

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Date: Thursday, June 1, 2017
Time: 1:00 P.M.
Location: Kern County Water Agency, 3200 Rio Mirada Dr., Bakersfield, Ca 93308
661-589-6045

GENERAL DIRECTORS AND ALTERNATES PRESENT

Dennis Johnston and Jeevan Muhar, Arvin-Edison WSD
Charles Riddle and Max Bricker, Henry Miller WD
Don Collins and Mark Mulkay, Kern Delta WD
Skye Grass, Kern-Tulare WD
Jason Gianquinto, Semitropic WSD
Roger Riley and Dana Munn, Shafter-Wasco ID
Michael Blaine, Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa WSD

GENERAL DIRECTORS AND ALTERNATES ABSENT

David Nixon, Arvin-Edison WSD
Pete Kaiser, Kern Delta WD
Steve Dalke, Kern-Tulare WD
Kimberly Brown and Dick Diamond, North Kern WSD
Jeff Siemens and Jim Nickel, Olcese WD
Eric Averett, Dan Bartel and Zach Smith, Rosedale-Rio Bravo WSD
Rick Wegis, Semitropic WSD
Robert Kunde, Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa WSD

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS PRESENT

Greg Hammett (on the phone), Westside Water Quality Coalition
Tim Ashlock, Buena Vista Coalition
Dave Hampton, Cawelo WD

OTHERS PRESENT

Nicole Bell, KRWCA Manager
Sarah Hudson, KRWCA Board Secretary
John Schaap, Provost & Pritchard
Ryan Dodd, Provost & Pritchard
Velvet Gaston, Provost & Pritchard
T Jeffcoach, Provost & Pritchard
Ernest Conant, Young Wooldridge, LLP
Robbin Hamilton, Paramount Citrus
Roy Pierucci, Rosedale-Rio Bravo WSD

1. CALL TO ORDER

Acting Chairman Jason Gianquinto called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

2. ANNOUNCEMENT OF QUORUM

Chairman Gianquinto announced a quorum.



3. INTRODUCTIONS

None

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Director Dennis Johnston moved to approve the Board Meeting Minutes from the April 6, 2017 Board Meeting. Upon a second by Director Skye Grass, a vote was taken with no abstentions and was unanimously carried.

6. TREASURERS REPORT

- a. Director Skye Grass reviewed the accounts payable with the Authority Board. A motion was made by Director Michael Blaine to ratify the May invoices and pay the open accounts in the amount of \$70,527.59. Upon a second by Roger Riley, a vote was taken with no abstentions and was unanimously carried

7. KRWCA MANAGER REPORT/ILRP PROGRAM UPDATE

Manager Bell reported on the following topics:

a. Administrative Actions:

i. KRWCA Membership Confirmation:

- i. Confirmation Letters Sent March 30, 2017 to be returned by May 15.
- ii. Past Due Confirmation Letters sent to members on May 19.
- iii. Membership Confirmation Status

There have been 694 confirmations returned to date. Invoices will be sent to members who made changes to their membership through the confirmation process.

b. ILRP Update:

i. Education and Outreach:

- i. Letter sent 5/18/17 to members who were identified by the QA/QC process as possibly having invalid 2016 NMP Summary data (by field). Review, revision and resubmission was requested by June 2, 2017. Staff have been fielding calls and assisting members.

ii. Reporting Status Update:

- i. 2016 Farm Evaluation Surveys:
- ii. 2016 NMP Summary Reports:

c. CVRWQCB:

- i. ILRP Stakeholder Meeting, Modesto 4/12/17, Topic: Management Plans for E. coli, DDT, DDE, and DDD:

Manager Bell reported that the Regional Board Policy will be to allow individual Coalition Management Plans, rather than the previously required Regional plans, for E. coli. KRWCA has provided comments and has had meetings with the Regional Board to address sensitivities and concerns. Regional Board has made some changes to draft policy and will continue to meet with us to address cited issues.

- ii. Compliance and Enforcement Activities: Inspections completed for four KRWCA Members. Manager Bell reported that these were positive experiences for both Members and Regional Board staff. Inspections went well.



d. State Water Board:

- i. 2nd Draft East San Joaquin GO rewrite
The rewrite is still pending. State Board staff is meeting with Environmental Justice and East San Joaquin Coalition prior to release.
- ii. Office of Enforcement Actions, no update at this time.

8. **REPORT OF PROVOST & PRITCHARD CONSULTING GROUP**

a. MPEP Update:

Mr. Ryan Dodd reported on the following.

- i. FREP Grants-Two grants were submitted by the MPEP Committee:
 - a. RROT (Rapid rate of travel) evaluation of connection between nitrate in root zone and groundwater as affected by crop and soil management.
 - i. The purpose of this three-year project is to demonstrate the direct connection between management practices of the crop root zone and groundwater quality. This study was proposed to address CVRWQCB concerns about minimal groundwater monitoring in the SSJV MPEP. Our position is that management of the root zone is the most important factor dictating nitrate movement to groundwater, so that will be our focus. This study should formally demonstrate this direct connection in a relatively brief period of time due to the natural site conditions of the King's River fan.
 - ii. The total project budget is \$354,370, and \$224,370 (63%) would come from FREP, and an additional \$130,000 would potentially come from a combination of SSJV MPEP Committee, CIG, and NRCS EQIP.
 - b. Nitrogen Removal/ YtoR (Assessment of harvested and sequestered nitrogen content to improve nitrogen management in crops)
 - i. Dr. Daniel Geisseler's nitrogen removal literature review identified several crops that have insufficient information to develop reliable nitrogen removal numbers for several crops in the Central Valley of California. As a result, this study aims to sample approximately 22 crops over several growing seasons to obtain better information on nitrogen concentration and ultimately, nitrogen removal. In addition, nitrogen sequestered in perennial biomass will also be investigated.
 - ii. The total project budget is \$284,095, and \$224,095 (79%) would come from FREP, with an additional \$60,000 coming from the SSJV MPEP Committee and/or CIG.
- ii. North and South MPEP Groups Coordination:
 - i. The process of collaboration between the North and South MPEP groups is ongoing. The two groups met in Fresno on April 27 to discuss collaboration and further refined a Principles of Coordination document



that establishes the expectations and responsibilities of both parties. The two technical consultant leads had follow-up discussions about additional details.

- ii. The effort to develop the Principles of Coordination is ongoing.
- iii. Work Plan Approval:
 - i. We received an internal CVRWQCB memo that provided comments on the SSJV MPEP work plan on April 4, 2017. We met with several key CVRWQCB staff on May 2 to discuss their work plan comments and the next steps to move towards workplan approval. On May 23, 2017 the CVRWQCB issued a Conditional Approval of the MPEP Work plan for the SSJV MPEP Committee.

b. Annual Monitoring Report:

Mr. Ryan Dodd gave a report on the status of the Annual Monitoring Report.

- i. Extension granted to August 31:

In a memo dated April 25, 2017, the CVRWQCB granted our request to change the AMR due date from May 1 to August 31. This extension allows us sufficient time to do the necessary outreach and update the AMR prior to submission.
- ii. Nitrogen Summary Report data update:

The NMP SR Analysis (Section 8 of the AMR) includes a review of all submitted NMP SR data. To process the data, we established data filters to flag potentially inaccurate or erroneous data for follow-up by the KRWCA. The filters identified 124 KRWCA members. Letters were mailed to all identified members on May 18, 2017, and gave the members until June 2, 2017 to verify, or update the questionable data.
- iii. *Nitrogen Summary Data Proposed Member Outreach Documents Review:

In a letter dated March 29, 2016, the CVRWQCB outlined their requirements for the Nitrogen Analysis Reports that the KRWCA will send to all growers that submitted NMP SRs. The memo states the coalitions provide reports that summarize growers A/R information and identifies where they fall within the average A/R ratio for each crop. The KRWCA strictly interpreted this memo and developed a draft Nitrogen Analysis Report (NAR) accordingly. The report includes a cover letter, a scatter plot, and tabular summaries of each field by crop. Director Dennis Johnston requested that board members have an opportunity to review actual data (their individual report) in order to make an informed decision on the most helpful format to provide to members. The item will be revisited at the July 6, KRWCA Board Meeting.

c. Groundwater Quality Trend Monitoring Work Plan:

Mr. T Jeffcoach reported on the status of the GW Trend Monitoring Work Plan.

- i. *GW Trend Monitoring Report approval:

The work plan was circulated and discussed for the past couple months. An updated version was disseminated May 26th. The work plan is in two phases. The Work plan to be submitted is Phase I, and includes identification of monitoring areas for subsequent well selection. The rationale for the number of proposed wells to be monitored and their locations considered the variety of agricultural commodities, particularly those with the most irrigated acreage, vulnerability prioritization, and areas contributing significant recharge to communities. An index method was used to score each township based on the mentioned criteria. The weighted score for each township determined the number of wells to be selected, ranging from zero to three. Based on these scores, there are up to 107 total wells proposed for the KRWCA area. A motion



was made by Director Dennis Johnston to approve the work plan for submission to the Regional Board. Upon a second by Michael Blaine, a vote was taken with no abstentions and unanimously carried.

ii. **Regional GW Monitoring Program Update:**

Mr. T Jeffcoach reported there is discussion regarding a Regional Groundwater Monitoring Program among the coalitions and other regulated entities (oil, food processors, etc). We are participating in the framework discussions to determine whether participation in the regional program would benefit the KRWCA growers. The “conceptual” regional work plan is due to the regional board by October 31, 2017.

9. **CV-SALTS** <http://www.cvsalinity.org>

Manager Bell and Land IQ represent KRWCA at the Monthly CV-SALTS Meetings. Links to the Meeting Packages and Summary Report are provided within.

- a. [CV-SALTS Meeting Package, April 20, 2017](#)
- b. [Land IQ Summary Report](#)
- c. [CV-SALTS Brochure](#)

10. **OLD OR NEW BUSINESS**

Manager Bell reported on the Draft Bovine General Order. This order allows feedlots and other confined animal operations to join ILRP Coalition to meet surface water monitoring requirements. Coalitions objected and have met with the RB staff to obtain a revision to the draft order stating that ILRP Coalition are under no obligation to work with the Bovine Order members to meet monitoring requirements. The discussions will continue.

11. **ATTORNEYS REPORT**

None

12. **CLOSED SESSION**

The Authority Board went into closed session at 2:24 p.m. No action was taken.

13. **KRWCA MEETING ATTENDANCE HIGHLIGHTS:**

- a. 4/12, ILRP Stakeholder Meeting, Modesto
- b. 4/20, CV-SALTS SNMP Workshop, Sacramento
- c. 4/25, ILRP Compliance Inspections with RB Staff
- d. 4/26, ILRP Compliance Inspections with RB Staff
- e. 4/27, North/South MPEP Meeting, Fresno
- f. 5/1, PEOC Meeting
- g. 5/2, SSJVWQC MPEP Meeting, Fresno
- h. 5/2, SSJVWQC MPEP Meeting with RB, Fresno
- i. 5/8, Regional GW Monitoring Meeting, Fresno
- j. 5/16, PEOC Meeting
- k. 5/22, Call with RB Staff
- l. 5/30, Regional GW Monitoring Meeting, Fresno
- m. 5/31, Bovine GO Call with RB Staff

14. **ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:41 p.m.

“*” Notates an action item