On August 2, 1994, UC Cooperative Extension, Kings County, hosted the third meeting of the conflict resolution group dealing with agricultural drainwater and related issues. In addition to the regular participants, Assemblyman Jim Costa and Alex Peltzer from Representative Cal Dooley’s office attended.

Jim Reedy, facilitator and Jeanette Warnert, recorder, conducted a training exercise to familiarize the group with conflict resolution techniques, and then we began work.

In previous meetings, we had decided that the problem topic would be "Water Quantity, Quality and Management" and our goal would be to "maintain agricultural and wildlife sustainability". The first specific topic, beginning at this meeting, was to be "competition among environment, agricultural and urban demands". We further refined that topic to "water distribution management among agricultural, urban and environmental interests in the Tulare Lake Basin".

We decided that we needed more technical information before proceeding, and that much of what we needed already was available in various reports. Various members of the group volunteered to obtain the information, such as definitions, baseline data, habitat needs, demographic and social data and data regarding subsidies, water distribution, irrigation and drainage.

We again considered the names of people whose attendance would help the process, agreed to meet again, and set dates for the next two meetings. We will meet September 15 at the Kings County Cooperative Extension office in Hanford and October 13 at the Kings County Government Center Conference Room in Hanford. Both meetings will begin promptly at 10:00 a.m., with refreshments at 9:30.