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SAN LUIS & DELTA – MENDOTA WATER AUTHORITY
MINUTES-GRASSLAND BASIN STEERING COMMITTEE TELEPHONIC
MEETING - January 15, 2021

The Grassland Basin Drainage Steering Committee (GBDSC) met at 9:30a.m. This meeting was held via teleconference/ZOOM in accordance with the Governor’s Executive Order (N-29-20) and the declared State of Emergency as a result of the threat of COVID-19, with Chair Mike Stearns presiding.

Directors and Alternate Directors in Attendance

Camp 13 Drainage District
David Cory, Vice Chairman

Charleston Drainage District
Tom Teixeira, Member

Firebaugh Canal Water District
Kevin Hurd, Member – Jeff Bryant, Alternate

Pacheco Water District
David Parreira, Member

Panoche Drainage District
Mike Stearns, Member - Mike Linneman, Alternate

SLDMWA Staff Present

Joe McGahan, Drainage Coordinator

Joyce Machado, Director of Finance

Others Present

Ara Azhderian, Panoche Drainage District

Gabriel Delgado, Baker, Manock and Jensen

Chris Linneman, Summers Engineering

Palmer McCoy, Grasslands Basin Authority

Diane Rathmann, Linneman Law Firm

1. **Opportunity for Public Comment**
No public comments were made.

2. **Committee to Consider Approval of November 20 and December 18, 2020 Meeting Minutes**

After review of the meeting minutes of the November 20 and December 18, 2020, Grassland Basin Drainage Steering Committee (GBDSC) and the title of the November 20, 2020 meeting

corrected, **Committee Member David Cory** moved to approve both the November and December the Meeting Minutes with a correction on the November 20, 2020, minutes and the December 18, 2020 minutes as presented, the motion was seconded by **Committee Member Kevin Hurd** and passed unanimously.

AYES: Cory, Teixeira, Hurd, Parreira and Stearns
NAYS: None
ABSTENTIONS: None

3. Committee to Consider Acceptance of Financial Expenditures Report.

Director of Finance, Joyce Machado presented the Financial Report for the period ending 12/16/20. **Committee Member Tom Teixeira** moved to approve the Financial Expenditures Report as presented, the motion was seconded by **Committee Member David Cory** and passed unanimously.

AYES: Cory, Teixeira, Hurd, Parreira, Stearns
NAYS: None
ABSTENTIONS: None

4. Committee to Review and Consider for Approval Fiscal Year 2021-22 GBD Budget

Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan referred to a copy of the Grassland Basin Drainers Draft Fiscal Year 2021 – 22 Budget. McGahan reviewed the Draft Budget in detail with the committee and Director of Finance Joyce Machado explaining how fund balances are determined in order to establish membership dues. Following some discussion, **Committee Member Dave Cory** moved to approve the Fiscal Year 2021-22 GBD Budget with one change (lowered the Operation and Maintenance of the San Luis Drain line item from \$290,000 to \$250,000). The motion was seconded by **Committee Member David Parreira** and passed unanimously.

AYES: Cory, Teixeira, Hurd, Parreira, Stearns
NAYS: None
ABSTENTIONS: None

5. Committee to Receive Report on January 14, 2021 Regional Board Stakeholder Meeting on the Grassland Bypass Project.

Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan reported on a 14 January 2021 workshop hosted by the Regional Board as a follow up to the approval of the Grassland Basin Drainers new Waste Discharge Requirements. In attendance were: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries, Contra Costa Water District, U.S. Geological Survey, Bay Institute, Bureau of Reclamation, State Fish and Wildlife and a coalition of concerned individuals from Stockton who rely on subsistence

fishing. The components of the Drainage Management Plan and sump shut off policies were presented. Monitoring of ponds was requested. The split tail study was also discussed. McGahan, Cory and Rathmann responded to questions.

6. Committee to Receive Report on Mitigation Sub-Committee

Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan reported the Sub-Committee has a project description and noted Gabriel Delgado has drafted a Memorandum of Understanding Agreement, in order to fulfill obligations a committee of State Fish and Wildlife, Federal Fish and Wildlife, Grasslands Water District and the Grasslands Bypass project oversight committee must assemble.

7. Committee to Receive Update on Mud Slough Restoration Project

Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan reported the CEQA consultants hosted a call with permitting agencies who requested CEQA be complete before applications are submitted. McGahan stated the CEQA should be out for 30-day public review by early February.

8. Committee to Receive Report on the Status of the Prop 84 Grant Application

Ara Azhderian reported the SCADA Sump Shut down project is proceeding with two crews operating in the field, Land development, land acquisition, ponding basin expansion and construction and a new drainage canal on the project which awaits approval from Reclamation.

9. Grassland Bypass Project Updates

- a. Operations Report – Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan referred to a map detailing all the discharge points for the project. A graph of Sites A and B discharge amounts and rainfall events was reviewed. Site D Mud Slough selenium and flow for 2020 was reviewed. Next the Site D Mud Slough (North) Downstream San Luis Drain – selenium concentration on a daily, 7-day average and monthly average selenium concentrations and goals were presented. In conclusion, Site R –Mud Slough selenium and Site B monthly salt load were reviewed. McGahan noted this information was presented at the Regional Board Stakeholder meeting.
- b. Monitoring Program and Toxicity Data Report – The Committee reviewed Event 69; dated 3 December 2020. The reports reflected no toxicity. Committee Member David Cory moved to release the Toxicity data. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Kevin Hurd and passed unanimously. The vote on the motion was as

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follows:

AYES: Cory, Teixeira, Hurd, Parreira, Stearns
NAYS: None
ABSTENTIONS: None

10. **Update on Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharge to Groundwater Water, Grassland Drainage Area Coalition** – Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan reported new forms will be circulated for nitrogen reporting throughout the Grassland Basin Service area. McGahan noted the website updated to include the new forms. McGahan reported on an official letter from the Regional Board on the Salt Control Program and the need for a Notice of Intent which will be attained by 30 June 2021.
11. **Reports from District Representatives** – Gabriel Delgado reported on an amendment to the Brown Act addressing social media use. Delgado stated he will send an email with all the pertinent information.
12. **Date and Time of Next Meeting**
The next regularly scheduled meeting is February 19, 2021 at 9:30 a.m.
13. **Closed Session**
The Committee convened to a Closed Session to address Items listed on the Closed Session Agenda at 10:27 a.m.
14. **Return to Open Session**
The Committee returned to Open Session at 10:35 a.m.
15. **Report from Closed Session, if Required by Government Code Section 54957.1**
Upon return to open session at 10:35 a.m.; General Counsel Gabriel Delgado reported that the Steering Committee met in closed session to receive an update on existing litigation listed and receive advice from counsel on matters listed on the Closed Session Agenda and took no reportable action.
16. **Reports Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2(a)(2)**
No Report given.
17. **Adjournment**
Chairman Mike Stearns adjourned the meeting of the Grassland Basin Drainers Steering Committee at 10:36 a.m.