

# FOX CANYON GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY

A STATE OF CALIFORNIA WATER AGENCY



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Lynn E. Maulhardt, **Chair**, *Director, United Water Conservation District*

David Borchard, *Farmer, Agricultural Representative*

Charlotte Craven, **Vice Chair**, *Councilperson, City of Camarillo*

John K. Flynn, *Supervisor, County of Ventura*

Dr. Michael Kelley, *Director, Zone Mutual Water Company*

## EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Jeff Pratt, P.E.

## FCGMA TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP (TAG)

### MEETING MINUTES

January 16, 2008

A meeting of the Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency (FCGMA) **Technical Advisory Group (TAG)** was held at 9:00 A.M. on Wednesday, January 16, 2008 in Room 241 at the Ventura County Government Center, Hall of Administration, Main Plaza Level at 800 South Victoria Avenue, Ventura, California.

- A. **Call to Order** – Acting TAG Chair Gerhardt Hubner (FCGMA) called the meeting to order at 9:08 AM and announced that Christian Laber, (FCGMA Staff Geologist) was no longer working for the County and David Panaro would fill his former position.
- B. **Public Comments** – None (14 people present)
- C. **Attending Board Member Comments** – None (Alternate Director McIntyre & Director Kelley in attendance)
- D. **Approval of Minutes** – Acting Chair Hubner asked if there were any comments or changes to the November 8, 2007 TAG meeting minutes. Hearing none, they were approved. He then asked if there were any comments or changes to the December 12, 2007 TAG meeting minutes. Hearing none, they also were approved.
- E. **Description of the new Mobile Irrigation Lab Program** – Dr. Ben Faber (UC Farm Advisor) showed slides to describe how important good irrigation management is to the overall health of crops and to the bottom line costs of annual operations where large water needs are the norm. Marty Melvin (Director, Resource Conservation District) described the planned mobile irrigation lab program which can provide irrigation evaluations and advice to farms and large landscape water users. Since the mobile lab will only be funded with State money for 3-years, local input and support will be needed to continue and expand this service.

Several means toward potential funding of the mobile irrigation lab were discussed, with direction to bring this matter back for additional refinement and solidification of ideas if the SAG felt it worthy of the TAG time and expertise. It was agreed that even a 10 percent improvement in water use via better irrigation practices would greatly benefit the FCGMA water resources, and would more than justify financial support for a permanent mobile irrigation lab service. Education programs that target water users are also needed to supplement desired water conservation/mgmt. goals.

**Action Item:** FCGMA staff will contact Casitas to obtain and distribute the results of a Cal Poly SLO student conducted irrigation study done in 2007 within the Casitas service area for the most recent reference of how water-use efficient Ventura County farmers really are.

- F. Proposed Groundwater Management Strategies and the Evaluation Matrix** – Since Dr. Bachman was absent, Curtis Hopkins stated that a discussion of the strategy evaluation matrix ranking would not be possible at today's session. He mentioned that one of the delays in making any presentation was the lack of follow up submittals from individual stakeholders who had specific water management strategies on the priority list, and urged everyone to fill out and return the description/detail forms distributed at the last TAG meeting. These forms will help everyone evaluate the specific proposed management strategies. Further discussion of the strategy matrix was postponed until the next TAG meeting. Feedback is needed!

**Action Item:** Stakeholders will provide their filled out versions of the strategy description forms to Curtis & Dr. B for any projects they wish considered by the TAG so proper ranking can be done.

- G. Next Technical Advisory Group Meeting Agenda** – Several topics were suggested for the next meeting;
- a. Elect a new TAG Chair to fill the gap left by the departure of Mr. Laber.
  - b. Further discussion about the Mobile Irrigation Lab and possible funding sources with Marty Melvin present to offer ideas about costs, etc.
  - c. Refinement and possible adoption of a working strategy evaluation matrix.

The next TAG meeting was scheduled for February 20, 2008 at 9:00 AM (larger room number/location to be announced).

- H. Adjourn Technical Advisory Group Meeting**  
The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 A.M.

\*\*\*

**Electronic Information and Updates:** Additional meeting minutes and general information can be found at: [www.fcgma.org](http://www.fcgma.org). Online information includes: Board meeting and special meeting schedules, special and general announcements, a list of the Board members and staff, weather station data, general information, and various Agency forms. If you need further information, please contact David Panaro, the FCGMA Staff Geologist at (805) 654-2327, or Sheila Lopez, the FCGMA Engineering Technician at (805) 645-1372.