



**APPROVED GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES
October 23, 2019**

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

At 9:03 A.M., Hicham Eltal welcomed those present and called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

Roll call showed the following MIUGSA Representatives present:

Name	Organization
Hicham Eltal (Chair)	Merced Irrigation District
Stephanie Dietz (Vice Chair)	City of Merced
Justin Vinson	City of Atwater
Carlos Valencia	Winton Water and Sanitary District (CSD)
Daniel Chavez	Planada Community Services District (CSD)
Cynthia Benavidez	Le Grand Community Services District (CSD)

The following MIUGSA Representative was absent:

Name	Organization
Jose Antonio Ramirez	City of Livingston

CORRECTIONS OR ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Chairman Eltal indicated Action Item 4 is a report item, no action will be taken. Action Item 4 moved to Reports.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Meeting Minutes: August 14, 2019

On motion by Ken Elwin (City of Merced), seconded by Daniel Chavez (Planada CSD) the Board unanimously approved the minutes as written.

REPORTS

Chairman Eltal discussed the schedules for the Coordination Committee, Stakeholder Committee, and Framework ad hoc committee meetings. Chairman Eltal indicated that under SGMA there are

3 GSAs in the area (Merced Irrigation-Urban Groundwater Sustainability Agency (MIUGSA), Merced Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (MSGSA), and Turner Island Water District Groundwater Sustainability Agency -1 (TIWD GSA-1)), which together created a Coordination Committee in order to work more closely on SGMA related issues. Chairman Eltal reports that MIUGSA is represented on the Coordination Committee by MID, the City of Merced, the City of Atwater, and Planada CSD. Generally, issues are discussed by MIUGSA, then brought before the Coordination Committee. Chairman Eltal indicated that the Stakeholder Committee is an additional committee represented by the public at large that have an interest in water. The Coordination Committee and Stakeholder meetings are held every 4th Monday of each month.

Chairman Eltal indicated that the Framework ad hoc committee is working on the development of protocols that would keep consistency, as much as possible, between the three groundwater sustainability agencies. The Framework discussions will tackle some critical issues, as how the natural yield is divided between the GSA, measuring tools to maintain a consistent water budget, accounting for groundwater credits and other similar items. Chairman Eltal indicated that there is an upcoming framework meeting scheduled for Friday, October 25, 2019.

Chairman Eltal presented and discussed LAFCo Notice of Formation of Owens Creek Water District (LAFCo file no. 0688). Chairman Eltal discussed the submission of comments to the LAFCo file no. 0688. Chairman Eltal said, the area was subject to concerns as it exported groundwater from Merced Groundwater Basin during the last mega drought, and caused the creation of the Merced Groundwater Ordinance. The area is also considered within the overall subsidence area in the southwest of the Merced Groundwater Basin.

ACTIONS

1. Consider adoption of Resolution 2019-01 accepting authorization from Merced Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency and Turner Island Groundwater Sustainability Agency No. 1 to pursue grant funding under Prop 68 Round 3.

Matthew Beaman, MID presented Resolution 2019-01 and grant funding made available under Proposition 68 by the Department of Water Resources, specifically the 2019 Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Planning Grant – Round 3. Mr. Beaman indicated that the maximum amount of funds available under the grant is \$500,000, and the Merced Subbasin GSAs intend to submit a joint application for funding with a focus on 2 projects: addressing data gaps in the GSP and developing a remote-sensing tool for monitoring groundwater use within the basin. The GSAs have requested that MIUGSA submit the 2019 SGM Planning Grant application on behalf of the basin.

After further discussion Cinthia Benavidez (Le Grand CSD) made a motion to approve Resolution 2019-01, seconded by Stephanie Dietz (City of Merced); the Board unanimously approved the motion. The vote was as follows:

Ayes:	Eltal, Dietz, Vinson, Cynthia
Noes:	None
Abstain:	None
Absent:	Ramirez

2. Consider adoption of Resolution 2019-02 authorizing Merced Irrigation District continued administration of Agreement Number 46000012719 with DWR, subject to Proposition 1 and any modifications subject to Proposition 68 funding.

Chairman Eltal presented Resolution 2019-02. Chairman Eltal discussed two grants (GSP and Severely Disadvantage Community) with the Department of Water Resources, which are currently administered by MID under Agreement Number 46000012719. Chairman Eltal indicated MID has the financial basis to meet the requirements of the Department of Water Resources to submit an application for, and administer (if approved), the 2019 SGM Planning Grant – Round 3. Chairman Eltal indicated that the Department of Water Resources, rather than complete a new agreement, would like an update to the current agreement (46000012719) to allow for continued administration by MID and to include the submission of application, and the administration of funding (if approved), by MID for the 2019 SGM Planning Grant – Round 3.

Daniel Chavez (Planada CSD) made a motion to approve Resolution 2019-02, seconded by Stephanie Dietz (City of Merced); the Board unanimously approved the motion. The vote was as follows:

Ayes:	Eltal, Dietz, Vinson, Cynthia
Noes:	None
Abstain:	None
Absent:	Ramirez

3. Consider providing a letter of support regarding the Merced Integrated Regional Water Management Authority application for grant under Proposition 1, Integrated Regional Water management Program

Chairman Eltal presented a draft letter of support for the Merced Integrated Regional Water Management Authority (MIRWMA) application to the Department of Water Resources for grant funding under Proposition 1. Chairman Eltal indicated that MIRWMA has an ongoing grant proposal to DWR, that if approved could benefit the overall sustainability of our water supply, protect groundwater aquifers, reduce flooding, and most importantly benefit our local disadvantaged communities. Chairman Eltal discussed the projects proposed for grant funding, which include the following: Le Grand Canal near Black Rascal, Park Irrigation with Surface Water, Surface Water to Parks and Weather Based Irrigation Controllers, Merced LiDar and Real Time Simulation Flood Control Modeling, and Rice Field Pilot Study Monitoring Wells.

Upon further discussion Stephanie Dietz (City of Merced) made a motion to approve, seconded by Brenda Wey (Winton Water and Sanitary District); the Board unanimously approved the motion. The vote was as follows:

Ayes:	Eltal, Dietz, Vinson, Cynthia
Noes:	None
Abstain:	None
Absent:	Ramirez

BUSINESS FROM THE BOARD

None.

CLOSED SESSSION

None.

ADJOURN

Stephanie Dietz (City of Merced) made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Cynthia Benavidez (Le Grand CSD) seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 9:50AM.