

**Tulare Kern Funding Area
Disadvantaged Community Involvement Program
White Areas Working Group**

Location: Self-Help Enterprises 8554 W. Elwin Court Visalia, CA 93292
Phone: 1-800-768-2983 / Code: 3418040

**Meeting Summary
Wednesday, January 8, 2020 2:00pm - 3:30pm**

Attendees: Jim Maciel (Armona Community Services District), Sonia Sanchez, Angela Islas, Jessi Snyder (Self-Help Enterprises) | **On the phone:** Soua Lee (Kings River Conservation District/Kings Basin Water Authority) | **Not in attendance:** Rebecca Berg (Civic Spark/County of Tulare) and Denise England (County of Tulare)

Welcome and Introductions:

Sonia thanked everyone for agreeing to serve on the white areas working group. Sonia announced the transition from Maria Herrera to Sonia Sanchez being the lead contact for the White Areas Group.

Review/Approval of the Agenda: The group reviewed the agenda. No changes were made to the agenda.

Review of Current DACs/Entities not Covered by an IRWM Region

- Sonia reached out to Shane Smith with the Kaweah River Basin IRWM group about Exeter. Shane spoke to the General Manager and will consider their boundary expansion to Exeter but will need to be in contact with the City Council to see if they are interested in joining the group before considering expanding their boundary. Sonia will follow up and provide updates to the group.
- Sonia spoke to Scott Peterson with the Westside-San Joaquin IRWM group regarding extending their boundary to Kettleman City and Community 241. Scott will discuss this with their Board during their next board meeting on January 9, 2020 to consider expanding their boundary to include Kettleman City and Community 241.

Recent Coordination with DWR and IRWM Groups

Sonia and Maria Herrera had two phone calls with the Department of Water Resources. Sonia shared updates from those calls. The first call was with Craig Cross and Nathan Fisch on

October 14, 2019, who referred Self-Help Enterprises (SHE) to Rachel Ballanti and Carmel Brown. They will reach out to funding area grant managers (Lance in Mojave area; Holly at Inyo-Mono Water; Mountain Counties) and see if they can share any recommendations. Additionally, they will talk to staff involved in awarding funds and connect with their colleague Tanya who works with ArcGIS to see if there is a query of projects funded outside of IRWM groups.

Review of Preliminary Draft Recommendations/Approaches

Prior to the meeting, Sonia sent the draft preliminary recommendations to the White Areas group for further additions and revisions to the document. No additions were made to the document.

Soua 's update on amending Integrated Regional Water Management Group (IRWMG) Boundaries

- Soua anticipates the conversations for boundary changes to be discussed further in March 2020. Disadvantaged Communities (DACs) that could potential benefit from the boundary amendment include Lemoore and Santa Rosa.
- Conversation between King River Conservation District (KRCD) and South Fork Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency about potentially joining the Kings Basin Water Authority is pending.

Engage IRWM Groups, DACs, Existing Members and Non-participating Entities

- SHE proposes to work with Resource Media to develop an education and messaging campaign to teach new members and remind existing members of the importance of the IRWM.
- Work on this particular task item and will need the approval of the PAC at the next PAC meeting on January 16, 2020 to move forward

Legislature/Governor

- The [Governor's Water Resilience Portfolio](#) was recently released.

Group Discussion

1. Jim: Any indication from the Governor or State to look into water bonds that include IRWMP?
 - a. Jessi agrees to having this be a good recommendation.
 - b. Sonia will be adding this to the draft recommendations list

2. Soua: Santa Rosa Rancheria – is there a contact person to reach out to that community?
 - a. Sonia – Paul Boyer may have a contact out there to share. Part of the proposal is to include tribal outreach into Phase II of the TKFA DACI project.
 - i. Jim stated that Norman Quinn, Board Member of the Armona Community Services District is the utility manager for the Santa Rosa Rancheria community. There are conversations about housing expansion (~100 homes) within this community.

Future Agenda Topics/Action Items/Adjourn

- Jessi – couple of pending items regarding IRWM boundary expansions. Does not really feel that the WAG needs to reconvene for updates on that. Recommends following up via email.
- Sonia will follow up with DWR on the information/recommendations regarding IRWM boundary expansion.
- SHE will be adding the water bond recommendation to the draft recommendations list.
 - Sonia to finalize the recommendations list and provide to PAC and DWR.