

**Board Members**

Joe Neves, District 1  
Richard Valle, District 2 - Chairman  
Doug Verboon, District 3 – Vice-Chairman  
Rusty Robinson, District 4  
Richard Fagundes, District 5



**Staff**

Kyria Martinez, Acting Co. Admin. Officer  
Diane Freeman, County Counsel  
Catherine Venturella, Clerk of the Board

## Board of Supervisors Regular Meeting Action Summary

**Date:** Tuesday, April 4, 2023  
**Time:** 9:00 a.m.  
**Place:** Board of Supervisors Chambers, Kings County Government Center  
1400 W. Lacey Boulevard, Hanford, California 93230

☎ (559) 852-2362 ❖ [bosquestions@co.kings.ca.us](mailto:bosquestions@co.kings.ca.us) ❖ website: <https://www.countyofkings.com>

The meeting can be attended on the Internet by clicking this link:

<https://countyofkings.webex.com/countyofkings/j.php?MTID=med87061c11f8738c42d979b6e963d821>

or by sending an email to [bosquestions@co.kings.ca.us](mailto:bosquestions@co.kings.ca.us) on the morning of the meeting for an automated email response with the WebEx meeting link information. Members of the public attending via WebEx will have the opportunity to provide public comment during the meeting. Remote WebEx participation for members of the public is provided for convenience only. In the event that the WebEx connection malfunctions or becomes unavailable for any reason, the Board of Supervisors reserves the right to conduct the meeting without remote access.

**\*WebEx will be available for access at 8:50 a.m.\***

Members of the public who wish to view/observe the meeting virtually can do so on the internet at:

[www.countyofkings.com](http://www.countyofkings.com) and click on the “Join Meeting” button or by clicking this link:

<https://youtube.com/live/PZv4oj4NwhM?feature=share>

**\*\*Members of the public viewing the meeting through YouTube will not have the ability to provide public comment.**

Members of the public may submit written comments on any matter within the Board’s subject matter jurisdiction, regardless of whether it is on the agenda for the Board’s consideration or action, and those comments may become part of the administrative record of the meeting. Comments will not be read into the record, only the names of who have submitted comments will be read. Written comments should be directed to [bosquestions@co.kings.ca.us](mailto:bosquestions@co.kings.ca.us) email by 8:00 a.m. on the morning of the noticed meeting to be included in the record, those comments received after 8:00 a.m. may become part of the record of the next meeting. E-mail is not monitored during the meeting. To submit written by U.S. Mail to: Kings County Board of Supervisors, Attn: Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, County of Kings, 1400 W. Lacey Blvd., Hanford, CA 93230.

- I. 9:00 AM **CALL TO ORDER**
- ROLL CALL – Clerk of the Board
- INVOCATION – Pastor Arthur Fox – New Hope Orthodox Presbyterian Church
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- ALL MEMBERS PRESENT



**II. UNSCHEDULED APPEARANCES**

*Any person may directly address the Board at this time on any item on the agenda, or on any other items of interest to the public, that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board. Two (2) minutes are allowed for each item.*

**Carolyn Leist, Human Resources Director stated that Melissa Avalos was promoted to Principal Analyst effective April 3, 2023 and wanted to introduce her the Board and congratulate her.**

**Phil Hansen, Kings County resident stated that #749 west is full and asked why the lowest elevations of the Lake Bottom are not being filled first and stated that he is concerned with Stratford and surrounding areas being flooded. He discussed levees cut during the 1983 floods along the Cousins, Brown and Lovelace canals. He asked why there were no elevations on the map that J.G. Boswell staff, Dominic Sween shared with the Board at the March 18, 2023 meeting.**

**Mike Ornellas, Vice President of the Kings County Firefighters Association recognized Dylan Vest , William Lynch, Josh Cunningham and former members who worked to get the \$4 million dollar grant for the Board to approve on the agenda today, which will go towards upgrades at the existing firehouses to help the department to better serve the communities where they are located. He thanked former Assemblymember Rudy Salas and Congresswoman Melissa Hurtado for procuring these funds and the previously approved \$1.5 million dollars for a total of \$5.5 million for the Department**

**Supervisor Valle recognized former Kings County Supervisor Craig Pedersen in the audience and stated that he was supportive of the project. He thanked J.G. Boswell representatives for coming to the meeting today and for meeting with Supervisor Neves and Supervisor Verboon and wanting to work with the County on the flooding issues. He stated that property owners in the flood area are not being notified and asked if the article he read regarding J.G. Boswell planting tomatoes in the lake bottom was correct and for the location of the tomatoes. He also read from a letter by George Wurzel to employees regarding the planting of tomatoes and other crops through the planting season and asked if the City of Corcoran was in any danger of being flooded.**

**Mark Unruh, J.G. Boswell representative explained the elevations in the Lovelace area and stated that the Lovelace is the next lowest spot for flood water. He stated that the article Supervisor Valle is referring to has false information as to the location of the tomatoes and was not aware of future crop plans.**

**George Wurzel, J.G. Boswell stated that the company is planting tomatoes in Kern County on higher ground and stated that there are fewer plants than they had planned due to flooding. He stated that the neighbor was planting tomatoes and discussed that they are planting above the levee's and stated that J.G. Boswell is planning for Kern River water to be placed in the Cousins area and stated that they are trying to work with the County, but 1 million acre feet of water, can't be mitigated and stated that the levees need to be elevated to save the City of Corcoran and the State Prison facility. He stated that they have been working with their staff on the issues. He stated that the cutting of #749 took the mitigation out of their hands and he asked to have the Hansen family move dirt to allow the J.G. Boswell company to use the gates for Lovelace before it impacts everyone.**

**Supervisor Valle asked the J.G. Boswell representatives to work with the staff in the County Office of Emergency Services to help mitigate the impacts and to be more transparent moving forward to raise awareness versus immediate responses.**



III.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. Report out of Closed Session from the regular meeting for March 28, 2023.

**REPORT OUT: Diane Freeman, County Counsel stated that the Board took no reportable action in closed session at their March 28, 2023 meeting.**

B. Approval of the minutes from the regular meeting for March 28, 2023.

**ACTION: APPROVED AS PRESENTED (JN, DV, RR, RF, RV-Aye)**

IV.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

**A. Public Health Department:**

1. Consider authorizing the advance step hire of Nichole Fisher as a Supervising Public Health Nurse at Salary Range 253.0 Step 5.

**B. Public Works Department:**

1. Consider awarding the construction contract for the Kettleman City State Route 41 Pedestrian Crossing and Pathway Improvements to Garcia Paving, Inc.

**C. Administration:**

1. a. Consider authorizing the County Administrative Officer to sign the Agreement between the Department of Water Resources of the State of California, Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District, Westlands Water District, and the County for the transfer of 6,000 acre-feet of Table A water from Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District to Kings County;  
**[AGMT 23-034]**
- b. Approve the Agreement between the County and Westlake Farms Incorporated holding the County harmless for being a party to the transfer Agreement between the Department of Water Resources of the State of California, Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District, Westlands Water District, and the County for the transfer of 6,000 acre-feet of Table A water from Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District to Kings County.  
**[AGMT 23-035]**
2. Consider appointing one new member to the Kings County Homelessness Collaborative.
3. Consider appointing three new members to the Kings County Agricultural Advisory Committee.

**ACTION: APPROVED AS PRESENTED (RF, DV, JN, RR, RV-Aye)**

V.

**REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS**

**A. Community Development Agency – Chuck Kinney**

1. Consider reviewing the Water Commission recommendations, and if acceptable, direct staff to make changes to the Formation of the Water Resources Oversight Commission Ordinance and/or the Groundwater Export Ordinance No. 706.

**ACTION: APPROVED AS PRESENTED (DV, RR, JN, RF, RV-Aye)**

**B. Fire Department – William Lynch**

1. Consider adopting the Resolution identifying the terms and conditions of Fire Department personnel response away from their official duty station and assigned to an emergency incident. **[RESO 23-019]**

**ACTION: APPROVED AS PRESENTED (DV, RR, JN, RF, RV-Aye)**

2. a. Consider approving the acceptance of the pass-through funding from California Office of Emergency Services;
- b. Authorize the Fire Chief to sign required documentation related to the funding award;
- c. Adopt the budget change. **(4/5 vote required)**

**ACTION: APPROVED AS PRESENTED (RF, DV, JN, RR, RV-Aye)**



**C. Human Services Agency – Wendy Osikafo/Monica Connor**

1. Consider adopting a Resolution to proclaim the month of April 2023 as Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Month. [RESO 23-020]

**ACTION: APPROVED AS PRESENTED (DV, RR, JN, RF, RV-Aye)**

**D. Public Health Department – Rose Mary Rahn/Heather Silva**

1. Consider adopting a Resolution proclaiming the week of April 3-9, 2023, as National Public Health Week. [RESO 23-021]

**ACTION: APPROVED AS PRESENTED (RF, DV, JN, RR, RV-Aye)**

**E. Human Resources – Carolyn Leist**

1. Consider setting the compensation for Leonard Bakker as Acting Chief Probation Officer, retroactively effective March 10, 2023.

**ACTION: APPROVED AS PRESENTED SETTING THE COMPENSATION AT \$11,000 PER MONTH EFFECTIVE MARCH 10, 2023 (DV, RR, JN, RF, RV-Aye)**

**ACTION: REVOKE THE PRIOR DECISION AND APPROVED SETTING THE COMPENSATION AT \$12,999 PER MONTH EFFECTIVE MARCH 10, 2023. (DV, RR, JN, RF, RV-Aye)**

2. Consider setting the compensation for Kyria Martinez as Acting County Administrative Officer, retroactively effective April 1, 2023.

**ACTION: APPROVED AS PRESENTED SETTING THE COMPENSATION AT \$17,682 PER MONTH EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2023. (DV, RR, JN, RF, RV-Aye)**

**F. Administration – Kyria Martinez/Matthew Boyett**

1. Consider waiving the second reading and adopt the amended Ordinance for Senate Bill 1383 requirements. [ORD 705.1]

**ACTION: APPROVED WITH AMENDMENTS TO DIRECT STAFF TO CHANGE TO A FRANCISE ZONE MODEL AND BRING THE ITEM BACK FOR APPROVAL AT THE SEPTEMBER 12, 2023 MEETING (DV, RR, JN, RF, RV-Aye)**

**VI. STUDY SESSION**

**A. Administration – Kyria Martinez/Matthew Boyett**

1. a. Consider receiving information on Senate Bill 1383 implementation impacts of both the free-market and franchise zone models;  
b. Direct staff, as necessary, to take actions as deemed necessary for the implementation of Senate Bill 1383.

**The item was pulled due to the decision made on item V.F.1.**

**VII. BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS OR REPORTS**

*On their own initiative, Board Members may make a brief announcement or a brief report on their own activities. They may ask questions for clarification, make a referral to staff or take action to have staff place a matter of business on a future agenda (Gov. Code Section 54954.2a).*

**Supervisor Neves stated that he continues to deal with flooding issues, attended the Kings Waste & Recycling Authority meeting, attended the Sarah A. Mooney Museum 182<sup>nd</sup> birthday celebration and attended the Stratford Portuguese Hall Supreme Visit event.**

**Supervisor Fagundes stated that he attended the Kings Waste & Recycling Authority meeting, attended the Housing Authority of Kings County meeting and attended the Knights of Columbus pancake breakfast.**

**Supervisor Verboon stated that he attended the Valley Voices trip to Sacramento, continues to handle flood issues, attended an Island District property owners meeting, attended a Sheriff's Posse meeting**



where he spoke on flooding issues and attended a meeting with J.G. Boswell company representatives.

Supervisor Robinson stated that he virtually attended the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District budget meeting.

Supervisor Valle stated that he has been working on the upcoming event for the Veteran's Memorial Statue unveiling in Corcoran at Gateway Park on April 24, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. He stated that 3,500+ people attended the Gateway park event on April 1, 2023 and he hopes to have the same or more at the unveiling. He stated that he has been attending meetings in Clovis and Bakersfield with Veteran's groups to promote the event and stated that the artists will arrive in Corcoran on April 17, 2023 to start the installation of the statues.

- ◆ Board Correspondence: **Kyria Martinez, Acting CAO, stated that the Board received correspondence from Kinder Morgan dated March 28, 2023 regarding information on excavation activities and their pipelines. She stated that the Board received correspondence dated March 29, 2023 from S.G. Plum and B.S. Chemistry of CSU Fresno regarding Chemical Waste Management facility in Kettleman City.**
- ◆ Upcoming Events: **Kyria Martinez, Acting CAO, stated that Aria Community Health Center will be hosting its 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Spring Wellness Fair happening on April 6, 2023 from 11:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m. at the St. Joseph Catholic Church in Stratford. This event is bringing together resources to help address social determinants of health impacting the community of Stratford. There will be fun for the whole family with activities, health education, raffles and more. For more information, please contact Aria at 559-924-0074. Save the date and join Kings Partnership and the Hanford Chamber of Commerce on Friday, April 7, 2023 at 12:30 p.m. at the Kings County Government Center in Hanford for The Lisa Project's 4<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. Snacks, drinks and tours will be available. In honor of Child Abuse Awareness Month, Kings Partnership is inviting the community to join them in celebrating Kids Day on Saturday, April 22, 2023 from 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. at the Hanford Mall. There will be FREE and FUN activities such as pony rides, train rides, a petting zoo, face painting, and so much more. This event will be preceded by a Kid's Day Walk for Child abuse which will start at 8:00 a.m. at the Hanford Civic Center and walk to the Hanford Mall. Everyone is encouraged to wear Blue in honor of child abuse awareness. Corcoran Rotary will be hosting Jeremy "Elvis" Pearce a fundraiser benefitting the Corcoran Chamber of Commerce Mural Project on Saturday, April 22, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. at the RAC Gymnasium located at 900 Dairy Avenue in Corcoran. VIP Seating is \$75 per person and General Seating is \$50 per person. Tickets include cocktail hour from 5-6pm with hosted beer & wine bar, and hors d'oeuvres catered by JC Meat Company. Kings United Way is hosting its inaugural Power of the Purse luncheon to recognize Administrative Professionals Day in Kings County and to raise funds for local charities. The luncheon is scheduled for April 25, 2023, from Noon to 2:00 p.m. at the Hanford Civic Auditorium. A plated lunch will be provided. Doors will open at 11:00 a.m. Tickets for opportunity drawings will be sold during the event. Tickets for the event can be purchased on EventBrite for \$30.00. Save the Date for the Veterans Memorial Statue unveiling in Corcoran on Saturday, April 29, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. The statue will be located in the heart of Corcoran's new Gateway Park. Individual Veterans and Veteran Organizations are invited to attend this historic unveiling. Individuals may RSVP directly, but group reservations are encouraged. RSVPs can be emailed to Richard Valle at [vallerf@yahoo.com](mailto:vallerf@yahoo.com).**
- ◆ Information on Future Agenda Items: **Kyria Martinez, Acting CAO, stated that the following items would be on a future agenda: Administration – Chemical Waste Management Quarterly Update; Behavioral Health – amendment to Agreement with CALMHSA for the CENTRAL VALLEY SUICIDE PREVENTION HOTLINE program; Assessor - Clerk/Recorder –the Tyler Agreement; Human Resources - suspension of competition in the Sheriff's Office, amendment to by-laws for the Deferred Compensation committee, new job classification for Water, Solar, and Natural**



**Resources Manager in Administration office, and approval of an update to county policy 10-1 - Federal Tax information; Public Health – Resolution proclaiming April 11-17, 2023, as Black Maternal Health week; Public Works Department – Burriss Park & Hickey Park playground shade project.**

**VIII.**

**CLOSED SESSION**

- ♦ **Litigation initiated formally: Title:**  
*Bestafka v. County of Kings, et al. 18C-0256*  
**[Govt. Code Section 54956.9 (d)(1)]**
- ♦ **Threat to Public Services or Facilities:** Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957(a)  
Consultation with: David Robinson, Sheriff and Diane Freeman, County Counsel

**IX.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 11, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.

***FUTURE MEETINGS AND EVENTS***

April 11	9:00 AM	Regular Meeting
April 11	2:00 PM	Board of Equalization - Regular Meeting
April 18	9:00 AM	Regular Meeting
April 25	9:00 AM	Regular Meeting
May 2	9:00 AM	Regular Meeting

*Agenda backup information and any public records provided to the Board after the posting of the agenda will be available for the public to review at the Board of Supervisors office, 1400 W. Lacey Blvd, Hanford, for the meeting date listed on this agenda.*