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

August 20, 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 Vice Chair David Cory presiding.

Directors and Alternate Directors in Attendance

Camp 13 Drainage District
David Cory, Vice Chairman

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

Pacheco Water District
David Parreira, Member

Panoche Drainage District
Mike Linneman, Alternate

SLDMWA Staff Present

Joe McGahan, Drainage Coordinator

Joyce Machado, Director of Finance

Others Present

Gabriel Delgado, Baker, Manock and Jensen

Chris Linneman, Summers Engineering

Diane Rathmann, Linneman Law Firm

1. Call to Order / Roll Call

Vice Chairmen David Cory called the meeting to order and requested self-introductions.

2. Corrections or Additions to the Agenda

No corrections or additions were made to the Agenda.

3. Opportunity for Public Comment

No public comments were made.

4. Committee to Consider Approval of May 21, 2021 Meeting Minutes

After review of the meeting minutes of the March 19, 2021 Grassland Basin Drainage Steering Committee (GBDSC) meeting minutes, Alternate Committee Member Mike Linneman moved to approve the May 21, 2021 minutes as presented, the motion was seconded by Committee Member David Parreira and passed unanimously.

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AYES: Cory, Hurd, Parreira and Linneman
NAYS: None
ABSTENTIONS: None

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

Director of Finance, Joyce Machado presented the Final Financial Report for Fiscal Year 3/01/21 – 6/30/22. Committee Member David Parreira moved to approve the Financial Expenditures Report as presented, the motion was seconded by Committee Member Kevin Hurd and passed unanimously.

AYES: Cory, Hurd, Parreira and Linneman
NAYS: None
ABSTENTIONS: None

6. **Committee to Review and Consider Recommending Approval to the Water Authority Board a Memorandum of Understanding Regarding Use of the Supplemental Mitigation Project Fund**

Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan referred to his 18 August, 2021 memo to the Committee regarding the use of the Supplemental Mitigation Project Fund. A detailed background on the fees was presented and it was noted in the period 2015-2019, \$435,245 was collected from the Grassland Bypass Project participants for selenium discharges into Mud Slough. A Sub-Committee was formed in accordance with the 2009 Use Agreement. Members include; California Department of Fish and Wildlife, U.S. Fish and Wildlife and the Grassland Resource Conservation District. The Committee convened over a period of months in the fall and winter of 2020 and have developed a proposal for the use of the mitigation funding. The enclosed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Regarding Use of the Supplemental Mitigation Project Fund will memorialize the process for project approval, the distribution and administration of funds and acknowledgment that mitigation requirements of the 2009 Use Agreement have been met. Following a short discussion and McGahan responding to a few questions, Alternate Committee Member Mike Linneman moved to recommend approval to the Water Authority Board a Memorandum of Understanding Regarding Use of the Supplemental Mitigation Project Fund, the motion was seconded by Committee Member David Parreira and passed unanimously.

AYES: Cory, Hurd, Parreira and Linneman
NAYS: None
ABSTENTIONS: None

7. **Committee to Receive Report on Mud₂ Slough Restoration Project**

Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan gave a brief summary of the progress on the Mud Slough Restoration Project and referred to his Memorandum dated 18 May 2021 in today's meeting packet. The high points in the memo were: CEQA documents were circulated on June 30, 2021 with comments from Planning and Conservation League and 17 other parties, the Fresno Office of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and the State Water Resources Control Board-Division of Water Rights. Comments are being reviewed and draft responses are being developed.

8. **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 the Regional Board this past month (July). We await comments.

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

Chris Linneman updated the Committee on progress of the Prop 84 Grant and noted not much new had transpired since the last report.

10. **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 – July 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. In conclusion, Site R –Mud Slough selenium and Site B monthly salt load were reviewed.

Linneman concluded by reviewing the Site B Monthly salt load and an egg monitoring summary for the past 20 years on the San Joaquin River Water Quality Improvement Project (SJRWQIP).

- b. Monitoring Program and Toxicity Data Report – The Committee reviewed event 72, 73, 74, 75, 76-samples collected March through July 2021. The reports reflected no toxicity except for a small algae toxicity reported at Site B3 in March 2021. Committee Member Kevin Hurd moved to release the Toxicity data. The motion was seconded by Committee Member David Parreira and passed unanimously. The vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES: Cory, Hurd, Parreira and Linneman
NAYS: None
ABSTENTIONS: None

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11. **Update on Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharge to Groundwater Water, Grassland Drainage Area Coalition** – Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan reported an 86 percent return level for Farm Evaluation Plan forms and 68 percent level for the nitrogen summary request. McGahan requested Dave Cory update the Committee on the Nitrate Management Plan for the Central Valley. A copy of Cory’s CV-Salts presentation dated 6 July, 2021 was included in today’s meeting packet.
12. **Reports from District Representatives** – No reports from District Representatives.
13. **Reports on Other Items Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2 (a)(3)** – No other items were presented or discussed.
14. **Date and Time of Next Meeting**
The next regularly scheduled meeting is September 17, 2021 at 9:30 a.m.
Committee Member Hurd departed at 10:15 a.m.
15. **Closed Session**
The Committee convened to a Closed Session to address Items listed on the Closed Session Agenda at 10:18 a.m.
16. **Return to Open Session**
The Committee returned to Open Session at 10:43 a.m.
17. **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 updates and advice on existing litigation listed on the Closed Session Agenda and gave direction to staff.
18. **Adjournment**
Vice Chairman David Cory adjourned the meeting of the Grassland Basin Drainers Steering Committee at 10:44 a.m.