

SITES PROJECT JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF MEETING

September 4, 2013

Chair Durst called the meeting of the Sites Project Joint Powers Authority (Sites JPA) Board of Directors to order at 1:32 p.m. The meeting was held at Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District's Board Room, 344 East Laurel Street, Willows, California 95988.

Present:

County of Colusa, Kim Dolbow Vann

County of Glenn, Leigh McDaniel

Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District (GCID), Don Bransford

Reclamation District 108 (RD 108), Fritz Durst

Yolo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (YCFC&WD), Ron Tadlock

Absent:

Maxwell Irrigation District

Tehama Colusa Canal Authority

Also Present:

Lewis Bair, Reclamation District 108; Dan Ruiz, MID; Thad Bettner, Mary Spooner Danley, GCID; Jim Bond, Bond Tax and Financial Services; Oscar Serrano, Colusa Indian Community; Lisa Hunter, Glenn County Ag Department; Rob Leaf; CH2M Hill; Ajay Goyal, Sean Sou, Department of Water Resources

Approve Agenda

Director Tadlock moved to approve the agenda, Director McDaniel seconded the motion and the agenda was approved by unanimous vote.

Public Participation

Chair Durst called for public participation and as no one from the public wished to address the Board, the meeting continued.

Minutes

Director Bransford moved to approve the minutes of the August 7, 2013, meeting, Director Tadlock seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Approve Payment of Claims and Accept Treasurer's Report

On motion by Director Bransford, second by Director McDaniel and unanimous vote, payment of claim #1048 in the amount of Seven Hundred Sixty-Five Dollars (\$765.00) was approved.

Jim Bond of Bond Tax and Financial Services presented the Treasurer's Report. Tittle and Company has completed the annual audit and found all finances in order. The Board directed Mr. Bond to request another two-year audit, as an audit for a single year of limited financial activity would far exceed the value achieved by an annual audit. Government Code Section 26909(f) permits the Board of Supervisors by unanimous approval to replace the annual audit with a bi-annual, two-year audit.

There are two outstanding invoices due to CH2M Hill from May and June that are awaiting payment from the Department of Water Resources (DWR). After payment there will be \$16,700 left in the grant funding. Ajay Goyal informed the Board that DWR has released the funds for these two invoices.

Director Vann asked whether the \$5000 being paid by member agencies annually was going to be adjusted or remain the same. It was determined that the annual \$5000 membership contribution would not change and members could use that number for budget planning.

On motion by Director Vann, second by Director McDaniel and unanimous vote, the Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented.

Review Status of \$1.75 Million Proposition 204 Grant and Request for Extension

CH2M Hill was allocated \$1.4 million of the grant for deliverables related to the preparation of the Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Study (EIR/EIS). Currently, all funds under this scope of work have been used, but the EIR/EIS is incomplete. The \$350,000 balance of the grant is for activities of the Sites JPA to meet compliance requirements with DWR and U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. As the estimated end dates are nearing and, in order for the activities under the grant to continue, Sites JPA will need to request an extension from DWR contracting in order to continue and complete the EIR/EIS.

Director Bransford moved and Director McDaniel seconded his motion to direct staff to prepare a letter requesting an extension of the existing grant to November 2014. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Discussion with CH2M Hill on EIR/EIS Status and Budget

At the August 7, 2013, board meeting, staff was directed to send a letter to CH2M Hill directing that all work on the EIR/EIS cease as all available funds from the Proposition 204 grant had been expended. DWR has requested that work on the draft EIR/EIS continue until it is completed. Based on recent conversations between Rob Leaf of CH2M Hill and Sites JPA members' staff, CH2M Hill has indicated a willingness to work with the Sites JPA to develop a process to move forward on completing the draft EIR/EIS despite the immediate lack of funding. Mr. Leaf gave a brief outline of the work left on the remaining chapters and the expected date of completion.

It was suggested that the Sites JPA should make a request for an additional \$2 million of the Proposition 204 Grant monies to cover the additional time and work necessary to complete the EIR/EIS.

After extensive discussion, it was decided that the Sites JPA would exchange letters with CH2M Hill and DWR to specify how billing costs would be covered under the contract. CH2M Hill will resolve funding issues directly with DWR for any amounts over the contracted amount. GCID General Manager Thad Bettner was asked to prepare the letter from Sites JPA.

GOVERNANCE AND INTERNAL ORGANIZATION

Approve 2014 Meeting Dates and Locations

Director Bransford moved to approve the dates for the 2014 board meetings, Director McDaniel seconded the motion, and the motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Staff was directed to look for other facilities to hold the board meetings in the southern region to keep the meetings from always being held in the Willows area, as long as there were not any costs associated with the use of a facility. Other suggestions included Westside Water District, Foothill Warehouse, Granzella's Conference Center, Maxwell Inn, and the Colusa Industrial Park.

Approve 2014 Financing, Operational Modeling and Outreach Action Plan

The Financing, Operational Modeling and Outreach Action Plan will focus on Sites JPA activities. The plan includes work currently undertaken by URS consultants to examine the assumptions and affordability of the project, including the development of a financial modeling tool. The plan also identified some additional modeling work to better understand how Sites Reservoir would perform with Delta conveyance and new outflow requirements identified in the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP). The plan also includes outreach to landowners, counties and the local region.

In an effort to implement the plan, staff has been working on the following: contracting and coordinating with URS to work on a financial modeling tool, improving cost estimates and construction schedules; developing a scope of work with CH2M Hill to complete new modeling in conjunction with BDCP to evaluate the benefits of the project; and develop a scope of work and services with the Center for Collaborative Policy to implement an outreach plan and meetings.

On motion by Director Vann, second by Director Bransford and unanimous vote, the Financing, Operational Modeling and Outreach Action Plan was accepted as presented.

Consider the CH2M Hill BDCP Modeling Proposal in the Action Plan

Tabled and will be on agenda for the next Board meeting.

REGULAR BUSINESS

Meeting Reports

Other Business

None

Member Comments

None

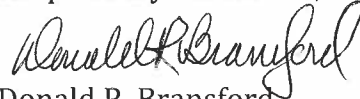
Closed Session

None

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Donald R. Bransford
Secretary to the Board

Attest a true record of proceedings made
and taken at the above foregoing meeting
our consent thereto and our presence thereat.



Frederick Durst