# SITES PROJECT JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY

# MINUTES OF MEETING October 14, 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 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), Wade Mathis
Yolo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (YCFC&WD), Ron Tadlock

#### Absent:

County of Colusa

#### **Also Present:**

Jeff Sutton, TCCA; Sandy Denn, Thad Bettner, Mary Spooner Danley, GCID; Oscar Serrano, Colusa Indian Community; Dave Ceppos, Center for Collaborative Policy; Lisa Hunter, Brian Taylor, Glenn County Agriculture Department; Rob Leaf; CH2M Hill;

### **Approve Agenda**

Director Bransford moved to approve the agenda, Director Mensik 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 September 4, 2013, meeting, Director Tadlock seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

## **FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

#### **Approve Payment of Claims**

On motion by Director Bransford, second by Director Tadlock and unanimous vote, payment of claims #1049 through #1052 in the amount of Four Thousand, Six Hundred Five Dollars and Thirty Cents (\$4,605.30) was approved.

#### Approve Treasurer's Report

Director Bransford presented the Treasurer's Report. Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District General Manger Thad Bettner reported that he has been working with Accountant Jim Bond on a Sites JPA budget to be considered for adoption by the end of the year.

On motion by Director Mensik, second by Director Tadlock and unanimous vote, the Treasurer's Report was approved as presented.

# Discuss Status of EIR/EIS Contract with CH2M Hill

During the September board meeting, Rob Leaf of CH2M Hill reported on CH2M Hill's willingness to work with Sites JPA to develop a process to move forward on completing the draft EIR/EIS despite the lack of funding. Mr. Leaf gave a brief outline of the work left on the remaining chapters and the expected date of completion. The letter stating that all work on behalf of Sites JPA cease was sent on October 8, 2013, as requested by the Board. Mr. Leaf has replied via e-mail that CH2M Hill has received the letter and indicated that he will prepare a response to Sites JPA to address the Board's concerns.

Director McDaniel arrived at 1:43 p.m.

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) had requested that the work continue on the EIR/EIS, and indicated that DWR is prepared to fund CH2M Hill. DWR does not have staff available to cover specific areas of the EIR/EIS and needs CH2M Hill to assist in completing the EIR/EIS.

At the September meeting, it was suggested that the Sites JPA should request an additional \$2 million of Proposition 204 grant funds to cover the additional time and work necessary to complete the EIR/EIS. Upon further review, CH2M Hill and DWR do not feel that this would be a prudent expenditure of funds at this time, as the additional funds will still not fully cover completion of the process.

Chairman Durst noted that he found the *Action Plan Status* report included in the board packets to be informative and useful and requested that it be a regular inclusion in future board packets.

# Discuss and Approve Contract with the Center for Collaborative Policy

As part of the Financing, Operational Modeling and Outreach Action Plan the Board adopted, which includes outreach to landowners, counties, and the local area, the Center for Collaborative Policy (CCP) has developed an outreach plan and meetings. The DWR is already using CCP in its outreach efforts, and DWR's Contracts Office has confirmed that Sites JPA does not need to seek bids for this portion of the work. Dave Ceppos of CCP explained that outreach is needed to show the uses of the Sites Reservoir in a positive way, create a partnership with local landowners, keep the communities informed and to control the message of what the Sites Reservoir will entail.

Director Tadlock questioned whether the outreach program would be moving forward too soon due to the fact that the EIR/EIS is only at the draft stage. Mr. Ceppos indicated that it is important for all components of the Sites Reservoir to take place simultaneously. This enables the process to come together smoothly and ensures that the public is aware of the project and questions have been considered prior to the EIR/EIS being made public. Director Mathis made a motion to accept the contract with the Center for Collaborative Policy, second by Director McDaniel. The motion passed by the following vote:

Ayes: Directors Mathis, McDaniel, Bransford, Mensik

Noes: Director Tadlock

Abstain: None

Mr. Ceppos requested that two Directors provide assistance with the outreach program. Director Mathis and Director McDaniel volunteered.

# Discuss and Approve Contract with CH2M Hill on Modeling Sites with BDCP Operations

Sites Reservoir has been shown to be capable of providing multi-use benefits sufficient to be feasible from a design, construction, operations, economic and environmental standpoint; therefore, one of the next steps is to proceed with modeling Sites Reservoir with BDCP operations. The Scope of Work to accomplish this, prepared by CH2M Hill, will use previous BDCP and NODOS modeling and information to investigate a scenario that integrates elements of NODOS and BDCP together. CH2M Hill's Scope of Work is based on time and materials, in sequential order on a task by task basis, totaling \$85,000. Each task will be submitted for approval and the findings reported to the Board.

Director Bransford moved to approve the contract with CH2M Hill, Director McDaniel seconded, and the motion was passed by unanimous vote.

# **Governance and Internal Organization**

None

# **Regular Business**

None

#### **Other Business**

None

#### **Member Comments**

None

#### **Closed Session**

None

#### Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:11 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