



Website: SitesProject.org

Reservoir Committee & Authority Board

June 20, 2025

Authority Board Chair: Fritz Durst (Reclamation District 108)
Authority Board Vice Chair: Jeff Sutton (Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority)
Reservoir Committee Chair: Robert Kunde (Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District)
Reservoir Committee Vice Chair: Jordan Navarrot (RD108 & Dunnigan Water District)
Treasurer: Jamie Traynham (Davis Water District)

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Chair Durst called the 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:

Authority Board: 12 members in attendance, resulting in a quorum.

Reservoir Committee: 18 representatives (85.06) attendance, resulting in a quorum.

INTRODUCTIONS:

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

AGENDA APPROVAL:

ACTION RC: Moved by Ms. Traynham, seconded by Ms. Pryor, to approve the June 20, 2025, meeting agenda as amended. **Motion carried unanimously.**

ACTION AB: Moved by Director Kaplan, seconded by Director Parker, to approve the June 20, 2025, meeting agenda as amended. **Motion Carried: All Directors present voted yes.**

ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED SESSION:

General Counsel (GC) Doud announced that the Authority Board of Directors and the Reservoir Committee Members would consider Closed Session matters 5.1. through 5.3.

PERIOD FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

Chair Durst called for a period of public comment. Hearing no comments, Chair Durst closed the public comment period.

Authority Board & Reservoir Committee Meeting

June 20, 2025

1. CONSENT AGENDA:

Ms. Traynham made a comment related to Item 1.4, noting a correction to the figure in the report for Fiscal Years 2025 (\$33,900) and 2026 (\$35,750).

ACTION RC: It was moved by Mr. Paul Weghorst, seconded by Mr. Navarrot, to approve all items on consent agenda including the correction to Item 1.4. **Motion carried unanimously.**

ACTION AB: It was moved by Director Kaplan, seconded by Director Evans, to approve the consent agenda with the noted correction to Item 1.4. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- 1.1 Reservoir Committee and Authority Board consider approval of May 16, 2025, Reservoir Committee and Authority Board Meeting Minutes. **(Attachments A & B)**
- 1.2 Reservoir Committee and Authority Board consider acceptance of the Sites Project Authority Treasurer's Report. **(Attachments A & B)**
- 1.3 Reservoir Committee and Authority Board consider approval of the Sites Project Authority Payment of Claims. **(Attachments A & B)**
- 1.4 Reservoir Committee and Authority Board consider approval of authorizing the Executive Director to execute a consulting contract for Financial Audit Services with Richardson & Company, LLP in an amount not to exceed \$33,900 for FY2025, \$35,750 for FY2025 and \$40,500 for FY2027 with an additional one-time \$20,000 for additional services as needed with the option to continue an additional two years based on performance.

2. ACTION ITEMS:

- 2.1 Reservoir Committee and Authority Board review mid-year work plan status update and consider approval of revised 2025 annual budget, including the adjusted subject area amounts. **(Attachments A & B)**

Executive Director (ED) Jerry Brown noted for the group that when the 2025 budget was approved in February, staff had explained all funds were being stretched as much as possible and said this item is now meant to make needed updates and revisions. He handed the item over to Shayleen O'Connell. Ms. O'Connell reviewed the budget status updates, including expenses and revenues, as well as carryover from 2024. The revised numbers in revenues show a decline, and the proposed budget revision is to extend the burn rate. She said the goal is to be ready to go when the project gets to the investor commitment phase.

Ms. O'Connell reviewed the figures of the adopted budget for Fiscal Years 2025 and 2026, and the revised budget, which is meant to maximize the budget as much as possible. The total adopted combined budget for Fiscal Year 2026 is \$19.9M, and the revised budget is \$12.6M. She said that updated numbers will come back to the Board in October.

Ms. O'Connell reviewed the expenses by subject area. The total adopted budget for expenses for Fiscal Year 2026 is \$47.6M, and the revised figure is \$42.5M. There are

Authority Board & Reservoir Committee Meeting

June 20, 2025

significant savings in the area of engineering. Responding to questions, ED Brown confirmed that the savings may indicate a delay to the schedule.

Vice Chair Sutton asked what other delays may be expected and Mr. Cheng asked what can be done to catch up if there are delays. ED Brown said these questions will be addressed as the project gets to investor commitment and financing is secured; he explained the land acquisition part of the project is emerging as more challenging and urgent. ED Brown said securing the Construction Manager at Risk ("CMAR") will be helpful for pacing and reviewed the schedule for selecting the CMAR. He said that even with a delay, it is still expected that the project will be complete by 2032.

Vice Chair Kunde said the Budget & Finance Committee has seen the same information and that the Committee learned there aren't major delays associated with a shift in construction approach associated with the budget information being provided now.

Mr. Weghorst asked about cushion in the budget, and ED Brown said there is \$5M between FY25 and FY26. There were questions about the timeline and if there is the possibility of reconfiguring the timeline, or adding to reserves, and Ms. Trayhman and ED Brown confirmed the recommended action presented today, and staying with the proposed timeline.

The Board and Reservoir Committee members discussed the timeline, if delays were possible, and when decisions need to be made. Ms. O'Connell explained that the proposed action for revisions to the budget is designed to make the action transparent, thoughtful and conservative.

Ms. Pryor said that not having reserves puts pressure on permitting agencies and the participants to make decisions. Director Evans asked about the recommended changes and confirmed that today's actions relate to the revisions for Fiscal Year 2025, and ED Brown said Fiscal Year 2026 action will come later.

Ms. O'Connell reiterated what is changing via the current staff recommendation, including the steps taken to ensure funds align with imperatives, the reduced anticipated revenue, the reallocation funds to placeholder for Work Package #1, the distribution of work throughout Fiscal Years 2025 and 2026, and the deferral of certain detailed engineering efforts to Phase 3.

Ms. O'Connell reported on prioritization of work activities through June 2025 including what is fully funded and partially funded. She confirmed the work priorities remain the same while the funding has shifted. She reviewed the cash flow and cash balance curves for 2025/2026.

Vice Chair Sutton asked about the status of federal funding and ED Brown said that there are no assumptions related to the federal funding.

Mr. Weghorst asked about the California Water Commission and potential for adjustments, and ED Brown said the proposed revisions do not take into consideration any of those potential funds.

Authority Board & Reservoir Committee Meeting

June 20, 2025

The Board and Reservoir Committee discussed the importance of securing investor commitment, the possibility of deferring certain tasks if necessary, and the unlikely but potential option of issuing a cash call if necessary.

Hearing no further discussion, Chair Durst called the question.

ACTION RC: It was moved by Ms. Traynham, seconded by Mr. Azevedo to recommend approval of agenda item 2.1 to the Authority Board. **Motion carried unanimously.**

ACTION AB: It was moved by Director Kaplan, seconded by Vice Chair Sutton to approve agenda item 2.1. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- 2.2 Reservoir Committee and Authority Board consider authorizing the Executive Director to submit the Project's Clean Water Act 404 and 401 Permit applications resubmission.

ED Brown said staff have been working on how to approach challenges with permit application submission and turned the item over to Ms. Ali Forsythe.

Ms. Forsythe reviewed the background information related to this item, stating the matter is to navigate the permit applications, which require a lot of land access for various activities, and information about how to mitigate impacts. She explained that the Authority team has worked extensively with the Army Corps of Engineers, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the State Water Resources Control Board over the past year to revise the permitting approach and are currently seeking the Board's concurrence on a revised approach.

Ms. Forsythe reviewed the proposed revised approach, which includes resubmitting both permit applications, and said while there is a proposed change to the process, there are no changes to the original approach for wetlands determinations, impact determinations or mitigation approach.

Ms. Forsythe went through the section 404 permit information and anticipated actions from the Army Corps of Engineers. She said subsequent work packages would be authorized separately as information becomes available.

Ms. Forsythe reviewed next steps and timing, including coordination with Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority and Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District, resubmission of permit applications, and permit issuance in March 2026.

Vice Chair Sutton asked if the resubmission is urgent in terms of timing and Ms. Forsythe said it would likely occur mid-to-late July. He then said he would wish to have conditional approval of this item since the Board only looked at it this week. Staff agreed that conditional approval is reasonable.

ED Brown wished to acknowledge that there was a Congressional delegation who have been helpful and encouraging to the process and prioritization.

Hearing no further discussion, Chair Durst called the question.

Authority Board & Reservoir Committee Meeting

June 20, 2025

ACTION RC: It was moved by Mr. Weghorst, seconded by Mr. Navarrot to recommend conditional approval of agenda item 2.2 to the Authority Board. **Motion carried unanimously.**

ACTION AB: It was moved by Director Jones, seconded by Director Parker to conditionally approve agenda item 2.2. **Motion carried unanimously.**

2.3 Reservoir Committee and Authority Board consider approval for numerical representations in Table A, "Final Allocation of Available Storage in Sites Reservoir" and other materials as follows:

1. Storage capacity allocation in acre-feet to the nearest whole number or integer part using amounts previously adopted by the Board in May 2023 when the transition was made from "yield based" participation to "storage based" participation.
2. Percentage share of storage as a whole and/or decimal number to three significant digits.
3. Percentage share of downstream facility capacity allocation as a whole and/or decimal number to three significant digits. **(Attachments A & B)**

ED Brown presented this item and explained that in 2023, staff presented a storage-based allocation related to available storage. He said staff is now recommending representing participation to the nearest whole number, which is important because this mirrors how the percentage share is determined; and cost share and water share is calculated based on this number.

Chair Durst called for the vote.

ACTION RC: It was moved by Ms. Pryor, seconded by Mr. Navarrot to recommend approval of agenda item 2.3 to the Authority Board. **Motion carried unanimously.**

ACTION AB: It was moved by Director Evans, seconded by Vice Chair Sutton to approve agenda item 2.3. **Motion carried unanimously.**

3. DISCUSSION AND INFORMATION ITEMS:

3.1 Review and comment on the ongoing development of the Program Baseline Report representing the Project's updated costs, benefits and plan of finance. **(Attachment A)**

ED Brown reported this item is intended to continue to provide information for agencies in order to make decisions, as cumulative information will assist home boards to ultimately decide on participation.

ED Brown went through the project update related to construction cost estimate, estimated new water supply and refinements that will come after the water rights and state and federal agreements are complete.

Authority Board & Reservoir Committee Meeting

June 20, 2025

ED Brown said the Value Planning Ad Hoc group has been meeting related to this item and has been discussing the anticipation of two key values for the project cost in the Program Baseline Report for the purpose of managing the project cost.

ED Brown went through the range of costs and the range of project benefits. He reported that there is more work being done to understand conveyance mechanisms. He said the various committees and their conversations have been helpful in developing the report back to the group in this meeting. ED Brown noted that next month, there will be more information related to transfer and lease questions.

ED Brown said there was a feasibility check related to the Benefit Cost Ratio. He also went through an example of how to roughly approximate each participant's cost share based on the range of construction costs.

ED Brown noted next steps and said the program baseline report will be completed in time to support a November offer of capacity.

4. REPORTS:

4.1 Chairpersons' Reports: None.

4.2 Committee & Workgroup Chairs' Reports:

Budget and Finance: Vice Chair Kunde reported that the group hasn't met, though there was discussion at a participation subcommittee meeting related to how to handle those who are on the participation waiting list.

Environmental & Permitting Workgroup – Ms. Maher said the group has not met.

Legislative & Outreach: Vice Chair Sutton said there was a productive Washington DC trip, and he gave comprehensive details about who went and what outreach activities occurred; he said for the most part, those who were part of the meetings were receptive and interested. He further reported that there is a Legislative Day coming up on June 25. He said there is also an upcoming meeting with the Governor's office.

4.3 Authority Board & Reservoir Committee Participant Reports: None.

4.4 Executive Director's Reports:

ED Brown reported there was a Board member request for a Water Infrastructure Financing and Innovation Act (WIFIA) program update. He turned his comments over to Mr. Roger Gwinn of The Ferguson Group, who was on the line. Mr. Gwinn reported on the Presidential Administration's budget request, which includes cuts to the EPA. The cuts will be to the EPA staff, and EPA officials have indicated there are sufficient resources for carryover balances to cover previous expected WIFIA funding. He said impacts have seemed manageable and that at hearings thus far in the House and Senate, there has been strong bipartisan support for WIFIA.

ED Brown reported that there have been two letters issued by the Authority, one related to bipartisan support for funding, and one related to a local issue about the availability of medical services being threatened in the area.

Authority Board & Reservoir Committee Meeting

June 20, 2025

ED Brown noted that Mr. Steve Johnson with Desert Water Agency is retiring.

- Monthly status report. **(Attachment A)**
- Action Items from last month's meeting. **(Attachment B)**

5. CLOSED SESSION: 11:07 a.m.

5.1 Negotiations concerning water right permit terms and conditions (Govt. Code §54956.9(c) and §54956.9(d)(1)).

5.2 Conference with Real Property Negotiators (Gov. Code § 54956.8).

Property: Various parcels comprising the Sites Reservoir and related facilities.

Agency negotiators: Jerry Brown, Ali Forsythe

Negotiating parties: U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

Under negotiation: Price and terms of payment for water storage and conveyance capacity.

5.3 Conference with Real Property Negotiators (Gov. Code § 54956.8).

Property: Various parcels comprising the Sites Reservoir and related facilities.

Agency negotiators: Jerry Brown, Ali Forsythe

Negotiating parties: California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Under negotiation: Price and terms of payment for water storage and conveyance capacity.

6. REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION: 12:09 p.m.

Chair Durst reported there was no action taken in Closed Session.

7. RECAP: None.

7.1 Suggested Future Agenda Items: None.

7.2 Upcoming Meetings:

Reservoir Committee & Authority Board

Day of Friday, July 18, 2025 (9:00 a.m. – noon)

Maxwell Project Office & Virtual

Chair Durst adjourned the Reservoir Committee and Authority Board Meeting at the hour of 12:10 p.m.



Fritz Durst, Authority Board Chair



Rob Kunde, Reservoir Committee Chair



MJ Brown, Board Clerk

Reservoir Committee's Roll Call**June 20, 2025****Agenda Item 1.1, Attachment A****9:00 AM – Noon****Current Voting Committee Participants (22):**

	%	Participant		%	Participant
☐	3.47	American Canyon, City	☐	2.57	LaGrande WD
☐	2.42	Antelope Valley-East Kern WA	☒	17.29	Metropolitan WD
☒	5.28	Coachella Valley WD	☒	3.47	Reclamation District 108
☒	5.28	Colusa County	☒	2.42	Rosedale-Rio Bravo WSD
☒	5.05	Colusa County WD	☒	8.70	San Bernardino Valley MWD
☒	2.41	Cortina WD (1)	☐	6.48	San Geronio Pass WA
☒	2.87	Davis WD	☒	2.42	Santa Clara Valley WD
☒	4.22	Desert WA	☒	3.77	Santa Clarita Valley WA
☒	3.17	Dunnigan WD	☒	3.89	Westside WD
☒	3.77	Glenn-Colusa ID	☒	3.19	Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa WSD
☒	2.57	Irvine Ranch WD	☒	5.28	Zone 7 WA
				100.00	Total

18 Voting members represented at the start of the meeting**85.06%** Represented participation percentage.

Representation has been delegated as follows:

(1) Proxy to Jamie Traynham, Davis WD

(*) Not present after _____

Meeting Attendance**June 20, 2025****Agenda Item 1.1, Attachment B****9:00 AM- Noon**

Current Voting Authority Board (9)		Primary		Alternate
Colusa County	☒	Gary Evans	☒	Randy Wilson
Colusa County Water District	☐	Joe Marsh	☒ ☐	Hal Charter Shelly Murphy
Glenn County	☒	Tony Arendt	☐	Jim Yoder
Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District	☒	Jeff Sutton	☐	Logan Dennis
Reclamation District 108	☒	Fritz Durst	☐ ☐	Sean Doherty Hilary Reinhard
Placer County Water Agency/City of Roseville	☒	Gray Allen	☒	Pauline Rocucci
Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority	☐	Bill Vanderwaal	☒ ☐	Jim Jones Zack Dennis
City of Sacramento/Sacramento County	☒	Lisa Kaplan	☐ ☐	Anne Sangar Brett Ewart
Westside Water District	☒	Doug Parker	☐ ☒	Zach Dennis Allen Myers

Associate Members (non-voting)		Primary		Alternate
Western Canal Water District	☐	Greg Johnson	☒	Ted Trimble
Zone 3	☒	Mike Urkov	☐	Wendy Tyler

Non-Voting Committee Participants (2)		Primary		Alternate/Other
Department of Water Resources	☒	Rob Cooke	☐	
Bureau of Reclamation	☐ ☒	Adam Nickels Allison Jacobson	☐ ☒	Natalie Taylor Jesse Sikora

Current Voting Reservoir Committee (22)		Primary		Alternate
American Canyon, City	☐	Jason Holley	☐	
Antelope Valley-East Kern WA	☐	Matt Knudson	☐	
Coachella Valley Water District	☒	Robert Cheng	☐	Petya Vasileva
Colusa County	☒	Mike Azevedo	☐	Daurice Kalfsbeek Smith
Colusa County Water District	☒	Halbert Charter	☐	Shelly Murphy
Cortina Water District	☐	Jim Peterson	☐ ☒	Chuck Grimmer Jamie Traynham
Davis Water District	☒	Jamie Traynham	☐	Tom Charter

Meeting Attendance**June 20, 2025****Agenda Item 1.1, Attachment B****9:00 AM- Noon**

Desert Water Agency	☒	Steve Johnson	☐	David Tate
			☒	Esther Saenz
Dunnigan Water District	☒	Jordon Navarrot	☐	
RD 108	☒	Jordon Navarrot	☐	Lewis Bair
Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District	☐	Logan Dennis	☐	Louis Jarvis
Irvine Ranch Water District	☒	Paul Weghorst	☐	Robert Huang
LaGrande Water District	☐	Zach Dennis	☐	
Metropolitan Water District	☒	Randall Neudeck	☐	Nina Hawk
			☐	Sam Smalls
Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water District	☒	Trent Taylor	☐	Dan Bartel
San Bernardino Valley Water District	☒	Michael Plinski	☐	Heather Dyer
San Geronio Pass Water Agency	☐	Lance Eckhart	☐	Thomas Todd
			☐	Emmett Campbell
Santa Clara Valley Water District	☒	Katherine Maher	☐	Cindy Kao
Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency	☒	Steve Cole	☐	Ali Elhassan
Westside Water District	☒	Allen Myers	☐	
Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District	☒	Rob Kunde	☐	Sheridan Nicholas
			☐	Eric McDaris
Zone 7 Water Agency	☒	Valerie Pryor	☐	Lillian Xie

Authority Shared Seats		Primary		Alternate
Roseville	☐	George Hanson	☐	Sean Bigley
	☐	Joshua Alpine	☐	Darin Reintjes
Sacramento County	☐	Kerry Schmitz	☐	

Sites Project Authority:

☒ Jerry Brown
 ☒ Ali Forsythe
 ☒ Kevin Spesert
 ☐ JP Robinette
 ☒ Shayleen O'Connell
 ☒ MJ Brown
 ☒ Alan Doud

Members of the Public

<i>Name</i>	<i>Representing</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Representing</i>
Nancy Moricz	Kleinfelder	Ken Bohannon	Kleinfelder
Juleah Cordi	ASM Gallagher	George Pendell	Stony Creek
John Belperio	Nor Cal Carpenters	Chuck Adamson	Operating Engineers Local 3

Meeting Attendance**June 20, 2025****Agenda Item 1.1, Attachment B****9:00 AM- Noon****Members of the Public**

<i>Name</i>	<i>Representing</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Representing</i>
Jason Minton	Kleinfelder		

Virtual Attendance

Virtual Attendance 77

Marcia Kivett	Gob+A53:A80el, Jordan (External)	Marcus Maltby (External)
Wendy Ambriz	Shafer, Mark (External)	Sara M. Katz (External)
Jerry Brown	Scott Brown (External)	Trent Taylor (External)
Alicia Forsythe	Arsenijevic, Jelica (External)	Robert Cheng
Conference	Brian Haber	Neudeck,Randall D (External)
15304546811 (Unverified)	Foss, Elizabeth (External)	Davis-Fadtke, Kristal@Wildlife
MJ Brown	Hentz, Chris (External)	Tim Saenz
Fritz Durst, RD108 (Unverified)	Katherine Maher (External)	Matt Howard (External)
Mike Anderson (Unverified)	Lance Eckhart Pass Agency (External)	Jason (Unverified)
Alan Doud (External)	Amanda Dwyer (External)	Suzzan Hunt (External)
Daniel Eckdahl (External)	Grace Lui	Shelly Murphy (Unverified)
Mike Azevedo (Unverified)	Alexander, Lanaya	Matthew Reed (External)
Cooke, Robert@DWR (External)	Rivera, Itzia@DWR (External)	Sikora, Jessica L (External)
Roccucci, Pauline	Young, Amy@DWR (she/her) (External)	Rubina Chaudhary (External)
Pryor, Valerie (External)	Schmitz, Kerry	Steve Johnson (External)
Conner McDonald	Rude, Pete	Brian Thomas
Eric McDaris (External)	Jeff Kivett (External)	Micko,Steve (External)
Michael Plinski (External)	Luis Huerta (External)	Gainey, Janice
Esther Saenz (External)	Golden, Shawn (external)	Spranza, John (External)
Luu, Henry (External)	Ely Johnson	Pamela Katileba-Jenkins Westside Water
Joel Kantola	Eric Espinoza (External)	Roger Gwinn (External)
Briard, Monique (External)	Logan Dennis	Douglas Montague (External)
Eric.Patterson1	19168800676 (Unverified)	Jason Novoselac Flo-Line (Unverified)
Steve Cole (External)	Alexander, Jeriann (External)	
Brent's Notetaker (Otter.ai) (Unverified)	Desi Dikova (External)	
Jacobson, Allison M (External)	Ryan,Russell E (External)	
Ted Trimble (Unverified)	15302187874 (Unverified)	