

**SAN LUIS & DELTA-MENDOTA WATER AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 10, 2019**

The Board of Directors of the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority convened at approximately 9:30 a.m. at 842 6th Street, in Los Banos, California for an adjourned regular meeting, with Chair Cannon Michael presiding.

Directors and Alternate Directors in Attendance

Division 1

Jim McLeod, Director - David Weisenberger
Bobby Pierce, Director
Anthea Hansen, Director
Rick Gilmore, Director - Vince Lucchesi, Alternate

Division 2

Don Peracchi, Director - Ryan Ferguson, Alternate
William Bourdeau, Director
Michael Linneman, Alternate for John Bennett
Bill Diedrich, Director

Division 3

Dan McCurdy, Director
Chris White, Director
Cannon Michael, Director
Ric Ortega, Director - Ellen Wehr, Alternate

Division 4

John Varela, Director
Gary Kremen, Director - Richard Santos, Alternate
Jeff Cattaneo, Director
Sara Singleton, Alternate for Joseph Tonascia

Division 5

Tom Birmingham, Director
Steve Stadler, Director - Tom Chaney, Alternate

Authority Representatives Present

Federico Barajas, Executive Director
Rebecca Akroyd, General Counsel
Scott Petersen, Water Policy Director
Joyce Machado, Director of Finance
Lauren Neves, Accounting Tech III

Others in Attendance

Tom Boardman, Westlands Water District
Don Wright, WaterWrights
Don Willard, Friant Water Authority (via teleconference)
Dennis Cardoza, (via teleconference)
Mike Wade, California Farm Water Coalition

Joe McGahan, Summers Engineering
Adam Scheuber, Del Puerto Water District
Allen Lindauer, Bureau of Reclamation
Diane Rathmann, Outside Legal Counsel
Michael Peters, Kaweah Pump, Inc.
Andrea Matarazzo, Pioneer Law Group (via teleconference)

1. **Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

2. **Call to Order/Roll Call**

Roll was called.

3. **Board to Consider Corrections or Additions to the Agenda of Items, as authorized by Government Code Section 54950 et seq.**

No corrections or additions to the Agenda.

4. **Opportunity for Public Comment**

No public comment.

CONSENT ITEMS

5. **Agenda Items 5-7: Board to Consider: a) Approval of September 12, 2019, Meeting Minutes, b) Acceptance of the Financial & Expenditures Reports, c) Acceptance of Staff Reports.**

On a motion of Director Gary Kremen, seconded by Director John Varela, the Board approved the September 12, 2019 Meeting Minutes and accepted the Financial & Expenditures Reports and Staff Reports. The vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES: McLeod, Pierce, Hansen, Gilmore, Peracchi, Bourdeau, Linneman, Diedrich, McCurdy, White, Michael, Ortega, Varela, Kremen, Cattaneo, Singleton, Birmingham, Stadler

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

ACTION ITEMS

6. **Agenda Item 8: Board of Directors to Consider Adopting Resolution Approving an Addendum to the 2009 Final Environmental Impact Report (SCH# 2007121110) for the**

Grassland Bypass Project.

Joe McGahan from Summers Engineering reported that the Grassland Bypass Project has successfully reduced all agriculturally produced subsurface drain water discharges for the Grassland Drainage Area during the irrigation season. McGahan reported that remaining discharges are the result of storm water events and will continue to occur as a result of future storm events. McGahan reported that the Long-Term Storm Water Plan will extend the Grassland Bypass Project beyond December 31, 2019, and includes some project modifications that were not specifically analyzed in the 2009 EIS/EIR. McGahan stated that these proposed project modifications do not constitute substantial changes to the project analyzed in 2009 and did not produce new or more severe significant effects, and as a result, an addendum to the 2009 EIS/EIR was developed. During his presentation, McGahan summarized the comments received on the addendum, including late comments, and summarized the experts' responses. McGahan informed the Board that the Grassland Basin Drainage Steering Committee recommended adoption of both the resolution approving an addendum to the 2009 Final EIR for the Grassland Bypass Project and the resolution approving continuation and modification of the Grassland Bypass Project (Long-Term Storm Water Management Plan 2020-2045).

On a motion of Director Tom Birmingham, seconded by Director Chris White the Board approved the Resolution Approving an Addendum to the 2009 Final Environmental Impact Report. The vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES:	McLeod, Pierce, Hansen, Gilmore, Peracchi, Bourdeau, Linneman, Diedrich, McCurdy, White, Michael, Ortega, Varela, Kremen, Cattaneo, Singleton, Birmingham, Stadler
NAYS:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	None

7. Agenda Item 9: Board of Directors to Consider Adopting Resolution Approving Continuation and Modification of the Grassland Bypass Project (Long-Term Storm Water Management Plan 2020-2045).

This item was discussed together with Agenda Item 8 (see notes above).

On a motion of Director Tom Birmingham, seconded by Director Chris White the Board approved the Resolution Approving Continuation and Modification of the Grassland Bypass Project. The vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES:	McLeod, Pierce, Hansen, Gilmore, Peracchi, Bourdeau, Linneman, Diedrich, McCurdy, White, Michael, Ortega, Varela, Kremen, Cattaneo, Singleton, Birmingham, Stadler
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NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

8. Agenda Item 10: Board of Directors to Consider Authorizing Expenditure of up to \$30,000 from the Technical Budget to Support the Advancement of Proposed Voluntary Agreements for the Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan Update, together with Other CVP Contractors and SWP Contractors.

Water Policy Director Scott Petersen reported that work continues on the proposed Voluntary Agreements. Petersen reported that the timeline for completion has been extended from October to December. Petersen reminded the Board that during the April Board meeting the Board had previously approved expenditure of up to \$50,000 for support of the VA process, of which \$40,000 has been expended, and that staff recommends an additional expenditure of up to \$30,000 from the Technical Budget.

On a motion of Director Tom Birmingham, seconded by Director Rick Gilmore the Board authorized the Executive Director or his designee to commit to the expenditure of up to \$30,000 from the Technical Budget to support the advancement of proposed Voluntary Agreements for the Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan Update, together with other CVP Contractors and SWP Contractors. The vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES: McLeod, Pierce, Hansen, Gilmore, Peracchi, Bourdeau, Linneman, Diedrich, McCurdy, White, Michael, Ortega, Varela, Kremen, Cattaneo, Singleton, Birmingham, Stadler

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

9. Agenda Item 11: Board of Directors to Consider Central Delta-Mendota Region SGMA Management Committee and Northern Delta-Mendota Region SGMA Management Committee Recommendations Regarding \$145,000 Increase to Activity Agreement Budgets for the Development of the First Annual Report.

Water Policy Director Scott Petersen reported SGMA requires the development of an Annual Report, which must be submitted by April 1, 2020 following GSP submission and every year following until 2040. Petersen reported that authorization of a budget increase of up to \$145,000 for the Northern and Central SGMA Services Activity Agreements, contingent upon final approval by the Northern and Central Management Committees, will allow the Management Committee to enter into a consultant services agreement for the development of the first Annual

Report, and ensure that a compliant and successful Annual Report is developed.

On a motion of Director Bill Diedrich, seconded by Director John Varela the Board Authorized the Central Delta-Mendota Region SGMA Management Committee and Northern Delta-Mendota Region SGMA Management Committee Recommendations Regarding \$145,000 Increase to Activity Agreement Budgets for the Development of the First Annual Report. The vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES: McLeod, Pierce, Hansen, Gilmore, Peracchi, Bourdeau, Linneman, Diedrich, McCurdy, White, Michael, Ortega, Varela, Kremen, Cattaneo, Singleton, Birmingham, Stadler

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

REPORT ITEM

10. **Agenda Item 12: Report on State and Federal Affairs.**

Water Policy Director Scott Petersen reported that the Biological Opinions are anticipated to be released later this month. Petersen reported that the Authority continues to work with a number of different members of Congress to advance legislative priorities associated with the Authority and its member agencies. Petersen concluded reporting that the Water Resiliency Portfolio submissions have been submitted to the Governor's office, and a draft may be released for public review and comment in late October early November.

11. **Agenda Item 13: California Storage Projects.**

Executive Director Federico Barajas gave a brief update on the B.F. Sisk Dam Raise Project, reporting that the Authority continues to partner with Reclamation and working with MBK Engineers to study various operational scenarios. Barajas reported that there will be a need to allocate additional funds to formulate different modeling and operational scenarios.

Barajas reported that there has been request to provide a Sites Reservoir briefing to the Board or a tour of the Sites project. Director Don Peracchi suggested having a Sites presentation at a future Board meeting.

Director Tom Birmingham provide a brief update on the raising of the Shasta Dam.

Director Chris White and Director Anthea Hansen gave a brief report on the Del Puerto Canyon Reservoir Project.

12. **Agenda Item 14: Water Operations and Forecasts.**

Westlands Water District's Tom Boardman reported that Jones pumped at capacity through September but has since been reduced to 20% of capacity because of Reclamation's decision to operate to an unmodified fall X2 standard. Pumping may increase towards the end of October when the fall X2 requirement ends. Banks pumping is near its minimum rate and will remain so through October due to fall X2 and restricted Feather River releases that go into effect on October 15.

Both Shasta and Folsom storage is about 40% above the 15-year average. Shasta has about 3.4 MAF in storage and will have to release 200 TAF over the next 75 days to meet flood requirements that go into effect December 1.

Boardman concluded his report with a brief review of charts showing refill projections under dry and normal hydrology.

13. Agenda Item 15: Update on Infrastructure Projects.

Executive Director Federico Barajas reported that the Jones Pumping Plant Unit 2 motor rewind project is ready for the contractor to start mobilizing next week.

Barajas reported that the Authority continues to work with Reclamation on the DMC Subsidence repair work and cost assessment.

14. Agenda Item 16: Update on Board and Committee Membership.

Director Chris White provided an update on new members recently appointed to the O&M Committee.

15. Agenda Item 17: Executive Director's Report.

Executive Director Federico Barajas reported that Reclamation and the Authority are expected to have a Joint Press Release go out later today regarding environmental analysis for Long-Term Water Transfers.

Barajas informed the Board that the new name for Reclamation's Mid-Pacific Region is now Interior Region 10-California Great Basin.

Barajas reported that a survey is being distributed regarding training efforts for Board members. General Counsel Rebecca Akroyd gave a brief explanation of the survey, and asked Board members to hand them in at the end of the meeting.

Barajas reported that Curtis Creel has been invited to the November meeting to present him with a Golden Bucket award.

16. Agenda Item 18: Committee Reports.

a. **Water Resources Committee Activities**

Director Tom Birmingham reported that the October meeting was cancelled to allow attendance at a Reclamation meeting regarding the draft Biological Opinions.

b. **Finance & Administration Committee Activities**

No report.

c. **O&M Technical Committee Activities**

No report.

17. **Agenda Item 19: Reports on Activities of the Following Agencies that are Outside the Authority.**

a. **State and Federal Contractors Water Agency (SFCWA)**

Director Rick Gilmore reported that there is a Tule Red ceremony next week.

b. **Family Farm Alliance (FFA)**

Report provided in the packet.

c. **Farm Water Coalition.**

Mike Wade reported on, 1) SBI opposition efforts, 2) support for Voluntary Agreements, and 3) new artwork for Food Grows banners.

d. **Association of California Water Agencies.**

Director Bill Diedrich reported that there is an ACWA Region 6 & 7 Regional event tomorrow.

e. **San Joaquin Valley Water Infrastructure Authority. (SJWVIA)**

No report.

18. **Agenda Item 20: Board Member Reports.**

No reports.

19. **Public Comment:**

No public comment.

20. **Agenda Items 21-23: Closed Session Report.**

Chair Cannon Michael adjourned the open session to address the items listed on the Closed Session Agenda at approximately 10:35 a.m. Upon return to open session at approximately 10:55 a.m., General Counsel Rebecca Akroyd stated that no reportable actions were taken.

21. **Agenda Item 24: Reports Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2**

No reports given.

22. **Agenda Item 25: Adjournment.**

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:00 a.m.