# EAST KAWEAH GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING ON APRIL 27, 2026

The East Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency ("EKGSA") Board of Directors duly met for a Regular meeting on Monday, April 27, 2026.

**OPEN SESSION:** David Roberts, Chairman convened the meeting at 3:23 p.m. with a quorum.

**1.** **DIRECTORS PRESENT**: Buldo, Ferrara, George, Hornung, Micari, Peltzer, Reynolds, Roberts, Watson (left 3:36 p.m.)

**DIRECTORS ABSENT**: Milanesio, Soria

**OTHERS PRESENT**: Michael Hagman, Executive Director; Chris Hunter, Program Manager (3:50 p.m.); Scott Maskell, Management Analyst; Alex Dominguez, Counsel; Kait Palys, Consulting Engineer, INTERA; Matt Klinchuch, Consulting Engineer P&P; members of the public.

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

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

**3.** **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**4.** **PUBLIC COMMENT**: David Roberts commented on the cycle of actions taken against water supply for food. He noted that the trend from the State of California is to take water away and never return it. Food supply for the nation depends on water supply in California.

**5.** **MINUTES**: The minutes provided by the Secretary from January 26, 2026, Regular Board Meeting were included in the packet. After discussion, a motion to adopt them was made by Director Peltzer, seconded by Director Micari, and carried by the following vote:

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

**6.** **ADMINISTRATION:**

a. **Consider Adoption of Resolution 2026-01**: Resolution Certifying to the County of Tulare the Validity of the Legal Process used to Place Direct Charges (Special Assessment) on the Secured Tax Roll. Executive Director opened the discussion reminding the Board that this resolution is provided each year to Tulare County to place direct charges on the county's secured tax role. After minimal discussion, the board took action with a motion to adopt **Resolution 2026-01: Resolution Certifying to the County of Tulare the Validity of the Legal Process used to Place Direct**

**Charges (Special Assessment) on the Secured Tax Roll** by Director Ferrara, seconded by Director Hornung, and carried by the following vote:

| | |
|---|---|
| AYES: | Buldo, Ferrara, George, Micari, Peltzer, Reynolds, Roberts |
| NOES: | None |
| ABSTAIN: | None |
| ABSENT: | Milanesio, Soria, Watson |

b. **AY 2025 Invoicing:** Management Analyst Maskell presented the Invoicing Timeline for Allocation Year 2025. He noted the biggest challenge for getting the invoicing completed has been the surface supply agencies not able to get their numbers to him. After substantial discussion a motion was made by Director Hornung, seconded by Director Ferrara, and carried by the following vote to adopt the Allocation Year 2025 Invoicing Schedule as presented:

| | |
|---|---|
| AYES: | Buldo, Ferrara, George, Micari, Peltzer, Reynolds, Roberts |
| NOES: | None |
| ABSTAIN: | None |
| ABSENT: | Milanesio, Soria, Watson |

c. **Cottonwood Creek and Waterways cleanup:** Executive Director Hagman explained that landowners want to task the GSA with keeping Cottonwood channel clean of vegetation. EKGSA is not staffed with that level of infrastructure and therefore will not be taking on the task. EKGSA has stated it will track vegetation as part of the interconnected surface water undesirable impacts. Substantial conversation occurred. Hagman noted he will work with Tulare County on finding out how to resolve vegetation issues within the streambed. Supervisor Micari indicated he might be able to get a person to help us figure it out as well.

d. **Prop 218 – Rate Study:** Executive Director Hagman provided an update on the Proposition 218 Rate Study. Hagman stated that we are not completely certain about what dollars will be needed in the rate study. Due to several uncertainties and the substantial amount currently considered, Hagman recommends cancelation of the Proposition 218 Rate Study already underway. This action will mean there is about $15,000 spent that is not going to be recouped. The Board asked Hagman how the GSA will fund the next two years. Hagman noted that with overdraft fees, and using the highest rate of the current assessment, he believes the GSA will have sufficient revenues. The only caveat is the mitigation. Hagman noted that since EKGSA is limiting extraction to Native supply, it is expected that we will have little to no mitigation costs. If there are mitigation costs, it is likely that we will visit that at the basin level. Since EKGSA is not allowing overdraft. The Board did not take action to formally adopt Proposition 218 assessments, Hagman noted he will simply de-commit further charges on the study. Hagman also noted that sufficient work was done by Provost and Pritchard that can be used when we consider another Proposition 218.

e. **Ratify Payments:** Action tabled

f. **Financial Reports:** Action tabled

g. **Flying Dragon (MLRP) Update:** Executive Director Hagman provided an update on the project. He noted that most of the dirt work has been completed. He also stated that all forms have been submitted and we are on track to begin construction on the turnout sometime in August. Also, currently KDWCD (who is the grantee and EKGSA is a

subgrantee) is paying our claims very quickly and seeking compensation from the State MLRP program. They have been great to work with.

**7. GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN IMPLEMENTATION:**

a. **Status update of the Kaweah Subbasin GSP:** Intera engineering consultant, Kait Palys, reported on the status of the implementation plan.

b. **Mitigation Claim:** The EKGSA received a claim for mitigation of a domestic well. INTERA provided key findings to the well mitigation request S-2026.02.23. These findings show that the impact on the well was not caused by GSA management activity. The Claim was presented to the TAC which took action to recommend the Board deny the claim. After some discussion, a motion was made by Director Hornung, seconded by Director Buldo, and carried by the following vote to deny mitigation for the well:

| | |
|---|---|
| AYES: | Buldo, Ferrara, George, Micari, Peltzer, Reynolds, Roberts |
| NOES: | None |
| ABSTAIN: | None |
| ABSENT: | Milanesio, Soria, Watson |

c. **ET Analysis to date:** Hagman provided a brief update of the most recent GSA wide ET & precipitation analysis.

d. **Work Plan:** Executive Director gave a brief review of the Work Plan. He noted that much of the work is on target. However, there are challenges mostly on getting the basin water budget updated and associated with policy on water supply in the basin (buckets).

e. **LandIQ Daily Tool:** Executive Director noted that the daily tool is now part of the EKGSA offering to its landowners.

**8. CLOSED SESSION:**

The board went into closed session at 4:33 p.m. and after discussion, came out of closed session at 5:32 p.m. There was no reportable action.

**9. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING:** Next regular Board meeting will be held on July 27, 2026.

**10. ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting adjourned at 5:32 p.m.

**Michael D. Hagman**
**Secretary, East Kaweah GSA**