



**VIDEO CONFERENCE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
JULY 14, 2021
MINUTES**

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Gene Bays called the meeting to order at 8:34 a.m. Board Members present were Zach Maring, Jim Jasper, Jarod Lara and Kyle Perez, and participating via Zoom was Board Member Pete Lucich.

2. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

3. ADDITIONS/REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA

Anthea indicated that after the Closed Session and Action Items, she would like to move Agenda Item 13 in front of the Manager's Report to accommodate the Executive Director of the San Luis and Delta Mendota Water Authority, Federico Barajas, who would personally give the SLDMWA Monthly Report.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR

The Minutes from the Board Meeting of 6/16/21, Monthly Accounting Reports as of 6/30/21, and Field Operations Report for June 2021 were provided in advance for the Board's review. The Board approved the Consent Calendar per roll call vote as follows:

Ayes:	Bays, Perez, Maring, Lara, Lucich and Jasper
Nays:	None
Abstentions:	None
Absent	Koster

Note: Board Member Koster arrived at 8:44 a.m. after the Consent Calendar roll call vote.

5. CLOSED SESSION

Conference with Special Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation

There was nothing to report on this item.

Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation

Upon return from Closed Session, Anthea reported that the Board received an update from Legal Counsel on (1) case of existing litigation as posted on the Agenda.

6. ACTION ITEMS

A. Board to Consider Resolution Certifying an Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration Under CEQA for the Transfer of Water from Mapes Ranch Transfer

Anthea provided a copy of the CEQA notice filed at Stanislaus County for the Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration Under CEQA for the Transfer of Water from Mapes Ranch Transfer. She reported that the District did not receive any comments within the comment period and had published the notice in the local newspaper. After review and discussion of the resolution, the Board approved by roll call the Resolution Certifying and Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration under CEQA for the Transfer of Water from Mapes Ranch Transfer as follows:

Ayes:	Bays, Perez, Maring, Lara, Lucich, Koster and Jasper
Nays:	None
Abstentions:	None
Absent	None

B. Board to Consider Resolution and Final Form of Warren Act Contract for the Use of Excess Capacity in Federal Facilities to Convey and Store Supplies Acquired from the Mapes Ranch Transfer

Anthea provided the Temporary Contract Between the USA and Del Puerto Water District Providing for Storage and/or Water Conveyance of Non-Project Water pertaining to the transfer of water from the Mapes Ranch Transfer. After review and discussion, the Board approved by roll call the Resolution and Final Form of Warren Act Contract for the Use of Excess Capacity in Federal Facilities to Convey and Store Supplies Acquired from the Mapes Ranch Transfer as follows:

Ayes: Bays, Perez, Maring, Lara, Lucich, Koster and Jasper
Nays: None
Abstentions: None
Absent: None

7. MANAGER'S REPORT

This item was covered in item 13.A.

8. WATER OPERATIONS & SUPPLY

A. CVP/SWP Operations

This item was covered in item 13.A.

B. Monthly Supply/Use/Completed Transactions Summary Report as of 6/30/21

Adam reported in-District use for the month of June at 6,918 AF. Anthea shared that the current supply equaled about a foot to the acre and that incomplete transfers are not reflected in the supply until fully approved/transferred.

C. 2021-22 Additional Supplies Update

Anthea reported that about 8,000 AF had been allocated to customer accounts and that about 6,000 AF was still needed to fulfill all the requests and indicated she continued to pursue all avenues possible to obtain supplemental water.

D. Landholding / Licensing Updates

Anthea reported that there was nothing to report on this item.

9. RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

A. Westside Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Activities

Anthea asked if any members of the public had comments. Being none, she indicated there was nothing to report on this item.

B. SJVDA/Westside San Joaquin River Watershed Coalition Report(s)

Adam provided and reviewed a presentation handout from the Drainage Authority pertaining to CV-Salts and the regulatory background related to the Nitrate Management Plan for the Central Valley as well as provided a Water Quality Value Exceedances Report and a WSJRWK Work Task Progress. Adam reported that they had been looking at nitrates in groundwater. He indicated that the State was going to start requiring actions based on priority areas where there are impacts, the District fell under the Priority Area 2. Priority 1 areas will essentially be the example as to how to comply. He believed that the Area 2 will be given notice to comply sometime next year. It is likely that the State Board will be relying on the data that is provided through the Irrigation and Nitrogen Management Plans reports that are provided each year. He added that exceedances in some of the local creeks in our area had been found and the constituents responsible (not located in our area) had started receiving fines. He reviewed the Exceedance reports showing the repetitive exceedances month to month.

C. Sustainable Groundwater Management Activities

Adam provided the SWR/SWRCB GSP Assessment Q&A Session from June 24th and reported that four (4) GSPs had been responded to, with two (2) being accepted and two (2) receiving requests for revisions and additional actions from the GSP in order to be accepted. Adam believed it wouldn't be until next year before acceptance of the District's GSP is approved as it is one of the more complicated ones. He also included the neighboring's GSP as an example of what would be expected from our GSP annual reports. Anthea also shared

that Staff had been working to put together plans on how to continue to advance our SGMA efforts and hoped that the Board Members would be ready after harvest to have SGMA meetings once a month. She is still determining whether to combine the monthly Board Meetings and SGMA meetings together on the same day/time.

D. Remote Telemetry Project – Update

Adam reported that he continued to work with users that had access to the data and a few challenges came up on utilization of the system and data reporting and continued to move forward with those challenges.

E. ADLP / SRF Loan Program Update

Anthea reported that the State Board came back and indicated that the District's scoring did qualify for their criteria for potential aid under the ADLP or SRF loan programs and that the SWRCB was in the process of determining what additional data they might need for the District's application package. The current challenge is finding a program which would support infrastructure improvements "on-farm" and still being able to achieve environmental compliance requirements that now have to be met.

10. FINANCIAL MATTERS

A. Balance Sheet Analysis for the 2nd Quarter Ending 5.31.21

Anthea provided and reviewed the Balance Sheet Analysis for the 2nd Quarter Ending 5/31/21.

B. FY 2020-21 Audit Update

Minnie shared that Staff forwarded the financial data to the Auditor and hoped to have it completed and presented at the August Board of Directors Meeting.

C. CVP Financial Matters

Anthea reported that the CVPWA had recently sent a letter to the Deputy Commissioner of the BOR, asking for continued efforts toward finalizing the Business Practice Guidelines on the accounting practices for CVPIA Programs. The letter was also provided for the Board's review.

11. SUPPLY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

A. Orestimba Creek Recharge & Recovery Project – Update

Anthea asked if there were any comments from the public on Section 11 of the Agenda. Being none, Adam provided the Agenda to the July 8th meeting and reported that furthering the discussions of the environmental documentation and getting a design to 30% were the current items being worked on. He added that one of the current issues was trying to define where the extraction wells would be located. Anthea added that they are working with consultants to develop a CEQA study to bring to the Board for approval which would support the approval of the fully implemented OCRRP.

B. Del Puerto Canyon Reservoir Project – Update

Anthea provided the July Progress Report of July from Woodard & Curran and reported that they continued to work on, the NEPA Environmental Review Process with Reclamation, operations modeling, and continued work on financial assistance and funding agreements. Congressman Harder also reached out to the District to verify that previous funding awarded to the project had been received and since they had not, he was planning to reach out to the USBR since it had been 2 years since Congress had made the first award. A 2nd round of funding from the WSIP program from the California Water Commission is being looked into. Anthea also provided a Request for Qualifications and shared that it invites firms to prove their qualification to submit on a request for proposal, which had not been issued, for the engineering services to get the dam design up to a 30% level so that the cost of the project can be better known.

C. Los Vaqueros Reservoir Expansion Project - Update

Anthea provided and discussed a letter from Congress to Speaker Pelosi requesting that Phase 2 Los Vaqueros Reservoir Expansion Project be given the highest level of funding support in the infrastructure bill. A Los Vaqueros Monthly Report and Near-Term Milestones Report were also provided and discussed with the Board.

D. BF Sisk Dam Raise Project – Update

Anthea shared that this item was discussed with Item 13.A. and updated the Board that if anyone was travelling down HWY 152, anytime between 9 p.m. and 5 a.m. was closed down to one lane on both sides due to geotechnical work.

E. Pacheco Reservoir Expansion – Update

An update on the Pacheco Reservoir Expansion was provided for the Board to review.

F. Ceres-DPWD-Turlock Discussions on Advancing Recycled Water into NVRWP Facilities

Anthea reported that there had not been recent discussions with the City of Ceres, was expecting there would be soon.

12. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES

A. 2021 Election Update

Anthea asked if there were any comments from the member of the public. Being none, she reminded the Board that this was an election year for Divisions 1, 3, and 6. The newspaper notice was duly published the week prior and she encouraged current members to fill out their application if interested in continuing to serve on the Board.

An update from Young Wooldridge on Covid-19 indicated that the District was currently complying.

She also wanted to update the Board that the District had hired Paul Stearns and will be starting on September 7th and arranged for both Paul and Adam to obtain the titles of Deputy Manager.

13. SLDMWA Report

A. SLDMWA Minutes, Reports and Issues Updates

Anthea asked if there were any questions from the public. Being none, she introduced SLDMWA's Executive Director, Federico Barajas, who attended the meeting to give updates on the current status of the SLDMWA and discussed CVP and SWP operations and BF Sisk Dam Raise Project. He also emphasized the need for water infrastructure and mentioned the outreach to our elected officials in Sacramento and DC as well as partnerships with other national organizations. After the update, Federico asked if there were any questions to which Director Koster mentioned many years ago, the Delta-Mendota would be drained to clean sediment buildup and since it had been a while, he asked if sediment buildup caused flow impediments. Federico indicated that data was being gathered via aerial shots and surveys that would show what flows have been through the years and make comparisons to determine the scenario as a whole which included repairs and utilities of the canal in general. Until that data can be gathered, there is no set timeline. President Bays asked if there were any other questions for Mr. Barajas. Director Lara requested a simple explanation on the 1.25 million AF of carryover. Federico explained that both the State Water Project and CVP Project are subject to regulatory requirements to operate. This year, as a result of the operations plan that Reclamation put together, they requested a Temporary Urgency Permit from the State Board and a conditional approval was given. The State Board agreed to relax the water quality standards in the Delta with the condition that they comply with all the regulatory requirements being imposed, one of them being a guarantee from the Bureau of Reclamation that they must keep enough water at Shasta through the end of September (1.25 million AF) as a carryover for the following year. Anthea asked Federico if he knew what the target was to avoid a Critical Year status next year and he indicated that he had not heard a number but were focused on how to avoid breaking the system as it is still unknown where it will end up. Federico added that due to the absence of CVP carryover for the next year, obtaining water transfers was critical for survival as well as any other opportunity that presented itself for additional water supplies. Federico also shared that since he took his position with the Water Authority, his goal was to keep everyone working positively together and praised Anthea for being a strong advocate of collaboration instead of litigation. Anthea thanked Federico for attending and giving his update and welcomed him to the District office and to attend Board Meetings any time.

14. ARTICLES/CORRESPONDENCE/PUBLIC OUTREACH

An update letter on the District's NVRWP donation to the Tuolumne River Conservancy, a Public Records Act Request for any water purchased by DPWD from Lucas Law and the response from Young Wooldridge, and a CalPERS article on Investment Returns were provided for review.

15. CLOSED SESSION

There was no closed session.

16. ITEMS TO DISCUSS PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE 54954.2

There was nothing to report on this item.

17. ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:42 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Anthea G. Hansen
Secretary