

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

MAY 13, 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 10:02 a.m. at 842 6th Street in Los Banos, California, with Acting Chair Chris White presiding.

**Water Resources Committee Members Present**

**Ex-Officio**

Absent

**Division 1**

Anthea Hansen, Alternate

**Division 2**

Lon Martin, Alternate

**Division 3**

Chris White, Member

**Division 4**

Vince Gin, Member - Jeff Cattaneo, Alternate

**Division 5**

Manny Amorelli, Alternate

**Board of Directors Present**

**Division 1**

Anthea Hansen, Director

**Division 2**

Justin Diener, Alternate  
Lon Martin, Alternate

**Division 3**

Chris White, Alternate

**Division 4**

Jeff Cattaneo, Director

**Division 5**

Allison Febbo, Director (via ZOOM) - 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**

Dana Jacobson, Valley Water  
Tom Boardman, Westlands Water District (via ZOOM)  
Chase Hurley, Pacheco Water District  
John Wiersma, Henry Miller Reclamation District

**1. Call to Order/Roll Call**

Acting Committee Chair Chris White called the meeting to order and roll was called. General Counsel Rebecca Akroyd confirmed that Board Director Allison Febbo was participating via ZOOM for just cause, in compliance with Government Code section 54953.

**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 April 1, 2024 Meeting Minutes.**

On a motion of Member Anthea Hansen, seconded by Member Lon Martin, the Committee approved the April 1, 2024 meeting minutes. The vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES: Hansen, Lon Martin, White, Gin, Amorelli

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

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

A. AB 2661 (Soria), Electricity: Transmission Facility Planning: Westlands Water District – Support and Amend

B. AB 2079 (Bennett), Groundwater Extraction: Large-Diameter, High-Capacity Water Wells: permits – Oppose Unless Amended

Water Policy Director Scott Petersen provided a brief overview of AB2661. Petersen answered questions from Committee/Board members.

On a motion of Alternate Member Lon Martin, seconded by Member Vince Gin, the Committee adopted staff recommendation for a support and amend position on AB 2661 Legislation. The vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES: Hansen, Lon Martin, White, Gin, Amorelli  
NAYS: None  
ABSTENTIONS: None

Water Policy Director Scott Petersen provided a brief overview of AB2079. Petersen answered questions from Committee/Board members.

After a brief discussion, on a motion of Member Vince Gin, seconded by Alternate Member Chris White, the Committee adopted staff recommendation for an oppose unless amended position on AB 2079 Legislation. The vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES: Hansen, Lon Martin, 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 there may be a potential 45-60-day outage at O’Neill Pumping Plant beginning July 8, 2024, to perform transformer work rescheduled from earlier this spring. Arroyave reported that high delivery demands are anticipated, which would allow demands to be fully met using Jones Pumping Plant. Arroyave reported that minimal loss of San Luis Reservoir storage is anticipated.
- b. **South of Delta Drought Plan MOU** - Executive Director Federico Barajas reported that Reclamation is in the process of working to incorporate the South of Delta Drought Plan Pilot Project into accounting spreadsheet for the San Luis Reservoir.
- c. **Special Board Workshop** – Executive Director Federico Barajas reported that a Special Board Workshop is scheduled Thursday following the Board meeting.

**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, Water Quality Control Plan update, Delta Conveyance Plan, Delta Stewardship Council Delta Plan 5-year review, Water Blueprint for the San Joaquin Valley, and 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 that Shasta storage has declined by 30 TAF but is expected to resume filling its remaining 5% of capacity following a scheduled spring pulse release. Trinity storage was briefly stated contrasting it to the low storage experienced in 2023. Folsom storage was also reported noting that expected snowmelt will fill the reservoir later in May.

Current export pumping rates were reported, including the factors constraining pumping. Boardman also described the conditions of the Interim Operations Plan, which will permit CVP pumping to increase later in the month.

Near-term and long-term San Luis Reservoir storage projections were explained. The explanation included a review of 2 charts that compared Reclamation's recent operations forecasts against projections of CVP San Luis storage by the end of August that will likely occur absent an increase to the Ag allocation.

Boardman briefly responded a question regarding the status of paying back exchanged water to the SWP.

**8. Committee Member Reports.**

No reports.

**6. Closed Session**

Acting Chair Chris White adjourned the open session to address the items listed on the Closed Session Agenda at approximately 10:58 a.m. Upon return to open session at approximately 12:00 p.m., General Counsel Rebecca Akroyd 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 12:01 p.m.