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

APRIL 1, 2024

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

Cannon Michael
William Bourdeau

Division 1

Anthea Hansen, Alternate

Division 2

Bill Diedrich, Member - Lon Martin, Alternate

Division 3

Chris White, Member

Division 4

Vince Gin, Member (via ZOOM)

Division 5

Manny Amorelli, Alternate

Board of Directors Present

Division 1

Anthea Hansen, Director

Division 2

William Bourdeau, Director
Bill Diedrich, Director/Vice-Chair - Lon Martin, Alternate

Division 3

Chris White, Alternate
Cannon Michael, Director/Chair

Division 4

Joe Tonascia, Director

Division 5

Manny Amorelli, Director

Authority Representatives Present

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

Others Present

Steve Stadler, San Luis Water District
Tom Boardman, Westlands Water District (via ZOOM)
Justin Diener, Westlands Water District (via ZOOM)
Wilson Orvis, Friant Water Authority

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 March 4, 2024 Meeting Minutes.

Chair William Bourdeau deemed the March 4, 2024 meeting minutes approved as submitted.

5. Recommendation to Board of Directors to Adopt Staff Recommendation for Positions on Legislation.

- A. S. 3830 (Padilla), Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program Establishment Act - Support & Amend
- B. AB 2302 (Addis), Open Meeting: local agencies: teleconferences - Favor
- C. AB 2060 (Soria), Lake and Streambed alteration agreements: exemptions – Watch & Amend
- D. SB 1156 (Hurtado), Groundwater Sustainability Agencies: financial disclosures – Watch & Amend
- E. SB 1390 (Caballero), Groundwater recharge: floodflows: diversion – Watch & Amend

Water Policy Director Scott Petersen reviewed the memo included in the packet. Petersen and General Counsel Rebecca Akroyd answered Committee member questions.

On a motion of Member Chris White, seconded by Member Bill Diedrich, the Committee adopted staff recommendation for positions on Legislation. The vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES: Michael, Bourdeau, Hansen, Diedrich, White, Gin, Amorelli
NAYS: None
ABSTENTIONS: None

5. **Executive Director’s Report.**

- a. **O’Neill Pumping Plant (OPP) Outage** – Executive Director Federico Barajas introduced Chief Operating Officer Pablo Arroyave to provide a brief update. Arroyave reported that the OPP Outage has been delayed. Arroyave reported that the Authority will meet with Reclamation to find a time this summer or early fall to schedule the outage.
- b. **South of Delta Drought Plan MOU** - Executive Director Federico Barajas reported that the MOU has been executed, and the focus is now on implementation.
- c. **JPP Excitation Repayment** – Executive Director Federico Barajas introduced Chief Operating Officer Pablo Arroyave to provide a brief update regarding JPP Excitation Project repayment contract negotiations. Arroyave reported that the Authority will receive up to \$25 million BIL funding, with a 27-year repayment term, upfront funding, and six separate repayment schedules.
- d. **Board Meeting** – Executive Director Federico Barajas reported that Commissioner of Bureau of Reclamation Camille Touton will be in attendance this Thursday, as well as at the Solar Over Canals event at O’Neill Pumping Plant later that day.

6. **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, Voluntary Agreements, the Water Quality Control Plan update, Reclamation Manual updates, the San Joaquin Valley Blueprint, and the San Joaquin Valley Collaborative Action Program. Petersen answered Committee questions throughout the presentation.

7. **Update on Water Operations and Forecasts.**

Westlands Water District’s Tom Boardman reported on Shasta storage and described

current release operations as the reservoir transitions out of flood control storage space encroachment. A comparison was made to the current refill trend and Reclamation's median forecast. Folsom storage was also reported, including the status of the snowpack that is beginning to runoff in the watershed.

Delta operations and the current export constraints were explained. Boardman also described how the recent order regarding the Interim Operations Plan could affect export operations during April and May.

Near-term and long-term San Luis reservoir storage projections were explained. The explanation included a review of two charts that compared Reclamation's recent operations forecasts and alternative operations that could support an increased Ag allocation.

Boardman briefly responded to questions regarding how Reclamation might be persuaded to modify its demand projections used in its forecast, the differences between a 90% and 50% exceedance forecast late in the precipitation season, the possibility of CVP San Luis refilling later in April, and the effects of fall X2 later this year.

8. Committee Member Reports.

No reports.

6. Closed Session

Committee Chair William Bourdeau adjourned the open session to address the items listed on the Closed Session Agenda at approximately 11:15 a.m. Upon return to open session at approximately 11:51 a.m., Chair William Bourdeau reported that no reportable actions were taken in closed session.

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

No reports.

10. Agenda Item 14: Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:52 a.m.