

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

March 16, 2018

The Board of Directors of the Grassland Basin Drainage Steering Committee (GBDSC) met at 9:30a.m. at 842 6th Street, Los Banos, California with Chair Mike Stearns presiding.

Directors and Alternate Directors in Attendance

Camp 13 Drainage District

Absent

Charleston Drainage District

Absent

Firebaugh Canal Water District

Kevin Hurd, Member Jeff Bryant, Alternate

Pacheco Water District

David Parreira, Member

Panoche Drainage District

Mike Stearns, Member - Mike Linneman, Alternate

SLDMWA Staff Present

Gabriel Delgado, Legal Counsel

Joe McGahan, Drainage Coordinator

Diane Rathmann, Legal Counsel

Joyce Machado, Supervisor of Accounting (Departed 9:55)

Others Present

Chris Eacock, Bureau of Reclamation

Ara Azhderian, Panoche Drainage District

Miguel Gonzalez, Panoche Drainage District

Duane Stroup, Bureau of Reclamation

John Beam, GWD Consultant

1. Opportunity for Public Comment

No public comments were made.

2. Committee to Consider Approval of January 26, 2018 Meeting Minutes

After review of the January 26, 2018 Meeting Minutes, Committee Member Hurd moved to approve the January 26, 2018 Meeting Minutes as presented, the motion was seconded by Committee Member Parreira and passed unanimously. The vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES: 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 3/15/18. Committee Member Parreira moved to accept the Financial Expenditures Report as presented. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Hurd and passed unanimously.

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

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

Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan reported AECON, Susan Hootkins and Summers Engineering will be doing the CEQA. McGahan then reported on a meeting with Reclamation to discuss CEQA and the possibilities of a joint document. Other meetings reported on were – Regional Board and Stakeholders Group. McGahan then discussed three options for the CEQA Process: Go back to discharging through the Grasslands Water District, Continued use of the San Luis Drain with a new Use Agreement and Ponding of the water or no project. McGahan concluded his report by discussing sediment removal and issues associated with it.

5. Committee to Receive Report and Provide Feedback on the Operation and Ongoing Expenses of the SJRIP.

Ara Azhderian reported most of the activity has been the administrative side; the procurement policy in general. Azhderian noted the SJRIP Stakeholders Group will be meeting on April 22. Azhderian concluded his report with an update on the SJRIP well pumping program into the DMC.

6. Grassland Bypass Project Updates

- a. Operations Report – Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan reported 37 cfs at Site B today with a Load Target of 150 lbs. for the year.
- b. Volumes and Loads Report – Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan referred to a table in today's meeting packet detailing 2018 selenium loads and targets. McGahan reviewed in detail and noted as per the Use Agreement, load targets from previous years do not apply in 2018 and 2019. McGahan concluded by review supplemental mitigation fee costs and Incentive Fees.

- c. Monitoring Program and Toxicity Data – No Report
- 7. **Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharge to Surface Water –**
 - a. Update/Schedule of Tasks - Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan updated the Committee on the Irrigated Lands Program as to farmer reporting, nitrogen summary Farm- management plan both which had the ability to be accomplished on-line. A Farmer report of deadlines to meet was reviewed. McGahan concluded by discussing the Trend Management Program which includes the need for nitrogen monitoring, well selection network for trend over time for monitoring purposes, coalition participation and monitoring
- 8. **Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharge to Groundwater Water**
 - a. Enrollment Status – No Report
 - b. Review Timelines – No Report
 - c. Report on Revisions to East San Joaquin Irrigated Lands Order – A copy of a written Summary by David Cory in reference to the Eastside San Joaquin River Waste Discharge Requirements was reviewed and question were addressed by Cory and McGahan.
- 9. **Update on the Westside Regional Drainage Plan.**
 - a. Update on Grants – A Department of Water Resources (DWR) news release that announced the draft funding award to the Panoche Drainage District was reviewed and discussed.
 - b. Update on Treatment Pilot Studies – Ara Azhderian reported the Panoche Water District has conveyed a letter of support for further treatment opportunities to Lawrence Berkley Lab and others to expand the Water FX facility and its technology.
- 10. **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 to move forward with an annual report due in the near future.
 - b. CV-SALTS Update – Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan reported a basin plan will be adopted this summer.

11. **Drainage Coordinator's Report** – Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan noted he had nothing more to report.

12. **Reports from District Representatives** – Chris Eacock reported he and Chris Linneman are working on the annual report for the Grassland Bypass Project.

13. **Date and Time of Next Meeting**
The next regularly scheduled meeting is April 20, 2018 at 9:30 a.m.

14. **Closed Session**

Counsel Diane Rathmann announced that the Board would go into closed session concerning the pending litigation and anticipated litigation listed under Agenda Item 14. The anticipated litigation relates to anticipated appeals from the State Water Control Board's decision on the East San Joaquin Water Quality Coalition's General Order Waste Discharge Orders.

15. **Return from Closed Session, if Required by Government Code Section 54957.1**

Following the closed session, Counsel reported that the Steering Committee had authorized entering into a common interest agreement concerning anticipated litigation described on the agenda and in the announcement. The vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES: Stearns, Hurd, Parreira

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Teixeira, Cory

The Steering Committee took no other reportable action in Closed Session.

16. **Reports Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2**
No Report.

17. **Adjournment**

Chairman Mike Stearns adjourned the meeting of the Grassland Basin Drainers Steering Committee at 11:11 a.m.

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

April 20, 2018

The Board of Directors of the Grassland Basin Drainage Steering Committee (GBDSC) met at 9:30a.m. at 842 6th Street, Los Banos, California with Chair Mike Stearns presiding.

Directors and Alternate Directors in Attendance

Camp 13 Drainage District

David Cory, Member

Charleston Drainage District

Tom Teixeira, Member

Firebaugh Canal Water District

Kevin Hurd, Member - Jeff Bryant, Alternate

Pacheco Water District

David Parreira, Member

Panoche Drainage District

Mike Stearns, Member

SLDMWA Staff Present

Gabriel Delgado, Legal Counsel

Joe McGahan, Drainage Coordinator

Diane Rathmann, Legal Counsel

Joyce Machado, Supervisor of Accounting

Others Present

Chris Eacock, Bureau of Reclamation

Ara Azhderian, Panoche Drainage District

Chris Linneman, Summers Engineering

John Beam, GWD Consultant

Juan Cadena, Panoche Drainage District

Mike Gonzales, Panoche Drainage District

1. Opportunity for Public Comment

No public comments were made.

- 2. Committee to Consider Approval of March 16, 2018 Meeting Minutes –** The approval of the March 16, 2018 meeting minutes was tabled until the next Steering Committee Meeting.

3. Committee to Consider Acceptance of Financial Expenditures Report.

Supervisor of Accounting, Joyce Machado presented the Financial Report for the period ending April 17, 2018. Committee Member Tom Teixeira moved to accept the Financial Expenditures Report as presented. The motion was seconded by Committee Member David Cory and passed unanimously.

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

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

- a. **Sump Shutoff and Mitigation Requirements** – Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan explained when the current Use Agreement ends on February 2019 no agricultural drain water can be discharged but we do need to get the storm water component in place. Therefore, the ability to operate tile drainage systems during storm events has to be a major part of the storm water plan. Davis Cory explained under the current Basin Plan Amendment has a prohibition against the discharge of drain water if the water quality in Mud Slough is not being met. The separation of storm water and tile drain water must be done before the storm water enters Mud Slough. After a lengthy discussion, and questions being addressed.
- b. **Sediment Removal** - Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan reported the capacity of the San Luis Drain is being compromised due to sediment in the drain. McGahan explained some sediment has been removed but more removal is needed. Chris Linneman referred to a map in today's meeting packet that illustrates the location of a few ponds near the SJRIP to capture water early in storm events. Linneman noted the capacity of the ponds is about 2,100 acre-feet. McGahan then took a few minutes to update the Committee on the CEQA / NEPA Process and noted he has had several meetings with Reclamation who has indicated the drainers should take the lead and follow the proper steps to determine the proper environmental coverage. This process is being done by Susan Hootkins and AECOM. McGahan and Linneman responded to a few questions.

5. Committee to Consider Authorizing Use of Groundwater Assessment Report as a Data Source for Groundwater Sustainability Plan Development.

Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan explained a Groundwater Assessment Plan has been completed for the Grassland Basin Drainers to determine high vulnerability areas within the basin McGahan continued by explaining he has been approached by the consultants doing the Grassland sustainability study have requested use of the data for the GSA use. Committee Member Tom Teixeira moved to allow the GSA consultants use of our data The motion was seconded by Committee Member David Cory and passed

unanimously.

AYES: Cory, Teixeira, Hurd, Parreira, Stearns

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

6. Committee to Receive Report and Provide Feedback on the Operation and Ongoing Expenses of the SJRIP.

Ara Azhdarian reported a meeting of the SJRIP stakeholder group will convene on Monday 23, 2018 at 9:00 a.m.

7. Grassland Bypass Project Updates

a. Operations Report –Juan Cadena reported on March 2018 displacement figures at the San Joaquin River Water Quality Improvement Project in graphic form and noted a change in the water year classification to Below Normal which changes load targets to 300 pounds for the year. Mike Gonzales then reported 4.5 cfs flow today at Site B with a total estimated discharge for the month of April at 11 lbs.

b. Volumes and Loads Report/2018 Use Agreement Provisions – Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan explained a total of 211 pounds of selenium has been discharged through March 2018 with an estimated 42 pounds expected to complete the year. McGahan expects a supplemental mitigation fee of \$171,000 which is \$10,000 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 - Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan referred to the Evaluation of the Toxicity of Grassland Bypass Project Ambient Water Sample: Events 34 and 35 for the months January and February 2018 in today’s meeting packet. The reports reflected no toxicity in the samples. Committee Member David Cory moved to release the Toxicity data. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Tom 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 and Provide Feedback on Approaches for Supplying.

- 1. Newman Land Company
- 2. State and Federal Refuges

Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan explained the purpose and need for the Grassland Basin Drainers providing mitigation water to the various entities. McGahan

referred to table included in the meeting packet detailing demand, delivery schedule and percentage breakdown for GBD cost allocations. The committee will continue to discuss this issue once more information is assembled.

8. Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharge to Surface Water –

- a. Update/Schedule of Tasks – No Report

9. Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharge to Groundwater Water

- a. Enrollment Status – No Report
- b. Review Timelines – Schedule include for review by Committee.

10. Update on the Westside Regional Drainage Plan.

- a. Update on Grants –Chris Linneman reported on the unofficial notification of a \$34-Million-dollar Prop 84 Grant for Implementation of the Westside Regional Drainage Plan. Linneman noted a CEQA document will be necessary.
Update on Treatment Pilot Studies – Chris Linneman updated the committee on two pilot studies by the University of Nevada Reno and one by UCLA that continues. Linneman concluded by updating the committee on the Lawrence Berkley / Water FX process and the Bureau’s pilot treatment plant.

11. Review Status of Salt/Boron TMDL & Basin Plan Amendment/CV-SALTS

- a. Framework for Real Time Management Program Update – No Report
- b. CV-SALTS Update – David Cory reported the group is in the final stages of adopting a final Basin Plan Amendment with comments due by May 7, 2018. Cory expressed the need for a comment letter from the GBD to facilitate the Reprioritization of our area for the nitrate study. It was the consensus of the Committee to have Joe McGahan send a comment letter to the Regional Board.

12. Drainage Coordinator’s Report

Joe McGahan explained this group is participant in Valley Wide Trend Monitoring Program for Groundwater of which we are member of the Central Valley Ground Water Monitoring Collaborative. McGahan explained that they are going to submit a technical report on how the Collaborative group will operate and may ask the GBD to sign the letter. Committee Member Kevin Hurd moved to authorize Joe McGahan to sign a joint letter from

Approved 6/15/2018

the Central Valley Ground Water Monitoring Collaborative.

The motion was seconded by Committee Member Tom Teixeira and passed unanimously.

AYES: Cory, Teixeira, Hurd, Parreira, Stearns

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

13. **Reports from District Representatives – No Reports**
14. **Date and Time of Next Meeting**
The next regularly scheduled meeting is May 18, 2018 at 9:30 a.m.
15. **Closed Session**
General Counsel, Diane Rathmann stated a Closed Session was not necessary.
16. **Return from Closed Session, if Required by Government Code Section 54957.1**
The Committee did not convene in Closed Session.
17. **Reports Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2**
No Report.
18. **Adjournment**
Chairman Mike Stearns adjourned the meeting of the Grassland Basin Drainers Steering Committee at 11:10 a.m.