

FOX CANYON GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY

A STATE OF CALIFORNIA WATER AGENCY



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FCGMA TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP (TAG) MEETING MINUTES February 11, 2008

A meeting of the Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency (FCGMA) **Technical Advisory Group (TAG)** was held at 2:00 P.M. on Monday, February 11, 2008 in the Atlantic Conference Room 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 David Panaro (FCGMA) called the meeting to order at 2:05 PM.
- B. **Public Comments** – None (9 people present)
- C. **Attending Board Member Comments** – None (Directors Borchard & Kelley in attendance)
- D. **Approval of Minutes** – Acting Chair Panaro asked if there were any comments or changes to the January 16, 2008 TAG meeting minutes. Hearing none, they were accepted without change.
- E. **Elect a new TAG Chair** – Frank Brommenschenkel nominated Dr. Steve Bachman for TAG Chair, and Curtis Hopkins nominated David Panaro as Vice Chair to fill the slot vacated by Steve. All present agreed, and with no objections from the nominees, both motions passed.
- F. **Proposed Groundwater Management Strategies and the Evaluation Matrix** – There was no feedback or lobbying on behalf of any particular strategy during the last two months, hence nothing to report. A discussion of how to evaluate the various projects ensued, and regular progress reports to the SAG were deemed the best means to stay on track.

Action Item: Curtis Hopkins & Dr. Bachman will both call on or contact stakeholders known to have proposed projects or strategies in the planning or development stage to get the necessary details for the next meeting matrix discussion. David Panaro will attempt to make or draft a map of all possible strategies for a visual depiction of location and scope.

- G. **Possible Funding Mechanisms for Mobile Irrigation Lab** – Several ideas were offered up by the group, including;
 - 1) FCGMA or others offer cost rebates for direct improvements in water use.
 - 2) Miller Settlement money is directed to the NRCS as seed funding to start the program.
 - 3) Irrigators pay for all water audit costs with no outside help (self-funded – no GMA help).
 - 4) FCGMA partners with SCE to provide monetary rebates for water and power saved.
 - 5) FCGMA gives one acre-foot (AF) of credit to irrigators for every AF of water saved.
 - 6) A flat fee for first 50 audits is paid by FCGMA but only for those within the Agency.
 - 7) Help modify existing NRCS EQUIP program to add audits & thus provide incentives.

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- 8) FCGMA offers only to model audit results since either more or less groundwater use may result from Mobile Lab recommendations and implementation.
- 9) FCGMA pays for audit evaluation follow up visits to help evaluate the cost-benefits.
- 10) FCGMA instead pays for water system leak repairs to ensure longer-term water volume savings, and thus provides no money, only support to the NRCS Mobile Irrigation Lab.

Action Item: Relay suggestions to the SAG for referral to the NRCS and possible further decisions by the FCGMA Board of Directors.

- H. Water TAP (Transfers Across the Plain)** – Henry Graumlich (Calleguas) described how the “TAP” idea was developed, how it presents significant benefits, but how the cost for actual water cannot yet be quantified. Dr. Bachman has been retained to model the possible effects/problems/benefits of the TAP, but has not started yet. Long-term continuation of the TAP will require some new credits from the FCGMA to keep the whole process going, and also as an incentive to move, share, or acquire new water for the Agency. The TAG members recommended that any TAP program would have to be suspended if the Forebay Basin gets close to the 80,000 AF safe yield storage limit.

Action Item: Examine issue again only after further TAP presentations to the SAG and/or FCGMA Board of Directors, and only if directed to do so. Mr. Graumlich will complete a flow chart to help visually explain the TAP process as currently proposed.

- F. Next Technical Advisory Group Meeting Agenda** – Topics suggested for the next meeting;
- a. Dr. Bachman will provide results of computer modeling to evaluate the TAP idea.
 - b. Add a SAG meeting summary as a regular Agenda item to all future meetings.
 - c. Refinement and possible adoption of a working strategy evaluation matrix.

The next TAG meeting was scheduled for March 10, 2008 at 10:00 AM until Noon.

- G. Adjourn Technical Advisory Group Meeting**
The meeting was adjourned at 4:05 P.M.