



Meeting Minutes

Date & Time: 10/21/2024, 9:30 a.m.

Location: SLDMWA Boardroom

842 6th Street, Los Banos

San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority Planning Operations & Maintenance Technical Committee Regular Meeting

O&M Technical Committee Members Present

Exchange Contractors:

Chris White, Chair/Member-
Jarrett Martin, Alternate

Friant Water Users Authority:

Chris Hickernell, Member

Lower DMC Area:

Absent

Mendota Pool Area:

Absent

San Felipe Area:

Gary Nagaoka, Member (ZOOM)-
Paulino Ochoa, Alternate

San Luis Canal Area:

Kelly Vandergon, Alternate
(ZOOM)
Lon Martin, Alternate

SLDMWA Technical Staff:

Bob Martin, Member
Jaime McNeil, Alternate

Upper DMC:

Bobby Pierce, Member
Paul Stearns, Alternate

USBR Representative:

Absent

Board of Directors Present

Division 1: Bobby Pierce, Director

Division 2: Absent

Division 3: Chris White, Alternate
Jarrett Martin, Director

Division 4: Absent

Division 5: Absent

Friant Representatives: Johnny Amaral, Alternate

Finance & Administration Committee Present

Ex-Officio: Absent

Division 1: Absent

Division 2: Absent

Division 3: Chris White, Member-
Jarrett Martin, Alternate

Division 4: Absent

Division 5: Absent

Friant WA: Absent

Water Resources Committee

Ex-Officio: Absent

Division 1: Absent

Division 2: Lon Martin, Alternate

Division 3: Chris White, Member

Division 4: Absent

Division 5: Absent

Authority Representatives Present

Federico Barajas, Executive Director

Pablo Arroyave, Chief Operating Officer

Scott Petersen, Water Policy Director

Rebecca Harms, Deputy General Counsel

Chauncey Lee, O&M Manager

Ray Tarka, Director of Finance

Brandon Soares, Civil Maintenance

Superintendent

Jim Lenhardt, Electrical Project Specialist

Darlene Neves, Supervisor of Operational
Accounting (ZOOM)

Lauren Neves, Accounting Manager (ZOOM)

Stewart Davis, IT Officer

Others Present

Jeff Bryant, Firebaugh Canal (ZOOM)

John Mercado, USBR (ZOOM)

Agenda

Item	Topic	Lead
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| 1. | Call to Order/Roll Call – The meeting was called to order at approximately 9:30 a.m. by Chair Chris White and roll was called. | |
| 2 | Additions or Corrections to the Agenda of Items, as authorized by Government Code Section 54950 et seq. – No corrections. | |
| 3. | Opportunity for Public Comment - No public comment. | |
| 4. | Committee to Consider Approval of October 16, 2023 O&M Technical Committee Meeting Minutes, February 24, 2024 O&M Special Meeting Minutes, and July 22, 2024 Meeting Minutes – M/S - On a motion made by Member Bobby Pierce, seconded by Member Chris Hickernell the Committee approved the October 16, 2023 meeting minutes, February 24, 2024 special meeting minutes, and the July 22, 2024 meeting minutes. Vote: Ayes –White, Hickernell, Nagaoka, Vandergon, Bob Martin, Bobby Pierce; Nays – 0; Abstentions – 0. | |
| 5. | <p>Committee to Consider Recommendation to the Finance & Administration Committee Regarding the Proposed Fiscal Year 2026 OM&R Budget, including Routine OM&R and Extraordinary OM&R/Capital Improvement Project Budget - Member Bob Martin introduced the item, and then introduced O&M Manager Chauncey Lee who reviewed the memo, packet items, and increases in RO&M line items. Lee reported that salary related figures include in this packet are preliminary 3% increase place-holder figures and are subject to change once the salary survey results have been provided and analyzed. Martin provided additional information. Member Jaime McNeil reviewed the EO&M Projects, and the Capital Improvement Projects. Civil Maintenance Superintendent Brandon Soares provided a brief report on vehicle replacement. Martin provided a brief report on the Floating Solar Project. Executive Director Federico Barajas, and staff provided additional information and answered Committee questions.</p> <p>On a motion made by Member Chris Hickernell, seconded by Member Bobby Pierce the Committee approved recommending the Proposed Fiscal Year 2026 OM&R Budget, including Routine OM&R and Extraordinary OM&R/Capital Improvement Project Budget to the Finance & Administration Committee. Vote: Ayes –White, Hickernell, Nagaoka, Vandergon, Bob Martin, Bobby Pierce; Nays – 0; Abstentions – 0.</p> <p>Deputy General Counsel Rebecca Harms noted that a formal recommendation requires 8 committee members, and only 6 members are present, so the proposed budget will be moving to the Finance & Administrative Committee with an informal recommendation.</p> | |
| 6. | Review of Status of Current OM&R Projects- Member Jaime McNeil provided a brief update on the status of current OM&R Projects including | |

the bridge repair at DMC MP 92.73, DMC Subsidence Correction Project, DMC Flow Meter Upgrade Program, DMC Solar Over Canal Project, DMC Road Repair, DMC Underdrain Sedimentation Removal Project, Jones Pumping Plant Excitation System Control Modernization Project, Jones Pumping Plant Concrete Slab, Jones Pumping Plant Siphon Breaker Communications Upgrade, Jones Pumping Plant Trash Rack Control Modernization, Jones Pumping Plant Transformer Upgrades, and several other projects

7. **Review of Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Aging Infrastructure Projects Funding Application Process and Proposed Projects Staff Recommends Including in Application** – Member Bob Martin provided a brief overview of projects that have received BIL funding to date. Martin reported that in the next round of BIL applications staff is going to submit an application for replacement of the O'Neill Pumping Plant Transformers. Chief Operating Officer Pablo Arroyave provided additional information in regards to repayment contracts.
8. **Review of Status of Preventive Maintenance Program for the Jones Pumping Plant, Intertie Pumping Plant, O'Neill Pumping/Generating Plant and Delta-Mendota Canal** – O&M Manager Chauncey Lee reviewed the status of the preventive maintenance (PM) program. Lee reported that the Authority has a new Shepherd representative, and staff is working with him to bring him up to speed with where the previous representative left off in the process of implementing the auto-generated PM's. Member Bob Martin provided additional background information.
9. **Review of Action Items from Meeting** – Chief Operating Officer Pablo Arroyave reported that before the Authority's next EO&M Funding request submittal for road maintenance staff would put together an estimate comparing doing it in-house next fiscal year, and the Committee is still recommending moving forward with this component subject to the field verification.
Confirm Date, Time and Location for Next Meeting if Necessary – Next meeting tentatively scheduled for May 19, 2025.
10. **Reports Pursuant to Government Code Sec 54954.2 (a)(3)** – No reports.
11. **Adjournment** - The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:08 p.m.