

Location: Maxwell Project Office
122 Old Highway 99W, Maxwell, CA 95955

Call in: **1-408-418-9388**
Code: **146 887 2482**
[WebEx Link](#)

Chair: Thad Bettner (Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District)

Vice Chair: Jeff Davis (San Geronio Pass Water Agency)

Treasurer: Jamie Traynham (Davis Water District)

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER:

Vice-Chairman Davis called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Roll was called (See Attachment A), which resulted in 18 eligible representatives. This equated to 88% of the current participation percentage being in attendance, which is greater than the 50% needed to have a quorum of the Reservoir Committee.

ATTENDANCE:

See Attachment B.

AGENDA APPROVAL:

It was moved by Traynham, seconded by Tincher to approve the June 18, 2020 Reservoir Committee Agenda, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

PERIOD OF PUBLIC COMMENT:

Vice-chairman Davis called for public comment. Hearing none, he closed the period of public comment.

1. CONSENT AGENDA:

Vice-Chairman Davis made time to consider Consent Agenda Item Numbers 1.1 through 1.3.

Ms. Kao stated there was an inaccuracy in the Reservoir Committee Minutes of May 21, 2021, page 3, under Agenda Item 2.1B "Two-Step Cash Call Process" second bullet "... 19 out of 21 agencies...". She stated it was actually 17 out of 21 agencies. Brief discussion followed.

Action: It was moved by Tincher, seconded by Marks to approve Consent Agenda Item Numbers 1.1 through 1.3 as follows:

- 1.1 Approve the May 21, 2020 Phase 2 Reservoir Committee Meeting Minutes.
- 1.2 Accept the Sites Project Authority Treasurer's Report as presented in Attachment 1.2A. **(Attachment A)**
- 1.3 Approve the Payment of Claims as presented in Attachment 1.3A with supporting details provided in Attachment 1.3B. **(Attachments A, B & C)**

Motion carried unanimously.

2. Action Items:

- 2.1 Mr. Spesert stated staff worked with the Authority Ad Hoc Legislative & Outreach Committee to develop a list of State level legislative and government priorities to focus on activities to better align with key project milestones. He stated further State activities would be implemented in coordination with Sites Federal government affairs/legislative priorities and any adjustments would be taken back to the Reservoir Committee (RC) and Authority Board (AB) before being incorporated with updates provided on significant progress. Discussion followed.

Action: It was moved by Cheng, seconded by Tincher to accept the 2020-2021 Sites Project State Agency Legislative Activity Priorities. **(Attachment A)**

Motion carried unanimously.

INTRODUCTIONS:

Executive Director Brown stated Introductions were not taken at the beginning of the meeting and requested that Introductions be done at this time.

The Sites Staff, Consultants and members of the public introduced themselves.

- 2.2 Approve the Authority's negotiation approach for permits and operating agreements. **(Attachment A)**

Executive Director Brown spoke to the need for the Authority Board and the Reservoir Committee to establish an approach on negotiating permits and agreement approvals to advance the project.

Ms. Forsythe provided an overview of the Authority's negotiation approach for permits and operating agreements with state and federal agencies. She spoke to the purpose of the Workgroups, Role of the lead negotiator and negotiating team as well as member involvement. Discussion followed.

Action: It was moved by Nuedeck, seconded by Vanderwaal to approve the Authority's negotiation approach for permits and operating agreements.

Motion carried unanimously.

3. Discussion and Information Items:

- 3.1 Receive status update on preliminary participation levels, outreach efforts related to maintaining project subscription in Second Amendment to 2019 Reservoir Project Agreement (Amendment 2) and the process of rebalancing participation. **(Attachment A, B & C)**

Mr. Robinette stated based on the soft call survey and some informal responses, staff has a working assumption that project participation in the Sacramento Valley will drop about 13,000 AF. He spoke to the following:

- Preliminary Participation Levels.
- Outreach and Rebalancing.
- Schedule.
- Cash Call Timing.
- Process for a participant securing a position in the participation queue and steps involved.

Mr. Robinette spoke to a request from Colusa County regarding an alternate payment plan based on their unique situation. He stated the alternate payment plan proposed by the County was analyzed by the Project team and the Team determined that it was prudent and reasonable to accept the alternate payment plan.

Vice-Chairman Davis stated Dan Ruiz, representative for Westside Water District, through the chat box, wanted it known that the Westside WD Board had no material update.

Ms. Kao expressed concern regarding the 16,000 AF noted in the preliminary soft call survey results and requested that asterisks be placed next to Santa Clara County's column. She stated staff has not established a staff recommendation on the 16,000 AF but are evaluating a 16,000 AF level. Executive Director Brown stated the edit would be made.

Mr. Evans informed the RC members that the Colusa County Board of Supervisors on Tuesday, June 16, 2020 approved the Phase 2 Participation Agreement.

Discussion followed with no action taken.

- 3.2 Receive status update on draft 2020 Final Federal Feasibility Report.

Mr. Brown provided an update on the draft 2020 Final Federal Feasibility Report, stating the approved 2020-2021 Sites Federal Government Affairs Priorities includes completion of the Final Federal Feasibility Report to qualify for federal funding and serves as a basis for the State's feasibility analysis required for WSIP funding. Mr. Brown spoke to the following:

- Potential benefits for north and south of delta, new supplies for incremental level 4 refuges and improvement for migrating fish in north of delta rivers and streams.
- WIIN Act construction funds.

- Differences between the draft 2020 FFR and VP7 (the Authority's preferred alternative).
- Project costs.
- "Right sized" Project.
- WIIN Act deadlines.
- Benefit cost ratio.
- Key WIIN Act criteria (determination of feasibility by December 2020 and initiation of construction by 2022).
- Feasibility Report Review Process.

Mr. Brown stated the draft 2020 FFR is currently going through policy review and will be sent to Washington DC in July where it will undergo numerous reviews by OMB and the Secretary of Interior who will then submit the final determination to Congress.

Discussion followed with no action taken.

3.3 Review and Comment on the objectives and alternatives for the Revised Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) to focus efforts in developing a more complete project description on schedule. **(Attachment A & B)**

Ms. Forsythe provided an overview on the objectives and alternatives for the Revised Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement. She spoke to the following:

Overview:

- Work on the preparation of the Revised EIR/EIS, updates to the Biological Assessment and design efforts.
- Key first step is the development of a Revised Project Description.
 - Serves as the foundation of the Revised EIR/EIS.
 - Preferred Project is foundation of the Biological Assessment and Sites Feasibility Report.
- Soliciting early input to reduce rework and maintain schedule.

Building Block to September Decision:

- Environmental Planning and Permitting Key Milestones.
 - September, RC and AB to review and approve.
 - More complete project description.
 - Recommendation on Preferred Project.
- Necessity of staying on schedule.

Objectives – Background:

- CEQA Guidelines – require that a project description contain a clear statement of the project objectives, including the underlying purpose of the Project.
- Staff proposing revisions to objectives to:
 - Better reflect goals of RC and AB as described in the Value Planning Report and messaging documents.
 - Add clarity and specificity to improve understanding of the foundation of the Project.
- Improve environmental, agricultural and municipal water supply reliability in a cost-effective manner for Project Participants.
- Improve cold water pool management in Shasta Reservoir through coordination and exchanges with Reclamation to benefit anadromous fish.
- Enhance the Delta ecosystem by providing water to convey food resources from the floodplain to the Delta thereby improving the food chain and quality of the Delta's estuarine habitat for the benefit of pelagic fishes in the north Delta (e.g. Cache Slough).
- Provide improvements in state-wide water supply reliability to enhance opportunities for fish protection, habitat management and other environmental needs.
- Provide local and regional amenities, including development of recreational facilities, reduction of local flood damage and maintaining community connectivity through roadway modifications.

Alternatives – Background:

- CEQA Guidelines require that an EIR analyze a reasonable range of alternatives that would:
 - Satisfy and attain most of the basic objectives of the project.
 - Avoid or substantially lessen any of the significant effects of the project.
- Staff proposing revisions to alternatives to better align with Value Planning Report.
- Alternatives – Key Components and Differences of the Facilities/Operations, Action Alternative 1 (Derived from VP7 and Action Alternative 2 (Includes Parts of VP5 and VP6)).
- Next Steps:
 - Continue development and refinement of more complete project description, including:
 - Objectives.
 - Action Alternatives.
 - No Action Alternatives.

- Recommended Preferred Project.
- Return to RC and AB in September with:
 - More complete project description.
 - Recommend Preferred Project for the purpose of the CEQA analysis.
- Coordinate with Reclamation and Sites legal counsel for input.

Discussion followed regarding Alternative 1 and Alternative 2 (Conveyance Release/Dunnigan Release and Route to West side of Reservoir) and climate change with no action taken.

3.4 Review and comment on the approach for discussions with the California Department of Water Resources on a Sites Coordinated Operations Agreement. **(Attachment A)**

Ms. Forsythe stated Staff is reinitiating technical discussions with DWR on a Sites Coordinated Operations Agreement (COA). She stated the Sites COA would address the following key items:

1. Coordination of Sites water deliveries with DWR's operation of the State Water Project.
2. Sites water accounting in the context of the Coordinated Operations Agreement for the CVP and SWP.
3. Conveyance and operational losses.
4. Exchanges and transfers from Sites-participants to non-Sites SWP contractors.
5. Water rights and point of delivery considerations.

She also spoke to the following:

- Sites Reservoir Project Schedule – Milestones and Scheduled dates.
- DWR/Sites Term Sheet Developments Schedules.
- Next Steps.

Discussion followed with no action taken.

3.5 Receive status update on the Colusa Basin Drain (CBD) evaluation and Dunnigan Pipeline alignment review.

Mr. Luu provided an update on the CBD evaluation and the Dunnigan Pipeline alignment. He stated the Dunnigan Pipeline alignment analysis is progressing well, with no fatal flaws having been identified to date. He stated further the consultant team is refining the alignment to reduce impacts to properties and landowner operations as well as minimizing environmental impacts to Bird Creek. He further stated a hydraulic study of the CBD has been initiated and the analysis would confirm whether releases into the CBD are viable. He said a determination of a go/no-go on releases to the CBD would be made by August

2020. And should the use of the CBD not be feasible an alternative extending the Dunnigan Pipeline alignment to the river would still exist.

Discussion followed regarding environmental benefits and timing of water release south of the Delta with no action taken.

3.6 Receive status update on the approach for Regulatory Agency Technical Working Group. **(Attachment A)**

Ms. Forsythe stated staff have reinitiated efforts on the development and submittal of key permits for the Sites Project as reflected in the Amendment 1B Work Plan. She stated two technical working groups would be established to facilitate regular communication and coordination with state, federal and local agencies with jurisdiction over all or portions of the Project.

She stated Group 1: Interagency General Update and Coordination Meetings would meet on a quarterly basis to update and coordinate with all state, federal and local regulatory and/or partnering agencies; Group 2: Fishery and Operations Technical Meetings would focus, as needed on fishery and operations meetings to review and discuss the modeling approach, analysis approach, operational criteria and the resulting effects to species of the Project. She also spoke to potential attendees of each of the Technical Working Groups.

Brief discussion followed with no action taken.

4. Reports:

4.1 Member's Reports:

4.1.1 Chairpersons' Report:

None.

4.1.2 Workgroup Chairpersons' Report:

Reservoir Operations & Engineering

Mr. Kunde stated the Reservoir Operations and Engineering Workgroup is meeting every three weeks and progress is being made.

Budget & Finance

Ms. Traynham stated the Budget and Finance Workgroup is working on revising the Credit Reimbursement Policy and should be to the Reservoir Committee for consideration in July 2020.

Coordination

Vice-chairman Davis provided a brief update on activities of the Coordination Workgroup.

4.1.3 Reservoir Committee Participant Reports:

This time is set aside to allow Representatives or their Alternates an opportunity to disclose/discuss items related to the Sites Project.

None.

4.2 Executive Director's Reports:

- Monthly status report. **(Attachment A)**
- Message Platform Update.
- Delta Stewardship letter regarding consistency determination concerns.
- Memo regarding reporting and responsibility requirements as it relates to conduct matters within the workplace.
- Governor's/State Budget.
- Strategic Planning Session updates.
- Communications regarding the following:
 - Revised Message Platform has been added to the Home Board Package.
 - Town Hall meetings to be held on July 14 and July 15, 2020.
 - Landowner Newsletter re: right sized project will be out soon.

5. Future Meetings and Schedules:

5.1 Suggested Future Agenda Items.

Brief discussion followed regarding possible Agenda Items for future Agendas.

5.2 Upcoming meetings:

Reservoir Committee

Thursday, July 16, 2020 1:00 PM
Sites Project Office, 122 Old Highway 99W Maxwell, CA 95955
(Teleconferencing and video link will be provided as an option)

Authority Board

Wednesday, July 22, 2020 1:30pm
Sites Project Office
(Teleconferencing and video link will be provided as an option)

Vice-Chairman Davis adjourned the meeting at 3:36 p.m.

Vice-Chairman
Jeff Davis

Executive Director
Jerry Brown

Roll Call

Current Voting Committee Participants (21):

	<i>Pct</i>	<i>Participant</i>		<i>Pct</i>	<i>Participant</i>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3.42	American Canyon, City		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2.64	LaGrande WD (1)
<input type="checkbox"/>	2.51	Antelope Valley-East Kern WA		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	15.34	Metropolitan WD
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2.46	Carter MWC		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3.42	Reclamation District 108
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4.97	Coachella Valley WD		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	7.93	San Bernardino Valley MWD
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4.97	Colusa County		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	6.01	San Geronio Pass WA
<input type="checkbox"/>	5.49	Colusa Co. WD		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	6.53	Santa Clara Valley WD
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2.50	Cortina WD	(1)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3.67	Santa Clarita Valley WA (2)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2.90	Davis WD		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	6.27	Westside WD
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	0.00	Department of Water Resources (non-voting)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3.17	Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa WSD
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4.06	Desert WA		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	0.00	US Bureau of Reclamation (non-voting)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3.09	Dunnigan WD		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4.97	Zone 7 WA
<input type="checkbox"/>	3.68	Glenn-Colusa ID			100.00	Total

18. Voting members represented at Meeting start

88% Represented participation percentage

Representation has been delegated as follows:

- (1) To Jamie Traynham, Davis WD
- (2) To Amparo Flores, Zone 7

Current Voting Reservoir Committee Participants (21):

<i>Participant</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Representative</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Alternate</i>	<i>Others</i>
American Canyon, City	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rick Kaufman	<input type="checkbox"/> Felix Hernandez III Jason Holley	
AVEK WA	<input type="checkbox"/> Dwayne Chisam	<input type="checkbox"/> Dan Flory	
Carter MWC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ben Carter	<input type="checkbox"/> Ann Carter	
Coachella Valley WD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Robert Cheng	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ivory Reyburn	
Colusa County.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mike Azevedo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gary Evans	
Colusa Co. WD	<input type="checkbox"/> Shelley Murphy	<input type="checkbox"/> Joe Marsh	
Cortina WD	<input type="checkbox"/> Jim Peterson	<input type="checkbox"/> Chuck Grimmer	Jamie Traynham
Davis WD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jamie Traynham	<input type="checkbox"/> Tom Charter	
Desert WA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mark Krause	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Steve Johnson	
Dunnigan WD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bill Vanderwaal	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Glenn-Colusa ID	<input type="checkbox"/> Thad Bettner	<input type="checkbox"/> Don Bransford	
LaGrande WD	<input type="checkbox"/> Zach Dennis	<input type="checkbox"/> Ken LaGrande	Jamie Traynham
Metropolitan WD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Randall Neudeck	<input type="checkbox"/> Chandra Chilmakuri	
RD 108	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bill Vanderwaal	<input type="checkbox"/> Blair Lewis	
San Bernardino V MWD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bob Tincher	<input type="checkbox"/> Heather Dyer	
San Geronio Pass WA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jeff Davis	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Santa Clara Valley WD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cindy Kao	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eric Leitterman	
Santa Clarita Valley WA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dirk Marks	<input type="checkbox"/> Steve Cole	
Westside WD	<input type="checkbox"/> Allan Myers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dan Ruiz	
Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa WSD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rob Kunde	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Zone 7 WA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amparo Flores	<input type="checkbox"/> Carol Mahoney <input type="checkbox"/> Jarnail Chahal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wes Mercado <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Valerie Pryor	

Non-Voting Committee Participants (2):

<i>Participant</i>	✓ <i>Representative/Other</i>	✓ <i>Alternate/Other</i>	
Dept of Water Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rob Cooke	<input type="checkbox"/> David Sandino	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Ajay Goyal	<input type="checkbox"/> Jim Wieking	<input type="checkbox"/> Dave Arrate
Bureau of Reclamation	<input type="checkbox"/> Richard Welsh	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Don Bader	<input type="checkbox"/> Chris Duke
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ryan Davis	<input type="checkbox"/> Derya Sumer	<input type="checkbox"/> Mike Mosley
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Natalie Wolder	<input type="checkbox"/> Mike Dietl	<input type="checkbox"/> Shana Kaplan
		<input type="checkbox"/> David Van Rijn	

Authority, Non-Signatory (6):

<i>Participant</i>	✓ <i>Representative</i>	✓ <i>Alternate</i>
Glenn County	<input type="checkbox"/> John Viegas	<input type="checkbox"/>
PCWA	<input type="checkbox"/> Ed Horton	<input type="checkbox"/> Ben Barker <input type="checkbox"/> Darin Reintjes
Roseville	<input type="checkbox"/> Sean Bigley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trevor Joseph <input type="checkbox"/> Jason Marks
Sacramento, City of	<input type="checkbox"/> Jeff Harris	<input type="checkbox"/> Anne Sanger
Sacramento County WA	<input type="checkbox"/> Kerry Schmitz	<input type="checkbox"/> Michael Peterson
Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority	<input type="checkbox"/> Jeff Sutton	<input type="checkbox"/>

Staff:

✓ <i>Name</i>	<i>Representing</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jerry Brown	Executive Director
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forsythe, Ali	Sites Project Authority
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Spesert, Kevin	Sites Project Authority

✓ <i>Name</i>	<i>Representing</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trapasso, Joe	Sites Project Authority
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tirado, Yolanda	Board Clerk
<input type="checkbox"/> Kivett, Marcia	Admin

Consultants:

✓ <i>Name</i>	<i>Representing</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alexander, Jeriann Fugro	
<input type="checkbox"/> Boling, Robert	HDR
<input type="checkbox"/> Briard, Monique	ICF
<input type="checkbox"/> Floyd, Kim	Floyd
<input type="checkbox"/> Herrin, Jeff	AECOM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Heydinger, Erin	HDR
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Katz, Sara	Katz & Associates

✓ <i>Name</i>	<i>Representing</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Kuney, Scott	Young Wooldridge
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Robinette, JP	Brown & Caldwell
<input type="checkbox"/> Rude, Peter	Ch2m
<input type="checkbox"/> Spranza, John	HDR
<input type="checkbox"/> Tull, Rob	Ch2m
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Warner Herson, Laurie	Phenix

Other Attendees:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Representing</i>	<i>Contact (Phone & E-mail)</i>
Laura Nicholson	Office of Senator Nielson	
Henry Luu	HDR	
Juleah Cordi	Office of Assemblyman James Gallagher	
Cathy Westcot	HDR	
Laverne Bill		