



**VIDEO CONFERENCE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
JUNE 16, 2021
MINUTES
REVISED**

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, and Jarod Lara and Board Members connected via Zoom video conference were Bill Koster and Kyle Perez.

2. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Anthea introduced and welcomed Russel Fowler, Field Representative to Supervisor Condit, who was joining via Zoom. Mr. Fowler expressed empathy to the current lack of water supplies and shared that he and Supervisor Condit looked forward to the presentation that Anthea would be giving them later that afternoon. He added that Supervisor Condit's office has an open-door policy and welcomed any questions or comments. Being none, the meeting continued.

3. ADDITIONS/REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA

Anthea indicated the removal of Item 10. A. from the Agenda in the Financial Section. This item will be revisited at the July BOD meeting.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR

The Minutes from the Board Meeting of 5/19/21, Monthly Accounting Reports as of 5/31/21, and Field Operations Report for May 2021 were provided in advance for the Board's review. The Board approved the Consent Calendar per roll call vote as follows:

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

5. CLOSED SESSION

Conference with Special Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation

Upon return from closed session, Anthea reported that the Board had an update from Staff on 2 cases of existing litigation as posted on the Agenda.

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.

She also reported that the Board acted on one item listed on the Agenda regarding the terms of a Water Transfer Agreement with Homer, LLC, which was approved unanimously per roll call vote. The Board also gave Staff guidance for continued negotiations on the terms of a draft agreement for conveyance and exchange of water, as well as guidance for the terms of an operations agreement for the operations of the Orestimba Creek Recharge and Recovery Project. Anthea then asked if there were any comments or questions from the public. Being none, the meeting continued.

6. ACTION ITEMS

A. Board to Consider Treasurer's Report for the 1st Quarter Ending 5.31.21

Anthea provided and reviewed the Treasurer's Report for the 1st Quarter Ending 5.31.21. She added that any bank statements or reports were available upon request. After review and discussion, the Board approved the Treasurer's Report for the 1st Quarter Ending 5.31.21 by roll call as follows:

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

- B. Board to Consider Recommendation to Replace Zach Maring as the District's Representative to the SJVDA Board
Anthea reported that Director Maring had recently requested to step down from the SJVDA Board in order to join the SLDMWA Water Resources Committee Board to replace Director Koster, who had previously requested to be replaced as he did not feel he would be able to attend meetings or be fully present. After discussion, the Board approved Director Maring's resignation from the SJVDA Board and recommended he take the seat as the new representative to the SLDMWA Water Resources Committee replacing Director Koster, and further recommended SJVDA Alternate Adam Scheuber be appointed now as the Representative , with Director Lara as the alternate, as follows:

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

- C. Board to Consider Appointment to Replace Bill Koster as DPWD's Representative to the SLDMWA Water Resources Committee
This item was covered in Item 6.B.

7. MANAGER'S REPORT

Anthea provided the SLMWA Update on Water Policy/Resources Activities and reported that most of the recent focus was on operations and that items such as Biological Opinions, Litigation, Water Quality Control Plan activities, DWR's Delta Conveyance Projects, have been paused for the moment as State and Federal Legislation was currently focusing on infrastructure. She shared that she and Chris White had several visits in the past ten days with Federal and State Representatives trying to position themselves correctly for available funding from the State's Budget Funding Surplus as well as the upcoming federal funding opportunities that will become available in the near future. Anthea also shared that they had hosted an in-person tour with Nancy Vogel, the Deputy Director of California Natural Resources Agency and that about a month prior to that, Congressman Harder held a meeting with the heads of Water Commissions, California Natural Resources Agency, DWR and the Governor's office as he expressed his thinking that the State should become a part of funding the next phase of environmental studies and activities needed in the next 18 months to bring DPCR to a point where it can be determined if there is a project to build. She reported that Congressman Harder's meeting proved to be a positive for the project as outreach and follow-up from it continued and she believed the DPCR would be eligible for funding.

8. WATER OPERATIONS & SUPPLY

A. CVP/SWP Operations

Anthea reported that toward the end of June, a pilot project will be underway where all the export pumping will be combined at Banks Pumping Plant and the Federal share of water will be delivered to the DMC via the intertie. For the last 6 weeks pumping had been restricted cut to the equivalent of one pump (1,600 AF/Day). This has caused stagnant water issues and algae in the canal. The Operational Forecast showed one pump running through low point in August. A rock barrier had been placed on the West False River in the Delta and some water is being released out of New Melones Reservoir to try and meet water quality requirements. The SWRCB approved the TUCP and reduced the standards and requirements but the operators were still struggling to meet their goals. Tom Boardman's June Operations Update was provided for the Board, which reported that reservoirs are at a lower than average level and lowest levels of carryover on record. As of June 10th, Folsom levels were at 347,000 AF and all reservoirs (except for New Melones) were at record low levels. The main concern was to get the transfer water moved in an attempt to meet demands in operation for this summer. She also provided the exceedance report which showed a negative CVP share in San Luis Reservoir at low point, but hoped the State's storage levels will cover the negative amount.

B. Monthly Supply/Use/Completed Transactions Summary Report as of 5/31/21

Adam reported in-District use for the month of May at 5,572 AF with 500 AF transfers out for the month, for a total of 6,252 AF of use in May. Anthea added that some of the proposed and/or approved transfers have not started moving yet, therefore not included in the report. They will be added to the June Transactions Summary Report in the July Board of Directors meeting.

C. 2021-22 Additional Supplies Update

Anthea reported that the District had 14,247 AF of Additional Supplies Requests, late requests of 140 AF, but that one of the late requests was withdrawn, bringing it back to 14,247 + 10 AF. This withdrawal came with the decision by the landowner not to plant late summer corn. Allocations through the month of May were 5,058 AF of that and 3,000 AF planned for end of June as transfers are finalized. At the end of July 1,620 AF will also be allocated. She hoped that by the end of July, close to 10,000 of the 14,000 requested would be allocated in customer's accounts and that by this time, most of the current year anticipated needs would be met. She added that if the remaining planned transfers proceeded as planned by August and September, she believed that by early fall, all requests will be met. After that, she would like to see if the District can fulfill the 2,000 AF to San Luis Water District, preferably before fall.

D. Landholding / Licensing Updates

Anthea shared that there was not much going on in the landholding area, but that due to so much construction activity in and around the city of Patterson, she was working on setting up a meeting with the SLMDWA and the City of Patterson to discuss the process of decommissioning a turnout. She added that based on the license agreement, the District would be held responsible, but she would like the developers to be responsible for the cost of decommissioning.

9. RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

A. Westside Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Activities

Anthea provided a SLDMWA Staff Report on Activity Agreements and reported that Grant Funding was the main focus for IRWM as well as SGMA.

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

Adam provided a Paperwork Status Update for the Board's review and shared that the Coalition did not hold a meeting in May or June and that they were preparing for their annual reports due in July and trying to obtain all the information needed to complete their task. Notices were mailed and phone calls were being made to those landowners and water users reminding them to turn in their paperwork. Anthea asked what the due dates for these forms were and he indicated that the Farm Evaluation Plan was due March 1, 2021 and the Nitrogen Management Plan was due April 15, 2021.

C. Sustainable Groundwater Management Activities

Adam provided the Agenda to the May 27th meeting and reported that as we are now to the implementation phase of the program, each GSA is working to ensure compliance with the GSP and that the GSP is in compliance with DWR's interpretation of SGMA. DWR had made rulings in a handful of plans and an opinion on the Delta-Mendota GSP to verify that the path currently taken toward sustainability meets with what DWR considers to be the intent of SGMA was being sought. Anthea added that currently, Stanislaus county was changing their groundwater ordinances to require that the GSA's opine on applications on new wells. The County want to be responsible for is making sure wells are constructed in State Standards, and is looking for the GSAs to establish how well applications will be reviewed, approved, or denied. She feels that outreach to the landowners in the District to let them know that changes are coming would be beneficial.

D. Remote Telemetry Project – Update

Adam reported that templates were sent out to users and hoped to get feedback on how useful they are or if they would like to see changes from them soon.

10. FINANCIAL MATTERS

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

This item was postponed until the July Board of Directors Meeting.

B. FY 2020-21 Audit Update

Minnie reported that she was in the process of completing the closing journal entries and was hoping to have the Audit ready for the Board by the July Board meeting.

C. CVP Financial Matters

Anthea reported that a form letter was received from the USBR notifying the District that a lack of water supply this fiscal year could cause the estimated water rates to be understated.

11. SUPPLY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

A. Orestimba Creek Recharge & Recovery Project – Update

Anthea reported that weekly meetings with Provost & Pritchard's advising engineers were currently underway and fieldwork, cultural & Bio studies were in process to get through the CEQA/NEPA process. CCID had selected a well driller to drill some test holes to determine possibilities for extracting the groundwater placed in storage.

B. Del Puerto Canyon Reservoir Project – Update

Anthea provided and reviewed the monthly Progress Report. Meetings with the utility agencies to work on alignments and relocation of PG&E and WAPA lines and an RFQ for possible design engineers will be going out in the near future. Congressman Harder wrote a letter to the Secretary of Interior to urge them to provide funds toward the Project. There were also weekly meetings with the Bureau of Reclamation in an effort to forward the NEPA document, which should be out by July or August. Anthea shared that she was meeting with County Supervisor Condit that afternoon and hoped to encourage them and the City to be partners in looking for some of the opportunities in public benefit and recreation.

C. Los Vaqueros Reservoir Expansion Project - Update

Anthea reported that LVRE was moving along and continued to participate in meetings, and reported that this summer and fall they will finalize the requirements for forming their Joint Powers Agency. Part of that process is to get the agency up and running so it can take over the completion of the project through the permitting and final stages of the project. An update that was presented to the California Water Commission was provided for the Board. She indicated that the District's interest in this project is potentially storage in the Reservoir, but also the opportunity to own part of the Transfer Bethany Pipeline and be able to take opportunities to access available water and avoid the Delta's pumping restrictions. Contra Costa will have water available for sale as well.

D. BF Sisk Dam Raise Project – Update

Anthea shared that the BF Sisk Dam Raise Project continued to work on its environmental documentation and permitting. Some night geotechnical would begin soon.

E. Pacheco Reservoir Expansion – Update

Anthea indicated there was nothing to report on this item and that she continued to follow up on any updates.

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

Anthea reported that she was looking into how to accelerate a project that would get more of the City of Ceres water into the NVRWP facilities. She provided a handout and shared that she had been looking into different funding sources for different grants and loans. She shared that to get Ceres a pump station upgrade, it was estimated to be at \$2.2 million dollars and considered it might be better to obtain a loan instead of applying for grants to cover that cost, as the grant applications usually cost about \$50,000 fee just to apply.

Unrelatedly, she also let the Board know that the failed effort to secure a loan (SRF or ADLP) program through the State had resurfaced and that the District had now been qualified under the point system, subject to environmental work and understandings. She and Adam would be meeting with the State in the next week.

12. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES

A. 2021 Election Update

Anthea reported to the Board that 2021 was an election year. She provided the Board with the current draft election calendar as well as a list of landowners that belonged to each division, and reminded Directors Lara, Lucich and Koster that their terms were up in this year's election cycle and that candidacy applications would be available for them if they wished to apply. She reviewed filing deadlines with the Board as well.

13. SLDMWA Report

A. SLDMWA Minutes, Reports and Issues Updates

Anthea provided the SLDMWA Minutes to the Board and reported that the Authority had proposed a rate recalculation due to short water supplies. The Financial Affairs Committee requested the SLDMWA Board delay the recalculation for an additional month because the difference between the estimated rates at a 5% allocation vs 0% allocation would be negligible to the quantity of transfer water secured was similar to the 0% vs 5% AF, secure. If rates do change, the potential is \$29-\$40/AF vs \$25/AF.

14. ARTICLES/CORRESPONDENCE/PUBLIC OUTREACH

Anthea provided articles from Family Farm Alliance, News Release from SLDMWA on Water Supply Cuts, SJRWA Itinerary to the June 11th tour of their service area, an article from Walt Gray of KCRA news on the need for water storage, and several articles on the current drought. Anthea also announced that she would be posting a notice at the County office on the proposed Mape's Ranch transfer.

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 11:38 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Anthea G. Hansen
Secretary