

**SAN LUIS & DELTA-MENDOTA WATER AUTHORITY
REGULAR WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING AND JOINT
REGULAR WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING - SPECIAL
BOARD WORKSHOP MINUTES**

JULY 1, 2019

The Adjourned Regular Water Resources Committee and Joint Regular Water Resources Committee Meeting and Special Board Workshop of the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority convened at approximately 10:00 a.m. at 842 6th Street in Los Banos, California with Chair Tom Birmingham presiding.

Water Resources Committee Members Present

Ex-Officio

Absent

Division 1

Anthea Hansen, Alternate for Earl Perez

Division 2

Bill Diedrich, Member - William Bourdeau, Alternate

Division 3

Absent

Division 4

Jeff Cattaneo, Alternate

Division 5

Tom Birmingham, Member - Steve Stadler, Alternate

Board of Directors Present

Division 1

Anthea Hansen, Director

Division 2

William Bourdeau, Director

Bill Diedrich, Director

Division 3

None

Division 4

Jeff Cattaneo, Director (via teleconference)

Division 5

Tom Birmingham, Director

Steve Stadler, Director

Authority Representatives Present

Federico Barajas, Executive Director

Frances Mizuno, Assistant Executive Director

Diane Rathmann, Legal Counsel

Scott Petersen, Water Policy Director

Bob Martin, Planning and Engineering Manager (via Teleconference)

Others Present

Tom Boardman, Westlands Water District

Sara Singleton, San Benito County Water District

John Wiersma, Henry Miller Reclamation District

Jack Worsley, Bureau of Reclamation (via Teleconference)

1. Call to Order

Chair Tom Birmingham called the meeting to order and a roll call was held.

2. The Water Resources Committee Will Consider Corrections or Additions to the Agenda of Items, as authorized by Government Code Section 54950 et seq

There were no corrections or additions to the agenda.

3. Opportunity for Public Comment

There was no public comment.

4. Water Resources Committee to Consider Approval of the June 3, 2019 Meeting

Minutes

There being no corrections, Chair Tom Birmingham pronounced the June 3, 2019 meeting minutes approved.

5. Update on DMC Subsidence Survey

Executive Director Federico Barajas informed the Committee that Jack Worsley, USBR Project Manager was on the phone, and would present a brief status update on the DMC Subsidence Survey. Worsley reported that the USBR survey team performed a bathymetric survey of the DMC prism, and in July the USBR will issue a contract to perform a Lidar survey of the DMC right of way.

Worsley reported that the data from the bathymetric and Lidar surveys will be used in the HEC/RAS model of the DMC. The results of the HEC/RAS model will determine the sections of the DMC that have been most impacted by subsidence. Worsley reported that he is working with Reclamation's Denver Office to obtain funding for Reclamation's administration work, and he is coordinating with the project manager for repairs on the Friant-Kern Canal to develop concept-level estimated costs for the repairs to the DMC caused by subsidence, which he expects to be completed by the end of July.

6. Update on Water Policies Activities

Water Policy Director Scott Petersen provided a brief update on the Reinitiation of Consultation on Long-Term Operations (ROC on LTO). Petersen reported that Reclamation provided a final Biological Assessment to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Marine Fisheries Service on January 31. The fisheries agencies will conduct their review of the Biological Assessment and prepare Biological Opinions, which must be completed within 135 days to comply with the Presidential memo. Petersen reported that the peer review of the first administrative draft of the Biological Opinions has been completed, identifying issues that require coordination between the two Biological Opinions. Petersen reported that there will be a delay in the issuance of the Biological Opinions to resolve issues raised during the peer and agency reviews.

Petersen gave a brief update on the Bay Delta Water Quality Control Plan, reporting that there are multiple working groups associated with the implementation of potential Voluntary Settlement Agreements, including a Governance, Science and Adaptive Management work group, a Legal work group, and Assets to Outcomes work group, and a Policy work group. The work of each of these groups is guided by a Plenary meeting of all groups participating in the VAs. Petersen reported that on March 1, 2019, the California Department of Water Resources and the Department of Fish and Wildlife submitted documents to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) that reflect progress since December to expand the previously submitted framework to improve conditions for fish through targeted river flows and a suite of habitat-enhancing projects, and since then work has taken place to develop the package into a form that is able to be analyzed by SWRCB staff for legal and technical adequacy. Petersen reported that the state agencies will need to complete an environmental review of the Voluntary Agreements and the updated Water Quality Control Plan pursuant to CEQA. Petersen explained that on the current timeline, a draft CEQA document is estimated to be released for public comment in the summer of 2020, with a finalized document complete by the following year, and implementation of the updated Bay-Delta Plan could

begin immediately thereafter.

Petersen then reported on the San Joaquin Valley Water Blueprint. Petersen reported that the 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations have been formed and the next steps are to identify an economist to prepare the economic impact study associated with the water supply imbalance in the San Joaquin Valley. Petersen reported that it is anticipated that an economist will be identified in the month of July.

7. Update on California Storage Projects

Executive Director Federico Barajas reported that there will be a status update on B.F. Sisk and Pacheco Reservoir Projects at the July 11, 2019 Board of Directors meeting, and there will also be a site visit of both as part of the Board meeting.

Barajas reported that the Authority is in the process of bringing in MBK Consulting to help with operational scenarios associated with the B.F. Sisk Dam raise and anticipates a need to commit up to \$25,000 to continue that effort.

Barajas reported that the Shasta/McCloud tour video will be available soon.

8. Report on State and Federal Affairs, including Proposed 2019 Legislative Objectives

Petersen reported that on the federal side, Authority staff provided a tour of Jones Pumping Plant on June 28, 2019, for USDA Secretary Perdue and Congressman LaMalfa, and it went very well. Petersen reported that the Secretary seemed very interested in exploring opportunities that the USDA has to increase California water supply reliability.

Water Policy Director Scott Petersen reported that Governor Newsom reappointment a number of officials including Karla Nemeth, Department of Water Resources, Cindy Messer, Department of Water Resources, Chuck Bonham, Department of Fish and Wildlife, Valerie Termini, Department of Fish and Wildlife, and Jennifer Lester Moffitt, Department of Food and Agriculture. Petersen also reported that SBI did pass the 1st Assembly Committee and is scheduled to be heard in the Assembly Natural Resources Committee on July 8, 2019.

9. Update on Water Operations and Forecasts

Westlands Water District's Tom Boardman reported that Jones Pumping Plant is pumping at capacity and is expected to maintain its current rate through at least September. Banks is expected to increase its pumping to 7180 cfs as soon as the SWP makes use of an additional 500 cfs permitted pumping capacity that is available to the SWP during July-September to make up for BiOp-related export reductions incurred earlier in the year. Flood flows into Mendota Pool are

expected to end early this month. CVP San Luis storage dropped by only 28 TAF during June thanks to flood flows and reduced demands due to cool weather. Shasta storage is about 4.3 TAF and is expected to have a carryover storage of more than 3.1 MAF. Folsom storage is at 930 TAF as snow runoff continues to be managed.

Boardman concluded his report with a brief explanation of a chart comparing USBR's CVP San Luis storage projection against actual conditions. The chart showed that actual storage is almost 300 TAF more than USBR's projection for early July and an anticipated storage of about 400 TAF more than USBR's projection by the end of August. There was a comment that the chart demonstrated that CVP San Luis is not being operated efficiently and that ag service allocation could have been 100% this spring.

10. Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Federico Barajas reminded the Board that the July 11, 2019 Board meeting will start at 8:00 a.m. at the Authority office, and a shuttle will be here at 9:30 to take Board members and interested parties to the site visits of the San Luis Reservoir, and Pacheco Reservoir.

Barajas reported that Frances Mizuno will be retiring next year and there will be a vacancy announcement coming out soon for this position. Barajas reported that the position will be titled Chief Operating Officer (COO).

Barajas reported that there will be two actions items that will be brought to the Board at the July 11, 2019 Board meeting regarding the Strategic Plan, 1) Implementation Plan, which will include comments received, and 2) Overall 2019 Strategic Plan.

11. Closed Session

Chair Tom Birmingham adjourned the open session to address the items listed on the Closed Session Agenda at approximately 11:20 a.m. Upon return to open session at approximately 11:30 a.m., Legal Counsel Diane Rathmann reported that there were no reportable actions taken in closed session.

12. Reports Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2

None.

13. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:30 a.m.