

# **SITES PROJECT JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY**

## **MINUTES OF MEETING**

October 1, 2014

Chair Durst called the meeting of the Sites Project Joint Powers Authority (Sites JPA) Board of Directors to order at 1:31 p.m. The meeting was held at the Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District, 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

Maxwell Irrigation District (MID), Greg Mensik

Reclamation District 108 (RD 108), Fritz Durst

Tehama Colusa Canal Authority (TCCA), Ken LaGrande

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

### **Absent:**

None

### **Also Present:**

Gary Evans, County of Colusa; Lewis Bair, RD 108; Wade Mathis, TCCA; Dan Ruiz, MID; Sandy Denn, Thad Bettner, Mary Spooner Danley, GCID; Oscar Serrano, Colusa Indian Community; Dave Ceppos, Center for Collaborative Policy; Lisa Hunter, Glenn County Ag Department; Mary Fahey, Colusa County Ag Department; Jim Bond, Bond Tax and Financial Services; Jeff Herrin, Kevin Spesert URS; Mike Urkov, TCCA Consultant; Rob Leaf, Mark Oliver, CH2M Hill; Debbi Lemberg, Family Water Alliance, Curtis Anderson, Sean Sou, DWR; Angela Tatom, Executive Assistant to Ken LaGrande

### **Approve Agenda**

Director Mensik moved to approve the agenda, Director Denn seconded the motion, and the agenda was unanimously approved by the following vote:

AYES: Directors Durst, Denn, LaGrande, Vann, McDaniel, Tadlock and Mensik

NOES: None

### **Public Participation**

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

### **Approval of September 3, 2014 Minutes**

Director Vann moved to approve the minutes of the September 3, 2014, meeting, Director LaGrande seconded the motion, and the minutes were unanimously approved by the following vote:

AYES: Directors Durst, Denn, LaGrande, Vann, McDaniel, Tadlock and Mensik  
NOES: None

## **FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

### **Approve Treasurer's Report**

Jim Bond, Bond Tax and Financial Services, reviewed the Treasurer's Report. Director LaGrande moved to approve the Treasurer's Report, Director Mensik seconded, and the Treasurer's Report was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Directors Durst, Denn, LaGrande, Vann, McDaniel, Tadlock and Mensik  
NOES: None

### **Discuss Budget Preparation and Assumptions for 2015**

Jim Bond reported that he and GCID General Manger Thad Bettner would prepare a multi-year budget with two scenarios; one for when the Water Bond passes and one if it does not pass.

### **Approve Payment of Claims**

On motion by Director LaGrande, and second by Director Mensik, payment of claims #1080 through #1082 in the amount of Four Thousand, Three Hundred One Dollar and Ninety-Nine Cents (\$4,301.99) by the following vote:

AYES: Directors Durst, Denn, LaGrande, Vann, McDaniel, Tadlock and Mensik  
NOES: None

## **GOVERNANCE AND INTERNAL ORGANIZATION**

### **Report on General Manger Proposal**

The draft Request for Qualifications (RFQ) and Proposal for General Manager was discussed at length. Concern was raised on how to fund the General Manger position as the burden of financing the position would be up to the members if the Water Bond does not pass in November. The job requirements will be different if the Water Bond does not pass versus the requirements needed for a General Manager if the Water Bond does pass.

Director McDaniel arrived at 1:46 p.m.

The question was raised that if the RFQ is delayed in sending out until after the Water Bond, and assuming it does pass, that it may be expected to contain a higher financial offer than if the RFQ was sent out prior to the elections.

Director Bransford arrived at 1:53 p.m.

Director Denn departed at 1:54 p.m.

It was suggested that the timeline for the RFQ could start in mid-October with the RFQ's being received from interested parties by late November.

Director McDaniel moved to approve the Request for Qualifications proposal for General Manager, Director Tadlock seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved by the following vote:

AYES: Directors Durst, Bransford, LaGrande, Vann, McDaniel, Tadlock and Mensik  
NOES: None

### **Review and Approve Legal Services for Power Permitting**

The General Managers Group invited attorneys to discuss legal authorities and permitting related to the power attributes of the project. Two firms have provided "Proposed Scope of Work" and they were reviewed by Attorney John Kenny.

Attorney Kenny found both Scopes of Work (SOW) to be in order and acceptable if the Sites JPA wished to proceed. Both SOW offered specific "not-to-exceed" clauses for specific tasks.

Director Vann moved to approve the specific tasks in the Proposed Scope of Work from Braun Blasing McLaughlin & Smith P.C. \$3,500 and Holland and Knight LLC \$6,000, Director Bransford seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved by the following vote:

AYES: Directors Durst, Bransford, LaGrande, Vann, McDaniel, Tadlock and Mensik  
NOES: None

### **Review Responses to Sites Reservoir Services and Benefits Questions by Members**

Dave Ceppos, Center for Collaborative Policy, provided a summary of each members' responses to the Sites Reservoir Services and Benefits Questionnaire. The commonality issues with members were infrastructure, to support power, and water pricing. The Board discussed the many ideas formed for the questionnaire as it provides direction to the Board which of the alternatives would be most beneficial to all members to use in building of Sites Reservoir.

Comments from others present at the Board meeting included the impression that ninety percent of the water would be used by southern California, such as Los Angeles. The public also expressed the desire to improve public understanding of the environmental benefits that Sites Reservoir will provide.

## **REGULAR BUSINESS**

### **Report and Discussion on Federal Affairs**

GCID General Manager Bettner reported the Coordinating Committee has been working towards a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) to complete the Feasibility Study (FS) and/or follow an approach similar to Los Vaqueros Reservoir where Sites JPA would be the lead and there would be an operational and permitting relationship with USBR. USBR has rejected this, stating that Congress has not authorized the second approach.

Further discussion on Federal Affairs was tabled to the next meeting.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Coordinating Committee**

The Coordinating Committee continues to meet each Tuesday.

#### **Outreach Committee**

Landowner and interested parties were invited to attend any of the ten meetings that were held mid-September with the last meeting held on September 29, 2014. Various concerns included fair compensation, treatment of burial grounds and cultural resources, land use and access requirements and restrictions, local availability of water resources, area of origin, use and distribution of water, benefits and drawbacks of recreation, location of the pipeline and the right-of-way protocols and easements.

The Committee feels that the local landowners' questions and concerns were addressed and is planning to hold additional outreach meetings after the November election.

#### **Outreach to Conservation and Environmental Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO)**

Director McDaniel has been working with TCCA Consultant Mike Urkov on a presentation to show the environmental benefits of a Sites Reservoir to present to the various NGO's. They would like to have everyone stay after the meeting to review the presentation.

#### **Water Users/Investor Committee**

Director Vann said the Committee has developed goals to meet Early Action Planning Dollars: Identify short and long term water users that would participate in Early Action Planning Dollars; obtain messaging points from other committees and the Board to incorporate into the messaging points of why water users should participate in Early Action Planning Dollars; coordinate the Action Plan into future definition of what Early Action Planning Dollars will be used for and timing; coordinate results of Sites Reservoir Services and Benefits Questionnaire into the talking points asking for funding of Early Action Planning Dollars.

#### **Managers' Technical Group**

URS Consultant Jeff Herrin distributed the schedule of work in progress.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

The Water Education Foundation will be conducting its Northern California water tour to Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District on October 24. The Sites JPA Board is welcome to join the tour at GCID's Main Pump Station for lunch. They will also be stopping at the Refuge and Sites Reservoir site.

The Association of California Water Agencies Fall Conference is December 2 through December 5, 2014 in San Diego.

**MEMBER COMMENTS**

**ADJOURNMENT**

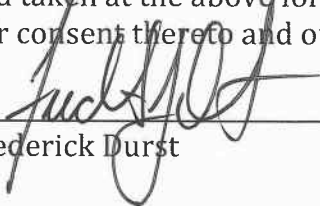
The meeting adjourned at 4:47 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Kim Dolbow Vann  
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.



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Frederick Durst