



**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
NOVEMBER 20, 2024
MINUTES**

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Koster called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m. Board Members present were Peter Lucich, Zach Maring, Kyle Perez, Jarod Lara, and Jim Jasper.

2. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

President Koster asked if there was any member of the public that would like to make a public comment. No members of the public were present to comment.

3. ADDITIONS/REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA

Anthea requested to have the Monthly Accounting Reports pulled from the Consent Calendar in order to allow discussion on that report.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR

The Minutes from the Regular Board Meeting of October 16, 2024 and the Monthly Field Operations Reports for October 2024 were provided in advance for the Board's review. The Board approved the Consent Calendar Items as follows:

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

Anthea reported that payment was received prior to the noticed deadline for APN 026-013-017. She reported that the delinquency was now resolved and staff would be preparing a lien release. She also reviewed and discussed other 90+ day delinquencies. After review and discussion, the Board approved the Monthly Accounting Reports for October 2024 as follows:

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

5. ACTION ITEMS

A. Board, on Behalf of the DM-II GSA, to Review and Consider a Resolution Adopting the Third Amendment to the Northern Delta-Mendota Region Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Services Activity Agreement and Consent of SS-MOA Participants

Adam provided, reviewed, and discussed the Third Amendment to the Northern Delta-Mendota Region Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Services Activity Agreement and Consent of SS-MOA Participants. After review and discussion, the Board approved the Third Amendment to the Northern Delta-Mendota Region Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Services Activity Agreement and Consent of SS-MOA Participants as follows:

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

Note: Board Member Bays arrived at 8:34 a.m.

- B. Board, on Behalf of the DM-II GSA, to Review and Consider an Approval of the Amended and Restated Cost Sharing Agreement for Delta-Mendota Subbasin Coordination
Adam provided, reviewed, and discussed the Amended and Restated Cost Sharing Agreement for Delta-Mendota Subbasin Coordination. After review and discussion, the Board approved the Amended and Restated Cost Sharing Agreement Delta-Mendota Subbasin Coordination as follows:

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

6. MANAGER'S REPORT

Anthea provided the SLDMWA Update on Water Policy/Resources Activities and reported that Reclamation released the final Environmental Impact Statement on the Coordinated Long-Term Operations of the CVP & SWP the week prior and that the comment period will end in December. A Record of Decision will be issued following the comment period and that would approve a new set of Project operating criteria in the Delta. Anthea also reported that the SWRCB would be holding a series of six public workshops on the draft updates to the Water Quality Control Plan. Anthea reported that the Sites project had cleared their CEQA challenges and are now facing protests on their water rights application on the Sacramento River. President Koster asked Anthea about her trip to Washington D.C. and Anthea reported on the events she attended. She reported that while there she held a meeting with the Bureau of Reclamation staff pertaining to the Bureau's interest in the Del Puerto Canyon Reservoir for the South-of-Delta Drought Resiliency Plan. She noted that follow-up meeting will be held on that Friday in Sacramento.

7. WATER OPERATIONS & SUPPLY

A. CVP/SWP Operations

Anthea provided and reviewed a 2024-25 San Luis Storage Project Graph showing a 50% and 90% Exceedance Hydrology. She noted that the more likely forecast projected that San Luis Reservoir will fill in February or early March.

B. Monthly Supply/Use/Completed Transactions Summary Report as of 10.31.24

Paul provided and discussed the monthly Supply/Use/Completed Transactions Summary Report as of 10/31/24 and reported in-District use for the month of October of 4,970 AF with an additional 22 AF of transfers out. Year to date use and scheduled use for the remainder of the 2024-25 water year totaled 87,363 AF, leaving 25,243 AF estimated for Rescheduling into 2025-26.

C. 2024-25 Additional Supplies Update

Anthea provided and reviewed a 2024-25 Additional Supplies Pool Report.

D. Landholding/Licensing Updates

Paul provided and reviewed the Active Permits and Licenses Report showing seven active permits and one active license.

E. 2024-25 SLCC Transfer – Status Update

F. Anthea reported that the District continued to work with Reclamation on the approval needed to perfect a transfer of CVP supplies to Triangle T as part of the off-ramp for the SLCC Transfer.

8. RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

A. Westside Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Activities

Anthea reported that the Draft Disadvantaged Communities Water Needs Assessment was still being updated to identify and prioritize the most critical drinking water needs for DACs in the region. She also reported that the District currently has a Round 2 IRWM grant that has been used to support the Geotechnical Interpretive Report for Del Puerto Canyon Reservoir and that Staff planned to provide all of the grant deliverables and receive all reimbursements by the end of the District's fiscal year.

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

Adam provided the Agendas for the November 5th SJVDA Board Meeting and the November 7th Valley Water Collaborative Delta-Mendota Basin Advisory Committee meeting. He reported that the committee members agreed to establish a 12-person committee with 6 representatives from the Ag Sector, 2 from the cities, 2 from

food producers, and 1 each from dairy and poultry. Ag would be responsible for 65% of the cost of developing the management zones and plan with the other sectors sharing the remaining 35%. He also reported that the Board approved a contract to have Summers Engineering to facilitate the transition of management, financial, and administrative services that were previously facilitated by the SLDMWA, and that Joe McGahan had been appointed as the Executive Director of the SJVDA.

C. Sustainable Groundwater Management Activities

Adam provided the Agenda for the October 23rd Special Northern Delta-Mendota Region Management Committee Meeting, October 28th Special Meeting of the Delta-Mendota Subbasin Coordination Committee, the November 1st Special Joint Meeting of the Delta-Mendota Subbasin Coordination Committee and Northern Delta-Mendota Region Management Committee, the November 6th Special Northern Delta-Mendota Region Management Committee Meeting, as well as, the minutes from the previous Committee meetings. He also provided and reviewed a copy of the Northern Delta-Mendota Region Pumping Reduction Plan that the District would begin implementing January 1, 2025. He reported that the primary focus of the subbasin was completion of the Pumping Reduction Plans by the other GSP regions and on preparation for the SWRCB Staff Report on the new GSP. Adam also reported that the subbasin program coordinator, John Brodie, had recently retired from the SLDMWA and the subbasin was working to establish a new program coordinator and determine a new structure for implementing SGMA outside of the SLDMWA.

D. SGM Implementation Grant – Round 1 Monthly Grant Administrator Update

Anthea noted that the District is the Grant Administrator for the subbasin wide grant and was waiting for the Grant Amendment.

E. Groundwater Well Remote Telemetry Program (2023-24 WaterSMART Grant)

Adam reported that after reviewing the contract with Sierra Controls, he identified cost savings that would necessitate a redesign. He will be working with the vendor and will provide updated information at the December Board of Directors meeting.

9. FINANCIAL MATTERS

Anthea provided and discussed the SWRCB annual fee for the water rights held by the USBR in support of the CVP. She noted that the cost continues to increase and that anyone with an appropriate water right in California has to pay this fee, although fees passed through to CVP Contractors are disproportionately high because the CVP holds more water rights than it is contracted to provide.

A. CVP Financial Matters

There was no discussion on this item.

10. SUPPLY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

A. Orestimba Creek Recharge and Recovery Project – Update

Adam provided and discussed a memo and map of identified extraction well locations for the OCRRP. He reported that a meeting was held with CCID to review the outstanding items and implementation plan. Paul Stearns provided and discussed a San Joaquin Valley Notice of Violation for open burning - illegal burn for burning of the tree debris stored on site from the removal of the Salazar orchard in conjunction with the installation of the project pipeline, as well as, a response letter from the District to the Air Board indicating the fire was a result of vandalism in the area.

B. Del Puerto Canyon Reservoir Project – Update

Anthea provided Woodard & Curran, TYLin and Terra-GeoPentech monthly updates and reported that the Technical Review Board and the design team had met that week at the District office to discuss the 30% design. The project was on schedule to meet the objectives for the year, which included road realignment and utility line relocation design. She noted that she was actively trying to access federal transportation funding for the road realignment and continued to focus on ways to fund the project. A meeting with Reclamation was scheduled to discuss potential participation under the South-of-Delta Drought Resiliency Program. She also reported that a court date for the CEQA challenges would also be announced soon.

C. Los Vaqueros Reservoir Expansion Project

Anthea provided and a Discussion Item Report and reviewed potential next steps for the LVE JPA following Contra Costa Water District's Board decision to no longer participate in the LVE Project, as well as, letters from

herself as the chair of the JPA, BBID, and several members of Congress to the CCWD Board requesting that they delay their decision to no longer participate in the project.

D. BF Sisk Dam Raise Project – Update

Anthea reported that she would be attending a final negotiation session with the Bureau for the BF Sisk Dam Raise Project in Sacramento that Friday. She reported that once finalized, the Cost Share & Management Agreement will go to the solicitor's office in Washington D.C. The next steps for this project include determining the plan for the coming fiscal year and developing plans and obtaining funding for moving HWY 152.

E. Ceres – DPWD – Turlock Discussions on Advancing Recycled Water into NVRWP Facilities – Update

Anthea reported that she continued to hold monthly meetings with the City of Ceres to discuss their plans for developing a tertiary treatment facility and how that could be incorporated into the NVRWP. She also reported that the Policy Committee of the NVRWP JPA will need to have a meeting in the near future to discuss admitting the City of Ceres into the JPA.

F. Coordination with Local Agencies on Regional SGMA Projects - Update

Anthea reported that she had a meeting scheduled for the next week with the City of Modesto regarding developing a regional treatment facility with some of the neighboring communities like the City of Patterson.

11. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES

A. Training Updates

Anthea reminded a few Board Members to complete their mandatory training. Adam provided a Certificate of Completion for the 2024 CSDA Board Secretary / Clerk Conference and shared his experience at the Conference.

B. Staffing Updates

Adam reported that he continued to develop the job description for the new position and would return at the December meeting with an update.

C. Local Hazard Mitigation Plan 5-Year Update

Adam reported that the public stakeholder meeting did not have to coincide with a DPWD BOD meeting and that he decided to postpone the meeting to later in December to not conflict with some ongoing District activities.

12. SLDMWA REPORT

A. SLDMWA Minutes, Reports, and Issues Updates

Anthea provided the SLDMWA Minutes and Operations Report. She also provided and reviewed an update on the SLDMWA Strategic Plan Implementation.

B. Upper Delta-Mendota Canal Subsidence Correction Project

Anthea provided and discussed a Delta-Mendota Canal Planning Committee presentation and a DMC Subsidence Correction Project Status Update presentation.

13. ARTICLES / CORRESPONDENCE / PUBLIC OUTREACH

A news release was provided pertaining to the signing of the consensus for the B.F. Sisk Dam Raise and Reservoir Expansion Project, an article titled "Probation Hearing for Tulare County Groundwater Region Canceled", "To Avoid State Intervention, Stanislaus County Oks Plan to Reduce Groundwater Pumping", a Family Farm Alliance November Report, and a California Farm Water Coalition Program and Activities Update were provided for the Board's review.

14. CLOSED SESSION

No closed session was held; however, Anthea provided and discussed a letter detailing that existing litigation challenging use of the 2005 BiOps for the previous round of CVP contracts was not arbitrary and capricious and those contracts would stand. She noted that those contracts have since been replaced with the permanent contract developed through the WIN Act and this closed session item will be removed from future meetings.

15. REPORTS PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE 54954.2

There were no reports pursuant to Government Code 54954.2

16. ADJOURMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Anthea G. Hansen
Secretary