

**Tulare Chamber of Commerce
Governmental Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes
Monday, March 14, 2016 at 12:00 pm, 1165 N. Blackstone St., Tulare**

Call to order: Patrick Isherwood called the meeting to order at 12:15 PM

Minutes: Upon motion being duly made and seconded, minutes for January were approved.

Updates:

- Chamber of Commerce – Rachel Souza
- Tulare School Districts – Dr. Koligian
- City of Tulare – Don Dorman
- County of Tulare Supervisor - Pete Vander Poel III
- Board of Equalization – Tom Mendes
- State Senator: State Senator Jean Fuller – Stephanie Amaral

Discussion and/or Action Items:

- Californians to Stop Higher Property Taxes: Request to oppose (Initiative 15-0043)
ACTION: Item on hold. No action taken at this time.
- Philip Smith & Kevin Mooney volunteered to be involved in the committee for ballot initiatives.

Presentation:

- **Paul Hendrix, Tulare Irrigation District: Local collaboration for water**
 - Groundwater has assisted us over the years
 - Groundwater then & now: Artesian wells -> Electrician & deep well technology -> overdraft -> imported water from Lake Shasta to the rescue
 - Permits 'above groundwater' 'free for all' groundwater.
 - Surface water re-regulations, drought, -> SGMA passes in 2014
 - We have ~25 years to stop taking out more than what goes in
 - State will step in if we do not accomplish
 - SGMA reduced farm acreage, ripple economic effects, County/City general plan conflicts
 - Mid-Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency comprised of TID, City of Tulare, City of Visalia

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 1:11 PM