

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

June 5, 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

Division 3

Chris White, Member

Division 4

Vincent Gin, Member - Steve Wittry, Alternate

Division 5

Absent

Board of Directors Present

Division 1

Anthea Hansen, Director

Lea Emmons, Alternate

Division 2

Justin Diener, Alternate

William Bourdeau, Director

Bill Diedrich, Director

Division 3

Chris White, Alternate

Jarrett Martin, Director

Division 4

Steve Wittry, Director

Joyce Machado, Alternate

Division 5

Absent

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 (ZOOM)
Cindy Meyer, Special Programs Manager (ZOOM)
Stewart Davis, IT Officer

Others Present

Chase Hurley, Water and Land Solutions
Wilson Orvis, Friant Water Authority (arrived during item 8)

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

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 May 1, 2023 Meeting

Minutes.

On a motion of Alternate Member Anthea Hansen, seconded by Member Bill Diedrich, the Committee approved the May 1, 2023 meeting minutes. The vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES: Bourdeau, Hansen, Diedrich, White, Gin

NOES: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

5. Water Resources Committee to Consider Recommendation to Board to Adopt Staff Recommendation for Positions on Legislation.

Water Policy Director Scott Petersen provided staff recommended positions for consideration on the following legislation:

- a. **H.R. 3675 (Boebert), Western Water Accelerated Revenue Repayment Act** -

Support

- b. S. 658 (Booker), EQIP Improvement Act of 2023 - Oppose
- c. S. ___ (Feinstein), Canal Conveyance Capacity Restoration Act- Support
- d. S. ___ (Feinstein), Support to Rehydrate the Environment, Agriculture, and Municipalities, (STREAM) Act - Support
- e. S. ___ (Feinstein), Repair Aging Infrastructure Now (RAIN) Act – Support and Amend
- f. AB 754 (Papan), Water management planning: automatic conservation plan - Oppose
- g. AB 1205 (Bauer-Lahan), Water rights: sale, transfer, or lease: agricultural lands - Oppose

Member Chris White made the motion to recommend the Board of Directors adopt staff recommendation for positions on federal legislation (HR 3675, S. ___{Feinstein}, Canal Conveyance Act, S ___{Feinstein}, STREAM Act – Support; S_{Feinstein}, RAIN Act – Support and Amend; S. 658 - Oppose). The motion was seconded by Member Bill Diedrich. The vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES:	Bourdeau, Hansen, Diedrich, White, Gin
NOES:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	None

Water Policy Director Scott Petersen reminded the Committee that the staff recommendation for a position on AB 754 was already made to the Board in May. Petersen reported that it is being brought back to the Board on Thursday.

Member Bill Diedrich made the motion to recommend the Board of Directors adopt staff recommendation for positions on state legislation (AB 1205 - Oppose). The motion was seconded by Member Chris White. The vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES:	Bourdeau, Hansen, Diedrich, White
NOES:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	Gin

6. Executive Director’s Report.

- a. Rick Gilmore Resolution – Executive Director Federico Barajas reported that

a resolution will be brought to the Board on Thursday recognizing Rick Gilmore's contributions to the Water Authority and to water policy in California.

- b. **Final FY 2022 Audited Financial Statements** – Executive Director Federico Barajas reported that the FY 2022 Audit will be brought to the Finance Committee today, and the Board on Thursday for acceptance.
- c. **Yuba Water Agency Tour** – Executive Director Federico Barajas reported that Water Policy Director Scott Petersen is coordinating a tour of Water Authority facilities with the Yuba Water Agency.
- d. **Strategic Plan Workshop** – Executive Director Federico Barajas reported that another workshop is scheduled later this month at the Los Banos Community Center.

7. **Update on Water Policy/Resources Activities.**

Water Policy Director Scott Petersen provided a brief summary of the report included in the packet.

- a. **Reinitiation of Consultation** - Petersen provided a brief update on the status of the current reinitiation of consultation process.
- b. **SWRCB Action** – Petersen reported that the State Water Board solicited input from public agencies, California Native American tribes, and members of the public on the range of project actions; reasonable alternatives; reasonably foreseeable methods of compliance; significant environmental issues; cumulative impacts, if any; and mitigation. measures that will reduce impacts to a less than significant level that should be considered in the potential Bay-Delta Plan update to consider incorporating the Tuolumne River Voluntary Agreement. Petersen reported that in response to the release of the NOP for the Tuolumne River VA, the Water Authority provided scoping comments
- c. **Water Blueprint for the San Joaquin Valley** - Petersen reported that Hallmark began its management/executive services March 1st and Providence will be assisting with the transition. Petersen reported that the Board placed an initial cap on expenditures until a progress report is provided and additional approval for the Tasks are voted on. Petersen reported that Hallmark has requested the Board identify 3 specific priorities to be pursued and accomplished.

- d. **SJVW CAP** – Petersen reported that the CAP Plenary Group met on February 28 and approved the formation of work groups to advance the revised Term Sheet, adopted on November 22, 2022. Phase II, Work Groups are beginning to meet and discuss priorities and drafting for their respective areas: Safe Drinking Water; Sustainable Water Supplies; Ecosystem Health; Land Use, Demand Reduction and Land Repurposing; Implementation. Petersen reported that the Steering Committee members continue to meet to discuss the proposed budget and work with Reclamation regarding the requested funding. Petersen reported that the Plenary Group met on May 23, and the meeting summary, and a presentation given to the Sustainable Water Supply Workgroup is included in the packet.

8. Update on Water Operations and Forecasts.

Westlands Water District’s Tom Boardman reported near full conditions in Shasta and Folsom and that releases have increased to manage elevated snowmelt inflow to the reservoirs.

Delta export rates were reported for both the CVP and SWP which included a brief note on the rate of San Joaquin River inflow to the Delta.

Flood flow operations into the Mendota Pool were also briefly discussed.

There was some discussion regarding scheduled maintenance work at Jones and how the work might affect the timing of a sustained drawdown in the CVP share of San Luis Reservoir.

9. Committee Member Reports.

None.

10. Closed Session

Committee Chair William Bourdeau adjourned the open session to address the items listed on the Closed Session Agenda at approximately 10:50 a.m. Upon return to open session at approximately 11:11 a.m., General Counsel Rebecca Akroyd reported that no reportable actions were taken in closed session.

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

None.

12. Agenda Item 13: Adjournment

DRAFT

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:12 a.m.