

**SAN LUIS & DELTA-MENDOTA WATER AUTHORITY
FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING AND
JOINT FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING-SPECIAL
BOARD OF DIRECTORS WORKSHOP
MINUTES FOR JANUARY 8, 2024**

The Finance & Administration Committee of the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority convened at approximately 12:00 p.m. at 842 6th Street in Los Banos, California, with Chair Anthea Hansen presiding.

Members and Alternate Members in Attendance

Ex Officio

Cannon Michael
William Bourdeau

Division 1

Anthea Hansen, Chair/Member

Division 2

Justin Diener, Member

Division 3

Chris White, Member - Jarrett Martin, Alternate

Division 4

Dana Jacobson, Alternate

Division 5

Bill Pucheu, Member - Manny Amorelli, Alternate

Friant Water Authority

Wilson Orvis, Alternate for Jason Phillips (arrived during item 5)

Board of Directors Present

Division 1

Anthea Hansen, Director

Division 2

Justin Diener, Alternate Director
William Bourdeau, Vice-Chair/Director

Division 3

Chris White, Alternate Director
Jarrett Martin, Alternate Director
Cannon Michael, Chair/Director

Division 4

Steve Wittry, Director

Division 5

Bill Pucheu, Director
Manny Amorelli, Director

Authority Representatives Present

Federico Barajas, Executive Director
Pablo Arroyave, Chief Operating Officer

Scott Petersen, Water Policy Director
Rebecca Akroyd, General Counsel
Rebecca Harms, Deputy General Counsel (via ZOOM)
Raymond Tarka, Director of Finance
Lauren Viers, Accountant III
Stewart Davis, IT Officer

Others in Attendance

None

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Chair Anthea Hansen called the meeting to order at approximately 12:00 p.m. and roll was called.

2. Additions or Corrections to the Agenda

No additions or corrections.

3. Opportunity for Public Comment

No public comment.

4. Finance & Administration Committee to Consider Approval of the December 4, 2023 Meeting Minutes.

Chair Anthea Hansen deemed the December 4, 2023 minutes approved with no corrections.

5. Recommendation to Board of Directors to Authorize Execution of Contract with External Auditor.

Director of Finance Raymond Tarka presented the item. Tarka stated that the contract with our external auditors is ending and staff is looking for a recommendation to authorize a new contract with Richardson & Company. LLP. Richardson & Company is the Authority's current external auditors and have completed audits for fiscal years 2018 through 2023. However, due to state regulation, the Authority can only use the same lead auditor for five consecutive years so Richardson & Company would change lead auditors at their firm. Tarka further explained the RFP process and stated that by continuing with the same auditors, it would save the Authority staff time and costs by not having to start fresh with a new external auditing team. On a motion of Member Bill Pucheu, seconded by Member Justin Diener, the Committee approved a recommendation that the Board of Directors authorize execution of contract with external auditor.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES:	Michael, Bourdeau, Hansen, Diener, White, Jacobson, Pucheu, Orvis
NAYS:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	None

REPORT ITEMS

6. FY23 Activity Agreements Budget to Actual Report through 11/30/2023

Director of Finance Raymond Tarka presented the Budget to Actual Report through November 30, 2023 for the Activity Agreement funds. Tarka stated for the eight-month period, the budget was trending positive overall with actual spending through November 30, 2023 at 52.89% of the approved budget.

7. FY23 O&M Budget to Actual Report through 11/30/23

Director of Finance Raymond Tarka reported that for WY23, the self-funded routine O&M expenses through November 30, 2023 were over budget by \$2,373,750. This is mainly due to over-budget DWR conveyance charges for DCI activity. The water year 2022 final accountings, fiscal year 2023 audit, and the Intertie OM&R true-up remain outstanding. Staff has also sent out requests for Water Year 2024 preliminary expected deliveries.

8. Procurement Activity Report

Director of Finance Raymond Tarka presented the procurement activity report for the period of December 1st through December 31st 2023. On December 11, a contract was executed with Courtney, Inc. in the amount of \$93,178.00 for the Tracy warehouse roof reseal. On December 11, a contract was executed with National Electric Coil, L.P. for Jones Pumping Plant unit 6 rotor repair. The contract amount was \$229,986. On December 14, a contract change order was issued to Citrin Cooperman Advisors LLC in the amount of \$20,000 for NetSuite support services.

9. Executive Director’s Report

Executive Director Federico Barajas provided the following updates to the committee:

- a. **Budget Workshop** – There will be a budget workshop on January 17th at the Mission in Santa Nella. This will be a joint meeting with Water Resources, FAC, and the Board. Both the O&M and Activity Agreement budgets will be discussed.

The O&M budget is currently out for public review.

- b. **Reclamation** – Reclamation recently announced Karl Stock as the new Regional Director for the California-Great Basin Region. The Authority is working to host a meet and greet with the new RD at the upcoming Water Users Conference.

10. **Committee Member Reports**

No reports.

11. **Reports Pursuant to Government Code Sec 54954.2**

No reports.

12. **Adjournment.**

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:18 p.m.