

**SAN LUIS & DELTA-MENDOTA WATER AUTHORITY BOARD OF
DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES JULY 11, 2024**

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, with Chair Cannon Michael presiding.

Directors and Alternate Directors in Attendance

Division 1

David Weisenberger, Director
Vince Lucchesi, Alternate for Bobby Pierce
Anthea Hansen, Director
Ed Pattison, Director

Division 2

Ross Franson, Director
William Bourdeau, Director
Patrick McGowan, Alternate for Beau Correia
Bill Diedrich, Director

Division 3

Chris White, Alternate for Dan McCurdy
Jarrett Martin, Director
Cannon Michael, Chair/Director
Ric Ortega, Director

Division 4

John Varela, Director - Aaron Baker, Alternate
Richard Santos, Director
Jeff Cattaneo, Director
Joe Tonascia, Director

Division 5

Bill Pucheu, Director
Allison Febbo, Director
Manny Amorelli, Director

Friant Representatives

Jason Phillips, Representative

Authority Representatives Present

Federico Barajas, Executive Director
Pablo Arroyave, Chief Operating Officer
Rebecca Akroyd, General Counsel
Rebecca Harms, Deputy General Counsel
Scott Petersen, Water Policy Director
Ray Tarka, Director of Finance
Stewart Davis, IT Officer
Jaime McNeill, Engineering Manager (via ZOOM)

Others in Attendance

- Dana Jacobson, Valley Water
- Seraphina Bedoyan, Water Wise
- Mitch Partovi, Water Agency
- Wilson Orvis, Friant Water Authority
- John Wiersma, Henry Miller Reclamation District
- Kristin Olsen, Foley & Lardner, LLP (via ZOOM)
- Dennis Cardoza, Foley & Lardner, LLP (via ZOOM)
- Kristin White, Bureau of Reclamation (via ZOOM)
- Mike Wade, Farm Water Coalition (via ZOOM)
- Katherine Maher, Valley Water
- Lea Emmons, City of Tracy (via ZOOM)
- Jim Thoming, Banta-Carbona Irrigation District (via ZOOM)
- Steve Stadler, San Luis Water District (via ZOOM)

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Chair Cannon Michael and roll was called.

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

No additions or corrections.

3. Public Comment

No public comment.

CONSENT ITEMS

4. Agenda Items 4-6: Board to Consider: a) June 6, 2024 Meeting Minutes, b) Acceptance of the Financial & Expenditures Reports, and c) Acceptance of Staff Reports.

On a motion of Director William Bourdeau, seconded by Director Richard Santos, the Board accepted the June 6, 2024 Meeting Minutes, Financial & Expenditures Reports, and Staff Reports. The vote on the motion was as follows:

- AYES: Weisenberger, Lucchesi, Hansen, Pattison, Franson, Bourdeau, McGowan, Diedrich, White, Jarrett Martin, Michael, Ortega, Varela, Santos, Cattaneo, Tonascia, Pucheu, Febbo, Amorelli
- NAYS: None
- ABSTENTIONS: None

ACTION ITEMS

5. Agenda Item 7: Water Resources Committee Recommendation Regarding Adoption of Staff Recommendation for Positions on Legislation.

- a. H.R. 4247 (Harder), Flood Prevention and Snowpack Management Act (support)
- b. H.R. 4385 (Neguse), Drought Preparedness Act (support)

c. AB 2735 (Rubio): Joint powers agreements: water corporations. (oppose)

Water Policy Director Scott Petersen reviewed the staff recommendations for positions on legislation and answered questions from Board members. On a motion of Director William Bourdeau, seconded by Alternate Director Chris White, the Board adopted staff recommendation for support position on H.R. 4247, H.R. 4385, and an oppose position on AB 2735 Legislation. The vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES:	Weisenberger, Lucchesi, Hansen, Pattison, Franson, Bourdeau, McGowan, Diedrich, White, Jarrett Martin, Michael, Ortega, Varela, Santos, Cattaneo, Tonascia, Pucheu, Febbo, Amorelli
NAYS:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	None

6. Agenda Item 8: Finance & Administration Committee Recommendation Regarding Ratification of Change Order for \$16,674.10, Resulting in Total Expenditure of \$214,074.10 for Dive Services Utilizing Emergency Reserve Funds.

Chief Operating Officer Pablo Arroyave introduced the item. Arroyave provided a brief background on the project and noted that due to the contract change order, the Authority is now seeking recommendation for Board approval because the Procurement Policy requires Board approval for contracts exceeding \$200,000. Staff noted that the Finance & Administration Committee recommended approval.

On a motion of Director Richard Santos, seconded by Director Ric Ortega, the Board approved ratification of Change Order for \$16,674.10, resulting in total expenditure of \$214,074.10 for dive services utilizing Emergency Reserve Funds. The vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES:	Weisenberger, Lucchesi, Hansen, Pattison, Franson, Bourdeau, McGowan, Diedrich, White, Jarrett Martin, Michael, Ortega, Varela, Santos, Cattaneo, Tonascia, Pucheu, Febbo, Amorelli, Phillips
NAYS:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	None

7. Agenda Item 9: Finance & Administration Committee Recommendation Regarding Adoption of Resolution Authorizing Execution of Agreement for Services and Equipment for O'Neill Pumping/Generator Plant Unit Upgrades Project, Adoption of Single Source Procurement Justification, and Related Expenditure of up to \$1,796,000 from the FY23 EO&M Budget.

Chief Operating Officer Pablo Arroyave provided a brief overview of the item. Arroyave then referred to Engineering Manager Jaime McNeil to provide an overview of project phases, terms of the agreement, and the need for a single source procurement. Arroyave reminded that Board that the Authority received an \$11.6M Aging Infrastructure (AI) Account BIL funding notice from Reclamation, and that the

Authority anticipates submitting another AI BIL application in July 2024 to seek additional funding for the project. Arroyave, and Executive Director Federico Barajas answered questions from Board members.

On a motion of Director Richard Santos, seconded by Director Ross Franson, the Board adopted the resolution authorizing execution of agreement for services and equipment for O'Neill Pumping/Generator Plant Unit Upgrades Project, adoption of Single Source Procurement Justification, and related expenditure of up to \$1,796,000 from the FY23 EO&M Budget. The vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES:	Weisenberger, Lucchesi, Hansen, Pattison, Franson, Bourdeau, McGowan, Diedrich, White, Jarrett Martin, Michael, Ortega, Varela, Santos, Cattaneo, Tonascia, Pucheu, Febbo, Amorelli, Phillips
NAYS:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	None

REPORT ITEMS

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

Water Policy Director Scott Petersen provided updates related to federal staffing, funding updates, the consultation on Long-Term Operations of the CVP and SWP and the Trinity Division consultation, ESA and CESA listings, the Water Resources Development Act, the Farm Bill, and the federal appropriations process. Petersen additionally provided a California legislative update. Petersen answered Board questions throughout his presentation. Additional information was provided by consultants Dennis Cardoza and Kristin Olsen.

9. **Agenda Item 11: Executive Director's Report.**

- a. **Aging Infrastructure BIL Funding** – Executive Director Federico Barajas reported that staff has begun the application process for this cycle of Aging Infrastructure BIL funding for the O'Neill and DMC projects. Barajas reported that the Authority received partial funding during the last application cycle and will be applying for the remaining funds in the current year.
- b. **Water Rates** – Executive Director Federico Barajas reported that there will be revised Water Year 2024 rates due to adjusted allocations, the amended agreement with Friant, and updated PUE costs. Barajas then referred to Director of Finance Raymond Tarka to provide additional information on PUE costs.
- c. **SLDMWA Governance Documents Update** – Executive Director Federico Barajas introduced General Counsel Rebecca Akroyd. Akroyd reported that 17 members took action approving the JPA amendments. Akroyd reported that Authority staff will email the suite of updated governance documents to the Board and Member agencies, and there are hard copies are available to those that want them.

10. **Agenda Item 12: Chief Operating Officer's Report**

- a. **Intertie Incident** – Chief Operating Officer Pablo Arroyave reported that on June 30, 2024 the 69 KV line that feeds the Intertie tripped and then reenergized. This caused an arc flash explosion at DCI Unit 1 motor control cabinet, which was destroyed; DCI Unit 2 was also damaged. Arroyave reported that repair and testing of all the affected wires has been completed by Authority crews, and Authority staff is now waiting for an outside breaker to be tested by WAPA. Arroyave reported that there is no timeline as of yet to replace the DCI Unit 1 cabinet components. Arroyave reported that Authority staff will be undertaking a full assessment to understand what caused the damage, in order to avoid something like this from happening in the future.
- b. **O'Neill Pumping Plant (OPP) Transformer Rehab** – Chief Operating Officer Pablo Arroyave reported that staff and Reclamation are in full agreement to having four 10-day outages separated by at least 6-weeks to a month, first 10-day outage potentially in February.
- c. **Operations & Maintenance Technical Committee (OMTC)** - Chief Operating Officer Pablo Arroyave reported the next OMTC meeting is schedule Monday, July 22, 2024.

11. **Agenda Item 13: Update on Water Operations and Forecasts**

Chief Operating Officer Pablo Arroyave introduced Kristin White from the Central Valley Operations Office (CVO) of the Bureau of Reclamation. White provided updates regarding CVP storage, operations, and the latest forecasts.

12. **Agenda Item 14: Committee Reports.**

- a. **Water Resources Committee** – Chair William Bourdeau reported that the committee met and addressed agenda items.
- b. **Finance & Administration Committee** – Chair Anthea Hansen reported that the committee met and addressed agenda items.
- c. **O&M Technical Committee** – Chair Chris White reported that the committee is scheduled to meet July 22, 2024.

13. **Agenda Item 15: Outside Agency/Organization Reports.**

- a. **State and Federal Contractors Water Agency (SFCWA)** – No report.
- b. **Family Farm Alliance (FFA)** – Report included in the packet. Chair Cannon Michael reported that there will be an upcoming strategic planning session.
- c. **Farm Water Coalition (FWC)** – Mike Wade provided a brief overview of the report included in the packet.

- d. **Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA)** – No report.
- e. **Water Blueprint for the San Joaquin Valley (Blueprint)** - Water Policy Director Scott Petersen reported that the packet includes the Water Policy Memo from the Water Resources Committee meeting with detailed information on Blueprint activities.
- f. **SJV CAP** - Water Policy Director Scott Petersen reported that the Water Policy Memo from the Water Resources Committee meeting includes detailed information on SJV CAP.
- g. **CVPWA** – Director Anthea Hansen reported that the Finance Affairs Committee meeting is July 19, 2024.

14. Agenda Item 16: Board Member Reports.

Director Ric Ortega reported on outreach activities, including tours.

15. Agenda Items 17-18: Closed Session Report.

After allowing an opportunity for public comment, Chair Cannon Michael adjourned the open session to address the items listed on the Closed Session Agenda at approximately 11:13 a.m. Upon return to open session at approximately 11:37 a.m., Chair Cannon Michael stated that no reportable actions were taken.

16. Agenda Item 19: Reports Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2(a)(3)
No report.

17. Agenda Item 120: Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:38 a.m.