

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

**October 20, 2017**

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

**Directors and Alternate Directors in Attendance**

**Camp 13 Drainage District**

Absent

**Charleston Drainage District**

Absent

**Firebaugh Canal Water District**

Jeff Bryant, Alternate for Kevin Hurd

**Pacheco Water District**

David Parreira, Member

**Panoche Drainage District**

Mike Stearns, Member/Chairman - Michael Linneman, Alternate

**SLDMWA Staff Present**

Gabriel Delgado, Legal Counsel

Joe McGahan, Drainage Coordinator

Diane Rathmann, Legal Counsel

Guy Wamocha, Supervisor of Accounting

**Others Present**

Juan Cadena, Panoche Drainage District

Chris Eacock, Bureau of Reclamation

Atomic Falaschi, Panoche Drainage District

John Beam, GWD-Consultant

Ara Azhderian, Panoche Water District

**1. Opportunity for Public Comment**

No public comments were made.

**2. Committee to Consider Approval of July 21, 2017, August 18, 2017, and September 27, 2017 Meeting Minutes**

After review of the Meeting Minutes, Committee Member Parreira moved to approve the Meeting Minutes of July 21, August 18, and September 27, 2017 as presented, the motion was seconded by Chairman Stearns and passed unanimously. The vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES: Bryant, Parreira, Stearns

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

**3. Committee to Consider Acceptance of Financial Expenditures Report**

Supervisor of Accounting Guy Wamocha presented the Financial Report for the period October 18,

Approved 1/26/2018

2017 and updated the committee on various financial matters including receivables, cash activity, budget to actual and estimated expenses comparison. **Committee Member Parreira** moved to accept the Financial Expenditures Report as presented. The motion was seconded by Alternate Committee Member Bryant and passed unanimously.

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

**4. Committee to Review and Consider Approval of Execution of Memorandum of Agreement for the Central Valley Groundwater Monitoring Collaborative to Fund the Groundwater Trend Monitoring Program as Required under the Irrigated Lands Program**

Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan explained this item is part of the Irrigated Lands / Groundwater Program for the Grasslands Basin Drainers service area and one of the requirements of the program is the adoption of a Trend Monitoring Program which needs to be in place by November 2017. McGahan referred to a copy of the Memorandum of Agreement for the Central Valley Groundwater Monitoring Collaborative included in Committee's meeting packet. Following review of the MOA, McGahan reviewed and responded to a few questions associated with the proposed cost allocations for the participating Agencies of which to Grasslands Drainage Area (GDA) is 80,859 acres and 3 percent of the cost allocation. Committee Member Parreira moved to appoint Joe McGahan and David Cory as the Representatives for the GDA and Authorize the Executive Director of the San Luis and Delta Mendota Water Authority to sign the Memorandum of Agreement for the Central Valley Groundwater Monitoring Collaborative. The motion was seconded by Alternate Committee Member Bryant and passed unanimously. The vote on the motion was as follows:

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

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

Atomic Falaschi reported the Supplemental billing has been mailed to all San Joaquin River Improvement Project (SJRIP) Participants. Falaschi then updated the committee on harvest and displacement issues. Ara Azhderian led a discussion on the venue and frequency of meetings for the SJRIP oversight group.

**6. Grassland Bypass Project Updates**

a. **Operations Report** – Juan Cadena reported the current flow at Site B is 10.5 cfs, with a 5-pound discharge projection for the month of October 2017 and a 115-pound target. Cadena

Approved 1/26/2018

then reviewed the SJRIP discharge and displacement figures in graphic form with the Committee.

- b. **Volumes and Loads Report** - Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan presented the 2017 Site B discharges and noted estimates are in bold. McGahan continued by reviewing the estimates in table and graphic form along with Site B monthly loads for 2016 an above Normal Water Year Type and 2017 under a Wet Water Year classification. McGahan concluded by reviewing 2016 and 2017 supplemental mitigation fee costs and distributions and noted and exceedance of \$24,000 should be expected for 2017.
  - c. **Monitoring Program and Toxicity Data** - Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan referred to a graph in today's meeting packet that illustrates Selenium levels in eggs at the SJRIP and number of bird pairs. McGahan then concluded his report with an update on monitoring and mitigation for kit fox on the project.
  - d. **San Luis Drain Sediment Removal** - Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan explained the sediment removal for this year (6.5 miles) was completed on October 17, 2017. McGahan then reported on the replacement of the flash board risers on Los Banos Creek and noted pictures are included in today's meeting packet.
7. **Update Schedule and Process to Comply with Use Agreement**
- a. **Plan to Meet Loads- Reuse Area Expansion** - Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan explained the acquisition of land is not being pursued at this time due to grant funding issues.
  - b. **Long Term Storm Water Plan** - Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan reported a contractor has been hired to do the environmental work (a report) to identify options for storm water discharge.
8. **Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharge to Surface Water**
- a. **Update/Schedule of Tasks** - Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan presented a table containing farmer and coalition deadlines that are required for the Waste Discharge Requirements (WDR's) for Discharge to Surface Water. Diane Rathmann updated the committee on the status of the Eastside Coalitions appeal and the changes occurring after the appeal.
9. **Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharge to Groundwater Water**
- a. **Enrollment Status** - No Report
  - b. **Review Timelines** - No Report
10. **Update on the Westside Regional Drainage Plan.**
- a. **Update on Grants** - No Report

Approved 1/26/2018

- b. Update on Treatment Pilot Studies – Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan reported a new pilot treatment plant is under way at the SJRIP and a report on its progress is forthcoming.
  
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 – No Report
  
12. **Drainage Coordinator’s Report**

Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan stated he had nothing more to report.
  
13. **Reports from District Representatives – No Reports Given**
  
14. **Date and Time of Next Meeting**

The next regularly scheduled meeting is November 17, 2017 at 9:30 a.m.
  
15. **Closed Session**

The Committee convened in Closes Session at 11:05 a.m. to Conference with Legal Counsel on existing litigation Pursuant to Paragraph (1) Subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9 and Anticipated Litigation – Significant Exposure to Litigation Pursuant to Paragraphs 2 or 3 of Subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9 (3 potential cases).
  
16. **Return from Closed Session, if Required by Government Code Section 54957.1**

The Committee returned to open session at 11:10 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.
  
17. **Reports Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2**

No Report given.
  
18. **Adjournment**

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

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

**December 15, 2017**

The Board of Directors of the Grassland Basin Drainage Steering Committee (GBDSC) met at 9:32 a.m. at 842 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Los Banos, California with Vice-Chair David Cory presiding.

**Directors and Alternate Directors in Attendance**

**Camp 13 Drainage District**

David Cory, Committee Vice-Chair & Member

**Charleston Drainage District**

Tom Teixeira, Member

**Firebaugh Canal Water District**

Kevin Hurd, Member

**Pacheco Water District**

Absent

**Panoche Drainage District**

Michael Linneman, Alternate for Mike Stearns

**SLDMWA Staff Present**

Gabriel Delgado, Legal Counsel

Joe McGahan, Drainage Coordinator

Diane Rathmann, Legal Counsel

**Others Present**

Juan Cadena, Panoche Drainage District

Chris Eacock, Bureau of Reclamation

John Beam, GWD-Consultant

Ara Azhderian, Panoche Drainage District

Miguel Gonzalez, Panoche Drainage District

Kaitlyn Allen, USBR Fresno

Jason Pieltier – Via Telephonic

**1. Opportunity for Public Comment**

No public comments were made.

**2. Committee to Consider Approval of October 20, 2017 Meeting Minutes**

No Minutes

**3. Committee to Consider Acceptance of Financial Expenditures Report**

Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan presented the Financial Report for the period 12/13/17, and updated the committee on various financial matters including receivables, cash activity, budget to actual and estimated expenses comparison. Member Tom Teixeira moved to accept the Financial Expenditures Report as presented. The motion was seconded by

Approved 1/26/2018

Alternate Member Michael Linneman and passed unanimously.

AYES: Cory, Teixeira, Hurd, Linneman

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

**4. Committee to Consider Authorizing Submittal of Comments to the State Water Resources Control Board on the Proposed Changes to the Eastern San Joaquin River Watershed General Order.**

Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan explained a group of Coalitions are joining together to develop and submit comments to the State Water Resources Control Board on the Proposed Changes to the Eastern San Joaquin River Watershed General Order that are due a week from today. Diane Rathmann explained counsel for the Coalitions have agreed to support the Eastside Coalition on its comments. A fact sheet on the State Water Board Second Proposed Order Revising the Eastern San Joaquin Agricultural General Waste Discharge Requirements was distributed for the Committee's review. It was requested comments be circulated to the committee. After a lengthy discussion to develop comments from the GBDSC, Committee Member Kevin Hurd moved to Authorize Submittal of Comments to the State Water Resources Control Board on the Proposed Changes to the Eastern San Joaquin River Watershed General Order. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Tom Teixeira and passed unanimously. The vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES: Cory, Teixeira, Hurd, Linneman

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

**4. Committee to Consider Participation in the Northern Management Practices Effectiveness Program Group Agreement.**

Diane Rathmann stated it was necessary to make a clerical change to the Agenda item. Rathmann requested the wording strike "San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority Participation" since the GBDSC has a line item for this in its Budget. Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan explained the need for the Management Practices Effectiveness Program (MPEP) and to combine efforts with the other organizations listed on the agreement. McGahan noted the work is budgeted through the GBSC.

Alternate Member Michael Linneman moved to join the MPEP Group and Authorize Executive Director (Jason Peltier) to execute the Agreement. The motion was seconded by Member Tom Teixeira and passed unanimously. The vote on the motion was as follows:

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

**5. Committee to Receiver Report and Provide Direction on Long-Term Storm Water Management Plan.**

Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan gave a 35 minute power-point presentation on the purpose and need for long-term storm water management plan. A few key points are: need to remove sediment from the San Luis Drain to increase capacity, possible changes to the Basin Plan in reference to the selenium objective and or a new Use Agreement for Waste Discharge Requirements. McGahan then discussed the environmental issues and the environmental documents needed to be completed along with many Stakeholder issues. McGahan responded to questions.

**6. Committee to Review and Consider Approval of FY18/19 Budget.**

Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan referred to a copy of the Fiscal Year 2018 (FY18) Budget in today's meeting packet. McGahan then reviewed the FY 18 Budget with the Committee in detail and responded to questions.

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

Ara Azhderian discussed the meeting schedule and discussion items for a SJRIP committee Meeting in late January 2018.

**8. Grassland Bypass Project Updates**

- a. Operations Report – No Report
- b. Volumes and Loads Report – No Report
- c. Monitoring Program and Toxicity Data – No Report
- d. San Luis Drain Sediment Removal – 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 – No Report
- b. Review Timelines – No Report

Approved 1/26/2018

- II. **Update on the Westside Regional Drainage Plan.**
  - a. Update on Grants – No Report
  - Update on Treatment Pilot Studies – No Report
  
12. **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 – No Report
  
13. **Drainage Coordinator’s Report**  
No Report
  
14. **Reports from District Representatives – No Report**
  
15. **Date and Time of Next Meeting**  
The next regularly scheduled meeting is January 18, 2018 at 9:30 a.m.
  
16. **Closed Session**  
General Counsel, Diane Rathmann stated a Closed Session was not necessary.
  
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 given.
  
19. **Adjournment**  
Vice-Chairman David Cory adjourned the meeting of the Grassland Basin Drainers Steering Committee at 11:29 a.m.