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

October 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 Chairmen Mike Stearns presiding.

**Directors and Alternate Directors in Attendance**

**Camp 13 Drainage District**  
David Cory, Vice Chairman  
**Firebaugh Canal Water District**  
Kevin Hurd, Member  
**Panoche Drainage District**  
Mike Stearns, Chairmen

**SLDMWA Staff Present**

Joe McGahan, Drainage Coordinator  
Lauren Neves

**Others Present**

Ara Azhderian, Panoche Water and Drainage District  
Gabriel Delgado, Baker, Manock and Jensen  
Julie Fieber, Special Counsel  
Chris Linneman, Summers Engineering  
Palmer McCoy, Grassland Basin Authority  
Diane Rathmann, Linneman Law Firm

**1. Call to Order / Roll Call**

Chairmen Mike Stearns called the meeting to order and requested self-introductions.

**2. Corrections or Additions to the Agenda**

Legal Counsel Gabriel Delgado expressed the need for Agenda Item Number Seven “Board to Consider Recommending Approval to the Water Authority Board of a Common Interest Agreement with Grassland Basin Authority” to be addressed in Closed Session. Committee Vice Chairman David Cory moved to move Agenda Item Number Seven to the Closed Session Agenda, the motion was seconded by Committee Member Kevin Hurd and

passed unanimously.

AYES: Stearns, Cory and Hurd

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

**3. Opportunity for Public Comment**

No public comments were made.

**4. Committee to Consider Approval of August 20, 2021 Meeting Minutes**

After review of the August 20, 2021 Grassland Basin Drainage Steering Committee (GBDSC) meeting minutes, Committee Vice Chairmen David Cory moved to approve the August 20, 2021 minutes as presented, the motion was seconded by Committee Member Kevin Hurd and passed unanimously.

AYES: Stearns, Cory and Hurd

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

**5. Committee to Consider Acceptance of Financial Expenditures Report.**

Lauren Neves presented the Final Financial Report for Fiscal Year 3/01/21 – 9/30/21. Committee Vice Chairmen David Cory moved to approve the Financial Expenditures Report as presented, the motion was seconded by Committee Member Kevin Hurd and passed unanimously.

AYES: Stearns, Cory and Hurd

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

**6. Committee to Review and Consider Approval of Report from Central Valley Groundwater Monitoring Collaborative**

Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan referred to the September 2021 Draft Report prepared by Luhdorff and Scalmanini for the Grassland Drainage Area Coalition titled “Grassland Drainage Area Coalition Five Year Assessment Report”. McGahan reviewed the report in detail with the Committee and addressed questions. Committee Vice Chairmen David Cory moved to approve the Grassland Drainage Area Coalition Five Year Assessment Report, the motion was seconded by Committee Member Kevin Hurd and passed unanimously.

AYES: Stearns, Cory and Hurd

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

7. **Committee to Receive Brown Act Update Authorizing Teleconference Meetings During Proclaimed State Emergencies**

Legal Counsel Gabriel Delgado updated the Committee on meeting process and procedure for meetings during the proclaimed State Emergencies and responded to a few questions.

8. **Committee to Receive Report on Mud Slough Restoration Project**

Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan gave a brief summary of the progress on the Mud Slough Restoration Project.

9. **Committee to Receive Report on 13267 Report to Regional Board regarding threat to Fish**

Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan reported the 13267 report was submitted to Regional Board and the comments received from them was the need for clarification on a few issues.

10. **Committee to Receive Report on the Status of the Prop 84 Grant Program**

Chris Linneman referred to his memo in today's meeting packet updating the committee on the Grassland Bypass Channel Access Road and Control Gate.

11. **Grassland Bypass Project Updates**

- a. Operations Report – Chris Linneman 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 January 2021 – August 2021 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.
- b. Monitoring Program and Toxicity Data Report – The Committee reviewed event 77-samples collected August 25, 2021. The reports reflected no toxicity. Committee Vice Chairmen 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 follows:

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

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12. **Update on Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharge to Groundwater Water, Grassland Drainage Area Coalition** – Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan briefly updated the Committee on Waste Discharge Requirements (WDR's) for Discharge to Groundwater Water.
13. **Reports from District Representatives** – No reports from District Representatives.
14. **Reports on Other Items Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2 (a)(3)** – No other items were presented or discussed.
15. **Date and Time of Next Meeting**  
The next regularly scheduled meeting is November 18, 2021 at 9:30 a.m.
16. **Closed Session**  
The Committee convened to a Closed Session to address Items listed on the Closed Session Agenda at 10:17 a.m.
17. **Return to Open Session**  
The Committee returned to Open Session at 10:42 a.m.
18. **Report from Closed Session, if Required by Government Code Section 54957.1**  
Upon return to open session at 10:43 a.m.; General Counsel Gabriel Delgado reported the Steering Committee met in closed session to receive advice from Legal Counsel, but took no recordable action.
19. **Adjournment**  
Chairman Mike Stearns adjourned the meeting of the Grassland Basin Drainers Steering Committee at 10:44 a.m.