

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

**January 18, 2019**

The Grassland Basin Drainage Steering Committee (GBDSC) met at 9:30a.m. at 842 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Los Banos, California with Chair Mike Stearns presiding.

**Members and Alternate Members in Attendance**

**Camp 13 Drainage District**

David Cory, Member, Vice-Chair

**Charleston Drainage District**

Absent

**Firebaugh Canal Water District**

Kevin Hurd, Member

**Pacheco Water District**

Absent

**Panoche Drainage District**

Mike Stearns, Chair/Member - Michael Linneman, Alternate

**SLDMWA Staff Present**

Joe McGahan, Drainage Coordinator

Diane Rathmann, Legal Counsel

Joyce Machado, Director of Finance

Gabriel Delgado, Legal Counsel

**Others Present**

Chris Linneman, Summers Engineering

Michael Gonzalez, Panoche Drainage District

Ric Ortega, Grassland Water District

Ara Azhderian, Panoche Water District

JP Otollo, Panoche Water District

Juan Cadena, Panoche Water District

Bill Diedrich, San Luis Water District

Darcy Villere, Firebaugh Canal Water District

**1. Opportunity for Public Comment**

No public comments were made.

**2. Committee to Consider Approval of November 16, 2018 Meeting Minutes.**

Tabled until next meeting.

3. **Committee to Consider Acceptance of Financial Expenditures Report.**  
Supervisor of Accounting, Joyce Machado presented the Financial Report for the period ending 11/30/18. Committee Member David Cory moved to accept the Financial Expenditures Report as presented. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Hurd and passed unanimously.

AYES: Cory, Hurd, Stearns  
NAYS: None  
ABSTENTIONS: None

4. **Committee to Review and Consider Approval of the FY 2019-2020 Budget.**  
Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan reviewed the Fiscal Year 2019 – 2020 Budget, Membership Summary (Groundwater Specific), Membership Dues for the past nine years and his memo on the Budget to the Steering Committee in detail with the committee. Following McGahan responding to a few questions, Committee Member Hurd moved to approve the Fiscal Year 2019 – 2020 Budget with amendment. The Motion was seconded by Committee Member Cory and passed unanimously.

AYES: Cory, Hurd, Stearns  
NAYS: None  
ABSTENTIONS: None

5. **Committee to Receive Update on Outreach on Long Term Storm Water Management Plan.**
  - a. Outreach Meetings – Initial Study, Environmental Checklist, Hydrologic Analysis; all are continuing or close to completion. A meeting with Stakeholders (downstream users and NGO) is scheduled for midmonth.
  - b. Schedule- December 31, 2019
  - c. Sump Shutoff and Mitigation Requirements – Part of Prop 84 Grant and included in the CEQA analysis
  - d. Sediment Removal – Draft Letter to Reclamation

6. **Committee to Receive Report on the Status of the Prop 84 Grant Application.**  
Chris Linneman reported most issues have been resolved and signature by Panoche to follow.

7. **Committee to Receive Report and Provide Feedback on the Operation and Ongoing Expenses of the SJRIP.**  
Ara Azhderian reported approximately 200 acres of wheatgrass was planted on the project.

8. **Grassland Bypass Project Updates**
  - a. Operations Report – Operations Report - Juan Cadena reported today's flow at Site B is 84 c.f.s. A January selenium projection of 17 l.b.s. Michael Gonzales then

reviewed the December 2018 data for the San Joaquin River Water Quality Improvement Project in graphic form.

- b. Volumes and Loads Report/2018 Use Agreement Provisions – Joe McGahan reported the annual amount for selenium discharge was exceeded by we have credits to offset the overage, however the salt target for December was exceeded with a possible mitigation fee to be assessed. Mud Slough (Site D) weekly selenium results for the past 8 years was reviewed.
- c. Monitoring Program and Toxicity Data Report – Committee to Review and Authorize Release of Information – Events for October, November and December were reviewed. The reports reflected no toxicity in the samples. Committee Member Cory moved to release the Toxicity data. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Hurd and passed unanimously. The vote on the motion was as follows:  
AYES: Cory, Hurd, Stearns  
NAYS: None  
ABSTENTIONS: None
- d. 2018 Mitigation Water – Committee to Receive Report and Provide Feedback on Approaches for Supplying - No Report

**9. Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharge to Surface Water –**

- a. Update/Schedule of Tasks – No Report

**10. Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharge to Groundwater Water**

- a. Enrollment Status - Enrollment Status - 100 percent
- b. Review Timelines – Forms for 2018 nitrogen reports are in the mail. Grower meeting scheduled for early February in Firebaugh.
- c. Proposed Revisions to Comply with Eastside Order – No Report
- d. Trend Monitoring Program - Landowners have been contacted and testing is in progress for 10 wells

**11. Update on the Westside Regional Drainage Plan.**

- a. Update on Grants – No
- b. Update on Treatment Pilot Studies – USBR pilot treatment plant closed on December 31.

12. **Review Status of Salt/Boron TMDL & Basin Plan Amendment/CV-SALTS**
  - a. Framework for Real Time Management Program Update – – Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan reported the program continues with stakeholder meetings ongoing with participation in the program.
  - b. CV-SALTS Update – David Cory reported the CV-Salts Basin Plan Amendment is before the State Board with the approval date unknown.
  
13. **Drainage Coordinator’s Report** – Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan stated he had nothing more to report.
  
14. **Reports from District Representatives** – No Reports
  
15. **Date and Time of Next Meeting**  
The next regularly scheduled meeting is February 15, 2019 at 9:30 a.m.
  
16. **Closed Session** – No Closed Session
  
17. **Return from Closed Session, if Required by Government Code Section 54957.1**  
The Committee did not convene in Closed Session.
  
18. **Reports Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2**  
No Report.
  
19. **Adjournment**  
Chairmen Mike Stearns adjourned the meeting of the Grassland Basin Drainers Steering Committee at 10:50 a.m.

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

**December 21, 2018**

The Grassland Basin Drainage Steering Committee (GBDSC) convened at approximately 9:30 a.m. for a Special Telephonic meeting, with Chair Mike Stearns presiding.

**Members and Alternate Members in Attendance**

Camp 13 Drainage District – Dave Cory

Charleston Drainage District – Tom Teixeira

Firebaugh Canal Water District - Kevin Hurd, Jeff Bryant

Pacheco Water District – None

Panoche Drainage District – Mike Stearns, Michael Linneman

**SLDMWA Staff Present**

Joe McGahan, Drainage Coordinator

Diane Rathmann, Legal Counsel

Joyce Machado, Supervisor of Accounting

Gabriel Delgado, Legal Counsel

**Others Present**

Ara Azhderian

**1. Opportunity for Public Comment**

No public comments were made.

**2. FY 19-20 Budget Review**

Joyce Machado explained the format of the budget and Drainage Coordinator McGahan led the group through a detailed discussion of the DRAFT #1 FY 19-20 budget. No actions were taken. The final budget will be presented for adoption on January 18, 2019.

**3. Adjournment**

Chair Mike Stearns adjourned the meeting of the Special Telephonic Grassland Basin Drainers Steering Committee at 10:30 a.m.

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

**November 16, 2018**

The Grassland Basin Drainage Steering Committee (GBDSC) met at 9:30a.m. at 842 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Los Banos, California with Chairman Mike Stearns presiding.

**Members and Alternate Members in Attendance**

**Camp 13 Drainage District**

David Cory, Member, Vice-Chairman

**Charleston Drainage District**

Tom Teixeira, Member

**Firebaugh Canal Water District**

Keven Hurd, Member Jeff Bryant, Alternate

**Pacheco Water District**

David Parreira (arrived at 10:35)

**Panoche Drainage District**

Mike Stearns, Chairman- Michael Linneman, Alternate

**SLDMWA Staff Present**

Joe McGahan, Drainage Coordinator

Diane Rathmann, Legal Counsel

Joyce Machado, Supervisor of Accounting

Gabriel Delgado, Legal Counsel

**Others Present**

Ara Azhdarian, Panoche Water and Drainage District

John Beam, GWD Consultant

Michael Gonzalez, Panoche Drainage District

Juan Cadena, Panoche Drainage District

**1. Opportunity for Public Comment**

No public comments were made.

**2. Committee to Consider Approval of July 20, 2018, and September 21, 2018 Meeting Minutes.**

Committee Member Teixeira moved to approve the July 20, 2018, and September 21, 2018 Meeting Minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Cory and passed unanimously.

AYES: Cory, Teixeira, Hurd, Parreira, Stearns

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

3. **Committee to Consider Acceptance of Financial Expenditures Report.**  
Supervisor of Accounting, Joyce Machado presented the Financial Report for the period ending 9/30/18. Committee Member Cory moved to accept the Financial Expenditures Report as presented. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Teixeira and passed unanimously.

AYES: Cory, Teixeira, Hurd, Stearns  
NAYS: None  
ABSTENTIONS: None

4. **Committee to Receive Update on Outreach on Long Term Storm Water Management Plan.**

- a. Outreach Meetings –Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan discussed the near future Outreach efforts in order to get CEQA and or NEPA completed with a Mitigated Negative Declaration anticipated.
- b. Schedule – Joe McGahan explained the process must be complete before December 31, 2019.
- c. Sump Shutoff and Mitigation Requirements – Installation or expansion of existing SCADA systems to allow remote shutoff of powered tile sumps during storm events. McGahan noted the need for expansion of the SJRIP and the construction of ponds to hold water during storm events. This and other projects funded by a \$34 Million dollar Proposition 84 Grant
- d. Sediment Removal – Sediment in the San Luis Drain (SLD) has been removed up to Henry Miller Avenue which was 65% of the sediment in the SLD. McGahan concluded by stating the SLD contains 58,100 cubic yards of sediment that is the responsibility of the United States Bureau of Reclamation.

5. **Committee to Receive Report on the Status of the Prop 84 Grant Application.**  
Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan explained there is approximately \$34 Million dollars available to the drainage area for projects on the SJRIP for storm and water displacement, project improvements, SCADA and SJRIP expansion.

6. **Committee to Receive Report and Provide Feedback on the Operation and Ongoing Expenses of the SJRIP**  
Ara Azhdarian reported expenditures are trending on the positive side.

7. **Detailed Budget Review**

Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan reviewed and addressed questions of the committee

in reference to the GBD 2019 / 20 Budget 3A (Fund 22) for one hour and thirty minutes at the end of today's meeting. (11:20 to 12:50)

**8. Grassland Bypass Project Updates**

- a. Operations Report - Juan Cadena reported today's flow at Site B is 14.3 c.f.s. with a November Target of 7 l.b.s. Cadena then reviewed the October 2018 data for the San Joaquin River Water Quality Improvement Project in graphic form.
- b. Volumes and Loads Report/2018 Use Agreement Provisions – Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan explained a total of 277 pounds of selenium has been discharged through October 2018 with an estimated 23 pounds expected to complete the year. McGahan expects a supplemental mitigation fee of \$173,125 which is \$13,000 over budget. McGahan concluded by stating salt targets are being attained.
- c. Monitoring Program and Toxicity Data Report; Committee to Review and Authorize Release of Information - Events for August 23 and September 23, 2018. The reports reflected no toxicity in the samples. Committee Member Cory moved to release the Toxicity data. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Teixeira and passed unanimously. The vote on the motion was as follows:  
AYES: Cory, Teixeira, Hurd, Parreira, Stearns  
NAYS: None  
ABSTENTIONS: None
- d. 2018 Mitigation Water – Committee to Receive Report  
Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan referred to a table that illustrates the acre feet required by Mitigation water required by the share of the GBD 3A cost allocation along with CCID wheeling costs. McGahan responded to a few questions.

**9. Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharge to Surface Water –**

- a. Update/Schedule of Tasks – Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan reported we continue to comply with the order and noted the Mud Slough Objective goes down to a 5 p.p.b. 4 day monthly average on January 1, 2020.

**10. Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharge to Groundwater Water**

- a. Enrollment Status - 100 percent
- b. Review Timelines – Farm plans by this fall with nitrogen plans next year
- c. Proposed Revisions to Comply with Eastside – No Report



- d. Trend Monitoring Program – Landowners have been contacted and testing is in progress for 10 wells
11. **Update on the Westside Regional Drainage Plan.**
  - a. Update on Grants – No Report
  - b. Update on Treatment Pilot Studies – Ara Azhdarian reported the pilot treatment plant funded by Reclamation will close on December 31, 2018.
12. **Review Status of Salt/Boron TMDL & Basin Plan Amendment/CV-SALTS**
  - a. Framework for Real Time Management Program Update – Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan reported the program continues with stakeholder meetings ongoing.
  - b. CV-SALTS Update – – David Cory reported the CV-Salts Basin Plan Amendment is before the State Board with the approval date unknown. Cory concluded his report by discussing the current study for a salinity Management Plan.
13. **Drainage Coordinator’s Report**

Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan stated he had nothing more to report.
14. **Reports from District Representatives**

Committee Member Committee Member Teixeira announced Jake Barcellos was formally seated to the Charleston Drainage District Board.
15. **Date and Time of Next Meeting - January 18, 2019**
16. **Closed Session**

The Committee adjourned to Closed Session at 10:47 a.m. and Legal Counsel Diane Rathmann stated items on the Closed Session Agenda will be addressed in Closed Session.
17. **Return from Closed Session, if Required by Government Code Section 54957.1**

The Committee returned to open session at 11:20 a.m. with Legal Counsel, Diane Rathmann reporting the Committee assembled in Closed Session to discuss items listed on the Closed Session Agenda to receive advice from Counsel and took no action.
18. **Reports Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2**

No Report.

Approved 2/15/2019

**19. Adjournment**

Chair Mike Stearns adjourned the meeting of the Grassland Basin Drainers

Steering Committee at 12:50 p.m