

# Kings River Conservation District

## Meeting of the Board of Directors

<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	May 16, 2017 at 1:30 p.m.	<b>Location:</b>	Kings River Conservation District Offices
<b>Called to Order:</b>	1:34 p.m.	<b>Adjourned:</b>	2:53 p.m.
<b>Facilitator:</b>	President Cehrs	<b>Note taker:</b>	Christine Simon
<b>Attendees:</b>	<b>Directors:</b> David Cehrs (President), D. Paul Stanfield (Vice President), Mark McKean, Norman B. Waldner, Gregory Beberian, Mike Yoshimoto, Ceil W. Howe Jr. <b>KRCD Staff:</b> David Merritt, Christine Simon, Paul G. Peschel, Randy Shilling, Brian Trevarrow, Cristel Tufenkjian, Eric Osterling. <b>Consultants &amp; Others:</b> Steven Haugen (Kings River Water Association).		
<b>Absent:</b>	None.		

### Minutes

#### 1. Additions or Deletions from the Agenda

**Presenter:** President Cehrs

Discussion:

None.

Actions:

None.

#### 2. Public Presentations or Comments

**Presenter:** President Cehrs

Discussion:

None.

Actions:

None.

#### 3. Approval of Minutes of the April 11, 2017 Regular Board Meeting

**Presenter:** President Cehrs

Discussion:

None.

Actions:

- a. It was moved by Vice President Stanfield, seconded by Director Howe, and carried by Directors Cehrs, Stanfield, Howe, McKean, Waldner and Yoshimoto that the Minutes of the April 11, 2017 Regular Board meeting be approved, as presented. Beberian abstained.

---

**4. Water Conditions and Weather Conditions****Presenter: Steve Haugen**

## Discussion:

## a. Water

1. KRWA Watermaster Steve Haugen summarized a report on water conditions stating that the total storage available to KRWA units in Pine Flat Reservoir as of 2400 hours on May 14, 2017 was 614,299 acft with a vacant space of 492,636 acft, and likely around 485,000 acft as of today. On that date, the calculated natural inflow to the Reservoir was 12,268 cfs. Yesterday's natural inflow was 10,486 cfs.
2. October 2016-April 2017 produced 1.7 million acft of run off, making it the largest runoff period on record.
3. Storage is being increased in the Pine Flat Dam by approximately 7,990 acft/day.
4. Most of the snowpack above the 9,000 ft elevation is still above 200% of the April 1 historical average. KRWA will conduct another snow survey next week to confirm readings are on track and to pick up snow courses.
5. The Department of Water Resources (DWR) Bulletin 120 May 9, 2017 Update (B120UP) reflects that we are 192% of average for unimpaired runoff.
6. Haugen summarized a document handed out in the meeting that provided information from the University of Arizona on the Kings River watershed at various elevations, as requested in a prior meeting. Haugen explained that the Kings has one of the highest watershed elevations, with a third of the snow water volume above the 10,000 ft elevation.

## Actions

None.

---

**5. Directors' Reports****Presenter: President Cehrs**

## Discussion:

- a. Director Yoshimoto reported on information he gained regarding Community Choice Aggregation and solar power vendors while attending the ACWA Spring 2017 Conference.
- b. Director Beberian reported that the Ag Initiative meeting members hope to create an ACWA-sponsored agricultural-focused committee before the calendar year's end and summarized conversations he had with vendors regarding dry well technology.

## Actions:

None.

---

**6. General Manager's Report****Presenter: Paul Peschel**

## Discussion:

- a. Paul Peschel, General Manger, provided updates to supplement his written report to the Board.
  1. Consolidated Irrigation District, and the cities of Selma, Fowler, Kingsburg, Parlier and Sanger previously entered into a pre-SGMA agreement addressing groundwater issues within CID's service territory. KRCD was not signatory to the agreement but was named in the agreement as a voting member with the intent of being the deciding vote for non-consensus items. KRCD does not intend to fill this role as it would potentially undermine KRCD's effectiveness as an unbiased representative for the area.
  2. Peschel attended a Public Policy Institute of California (PPIC) meeting at Tulare Irrigation District. The objective of PPIC's interdisciplinary team was to receive informal feedback regarding groundwater management in general and implementation of SGMA in particular.

3. With the policy deadline passed, bills are now moving into the appropriations committee. The Legislative Committee is considering a support position on AB 313 Gray, but is maintaining their current Watch position until more information becomes available.
4. It appears the two top candidates for the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Executive Director are Johnathan Bishop, Chief Deputy Director, and Tina Cannon Leahy, SWRCB Legal Counsel. An announcement should be released within the next week or two.
5. KRCD discussed the Unimpaired Flows resolution drafted by ACWA with the Legislative Committee. The Committee did not recommend providing a resolution to ACWA. As a result, Peschel mentioned that no resolution would be brought back to the Board for consideration. Peschel handed out a map detailing agencies who provided ACWA either a letter of support or a resolution.

Actions:

None.

## **7. Public Information**

**Presenter: Cristel Tufenkjian**

Discussion:

- a. Cristel Tufenkjian, Manager of Community & Public Relations, reported to the Board about the outreach component for ACWA's Ag Initiative supported by ACWA's Communications Committee.

Actions:

None.

## **8a. Power Resources, Flood O&M, and Environmental Status Report and Presentation**

**Presenter: David Merritt**

Discussion:

- a. David Merritt, Deputy General Manager, presented the following information to the Board:
  1. Pine Flat Power Plant generated 102,292.7 NET MWhrs for the month of March 2017. Merritt introduced the PI system recently installed at the Pine Flat Power Plant that allows users to collect and monitor real-time facility data.
  2. The flood flow target continues to be 1,600 cfs at Crescent Weir; staff 24/7 flood patrols ended on April 27, 2017. Expenses to date totaling about \$52,000 were spent maintaining the Zalda interceptor.
  3. In the South Fork of the Kings River, waterside of levee sloughing is occurring downstream of Empire Weir 1 and is being addressed now. There is also landside levee sloughing occurring due to an associated seepage/irrigation ditch. This issue is being monitored.

Actions:

None.

**8b. Business Operations Status Report and Presentation****Presenter: Randy Shilling**

## Discussion:

- a. Randy Shilling, Deputy General Manager, presented the following information to the Board:
  1. Shilling attended the Joint Powers Insurance Authority (JPIA) portion of the ACWA Spring 2017 conference.
  2. The KRCD Budget committee met and will present a recommended budget that will be presented for approval at the June 13, 2017 Board meeting.
  3. As a fiscal agent for several Joint Powers Authorities (JPAs) and GSAs, Shilling reported he is working with several budget committees to prepare their budgets.
  4. Shilling will initiate a meeting date for the KRCD Personnel Committee prior to June 8, 2017.
- b. Eric Osterling, Manager of Water Resources, presented the following information to the Board:
  1. All but one GSA is filed within the region.
  2. Round 2 basin boundary adjustment proposals will be due in 2018.
  3. Several Proposition 1 grant opportunities are available for Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs):
    - i. A Counties with Distressed Basins grant was awarded to the County of Fresno. A committee is working with Provost & Pritchard to improve the granularity of the groundwater monitoring network on the western edge of the Kings Subbasin.
    - ii. The remainder of GSP funding is proposed to be split between:
      1. Severely Disadvantaged Communities (SDAC) Projects. A total of \$10 million is available, with a maximum of \$1 million awarded per project.
      2. For GSAs-only, the maximum awarded per proposal is \$1.5 million for critically overdrafted basins, with \$15 available statewide. The cost share is a minimum of 50%, but this stipulation can be waived for SDACs or economically distressed areas. SWRCB will only allow one application per groundwater basin or subbasin.
  4. A Proposition 1 DAC (Disadvantaged Communities) involvement grant was made available for \$3.4 million to the Tulare Lake Hydrologic Region. Staff is working through a committee to finalize a scope of work that includes some projects for Kings Basin Water Authority's plan area.
  5. Completed spring well survey data is not yet available. Staff is performing maintenance on continuous monitoring equipment and is reevaluating the layout of the monitoring network.
- c. Casey Creamer, Manager of Water Quality, provided the following updates to the Board:
  1. The Kings River Water Quality Coalition (KRWQC) is communicating and working with growers to complete their Farm Evaluation Surveys that were due March 1, 2017. KRWQC is also communicating and working with growers regarding Sediment Erosion Control Plan (SECP) certification. Classes will be held on May 26, 2017. The training will allow growers in our area to certify their own SECP.
  2. Negotiations regarding the East San Joaquin petition are underway that would change current regulations. Public workshops in Fresno and Sacramento are likely and will be an opportunity to lobby either for or against certain items in the petition.
  3. Creamer provided a brief update on nitrates and drinking water issues that he remains involved in along with other coalitions, growers and regulators.
  4. Creamer attended the Water Quality Committee meeting at the ACWA Spring 2017 Conference. Water suppliers expressed concerns with meeting proposed mercury beneficial uses that were recently adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board. Creamer also attended the Federal Affairs Committee at ACWA and discussed items related to Endangered Species reform.
  5. Creamer updated the Board regarding the SWRCB proposal regarding Beneficial Uses and Mercury Objectives concerns. It will be important to watch the Regional Board's Triennial

review which will be the process of designating rivers subject to the new beneficial use designations.

6. Director Beberian thanked KRWQC staff for assisting growers who needed to complete their coalition paperwork.

**Actions:**

None.

**9a. Financial Report: Budget Expenditures**

**Presenter: Randy Shilling**

**Discussion:**

- a. Randy Shilling, Deputy Manager of Business Operations, summarized the budget expenditures and investment report to the Board.

**Actions:**

None.

**9b. Review of Financial Statements**

**Presenter: Director Stanfield**

**Discussion:**

None.

**Actions:**

- a. Approved: It was moved by Director Stanfield, and seconded by Director Yoshimoto and unanimously carried by Directors Cehrs, Stanfield, Howe, McKean, Beberian, Waldner and Yoshimoto; bills in the amount of \$2,200,993.09 as presented in the schedule of Disbursements and Current Accounts Payable, were approved and ordered paid.

**Other Items for Discussion**

**Presenter: President Cehrs**

1. Merritt reported that KRWA granted approval for KRCD to enter into the flood agreement for the McMullin On-Farm Flood Capture and Recharge Project. Staff is still waiting approval of the appraisal from DWR.
2. Randy Shilling drew attention to the Employee Handbook handout, which was given to the Board at the advice of JPIA.

Submitted by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Paul G. Peschel  
Board Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Board President approved on June 13, 2017