JPA Regular Board Meeting Minutes
Kern Non-Districted Land Authority (KNDLA)
Monday, September 22, 2025, at 2:00 p.m.

JPA DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES AND ALTERNATES PRESENT

Amrit Mangat, Buena Vista WSD
Andrew Hart, Kern-Tulare WD
Barry Watts, Rosedale-Rio Bravo WSD
Bret Sill, SWID 7th Standard Annex
Colby Fry, Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa WSD
Dan Waterhouse, Semitropic WSD
Dave Halopoff, Cawelo WD
Derek Yurosek, Arvin-Edison WSD (arrived 2:51 p.m.)
Eric McDaris, Kern Water Bank
Gary Morris, West Kern WD
Jeff Siemens, Olcese WD
Kevin Andrew, North Kern WSD
Kevin Antongiovanni, Kern Delta WD
Kris Lawrence, Shafter-Wasco ID
Nick Pavletich, Kern County Water Agency
Rob Goff, Westside District Water Authority
Royce Fast, Pioneer
Scott Spitzer, Arvin-Edison WSD
Spencer Birch, Cawelo (arrived 2:05 p.m.)
Tim Ashlock, Buena Vista WSD (arrived 2:56 p.m.)
Wes Shryock, KCWA ID4

JPA DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES AND ALTERNATES BY TELECONFERENCE

Brian Grant, Olcese WD
Debbie Wise, Non-Districted Land Representative

OTHERS PRESENT/ PARTICIPATING

Jason Gianquinto, Semitropic WSD
Rachelle Echeverria, Rosedale-Rio Bravo WSD
Trent Taylor, Rosedale-Rio Bravo WSD
Valerie Kincaid, Paris Kincaid Wasiewski LLP

OTHERS VIRTUAL

Alan Doud, Alanna Goodell, Dan Raytis, Dave Cameron, Donna Semar, Iris Priestaf, Jana Marquez, Joshua Vogel, Larry Rodriguez, Melissa Dabulamanzi, Morgan Campbell, Sam Blue, and Stephanie Hearn

1. **Roll Call**
   Chairman Watts called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m. after confirming the presence of a quorum, as required by the JPA Agreement.

2. **Flag Salute**
   Completed.

3. **Public Input**
   None.

4. **Approval of Minutes**
   a. A motion was made by Director Hart and seconded by Director Goff to approve the minutes of the August 25, 2025, regular board meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

5. **Financial Report**
   a. **Financial Report & Accounts Payable**
      Chairman Watts reviewed the deposits, monthly bills, and grant balances. A motion was

made by Director Morris and seconded by Director McDaris to approve the financial report and authorize payment of disbursements as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

6. **Administration**
   a. **Executive Director Report.**
      Chairman Watts summarized Ms. Holtermann's memorandum regarding administrative updates and outreach efforts. Mr. Taylor reported on the Kern Subbasin SGMA weekly managers' meeting and provided an update on the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) hearing, including items to be submitted to the Department of Water Resources (DWR).
   b. **Landowner Outreach**
      Director Wise reported on the Kern County Cattlemen's meeting, where KNDLA and SGMA were presented to landowners. She noted that landowners came well-prepared with questions and emphasized their desire for representation in the process. She added that additional resources will be needed for further engagement. A follow-up meeting is tentatively scheduled for November.
   c. **Landowner Assessment Ad Hoc**
      Chairman Watts provided an update on the initiation of the assessment process, noting that Ms. Holtermann is developing an assessment calculator. An Ad Hoc Committee meeting is scheduled for September 30 to continue discussions on structuring a potential assessment fee. Director Wise added that assessments were a central topic during landowner outreach and highlighted the importance of clean data. Ms. Kincaid addressed questions regarding Proposition 26 and Proposition 218, outlining their differences and processes, and emphasized that the Board would guide the assessment process.

7. **DWR Grant Administration**
   a. **Report on DWR Grant Administration**
      Mr. Gianquinto reported that work is underway on Pay Request No. 11 and that Todd Groundwater is finalizing the basin study.

8. **County of Kern Participation**
   a. **Kern County Participation Ad hoc Committee Report**
      Director Fast reported that there were no updates at this time.

9. **Legal**
   a. **Kern Subbasin SGMA Hearing**
      Ms. Kincaid reported on the SWRCB hearing held on September 17, noting that staff identified three primary issues with the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP), including the KNDLA agreement sunset provision, which has since been addressed. She commended the Kern Subbasin technical panel for its preparedness and cohesiveness, which was reflected in favorable comments from SWRCB staff. Although some concerns remain regarding water quality, the overall feedback was supportive and represents an important milestone for the Subbasin.
   b. **Statewide Update**
      Ms. Kincaid reported on several legislative and regulatory matters:
      - DWR is receiving comments on its draft best management practices for subsidence, with no set timeline for finalization.
      - Assembly Bill 14 was tabled and will not proceed this year.

- A proposed trailer bill to expedite CEQA review for Sacramento Valley unimpaired flows was also tabled.
- The Kings County oral argument is scheduled for October 7.

10. New Business

None.

11. Correspondence

a. Famoso Hills

Mr. Taylor reported that Ms. Holtermann had flagged a landowner's well for the well mitigation subcommittee. He added that mitigation program documents had been provided to the landowner, and an update will be presented at the next meeting.

12. Closed Session

a. Potential Litigation – Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2)

Closed session commenced at 2:45 p.m. and concluded at 2:58 p.m. Chairman Watts reported that no reportable action was taken.

13. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Director Hart and seconded by Director McDaris. The motion carried unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 2:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rachelle Echeverria