

**SAN LUIS & DELTA-MENDOTA WATER AUTHORITY
WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING AND JOINT
WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING - SPECIAL
BOARD WORKSHOP MINUTES
DECEMBER 4, 2023**

The San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority Water Resources Committee Regular Meeting and Joint Water Resources Committee Regular Meeting and Special Board Workshop convened at approximately 10:00 a.m. at 842 6th Street in Los Banos, California, with Chair William Bourdeau presiding.

Water Resources Committee Members Present

Ex-Officio

William Bourdeau

Division 1

Anthea Hansen, Alternate

Division 2

Bill Diedrich, Member - Lon Martin, Alternate (arrived during item 6)

Division 3

Chris White, Member

Division 4

Vincent Gin, Member - Steve Wittry, Alternate

Division 5

Kirk Teixeira, Member - Manny Amorelli, Alternate

Board of Directors Present

Division 1

Anthea Hansen, Director

Division 2

Justin Diener, Alternate

William Bourdeau, Vice-Chair/Director

Bill Diedrich, Director - Lon Martin Alternate

Division 3

Chris White, Alternate

Division 4

Steve Wittry, Director

Division 5

Kirk Teixeira, Alternate

Manny Amorelli, Director

Authority Representatives Present

Federico Barajas, Executive Director
Pablo Arroyave, Chief Operating Officer
Rebecca Akroyd, General Counsel
Rebecca Harms, Deputy General Counsel
Scott Petersen, Water Policy Director
Ray Tarka, Director of Finance
Cindy Meyer, Special Programs Manager (via ZOOM)
Stewart Davis, IT Officer

Others Present

Dana Jacobson, Valley Water
Lea Emmons, City of Tracy (via ZOOM)
Steve Stadler, San Luis Water District (via ZOOM)
John Wiersma, Henry Miller Reclamation District (via ZOOM)
Tom Boardman, Westlands Water District (via ZOOM)
Wilson Orvis, Friant Water Authority (arrived during item 6)

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Committee Chair William Bourdeau called the meeting to order and roll was called.

2. The Water Resources Committee to Consider Additions or Corrections to the Agenda of Items, as authorized by Government Code Section 54950 et seq.

No additions or corrections.

3. Opportunity for Public Comment

No public comment.

4. Water Resources Committee to Consider Approval of the November 6, 2023 Meeting Minutes.

Chair William Bourdeau deemed the November 6, 2023 meeting minutes approved as submitted.

5. Water Resources Committee to Consider Recommendation to Board of Directors to Adopt Fiscal Year 2025 Objectives, Petersen

Water Policy Director Scott Petersen reported that in October 2023, the Authority Board adopted an updated Strategic Plan for the next five years, which charts the policy outcomes and objectives to implement in the coming years. Petersen reported that the report included in the packet proposes objectives to guide policy in Fiscal Year 2025, consistent with the updated Authority Strategic Plan. Petersen reported that there are four proposed objectives: 1) Restore

Central Valley Project water supplies to levels that meet reasonable demands within member agency boundaries and improve the reliability of those water supplies through the development and advocacy of sound water resource management and environmental policy, 2) Restore Central Valley Project Water Supply for Member Agencies, 3) Improve Water Infrastructure Affecting Authority Member Agencies, 4) Improve Outreach and Education.

On a motion of Member Bill Diedrich, seconded by Member Chris White, the Committee adopted Fiscal Year 2025 Objectives. The vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES:	Bourdeau, Hansen, Diedrich, White, Gin, Teixeira
NAYS:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	None

6. Water Resources Committee to Consider Recommendation to Board of Directors to Adopt Fiscal Year 2025 Activity Budget, Petersen

Executive Director Federico Barajas introduced the item. Barajas reviewed the Proposed Fiscal Year 2025 Activity Budget material included in the packet. A more detailed presentation was provided by General Counsel Rebecca Akroyd, Water Policy Director Scott Petersen and Chief Operating Officer Pablo Arroyave. Staff responded to questions from committee members.

On a motion of Chair/Member William Bourdeau, seconded by Member Kirk Teixeira, the Committee adopted Fiscal Year 2025 Activity Budget. The vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES:	Bourdeau, Hansen, Diedrich, White, Gin, Teixeira
NAYS:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	None

7. Report on Science Plan Implementation.

Water Policy Director Scott Petersen introduced Special Programs Manager Cindy Meyer. Meyer reported that the Draft Science Plan included in the packet is out for review by the SLDMWA Science Coordination Workgroup, and asked the committee to provide any comments and suggestions to her for incorporation into an updated final draft for Board consideration. Meyer presented a PowerPoint presentation on the Science Program, highlighting activities and the development of the Science Plan.

8. Executive Director's Report.

a. **Budget Workshop** – Executive Director Federico Barajas reported that there is

budget workshop scheduled later this month.

- b. **State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB)** – Executive Director Federico Barajas reported on the ongoing deliberations associated with the SWRCB process regarding updating the Water Quality Control Plan. Barajas reported that the last hearing will be held next week, and Water Policy Director Petersen will represent the Water Authority. Barajas reported that comments on the staff report will be due mid-January 2024.
- c. **Strategic Plan Update**- Executive Director Federico Barajas reported that the Water Authority has launched a logo contest asking staff to submit their ideas for a new logo.

9. Update on Water Policy/Resources Activities.

Water Policy Director Scott Petersen provided a brief summary of the report included in the packet. Petersen provided updates regarding the Reinitiation of Consultation on Long-Term Operations of the CVP and SWP, Reclamation Manual updates, and the San Joaquin Valley Collaborative Action Program.

10. Update on Water Operations and Forecasts.

Westlands Water District's Tom Boardman reported on Shasta storage conditions noting that storage dropped by 60 TAF during the past 30 days due to dry conditions. Accumulated precipitation in the watershed was also discussed. Folsom storage conditions were described which included the amount of available storage before flood control releases are necessary.

Current export rates at Jones and Banks were reported along with a brief remark about the controlling factors in the Delta. Trends in total south of Delta demands were explained, which were reported to be near expected levels of 170% of average.

Boardman concluded his report with a brief explanation of the causes and magnitude of changes in the latest refill projections for the CVP share of San Luis storage.

Boardman briefly responded to questions from committee members regarding rescheduling guidelines and weather forecaster predictions for the expected El Nino.

II. Committee Member Reports.

No reports.

5. Closed Session

Committee Chair William Bourdeau adjourned the open session to address the items listed on the Closed Session Agenda at approximately 11:22 a.m. Upon return to open session at approximately 11:58 a.m., Chair William Bourdeau reported that no reportable actions were taken in closed session.

12. Agenda Item 13: Reports Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2

No reports.

13. Agenda Item 14: Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:59 a.m.