

WEST KERN WATER DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

Minutes – Board of Directors
Thursday, December 12, 2024

800 Kern Street
Taft, California

Directors Present: *Barry M. Jameson*
 Scott Niblett
 David Wells
 Gary J. Morris

Directors Absent: *Bo Bravo*

Ex-Officio Officer: *Greg A. Hammett, General Manager/Secretary*

Legal Counsel: *Alex Dominguez – Absent*

Recording Secretary: *Deann Crabtree*

I. FLAG SALUTE

II. ROLL CALL/DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

President Barry M. Jameson called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. Administrative Assistant, Deann Crabtree called roll and noted that President Jameson, Vice President Scott Niblett, Director Wells, Director Morris were present and Director Bravo as absent.

III. CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENTS

No conflicts were addressed.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments were received.

V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

*Upon Motion by Director Morris, Seconded
By Director Niblett and Carried Unanimously
With 4 Ayes, 0 Noes
To Approve the December 12, 2024
Special Board Meeting Agenda.*

VI. ITEMS OF DISCUSSION

General Manager, Greg A. Hammett introduced Micah Eggleton of Woodward & Curan who gave a presentation on the Final Draft Kern Sub-basin Ground Water Sustainability Plan.

1. Public Hearing:
A.) Public Hearing to consider the adoption of the 2024 Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) and supporting appendix of projects and management actions for the Kern County Subbasin of the Tulare Lake Groundwater Basin
i. Adoption of 2024 GSP

President Barry M. Jameson opened the Public Hearing to Adopt the GSP Groundwater Sustainability Plan at 3:04 p.m.

Micah Eggleton reported in March 2023, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) issues a determination that the Groundwater Sustainability Plans, submitted by the Kern Subbasin in July 2022 (2022 GSPs), were inadequate. As a result, primary jurisdiction over the Kern Subbasin shifted to the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board). Based on feedback and a preliminary review of the 2022 GSP by State Board Staff, the Kern Subbasin submitted revised draft Groundwater Sustainability Plans in May 2024 (2024 draft GSPs) to the State Water Resources Control Board. On July 25, 2024, the State Board released a draft Staff Report that focused on State Board Staff's review of 2022 GSPs. The Staff Report provided only a brief discussion related to its review of the 2024 draft GSP. Based on their review of both the 2022 and 2024 draft GSPs, State Board Staff recommended that the Kern Subbasin be placed on probation. Since July 2024, local Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) in the Kern Subbasin have been working to address comments in the Staff Report by, among other things, drafting a comprehensive comment letter, hosting subbasin tours for all five State Board members, meeting with State Board staff on a regular basis to discuss technical issues, finalizing the 2024 GSP and preparing for the Kern Subbasin Probationary hearing scheduled for February of 2025. The final 2024 GSP will be submitted to the SWRCB the week of December 16, 2024.

*Upon Motion by Director Niblett Seconded
By Director Morris and Carried Unanimously
With 4 Ayes, 0 Noes
By a Roll Call Vote
To Adopt the 2024 Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP)
and Supporting Appendix of Projects and Management Actions for
the Kern County Subbasin of the Tulare Lake Groundwater Basin.*

President Barry M. Jameson closed the Public Hearing to Adopt the GSP Groundwater Sustainability Plan at 3:31 p.m.

VII. ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED AT FUTURE MEETINGS

No items to discuss.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

January 28, 2025

Date Approved



**Greg A. Hammett,
Secretary of the Board of Directors of
WEST KERN WATER DISTRICT**

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