



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

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

ROLL CALL/ATTENDANCE:

Authority Board roll call, there were 8 members present, meeting the quorum requirement.

Reservoir Committee roll call, there were 19 representatives present, meeting the quorum requirement with an attendance rate of 85.4%.

INTRODUCTIONS:

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

AGENDA APPROVAL:

It was moved by Director Sutton, seconded by Director Evans, to approve the July 21, 2023, Joint Reservoir Committee and Authority Board Meeting Agenda. **Motion carried unanimously.**

ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED SESSION:

General Counsel Doud announced Closed Session agenda item 5.1.

PERIOD FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

Authority Board Chairman Durst called for a period of public comment.

Representatives from the State of California, Department of Industrial Relations, Division of Occupational Safety & Health introduced themselves and their interest in the project and distributed their contact information and handbooks.

Chairman Durst closed the period for public comment.

1. **CONSENT AGENDA:**

Chair Pryor and Chair Durst made time to consider consent agenda items 1 through 4 as follows:

- 1.1 Reservoir Committee and Authority Board consider approval of June 16, 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.
- 1.4 Reservoir Committee and Authority Board to consider authorizing an FY2023 budget transfer of \$350,000 from Unrestricted Contingency to Legal Services to cover additional Legal Services expenses by Perkins Coie.

ACTION RC: Moved by Treasurer Traynham, seconded by Mr. Vanderwaal, to approve Consent Agenda Item Numbers 1 through 4. **Motion carried unanimously.**

ACTION AB: Moved by Director Allen, seconded by Director Evans, to approve Consent Agenda Item Numbers 1 through 4. **Motion carried unanimously.**

2. **ACTION ITEMS:**

- 2.1 Reservoir Committee and Authority Board consider approval of the 2022 Financial Audit.

Mr. German, CPA of Fechter and Company, presented and gave an overview of the Sites 2022 Financial Audit.

ACTION RC: Moved by Mr. Vanderwaal, seconded by Mr. Kunde, to approve the 2022 Financial Audit. **Motion carried unanimously.**

ACTION AB: Moved by Director Sutton, seconded by Director Allen, to approve the 2022 Financial Audit. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- 2.2 Reservoir Committee and Authority Board consider authorizing the Executive Director to submit the request to receive the Governor's certification as an SB149 eligible infrastructure project, including agreeing to pay costs of 1) trial court and court of appeal and 2) preparing record of proceedings.

Executive Director Brown went through the history and function of Senate Bill 149. Explained that this could benefit the Project and reviewed a timeline to receive certification by the Governor. Staff believes all requirements for certification are met by the Sites Project. The action before the Board today is to receive authorization to commit to court costs and meet conditions to prepare the admin record.

Members discussed their experiences with CEQA lawsuits and further discussed items that were presented.

Mr. Kunde asked about the mitigation of drought emergency conditions that is applicable to the Project, consideration of siting the drought resource. Executive Director Brown will consider this in preparing the application materials. Mr. Kunde pointed out that seeking certification is not without risks to the Project.

ACTION RC: Moved by Cheng, seconded by Cole, to authorize the Executive Director to submit the request to receive the Governor's certification as an SB149 eligible infrastructure project, including agreeing to pay costs of 1) trial court and court of appeal and 2) preparing record of proceedings. **Motion carried unanimously.**

ACTION AB: Moved by Director Evans, seconded by Director Allen, to authorize the Executive Director to submit the request to receive the Governor's certification as an SB149 eligible infrastructure project, including agreeing to pay costs of 1) trial court and court of appeal and 2) preparing record of proceedings. **Motion carried unanimously.**

3. DISCUSSION AND INFORMATION ITEMS:

- 3.1 Reservoir Committee and Authority Board review and comment on the optimized Initial Phase 3 /4 Project schedule.

Mr. Robinette introduced Mr. Kivett, Brown & Caldwell and then gave an overview of the project schedule objectives regarding managing cost, managing risk, permitting decisions and maintaining credibility with the community. An additional overview of the schedule was presented at the February 2023 board meeting showing a 2033 completion date. This presentation covered the July 2023 optimized schedule and showed a completion date in 2031.

Mr. Kivett discussed the optimized schedule assumptions of changes in priorities, including 1) obtaining a fee title for property where critical project features will be located, 2) reprioritizing Amendment 3 design activities, and 3) onboarding a Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) earlier in the project, no later than start of 2025. He explained that adopting the overall schedule will occur when the FY24/25 Budget is brought to the Board in October 2023 since there will need to be budget authorization if the July 2023 schedule is adopted.

Mr. Cheng asked questions about the schedule—review of Investor commitment of when home board approval is needed. ED Brown reviewed that there is a 6-month period assumed for Participants to get home board approval and for the State and Federal Governments to award their final funding.

Director Sutton asked about the capabilities of the California Division of Safety of Dams. Mr. Robinette discussed the staffing challenges and getting comfortable with the project. Monthly meetings with DSOD management are occurring to help keep everything on track.

Further detailed discussion occurred about the schedule's critical path and achieving 30% design, the decision-making process for final commitments, the CMAR procurement and the ability to secure a power source for the project in a timely manner.

Chair Durst inquired about the California Independent System Operator's progress on the project's interconnection application, and ED Brown responded that it is progressing, but the queue is long and it was a smart move to get the application in early.

3.2 Review and comment on the Final Environmental Impact Report /Environmental Impact Statement, status briefing in preparation of the Project.

Ms. Forsythe gave an update on the Federal portion of the approval of the NEPA, reviewed the key differences from CEQA, the Federal review process, and the next steps to publish the final EIR/EIS on the website.

Ms. Forsythe gave an overview of activities to be completed before Reclamation signs a Record of Decision which is currently anticipated to be signed in mid-2024. She also gave an update on the cultural resources process and noted ESA compliance is underway and next steps.

3.3 Receive and comment on a status update on the Local Community Working Group (LCWG).

Mr. Spesert presented that 5 meetings have been held with this group and the group's feedback has been very informative. He continued with a brief history of the working group, representation of the attendees, and topics discussed

including planning activities, community concerns, the issues & opportunities matrix and next steps.

Director Evans commented that there is local community enthusiasm that the project will actually get built and the community, generally, continues to support the project.

ED Brown reviewed the estimated number of daily project workers, illustrating the difference in numbers depending on whether the 2033 or 2031 completion schedule is adopted. The board discussed the volume of workers and how it might affect the local agencies and the community.

4. REPORTS:

4.1 Chairpersons' Reports:

Chair Durst asked staff to keep the Colusa Basin Drain, North of Delta and Restore the Delta individuals informed on the project. He reviewed his discussions in Washington, D.C. about the Project. He mentioned that he and Mr. Bettner are working with the Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Association, Golden Gate Fisherman's Association to find areas of shared interest and the Project has come up in those discussions.

4.1 Committee & Workgroup Chairpersons' Reports:

ED Brown mentioned that a website link has been added to the Board Agenda to provide an easy way for board members to review the monthly Committees & Workgroups agendas ([Committee and Workgroup Agendas](#)).

Treasurer Traynham mentioned that the Budget & Finance Committee is discussing the next steps to prepare the business systems for Phase 3/4/5.

Director Evans briefed about the landowner meeting and the effectiveness of face-to-face discussion. Mr. Spesert announced the next two Landowner meetings on August 16 and 17.

Director Sutton discussed the misinformation about the Project that continues to be out there, and how he knows significant effort has been made to make accurate information available. He thanked Mr. Spesert for providing the Colusa-Glen Farm Credit tour, which had three interns in attendance at this meeting. There will be a Legislative & Outreach Committee meeting in August. From a comment from Mr. Bettner, an agenda item will include how to promote and distribute accurate information about the project.

4.3 Authority Board & Reservoir Committee Participant Reports:

Mr. Bettner reviewed the issues the Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District is having with a delay of a project due to not being able to get equipment and the lead time for that.

4.4 Executive Director's Reports:

Executive Director Brown gave an overview of the following items: Project outreach over the last few weeks in the southern California area, presented at the Redding rotary and met with the Yolo County Chief Executive. He also mentioned that the JPA amendments and bylaws for Phase 3/4/5 are being drafted.

Chair Durst declared a recess at 11:13 a.m. to convene into Closed Session.

5. CLOSED SESSION:

5.1 Negotiations concerning water right permit terms and conditions (Govt. Code §54956.9(c) and §54956.9(d)(4)).

Chair Durst adjourned Closed Session at 11:49 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:

7.2 Upcoming Meetings:

Joint Reservoir Committee & Authority Board

Friday, August 18, 2023 (9:00 am – 12:00 pm)

Maxwell Project Office & Virtual

Chair Durst adjourned the Joint Reservoir Committee and Authority Board Meeting at 11:53 a.m.

Fritz Durst, Authority Board Chair

Valerie Pryor, Reservoir Committee Chair

Marcia Kivett, Acting Board Clerk

Current Voting Committee Participants (22):

	<i>Pct</i>	<i>Participant</i>	
<input 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 checked="" 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 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 checked="" 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"/>	0.00	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

85.4% Represented participation percentage

Representation has been delegated as follows:

(1) To Jamie Traynham, Davis WD

(+) Not present after _____

Current Voting Authority Board (9)		Primary	<input type="checkbox"/>	Alternate
Colusa County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Gary Evans	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mike Azevedo
Colusa County Water District	<input type="checkbox"/>	Joe Marsh	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hal Charter 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"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	John Amaro
Reclamation District 108	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fritz Durst	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Sean Doherty 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Halbert Charter
Sacramento County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kerry Schmitz	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Mike Peterson
Westside Water District	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Doug Parker	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Zach Dennis Dan Ruiz

Associate Members (non-voting)		Primary	<input type="checkbox"/>	Alternate
Western Canal Water District	<input type="checkbox"/>	Greg Johnson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ted Trimble

Non-Voting Committee Participants (2)		Primary	<input type="checkbox"/>	Alternate/Other
Department of Water Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rob Cooke	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Jagruti Maroney Itzia Rivera
Bureau of Reclamation	<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Richard Welsh Allison Jacobson	<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Don Bader Natalie Taylor

Current Voting Reservoir Committee (22)		Primary	<input type="checkbox"/>	Alternate
American Canyon, City	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jason Holley	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Antelope Valley-East Kern WA	<input type="checkbox"/>	Matt Knudson	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dan Flory
Coachella Valley Water District	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Robert Cheng	<input type="checkbox"/>	Petya Vasileva
Colusa County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mike Azevedo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Gary Evans
Colusa County Water District	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Halbert Charter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Shelly Murphy
Cortina Water District	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jim Peterson	<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Chuck Grimmer Jamie Traynham
Davis Water District	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jamie Traynham	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tom Charter

Desert Water Agency	<input 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
Irvine Ranch Water District	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Paul Weghorst	<input type="checkbox"/>	Kellie Welch
LaGrande Water District	<input type="checkbox"/>	Zach Dennis	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Mike Urkov
Metropolitan Water District	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Randall Neudeck	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Nina Hawk Sam Smalls
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Dan Bartel
San Bernardino Valley WD	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bob Tincher	<input type="checkbox"/>	Heather Dyer
San Geronio Pass Water Agency	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lance Eckhart	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Thomas Todd Emmett Campbell
Santa Clara Valley Water District	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cindy Kao	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Katherine Maher
Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Steve Cole	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ali Elhassan
Westside Water District	<input type="checkbox"/>	Allen Myers	<input checked="" 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

Authority, Non-Signatory (6)		Primary	<input type="checkbox"/>	Alternate
PCWA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ed Horton	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ben Barker
Roseville	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	George Hanson Scott Alvord	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Sean Bigley Trevor Joseph
City of Sacramento	<input type="checkbox"/>	TBD	<input type="checkbox"/>	Brett Ewart

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"/>	Marcia Kivett
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Alan Doud				

Members of the Public

<i>Name</i>	<i>Representing</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Representing</i>
Holly Stout	DWR	Erin Huang	Jacobs
Brian Thomas	Sites Project	Mike Smith	AECOM
Eric Patterson	Kiewit	Laney Nelson	ARUP
Amy Aguer	SCVWA	Grace Lue	AECOM
Steve Grasha	Desert WA	Michael Plinski	San Bernardino Valley MWD
Richard Newens	HDR	Loan Iqbal	Lane Construct
Jeff Kivett	Brown & Caldwell	Joe Gold	Cal OSHA
Joseph Crocker	Cal OSHA	Joh Wendland	Cal OSHA
Matt Goody/Felix Carmanado	Plumbers, Pipefitting & HVACR Technicians	Scott German	Fechter
Juleah Cordi	Office of Assembly Member James Gallagher	Emily Ortiz/Kate Williams	Colusa Glenn Farm Credit Bureau
Sarah Rossetto	Katz & Associates	Scott Brown	LWA
Cheyenne Harris	Brown & Caldwell	Jeff Herrin	AECOM
Henry Luu	HDR	Conner McDonald	CMD West
Doug Montague	Montague DeRose Associates	Caitlin Nielsen	HDR
Laurie Warner Herson	Phenix		