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SAN LUIS & DELTA – MENDOTA WATER AUTHORITY  
MINUTES-GRASSLAND BASIN STEERING COMMITTEE TELEPHONIC  
MEETING - AUGUST 18, 2023

The Board of Directors of the Grassland Basin Drainage Steering Committee (GBDSC) met at 9:38 a.m. at 842 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Los Banos, California with Chairman David Cory presiding.

**Directors and Alternate Directors in Attendance**

**Camp 13 Drainage District**

David Cory, Chairman

**Firebaugh Canal Water District**

Jeff Bryant, Alternate Member

**Pacheco Water District**

David Parreira, Member

**Panoche Drainage District**

Mike Linneman, Member

**SLDMWA Staff Present**

Rebeca Harms, Deputy Executive General Counsel

Joe McGahan, Drainage Coordinator

Diane Rathmann, Linneman Law Firm– Via Telephonic

Lauren Viers, Staff Accountant III

**Others Present**

Chris Linneman, Summers Engineering

Palmer McCoy, Grassland Basin Authority

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

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 19, 2023 Meeting Minutes**

After review of the May 19, 2023 Grassland Basin Drainage Steering Committee (GBDSC) meeting minutes, with one minor edit: Rebeca Harms, Deputy Executive General Counsel was telephonic and not present at the meeting in person. Committee Member David Parreira moved to approve the May 19, 2023 minutes as corrected, the motion was seconded by Committee Member Mike Linneman and passed unanimously.

AYES:

Cory, Hurd, Parreira and Linneman

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NAYS: None  
ABSTENTIONS: None

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

Staff Accountant III Lauren Viers presented the Financial Report with a baseline through 6/30/23 and noted the budget was trending under. **Committee** Member Mike Linneman moved to approve the Financial Expenditures Report as presented, the motion was seconded by Committee Member David Parreira and passed unanimously.

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

**6. Committee to Discuss and Approve Appointing Chris Linneman as Drainage Coordinator for the Grassland Basin Drainers and the Grassland Drainage Area Coalition**

Current Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan explained he would like to step down as Drainage Coordinator Grassland Basin Drainers and the Grassland Drainage Area Coalition but emphasized he is not retiring. McGahan continued by explaining the need for a Drainage Coordinator to deal with the Regional Board and other Agencies. McGahan referred to his 14 August 2023 memo in today's meeting packet. David Parreira questioned when or if the GBDSC was going to merge with the Grassland Basin Authority. McGahan responded it was still in the discussion phase. Following McGahan and Chris Linneman addressing questions, Committee Member David Parreira moved to appoint Chris Linneman as Drainage Coordinator of the Grassland Basin Drainers and the Grassland Drainage Area Coalition. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Mike Linneman and passed unanimously.

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

**7. Committee to Discuss and Consider Approval of Additional Funding to USGS for Panoche Creek Gauging Station**

Drainage Coordinator Chris Linneman referred to his 14 August 2023 memo to the Committee in today's meeting packet. Linneman explained he had been contacted by the United States Geological Survey (USGS) to discuss funding for the Panoche Creek Gauging Station. The USGS and the United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) have historically funded half of the stations costs with the remainder coming from GBDSC in the amount of \$7,900 annually. The total cost to maintain the station is \$15,800. USGS does have "some" matching funds but they are variable from week to week. Following some discussion on the importance of the site to member agencies,

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Alternate Committee Member Jeff Bryant moved to fund the Panoche Creek Gauging Station in the amount necessary to keep the station operational with no augmentation to the budget. The motion was seconded by Committee Member David Parreira and passed unanimously.

AYES: Cory, Hurd, Parreira and Linneman

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

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

Chris Linnemann explained the Grassland Basin Drainers have an obligation to return Mud Slough to its original state- hence the need for restoration project. Linneman reported on meetings occurring on the subject especially the need for a MOU and permits. Chris Linnemen responded to questions.

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

Chris Linneman reported SCADA towers are under construction along with short-term storage basins and pipelines on the San Joaquin River Water Quality Improvement Project. Linnemen noted electrical parts for projects are nine (9) months out and referred to a map in today's meeting packet illustrating the project and its completion percentage.

**10. Grassland Bypass Project Updates**

- a. Operations Report – Chris Linneman referred to maps 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 March 1, 2022– July 2023 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, Linneman concluded by reporting on Site B Monthly Salt Load and Site R Selenium concentrations.
- b. **Monitoring Program and Toxicity Data Report** – Chris Linneman presented and the Committee reviewed event 97, 98 and 99; samples collected April 20, May 25 and June 29, 2023. The reports reflected no toxicity. The Committee gave direction to release the Toxicity data.

**II. Update on Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharge to Groundwater Water for the Grassland Drainage Area Coalition** – Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan reported he is

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following up on the information from the membership requirements and discussed the work on the Nitrate Control Program Zones.

12. **Reports from District Representatives** – District thanked Joe McGahan for his dedication and service to the GBDSC.

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 15, 2023 at 9:30 a.m.

15. **Closed Session**

The Committee convened to a Closed Session at 10:08 a.m.

16. **Return to Open Session**

The Committee returned to Open Session at 10:47 a.m.

17. **Report from Closed Session, if Required by Government Code Section 54957.1**

Chairman David Cory reported the Committee discussed items posted on the Closed Session Agenda- received updates from legal counsel, and took no action.

18. **Adjournment**

Chairman David Cory adjourned the meeting of the Grassland Basin Drainers Steering Committee at 10:48 a.m.