EAST KAWEAH GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING ON July 28, 2025

The East Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency ("EKGSA") Board of Directors duly met for a Regular meeting on Monday, July 28, 2025.

OPEN SESSION: Convened at 3:00 p.m. with a quorum.

1. **DIRECTORS PRESENT**: Buldo, Ferrara, Hornung, Micari (3:07 p.m.), Milanesio, Peltzer, Reynolds, Roberts, Soria (Remote), Wallace (alt LSID), Watson

DIRECTORS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Michael Hagman, Executive Director; Chris Hunter, Program Manager (Remote); Kathryn Bennett, Senior Analyst (Remote); Scott Maskell, Management Analyst; Alex Dominguez, Counsel; Matt Klinchuch, Consulting Engineer; Kaitlin Palys, Consulting Engineer; members of the public.

2. **APPROVE THE AGENDA:** Motion to approve the agenda was made by Director Ferrara, seconded by Director Hornung, and carried by the following vote:

AYES:	Buldo, Ferrara, Hornung, Micari, Milanesio, Peltzer, Reynolds, Roberts, Soria, Wallace, Watson
NOES:	None
ABSTAIN:	None
ABSENT:	None

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

4. **PUBLIC COMMENT**: No comments

5. **MINUTES**: The minutes provided by the Secretary from April 28, 2025, Regular Board Meeting were included in the packet. After discussion, a motion to adopt them was made by Director Buldo, seconded by Director Peltzer, and carried by the following vote:

AYES:	Buldo, Ferrara, Hornung, Micari, Milanesio, Peltzer, Reynolds, Roberts, Soria, Wallace, Watson
NOES:	None
ABSTAIN:	None
ABSENT:	None

6. **ADMINISTRATION:**

a. **Self Help Enterprises**: Sue Ruiz from Self Help Enterprises, gave a brief presentation of an upcoming workshop to promote community engagement. She was encouraging EKGSA directors to become involved.

b. **Ratify Payments:** Senior Analyst provided the EKGSA check register. After some discussion with the Executive Director on the payments, a motion to ratify payments made to meet the obligations of the EKGSA was made by Director Watson, seconded by Director Micari, and carried by the following vote:

AYES: Buldo, Ferrara, Hornung, Micari, Milanesio, Peltzer, Reynolds, Roberts, Soria, Wallace, Watson
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

c. **Financial Reports:** Executive Director presented financial reports and answered questions from the Board. A motion was made by Director Ferrara, seconded by Director Hornung, and carried by the following vote:

AYES: Buldo, Ferrara, Hornung, Micari, Milanesio, Peltzer, Reynolds, Roberts, Soria, Wallace, Watson
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

d. **Proposition 218 - Rate Study:** Executive Director reviewed engaging Provost & Pritchard at the April 2025 Board meeting to provide a Prop 218 rate study and TAC's discussions and questions regarding the direction of the rate study. This began the discussion of item 6.e on the land-based assessment.

e. **Proposition 218 – Land-Based Assessment:** Executive Director continued to discuss TAC's recommendation to focus the rate study by Provost & Pritchard to be an additional Prop 218 land-based assessment that can be adjusted annually for changes in the budget or activities of the GSA. After considerable discussion, a motion to proceed with the study on a land-based assessment rate that would include developing a rate that would apply to transfers, was made by Director Hornung, seconded by Director Reynolds and carried by the following vote:

AYES: Buldo, Ferrara, Hornung, Micari, Milanesio, Peltzer, Reynolds, Roberts, Soria, Wallace, Watson
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

f. **Budget/Expense Report for the KSB Work Plan:** Discussion tabled no action taken.

g. **Petition to Allow Variance in the Rules:** Three landowners with large overdraft costs in AY2024 requested that EKGSA allow retroactive application of transfers to their overdraft. After reviewing the circumstances, a motion to allow the variance for the three landowners was made by Director Micari, seconded by Director Hornung and carried by the following vote:

AYES: Buldo, Ferrara, Hornung, Micari, Milanesio, Peltzer, Reynolds, Roberts, Soria, Wallace, Watson
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

h. **HEARING: Unpaid Fines:** Hearing opened at 4:45 p.m. and staff presented the list of unpaid fees and the hearing was closed at 4:48 p.m.

After discussion a motion was made to place all 2024 unpaid fees on the 2026 tax role by Director Micari, seconded by Alt Director Wallace and carried by the following vote:

AYES:	Buldo, Ferrara, Hornung, Micari, Milanesio, Peltzer, Reynolds, Roberts, Soria, Wallace, Watson
NOES:	None
ABSTAIN:	None
ABSENT:	None

Properties that were sold looking for waivers - A motion to waive the fines for these properties was made by Director Buldo, seconded by Director Watson and carried by the following vote:

AYES:	Buldo, Ferrara, Hornung, Micari, Milanesio, Peltzer, Reynolds, Roberts, Soria, Wallace, Watson
NOES:	None
ABSTAIN:	None
ABSENT:	None

After discussion a motion was made to proceed with collection by placing on tax rolls by Director Ferrara seconded by Alt Director Wallace and carried by the following vote:

AYES:	Buldo, Ferrara, Hornung, Micari, Milanesio, Peltzer, Reynolds, Roberts, Soria, Wallace, Watson
NOES:	None
ABSTAIN:	None
ABSENT:	None

7. GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN IMPLEMENTATION:

a. **Review and Consider Recommendation the EKGSA TAC – AY 2026 Groundwater Allocation:** Executive Director presented the recommendation from TAC for the upcoming allocation year 2026. After a brief discussion, the board moved to 7.b to set the allocation.

b. **Resolution 2025-03: Setting the Allocation Year 2026 groundwater allocation:** a motion was made to approve Resolution 2025-03 Adopting Groundwater Allocations for Groundwater Allocation Year 2026 and Amending the Rules and Regulations by Director Buldo, seconded by Alt. Director Wallace, and carried by the following vote:

AYES:	Buldo, Ferrara, Hornung, Micari, Milanesio, Peltzer, Reynolds, Roberts, Wallace, Watson
NOES:	None
ABSTAIN:	None
ABSENT:	Soria

c. **ET Analysis to date:** Executive Director provided a brief update.

d. **Update on Groundwater Sustainability Plan Status:** Consulting Engineer Palys noted there are no updates.

e. **Work Plan – Update Board:** With time being short, Executive Director proceeded to Closed Session.

8. CLOSED SESSION:

The board went into closed session at 4:55 p.m. and after discussion, came out of closed session at 5:47 p.m. There was no reportable action.

9. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING: Next regular Board meeting will be held on October 27, 2025.

10. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 5:47 p.m.

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Michael D. Hagman
Secretary, East Kaweah GSA