



MEMORANDUM

TO: SLDMWA Board of Directors, Alternates

FROM: Scott Petersen, Water Policy Director
John Brodie, Water Resources Programs Manager

DATE: May 4, 2023

RE: Board of Directors to Consider Delta-Mendota Subbasin Coordination Committee Recommendation to Increase Delta-Mendota Subbasin Coordination Agreement Activity (Fund 63) by \$225,200 for SGMA services for the Delta-Mendota Subbasin

BACKGROUND

In July 2018, the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority (“Water Authority”) executed the Delta-Mendota Subbasin Coordination and Cost-Sharing Agreements, which established the Water Authority’s role as a coordinating partner for the 23 Groundwater Sustainability Agencies and 6 Groundwater Sustainability Plans for the Delta-Mendota Subbasin (D-M Subbasin). Since that time, the Water Authority staff has served as the SGMA Point of Contact for the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) and as a facilitator and program management entity for coordinated activities in the D-M Subbasin, including GSP submittal, grant preparation and coordination, and fiscal agent.

In late 2021, Del Puerto Water District applied for a Sustainable Groundwater Management Implementation Round 1 grant on behalf of the D-M Subbasin and was awarded \$7.6 million in funds, including \$640,000 in grant funding for interconnected surface water (ISWM) and subsidence monitoring. In late 2022, the Water Authority issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) to provide for the design of an ISWM Network in the D-M Subbasin. One proposal fulfilling the necessary requirements was returned by the published deadline. The proposal was reviewed and approved unanimously by all members of the Coordination Committee. The proposal, by Luhdorff & Scalmanini Consulting Engineers (LSCE), is for \$25,200. The Water Authority has an existing Master Services Agreement with LSCE that was executed in March 2019 and staff is proposing to execute a new task order with LSCE under that Master Services Agreement for these services. These services would be funded through the awarded grant funds, but were not included in the adopted FY 24 budget in Fund 63.

In December 2020, the D-M Subbasin parties submitted 6 Groundwater Sustainability Plans to DWR for review and approval. In March 2023, DWR provided a letter to the D-M Subbasin GSP

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Regions indicating that DWR deemed the GSPs “Inadequate” for a number of reasons detailed in the letter transmitting the determination. In response to the Inadequate determination, the regulatory authority for approving the GSPs has shifted from DWR to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB). On April 4, the SWRCB held an informational hearing on the SWRCB’s process to address the six basins that have been deemed inadequate. In response to the inadequate determination, the D-M Coordination Committee has been meeting to develop a plan to address the deficiencies identified by DWR.

The Coordination Committee met on April 24, 2023, and voted to recommend that the Authority Board approve a budget increase to the Fund 63 budget and an amendment to Task Order F24-AA63-001-EKI in the amount of \$200,000 to address deficiencies identified by DWR in its inadequate determination letter.

ISSUE FOR DECISION

Whether the Board of Directors should approve the D-M Subbasin Coordination Committee recommendation to increase the Fund 63 budget by \$225,200 and authorize an amendment to Task Order F24-AA63-001-EKI in the amount of \$200,000 to provide support to the D-M Subbasin on the Inadequate Determination by DWR.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff and the D-M Coordination Committee recommends the Board approve the budget increase and Task Order amendment.

BUDGET

This would increase the budget of Fund 63 by \$225,200 to accommodate funding for increased provision of services by consultants to the D-M subbasin.



**Special Meeting of the Delta-Mendota Subbasin Coordination Committee and
Technical Working Group**

Monday, April 24, 2023, 1:00 PM

SLDMWA Boardroom, 842 6th Street, Los Banos, CA

April 20, 2023

TO: Delta-Mendota Subbasin Coordination Committee and Interested Parties
FROM: John Brodie, Water Resources Program Manager
RE: SPECIAL MEETING OF THE DELTA-MENDOTA SUBBASIN COORDINATION
COMMITTEE **MONDAY April 24, 2023, 1:00 PM**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Special Meeting of the Delta-Mendota Subbasin Coordination Committee and Technical Working Group has been called for **Monday April 24, 2023, 1:00 PM**, on items listed on the attached agenda, which is incorporated by reference and made a part hereof.



**Special Meeting of the Delta-Mendota Subbasin Coordination Committee and
Technical Working Group**

Monday April 24, 2023, 1:00 PM

AGENDA

1. Call to Order/Roll Call
2. Opportunity for Public Comment

Action Items

3. Committee to Consider Amending the Scope of Work and Budget for EKI, Brodie (Policy)

Report Items

4. Committee to Discuss Adopting Revised Water Level SMC Methodology, Brodie (Policy)
5. Committee to Discuss Grant Funding Availability for GSP Revisions and 2025 Plan Update, Brodie (Policy)
6. Committee to Discuss RFP for GSP Revisions/2025 GSP Update, Ramirez/Martin/Hopkins (Policy/Technical)
7. Committee to Discuss Public Release of CVHM2-SJV Model and Data, Brodie (Technical)
8. Committee to Provide Direction on Development of Water Quality SMCs, Dutton (Technical)
9. Committee to Discuss Minimum Thresholds/Measureable Objectives for Representative Monitoring Network Wells, Brodie (Technical)
10. Committee to Discuss Use of Well Census and Inventory Report in the 2025 Update/Determination Response, Dutton (Technical).
11. Committee to Discuss Participation in Panel on Conflict Resolution at the SGMA Implementation Summit and Workshop, Martin (Policy)
12. Next Steps

Closed Session

13. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation

The Committees will meet in closed session to confer with legal counsel on significant exposure to anticipated litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9: (1 case)

14. Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation

The Committees will meet in closed session to confer with legal counsel pursuant to Paragraph (1), Subdivision (d) of Government Code section 54956.9; *California Sportfishing Protection Alliance v. All Persons Interested in the Matter of the Validity of the Northern and Central Delta-Mendota Regions Groundwater Sustainability Plan, et al.*, Merced County Superior Court, Case No. 21CV-01691.

Open Session

15. Report out of Closed Session

16. Reports Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2(a)(3)

17. Future Delta-Mendota Subbasin Coordination Committee Meetings

- a. Friday April 28, 2023: 8:00 AM (Policy Only Discussion)
- b. Monday May 8, 2023: 1:00 PM (with Technical Working Group)
- c. Monday May 22, 2023: 1:00 PM **at Grassland Water District Office** (with Technical Working Group)
- d. Other policy only discussion meetings may be scheduled after 4/28/23

18. ADJOURNMENT

Persons with a disability may request disability-related modification or accommodation by contacting Cheri Worthy or Sandi Ginda at the Water Authority Office, 842 6th Street, P.O. Box 2157 Los Banos, CA 93635, via telephone at (209) 826-9696, or via email at cheri.worthy@sldmwa.org or sandi.ginda@sldmwa.org. Requests should be made as far in advance as possible before the meeting date, preferably 3 days in advance of regular meetings or 1 day in advance of special meetings/workshops.