

DRAFT

SAN LUIS & DELTA-MENDOTA WATER AUTHORITY  
MINUTES  
REGULAR WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING  
AND  
JOINT REGULAR WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING AND  
SPECIAL BOARD WORKSHOP  
April 2, 2018

The regular Water Resources Committee and joint regular Water Resources Committee Meeting and special Board Workshop of the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority convened at approximately 10:00 a.m. at 842 6th Street in Los Banos, California with Chair Tom Birmingham presiding.

**Water Resources Committee Members Present**

**Ex-Officio Cannon Michael**

Absent

**Ex-Officio Don Peracchi**

Absent

**Division 1**

Earl Perez, Member - Anthea Hansen, Alternate

**Division 2**

Bill Diedrich, Member

**Division 3**

Chris White, Alternate (joined after item 4)

**Division 4**

Jeff Cattaneo, Alternate for Cindy Kao

**Division 5**

Tom Birmingham, Chair/Member, Steve Stadler, Alternate

**Board of Directors Present**

**Division 1**

Anthea Hansen, Director - Earl Perez, Alternate

**Division 2**

William Diedrich, Director - Lon Martin, Alternate

**Division 3**

Chris White, Alternate for James O'Banion

**Division 4**

Jeff Cattaneo, Alternate for John Tobias

**Division 5**

Tom Birmingham, Director

Steve Stadler, Director

**Authority Representatives Present**

Frances Mizuno, Assistant Executive Director  
Jon Rubin, Interim Executive Director and General Counsel  
Rebecca Akroyd, Deputy General Counsel  
Tom Boardman, Water Resources Engineer

**Others Present**

Dana Jacobson, Santa Clara Valley Water District  
Russ Freeman, Westlands Water District

1. **Call to Order**

Chair Tom Birmingham called the meeting to order and a roll call was held.

2. **The Water Resources Committee Will Consider Corrections or Additions to the Agenda of Items, as authorized by Government Code Section 54950 et seq.**

There were no additions or corrections to the agenda.

3. **Opportunity for Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

4. **Committee to Consider Approval of the February 5, 2018 Meeting Minutes**

The February 5, 2018 meeting minutes of the Water Resources Committee were previously distributed for review. There were no corrections or additions to the meeting minutes. There being no corrections or additions from Committee members, Chair Birmingham pronounced the February 5, 2018 meeting minutes approved as circulated.

5. **Update on Strategic Planning Effort**

Assistant Executive Director Frances Mizuno reported that six proposals were reviewed, and two were selected for further consideration by the group selected my Board chairman Cannon Michael to assist with the strategic planning. Mizuno reminded the Committee that the group consists of Cannon Michael, Rick Gilmore, Gary Kremen, Ric Ortega, Bill Diedrich and Don Peracchi. Mizuno then informed the Committee that the two consultants were invited to an interview on April 9<sup>th</sup>. The Water Resources Committee suggested that the April 9<sup>th</sup> interviews be scheduled as a Special Board workshop to allow participation by the full Board.

6. **California WaterFix Project Update**

Deputy General Counsel Rebecca Akroyd reported that Part II of the proceedings on the petition for change, which focuses on potential impacts to fish and wildlife and public interest, has been proceeding fairly quickly. Akroyd also reported that there will be a rebuttal stage following the completion of the Part II Case in Chief.

7. **Science Investments – Updates on Existing and Anticipated Projects by FY19**

Interim Executive Director and General Counsel Jon Rubin gave a brief overview of the memorandum that was included in the Committee packet, which included three tables of the thirty-two studies that have been considered by State Federal Contractor Water Authority (SFCWA). 1) Table One: Projects that have been approved by SFCWA, and will be completed by the end of June. 2) Table Two: Includes six studies that will proceed on a schedule longer than the end of June. Studies 1-3 will be assigned to State Water Contractors along with the transfer of SFCWA assets. Studies 4-6 will be assigned to the Water Authority with SFCWA assets. 3) Table Three: Includes three studies that will be assigned to State Water Contractors without SFCWA assets. Studies 2-3 were approved by the Authority Board to take over without SFCWA assets. Study 7 will be taken over by the Water Authority with SFCWA assets.

8. **Update on Reinitiation of Consultation on Biological Opinions Issued by National Marine Fisheries Service and United States Fish and Wildlife Service for Long-Term Operations of the Central Valley Project and State Water Project**

Interim Executive Director and General Counsel Jon Rubin reported on the Water Authority's efforts to enter into a contract with the Bureau of Reclamation to provide consultant support for the Reinitiation of Consultation. Rubin reported that the contracts are complete from the Water Authority's and the consultant's perspective, and they are ready to be signed. The Bureau of Reclamation is still reviewing the contract.

Rubin also reported that Reclamation is continuing with the 3 Track process. Track 1: evaluate actions that can be accomplished in a short period of time, potentially including modification to restrictions on South of the Delta to increase water supply, and they are looking at preparing an environmental assessment. Track 2: analyze potential modifications to the continued long-term operation of the federal CVP that maximize water deliveries and increase operational flexibility by addressing the status of listed species in a programmatic environmental impact statement (EIS). Track 3: project-level analysis of activities that include new or modified infrastructure, habitat restoration, other stressors, and/or regulatory changes, as necessary and timely.

9. **Closed Session**

Chair Tom Birmingham adjourned the open session to address the items listed on the Closed Session Agenda at approximately 10:50 a.m. Upon return to open session at approximately 11:35 a.m., Interim

Executive Director and General Counsel Jon Rubin reported that there were no reportable actions taken in closed session.

10. **Reports Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2**

No report given.

11. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:40 a.m.