

# TRI-COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY

## SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

### MINUTES

April 4, 2024

The Board of Directors of Tri-County Water Authority met in the second-floor conference room, 944 Whitley Avenue, Corcoran, California, on Thursday, April 4, 2024, at the hour of 1:00 p.m. The meeting was conducted both in person and via Zoom.

Chair VanderHam presided and Secretary Wilkins kept the minutes.

**DIRECTORS PRESENT:** Cory VanderHam  
Michael Nordstrom  
Myron Schotanus  
Jared Hutchings \* (proxy for Wade Magden)

**DIRECTORS ABSENT:** Craig Andrew

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Deanna Jackson, Executive Director  
Staci Wilkins, Board Secretary  
Jason Howard, McCormick Barstow  
David Cameron, HansonBridgett  
Amer Hussain, Geosyntec  
Dick VanderHam, Angiola Water District  
Thomas Harder, TH&Co  
Johnny Gailey  
Stacie Ann Silva, Altum Aqua  
Steve Jackson, Next Gen Water  
Aaron Bollman  
Brandon Winger, Sentry Ag Services  
Sebastian Silveira, Gladstone Farms  
Dusty Ference, Kings County Farm Bureau  
Ragan Anthony, AECOM  
Phillip Augusto  
Gabe Gaeta, Six-33 Solutions

Chair VanderHam called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. The Oath of Office was administered to Mr. Hutchings by Executive Director Jackson.

**PUBLIC COMMENT** - None

**PUBLIC HEARING**

1. Pursuant to Water Code Section [Water Code Section 10728.4], conduct a Public Hearing regarding revisions to the Tulare Lake Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP).

Executive Director reported that the full GSP, including the most recent revisions, was not ready to be released and considered. Mr. Howard explained that since the meeting had been noticed specifically for today, the Board could vote for another continuance of the Public Hearing to a future date. On the motion of Director Nordstrom and seconded by Director Schotanus, the Board voted to approve a continuance of the Public Hearing until May 2, 2024. The Board voted as follows:

Andrew	Hutchings	Nordstrom	Schotanus	VanderHam
Absent	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye

**ACTION AGENDA**

2. Review adoption of Resolution 2024-01 **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF THE AMENDED TULARE LAKE SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN BY THE TRI-COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY.**

This item was tabled until the May 2, 2024, meeting.

**COMMUNICATIONS/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

3. Director’s Reports/Comments/Suggestions  
None.
4. Communications  
None.
5. Reports of General Interest
  - a) Tule Subbasin Update – Thomas Harder
    - Mr. Harder gave an overview of some of the proposed revisions to the Subbasin for consideration of inclusion in the GSP. He reviewed potential impacts to critical infrastructure, wells, pipelines, and flood control. Additionally, he explained reasoning for setting Measurable Objectives with MTs at certain levels and an overview of resulting subsidence.

\* Director Nordstrom left the meeting at 2:15 pm

- b) Tulare Lake Subbasin Update – Amer Hussain/Deanna Jackson
  - GSP revisions: Mr. Hussain noted that the completion has been delayed due to the lack of agreement amongst the GSAs on the allowable amount of subsidence. It is still the goal of the Subbasin to be able to submit a revised plan prior to April 16, 2024.
  - Probationary Hearing on April 16, 2024, in Sacramento.
- c) Multi-Benefit Land Repurposing Grant Update – Amer Hussain
  - There will be a public workshop held at the Tulare Agri-Center on Wednesday, April 17, 2024.

- d) Allensworth Recharge Project – Amer Hussain
  - The completed design is being taken out to bid.
- e) Legal Counsel Update – Jason Howard  
None.
- f) Other Updates, as appropriate  
None.

\* Dick VanderHam, the appointed alternate from Angiola Water District, attended Closed Session for Director Nordstrom at 2:40 pm. The Oath of Office was administered by Executive Director Jackson.

**CLOSED SESSION**

- 8. **CLOSED SESSION** – The Board entered into Closed Session at 2:41 p.m.
  - a. Conference with Legal Counsel regarding potential litigation  
Anticipated Litigation [Govt. Code Section 54956.9(d)(4)] (3 potential cases)

9. **RETURN TO OPEN SESSION**

The Board returned to Open Session at 3:04 p.m. There was no reportable action taken.

**ADJOURNMENT**

- 10. There being no further business to come before the Board on the occasion of the April 4, 2024, meeting, Chair VanderHam adjourned the meeting at 3:05 p.m. until the Regular Meeting to be held on May 2, 2024, at 1:00 p.m., in the Tri-County Boardroom or as otherwise directed by the Board.

Attest:



Cory VanderHam, Chair



Deanna Jackson, Executive Director