMP and the goals of the Prop. 1E grant funding. Benefits include flood control, stormwater improvements, water conservation, and groundwater recharge, and improve water quality. It was noted that the Water Authority has no other projects submitted under the Prop. 1E grant solicitation.

Orth stated that modification of the Water Authority IRWMP project list to include this or any other project must be supported by a finding that the project fits within IRWMP objectives. Orth stated that the benefits stated in the materials provided do appear to fit into the Water Authority's objectives including flood control, groundwater recharge and conservation through reuse of water.

Orth noted that the Authority has an adopted policy, dated August 2008, that identifies the process by which the Authority would add projects to the IRWMP project list, which includes review and a recommendation from the Project Work Group. Committee member Desatoff stated that the integrity and consistency of the process needs to be maintained, noting that other projects have been denied due to missed process deadlines. Other Advisory Committee members noted that after review of the project, as long as the project meets the IRWMP's goals and objectives and it brings funds into the region, the Water Authority should support the opportunity to bring funding into the region.

Advisory Committee member Serrato noted that the City of Fresno, the project's applicant, had not adopted the IRWMP, a requirement under the grant solicitation. In response, City of Fresno representative Brock Buche stated that the City of Fresno staff members will work with the City's attorneys office and that the City of Fresno has every intent to adopt the IRWMP. Buche further stated that DWR was contacted regarding this issue, and DWR staff member Keith Wallace assured the City that the IRWMP did not have to be adopted for this particular solicitation, but that in the future, the City of Fresno would have to adopt the IRWMP.

Buche reported that the Fancher Creek project needs to be added to the IRWMP project list within a 30-day period from submittal of application, which was on April 15. It was recommended by Serrato that the Project Work Group review the application and provide a recommendation back to the Water Authority Board prior to the deadline for the grant process. The Water Authority Board can make a decision at a special Board meeting prior to May 15.

Orth then asked the Advisory Committee to consider the request of Flood Control to join as an Interested Party. Committee members supported this request and further encouraged Flood Control to join as a member. Lakeman reported that Flood Control staff members have scheduled an agenda item at their upcoming Board meeting in April to join the Authority as a member.

Orth then summarized the discussion, stating that he will present to the Board a recommendation that the Project Work Group review the City of Fresno/Flood Control project for inclusion on the IRWMP project list and that a Special Board meeting should be scheduled prior to the May 15 deadline to act on the Project Work Group's recommendation. He will also report on the Advisory Committee's discussion about process and that the Project Work Group should meet in the future to clarify process and timing. Orth will also convey in his report to the Board support in response to the request by Flood Control to join the Water Authority as an Interested Party.

Other items for discussion or reporting

There were no items for discussion or reporting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9:25 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Orth  
Secretary/Treasurer

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Approved

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