



Meeting: **Joint Sites Reservoir Committee & Authority Board**

**April 21, 2023
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

Authority Board Chair:	Fritz Durst (Reclamation District 108)
Authority Board Vice Chair:	Jeff Sutton (Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority)
Reservoir Committee Chair:	Valerie Pryor (Zone 7 Water Agency)
Reservoir Committee Vice-Chair:	Mike Azevedo (Colusa County)
Treasurer:	Jamie Traynham (Davis Water District)

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Authority Board Chairman Durst called the Joint Authority Board (AB) and Reservoir Committee (RC) Meeting to order at the hour of 9:00 a.m., followed by Roll Call and the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL/ATTENDANCE:

The role of the Authority Board equaled 6 members in attendance, which resulted in a quorum.

The role of the Reservoir Committee equaled 19 representatives, 88.63% in attendance, which resulted in a quorum.

Director Sutton was seated at 10:19 a.m. during discussion item 3.3.

INTRODUCTIONS:

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

AGENDA APPROVAL:

It was moved by Director Evans, seconded by Director Allen to approve the April 21, 2023, Joint RC, and AB Meeting Agenda. **Motion carried unanimously.**

ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED SESSION:

Counsel Doud announced the Authority Board of Directors, and the Reservoir Committee Members would consider Closed Session matters 5.1 & 5.2.

PERIOD FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

Authority Board Chairman Durst called for a period of public comment. Hearing none, he closed the period for public comment.

1. CONSENT AGENDA:

Reservoir Committee Chair Pryor and Authority Board Chair Durst made time to consider consent agenda items 1.1 through 1.3 as follows:

- 1.1 Reservoir Committee and Authority Board consider approval of March 17, 2023, Joint Reservoir Committee and Authority Board Meeting Minutes.
- 1.2 Reservoir Committee and Authority Board consider acceptance of the Sites Project Authority Treasurer's Report.
- 1.3 Reservoir Committee and Authority Board consider approval of the Payment of Claims.

ACTION RC: It was moved by Cheng, seconded by Vanderwaal to approve Consent Agenda Item Numbers 1.1 through 1.3. **Motion carried unanimously.**

ACTION AB: It was moved by Director Allen and seconded by Director Parker to approve Consent Agenda Item Numbers 1.1 through 1.3. **Motion carried: All Directors present voted yes.**

2. ACTION ITEMS:

None.

3. DISCUSSION AND INFORMATION ITEMS:

- 3.1 Review and comment on the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)/Environmental Impact Report (EIR), Part 3 status briefing in preparation for approval of the Project.

Ms. Forsythe referred to the PowerPoint on the Final EIR/EIS Status Briefing and discussed the following:

- Determination of Impacts, as a lead agency under California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), must consider the direct and indirect impacts of the project, determined by comparison to baseline physical conditions. Impact determinations include no impact, less than significant impact, less than significant with mitigation, and significant and unavoidable impact.
- Significant and unavoidable impact cannot be fully mitigated to less than significant. A statement of overriding consideration is needed to show why the project is willing to accept the significant and unavoidable impacts in exchange for the benefit of the project.
- Surface Water Quality, significant and unavoidable impacts include increased methylmercury concentrations downstream of Sites Reservoir.
- Geology, Soils, Paleontology, Final decision documents will make the transition between TRR East to TRR West which will eliminate significant and unavoidable impacts.

- Refinement to Best Management Practices, construction traffic considerations, minimizing traffic for school safety, and generating traffic for local businesses. Mitigation implementation strategy to clearly identify how all mitigation measures will be implemented and extensive Cultural Resource and Tribal Cultural Resource programs will be implemented.
- Final EIR Certification targeted for August 2023. This includes a Board Hearing, Adoption of Findings, Statement of Overriding Considerations and Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Program, and Decision to Approve Project.

Cheng confirmed with Ms. Forsythe that the efforts to manage methylmercury in the Sites Reservoir would still count even if the actions to manage methylmercury proved to be unsuccessful.

Ms. Forsythe explained the bioaccumulation of methylmercury and noted there are State requirements that would require postings of methylmercury depending on the levels of methylmercury found and Methylmercury isn't unique to the Sites Reservoir, but due to advanced research, Sites will try to reduce the amount of methylmercury as much as possible.

A discussion was held on mitigation implementation strategy, the importance of construction mitigation measures, and the timeline for agreement of core competencies as an agency before the final Benefits and Obligations Contract.

Kunde asked about the adoption of the EIS and Ms. Forsythe explained that RC & AB will adopt the EIR and make findings from a CEQA perspective and the Bureau of Reclamation will evaluate the final EIS and determine a Record of Decision (ROD).

A brief discussion continued about the timeline of the EIR/EIS and the ROD.

PERIOD FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

Chairman Durst called for an additional period for public comment at 9:44 a.m. to give an opportunity to address the EIR/EIS. Hearing none, he closed the additional period for public comment.

Chairman Durst expressed the importance of educating others on the awareness of Sites Reservoir based on new information instead of the past version of Sites Reservoir before all issues were addressed.

- 3.2 Review and comment on modeled conveyance and storage losses and confirm the active storage assumptions.

Ms. Bezzone referred to the Reservoir Losses and Available Storage PowerPoint and discussed the following:

- Sites Project Facilities, Sites Flow Path, Modeled Losses, Diversions, Reservoir losses, and Release for Storage Partners losses.
- Confirmation of Available Storage, Dead Pool Considerations, and Potential Water Quality Constraints.
 - Operations & Engineering (O&E) Workgroup developing the language for an approach to allow for real-time management of potential constraints.
- Available storage allocation to storage partners is 1.41 million acre-feet (MAF) which includes recent survey refinements and assumes a 60 thousand-acre-foot (TAF) dead pool.

Discussion was held on the average annual release numbers confirming that releases factor in all upstream losses, and estimates for deliveries that factor in downstream conveyance losses. It was noted the calculation is not just a one-time percentage, it's applied each year.

Ms. Forsythe confirmed the storage policy does not state daily but specifies that losses are allocated proportionally based on the amount of water in storage. She explained that creek water is to be allocated to Colusa County and if their storage is full, it is allocated to all other members in portion to their investment.

Executive Director Brown noted that the current modeled project performance assumes that creek water is not counted as storage water so if there is any actual accumulation of creek water in the reservoir, the unused diversion capacity would be available to all other participants.

Chairman Dust expressed appreciation to O&E Workgroup for all their hard work.

3.3 Review allocations of storage space and proportionate shares of diverted water for participants based on conditional State and Federal participation.

Ms. Bezzone presented the Allocations of Storage Space PowerPoint and spoke to the following:

- Reclamation allocated change in active storage and total storage allocation is currently 128 TAF (9%). The state of CA remains unchanged at 244 TAF (17.3%).
- Local Partner Amendment 3 participation remains unchanged, with preliminary equation to establish storage allocation for local partners applied: Existing participation x 6.234 = Storage Allocation.
- Transition from annualized supply to storage allocation.
- Allocation of Active Storage, water diverted will be allocated to each storage partner's storage space proportional to its storage allocation.

Kunde requested data on different yield ranges prior to stage 3 to show members how much water they would receive for different operation scenarios based on year types.

Executive Director Brown explained that variations in demand patterns guide the output of assumptions in formulating yield numbers, so if there is a desire to look at ranges, participants need to provide alterations in the assumed demand patterns.

Ms. Forsythe noted the current modeling can provide a summary based on averages from different years including dry years, but to vary the demand assumptions it would require sensitivity modeling. The model itself does not have the capacity to use data for each individual participant, but it can provide data for groups of participants in each bucket.

Vasileva proposed that participants receive an example of volume diverted and losses assessed to show the net volume that each participant will be allocated.

Richard Welsh from the Bureau of Reclamation expressed appreciation for the efforts made on additional Federal participation and reported that Reclamation is continuously looking to increase investment to 16 % and working at various levels to make sure that investment is available when commitment is needed.

- 3.4 Receive an update on the status of Amendment 3 2023 cash call funds received to date.

Executive Director Brown stated 100% of the Reservoir Committee cash call funds have been received and Authority Board is in the process of completion.

4. REPORTS:

4.1 Chairpersons' Reports:

RC Chair Pryor noted she will be attending the open house at the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) conference in May and encouraged other agencies to attend.

4.1 Committee & Workgroup Chairpersons' Reports:

Operations & Engineering Workgroup:

Kunde reported that discussions held at the O&E meeting on April 12, 2023, included losses and reservoir storage, project baseline schedule and opportunities for acceleration, improving construction road access to reduce local impacts, and providing staff with input on types of information that may be useful for the upcoming soft call process.

Legislative & Outreach Committee:

Mr. Spesert reported on the State Legislative Day on March 20, 2023, noting 9 meetings were held throughout the day, the Washington DC trip is planned for the week of April 24, 2023, with 18 anticipated meetings, and the planned ACWA Region 2 Tour in Maxwell on June 1, 2023.

Director Evans reported there was great participation at the Local Community Working Group held on March 23, 2023, but still hoping for more attendance from local businesses.

Land Management Committee:

Mr. Spesert noted there is currently a lot of Geotech work happening, discussions with landowners for future Geotech work, and a possible Land Management Committee Meeting in May.

Director Evans welcomed Kunde to join the Land Management Committee given his expertise in a variety of fields. Chairman Durst expressed that Kunde would be useful to the Land Management Committee because he is very trustworthy, and Director Sutton agreed that Kunde would be a great asset to the committee.

4.3 Authority Board & Reservoir Committee Participant Reports:

Azevedo pointed out that Wilkins Slough was still at a little over 11,000 cfs.

Bettner spoke to the Pulse Flow Study that is supposed to take place this year and noted that type of study is what drives diversion criteria.

4.4 Executive Director's Reports:

Executive Director Brown spoke to the following:

- Water Right critical path delay, Primary Roster, Wilkins Slough and ACWA Conference.
- Washington DC Legislative visit primary messages include Support for Reclamation to fund a bigger share of the Sites Project, Legislative Staff preparation and understanding of the Final EIR approval, understanding of the Water Right application, and Sites integrating with various statewide considerations.
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) accepted the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) application, California Independent System Operator (CAISO) application was accepted, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) exemption was completed and confirmed that all the hydropower generated from releases will be exempt.

Authority Board Chairman Durst declared a recess at 10:35 a.m. and convened into Closed Session at 10:45 a.m.

5. CLOSED SESSION:

- 5.1 Negotiations concerning Sites Project operation terms, conditions and agreements with the United States Fish & Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service (Govt. Code §§54956.9(c)).
- 5.2 Negotiations concerning water rights permit terms and conditions (Govt. Code §54956.9(c) and §54956.9(d)(4)).

Chairman Durst adjourned Closed Session at 11:32 a.m. and reconvened into Open Session.

6. REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION:

Counsel Doud stated that no reportable action was taken on Closed Session matters.

7. RECAP:

7.1 Suggested Future Agenda Items:

None.

7.2 Upcoming Meetings:

Joint Reservoir Committee & Authority Board
Friday, May 19, 2023 (9:00 am – 12:00 pm)
Maxwell Project Office & Virtual

Authority Board Chair Durst adjourned the Joint Reservoir Committee and Authority Board Meeting at the hour of 11:38 a.m.

Fritz Durst, Authority Board Chair

Valerie Pryor, Reservoir Committee Chair

Sandra Yarbrough, Board Clerk

Current Voting Committee Participants (22):

	<i>Pct</i>	<i>Participant</i>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3.47	American Canyon, City	
<input type="checkbox"/>	2.42	Antelope Valley-East Kern WA	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	5.28	Coachella Valley WD	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	5.28	Colusa County	
<input type="checkbox"/>	5.05	Colusa Co. WD	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2.41	Cortina WD	(1)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2.87	Davis WD	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4.22	Desert WA	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3.17	Dunnigan WD	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3.77	Glenn-Colusa ID	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2.57	Irvine Ranch WD	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2.57	LaGrande WD	(1)

	<i>Pct</i>	<i>Participant</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	17.29	Metropolitan WD
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3.47	Reclamation District 108
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2.42	Rosedale-Rio Bravo WSD
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	8.70	San Bernardino Valley MWD
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	6.48	San Geronio Pass WA
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2.42	Santa Clara Valley WD
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3.77	Santa Clarita Valley WA
<input type="checkbox"/>	3.89	Westside WD
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3.19	Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa WSD
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	0.00	Department of Water Resources (non-voting)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	.00	US Bureau of Reclamation (non-voting)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	5.28	Zone 7 WA
	100.00	Total

19 Voting members represented at Meeting start

88.63% Represented participation percentage

Representation has been delegated as follows:

(1) To Jamie Traynham, Davis WD

(+) Not present after _____

Current Voting Authority Board Participants:

<i>Participant</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Representative</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Alternate</i>
Colusa County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gary Evans	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mike Azevedo
Colusa County Water District	<input type="checkbox"/> Joe Marsh	<input type="checkbox"/> Hal Charter <input type="checkbox"/> Shelly Murphy
Glenn County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Thomas Arnold	<input type="checkbox"/> Jim Yoder
Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District	<input type="checkbox"/> Logan Dennis	<input type="checkbox"/> John Amaro
Reclamation District 108	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fritz Durst	<input type="checkbox"/> Sean Doherty <input type="checkbox"/> Hilary Reinhard
Placer County Water Agency	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gray Allen	<input type="checkbox"/> Joshua Alpine
Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jeff Sutton	<input type="checkbox"/> Halbert Charter
Sacramento County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kerry Schmitz	<input type="checkbox"/> Mike Peterson
Westside Water District	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Doug Parker	<input type="checkbox"/> Zach Dennis <input type="checkbox"/> Dan Ruiz

Associate Members (2 non-voting):

<i>Participant</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Representative</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Alternate</i>
Western Canal Water District	<input type="checkbox"/> Greg Johnson	<input type="checkbox"/> Ted Trimble

Current Voting Reservoir Committee Participants (22):

<i>Participant</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Representative</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Alternate</i>
American Canyon, City	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Felix Hernandez	<input type="checkbox"/> Jason Holley
Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency	<input type="checkbox"/> Matt Knudson	<input type="checkbox"/> Dan Flory
Coachella Valley Water District	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Robert Cheng	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Petya Vasileva
Colusa County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mike Azevedo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gary Evans
Colusa County Water District	<input type="checkbox"/> Halbert Charter	<input type="checkbox"/> Shelly Murphy
Cortina Water District	<input type="checkbox"/> Jim Peterson	<input type="checkbox"/> Chuck Grimmer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jamie Traynham
Davis Water District	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jamie Traynham	<input type="checkbox"/> Tom Charter
Desert Water Agency	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mark Krause	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Steve Johnson
Dunnigan Water District	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bill Vanderwaal	<input type="checkbox"/>
Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Thad Bettner	<input type="checkbox"/> Greg Krzys

<i>Participant</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Representative</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Alternate</i>
Irvine Ranch Water District	<input type="checkbox"/> Paul Weghorst	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kellie Welch
LaGrande Water District	<input type="checkbox"/> Zach Dennis	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mike Urkov <input type="checkbox"/> Jamie Traynham
Metropolitan Water District	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Randall Neudeck	<input type="checkbox"/> Nina Hawk
RD 108	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bill Vanderwaal	<input type="checkbox"/> Lewis Bair
Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water District	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trent Taylor	<input type="checkbox"/> Dan Bartel
San Bernardino Valley Water District	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bob Tincher	<input type="checkbox"/> Heather Dyer
San Geronio Pass Water Agency	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lance Eckhart	<input type="checkbox"/> Thomas Todd <input type="checkbox"/> Emmett Campbell
Santa Clara Valley Water District	<input type="checkbox"/> Cindy Kao	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Katherine Maher
Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency	<input type="checkbox"/> Steve Cole	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ali Elhassan
Westside Water District	<input type="checkbox"/> Allen Myers	<input type="checkbox"/> Dan Ruiz
Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa WSD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rob Kunde	<input type="checkbox"/> Sheridan Nicholas
Zone 7 Water Agency	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Valerie Pryor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lillian Xie

Non-Voting Committee Participants (2):

<i>Participant</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Representative/Other</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Alternate/Other</i>
Dept of Water Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rob Cooke <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Itzia Rivera	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jagruti Maroney <input type="checkbox"/> Alex Vdovichenko
Bureau of Reclamation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard Welsh <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Allison Jacobson	<input type="checkbox"/> Don Bader <input type="checkbox"/> Jessica Boyt <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Natalie Taylor

Authority, Non-Signatory (6):

<i>Participant</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Representative</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Alternate</i>	<i>Alternate</i>
PCWA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ed Horton	<input type="checkbox"/> Ben Barker	<input type="checkbox"/> Darin Reintjes
Roseville	<input type="checkbox"/> George Hanson <input type="checkbox"/> Scott Alvord	<input type="checkbox"/> Sean Bigley <input type="checkbox"/> Trevor Joseph	<input type="checkbox"/> Jason Marks
City of Sacramento	<input type="checkbox"/> TBD	<input type="checkbox"/> Brett Ewart	<input type="checkbox"/> Anne Sanger

Sites Project Authority:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jerry Brown	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ali Forsythe	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kevin Spesert
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	JP Robinette	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Joe Trapasso	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sandra Yarbrough

Consultants:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Name	Representing			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Alexander, Jeriann	Fugro	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Katz, Sara	Katz & Associates
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Arsenijevic, Jelica	HDR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kivett, Marcia	Brown & Caldwell
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Bezzone, Angela	MBK	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Luu, Henry	HDR
<input type="checkbox"/>	Briard, Monique	ICF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	McDonald, Conner	CMD West
<input type="checkbox"/>	Brown, Doug	Stradling	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Maltby, Marcus	Brown & Caldwell
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Brown, Scott	LWA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Montague, Doug	Montague DeRose Assoc.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bruner, Marc/Laura Zagar	Perkins Coie	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nielsen, Caitlin	HDR
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Doud, Alan	Young Wooldridge	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rude, Peter	Ch2m
<input type="checkbox"/>	Floyd, Kim	Floyd	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Spranza, John	HDR
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Harris, Cheyanne	Brown & Caldwell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Warner Herson, Laurie	Phenix
<input type="checkbox"/>	Herrin, Jeff	AECOM			

Members of the Public

Name	Representing	Name	Representing
Christy Scolfield	Arbuckle Resident	Juleah Cordi	Assemblyman James Gallagher's Office
Margie Namba	Granite Construction	Matt Goody	Local Union 228
Brian Thomas	Sites Project	Dawn Edwards	HDR
Eric Patterson	Kiewit	Derek Gardels	HDR
Michael Wingfield	ICF	Michael Smith	AECOM
Steve Grasha	Desert Water	Elizabeth Foss	Zone 7
Sujan Punyamurthula	Stantec	Quang Tran	South Land Holdings
Cindy Saks	SBVMWD	Steve Geiger	Colusa County