

KINGS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
THURSDAY, JUNE 9, 2022

As a result of the COVID-19 emergency, the public was able to participate through a conference call. Directors could choose to meet with Staff in the Board Room or participate through a conference call. Vice-President Dias called the regular meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

**DIRECTORS PRESENT:** Ernest Taylor, Steven P. Dias, Joseph Freitas (phone)  
**DIRECTORS ABSENT:** Barry McCutcheon, Michael Murray  
**OTHERS PRESENT:** Dennis Mills, General Manager  
Ray Carlson, Attorney (phone)  
Shawn Corley, LIWD (phone)  
Johnny Gailey, Delta View Water Association (phone)

**ESTABLISH QUORUM**

It was determined that a quorum was present at the meeting.

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

None.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

None.

**MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS REGULAR MEETINGS**

Manager Mills explained that he had developed minutes for the regular meeting of April 9, 2022. Vice-President Dias asked if there was a motion regarding the minutes of the April 9, 2022 regular meeting. Director Taylor made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 9, 2022 regular meeting. Director Freitas seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the April 9, 2022 regular meeting. The vote for all of the Directors was as follows:

AYES: Steven P. Dias, Joseph Freitas, Ernest Taylor

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: Barry McCutcheon, Michael Murray

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Manager Mills reported on the following communications:

- DWR dry well tools to be “well prepared” for summer
- Valley Ag Water Coalition letter opposing Senate Bill 1219
- Kings County email about export ordinance discussion in August

## GENERAL MANAGER

### WATER SUPPLY UPDATE

Manager Mills reported that Peoples Main system is planned to run 55 days with potentially 25% TCP usage. He also reported that the Last Chance Main system is planned to run 30 days with no TCP usage. KRWA is allowing 10% TCP usage currently, which seems overly conservative.

### APEX RANCH

Manager Mills reported that there was roughly 11,700 AF in storage at the Apex Groundwater Bank. He also reported that if conditions continue to be dry, it was likely that 2023 would be the last year recoveries could be made from the bank. Manager Mills reported that the monitoring on Apex Ranch appeared to be low, consistent with other regional conditions. He also reported that the plan is to start running a week after Peoples Main system starts.

Manager Mills reported that efforts continue on Ranch Well 19. The pump was set lower last year. This year, production is down roughly half and continues to function, but much slower than desired. Monitoring information has been reviewed and the new depth for the pump was developed. The new depth of pump will require upsizing the pump motor and power service. Belknap's efforts on the effort have not been as helpful as hoped. Efforts to engage an alternate contractor have begun. Related to power service modifications, there is an option to pull power from the panel at Recovery Well 1, to use a tractor PTO and to use a diesel well motor temporarily from Dutra.

### DUTRA PROPERTY

Manager Mills reported on a requested insurance deviation on the Pierce lease. He also reported on efforts to develop fire breaks around the main residence north of Elder Avenue and the home being leased by Mr. Pierce. Manager Mills also reported on a few other efforts at the residence north of Elder Avenue.

### GRISWOLD BASIN

Manager Mills reported that the MKR GSA had not finalized a DWR contract to fund the effort yet, and that CEQA and Design documentation were the next step in effort development.

### ESAJIAN BASIN

Manager Mills reported on discussions with G&J Heavy Haul and Mesa Alta Construction.

### Update on GSP Revision Development

#### *Tulare Lake Subbasin*

Manager Mills provided an update GSP revision efforts in the Tulare Lake Subbasin. He described a modified approach on setting Minimum Thresholds for groundwater levels. He described efforts related to subsidence and trying to focus on "differential" subsidence. He described revisions on the groundwater quality topic as a more robust section outlining how the GSAs will evaluate if their efforts are affecting quality.

Manager Mills described potential mitigation efforts for water level declines and subsidence as being still draft. Related to mitigation efforts, there is some funding available for well mitigation through Self Help. Home Garden CSD relayed they had accessed these funds

last year. Related to mitigation funding, this would have to be developed through a Prop 218 election process.

*Kaweah Subbasin*

Manager Mills provided an update on GSP revision efforts in the Kaweah Subbasin. He described a modified approach on setting Minimum Thresholds for groundwater levels. He described efforts related to subsidence and trying to focus on “differential” subsidence. He described efforts related to interconnected surface water as a plan to better monitor and evaluate for 2025.

Manager Mills described potential mitigation efforts for water level declines and subsidence as being still draft. Related to mitigation efforts, there is some funding available for well mitigation through Self Help.

ON-GOING EFFORTS

Manager Mills reported on the developing Greater Kaweah GSA Pumping Cap. He summarized comments the GSA had received on the Pumping Cap. He reported that a revised version of the Policy/Reg would be available soon. He relayed that implementation was planned to begin in October.

**EXPENDITURE LIST APPROVAL & FINANCING STATEMENT ACCEPTANCE**

Manager Mills highlighted a situation with Land IQ that had come up over the last month. After looking into it, Land IQ did not ever send the District an invoice for work done up to this spring. After discussions with them it was agreed that the District owned a total of \$212,430.40 for 1) a retrospective 2020 Et evaluation, 2) the 2021 Et measurements, and 3) 2022 Et measurements thru May. There is still an outstanding question about the overlap with the Greater Kaweah GSA and whether the District should be sharing expenses with that GSA.

On a motion by Director Taylor, with a second by Director Freitas, it was unanimously approved by the Board that the expenditure list and financial statement be accepted as submitted. The vote for all of the Directors was as follows:

AYES: Steven P. Dias, Joseph Freitas, Ernest Taylor

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: Barry McCutcheon, Michael Murray

**TRANSFER OF FUNDS**

Vice-President Dias asked if there was a motion to transfer \$200,000 from the District’s LAIF account to the District’s General Union Bank and then a transfer of \$800,000 from Kings County to the District’s Union Bank General account later this month, when the funds are made available. Director Taylor made a motion to transfer \$200,000 from the District’s LAIF account to the District’s General Union Bank and then a transfer of \$800,000 from Kings County to the District’s Union Bank General account later this month, when the funds are made available. Director Freitas seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved the transfer of \$200,000 from the District’s LAIF account to the District’s General Union Bank and then a transfer of \$800,000 from Kings County to the District’s Union Bank General account later this month, when the funds are made available. The vote for all of the Directors was as follows:

AYES: Steven P. Dias, Joseph Freitas, Ernest Taylor

NOES: None

ABSTAINED:None

ABSENT: Barry McCutcheon, Michael Murray

**BOARD MEMBER DISCUSSION/ANNOUNCEMENTS OR REPORTS**

None.

**SET NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next regular Board of Directors meeting was set for July 7, 2022 at 1:00 p.m.

**CONVENE TO CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE  
54956.9 (A) AND 54956.9(D)(1)**

**CLOSED SESSION**

**RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION**

Following the Closed Session, Vice-President Dias reported that there was no reportable action from the Closed Session.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 4 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis Mills  
MIN06.09.22