



Website: SitesProject.org

Reservoir Committee & Authority Board

May 16, 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:

Vice Chair Sutton called the Authority Board (AB) and Reservoir Committee (RC) Meeting to order at the hour of 9:03 a.m., followed by Roll Call and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair Durst arrived at 9:26 am

ROLL CALL/ATTENDANCE:

Authority Board: 5 members in attendance, resulting in a quorum.

Reservoir Committee: 18 representatives (86.19%) 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 Mr. Plinski, to approve the May 16, 2025, meeting agenda as amended. **Motion carried unanimously.**

ACTION AB: Moved by Director Evans, seconded by Director Kaplan, to approve the May 16, 2025, meeting agenda as amended. **Motion Carried: All Directors present voted yes.**

ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED SESSION:

General Counsel (GC) Doud announced the Authority Board of Directors and the Reservoir Committee Members would consider Closed Session matters 5.1. and 5.2.

PERIOD FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

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

1. CONSENT AGENDA:

Authority Board & Reservoir Committee Meeting

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ACTION RC: It was moved by Ms. Pryor, seconded by Mr. Azevedo, to approve all items on consent agenda. **Motion carried unanimously.**

ACTION AB: It was moved by Director Vanderwaal, seconded by Director Kaplan, to approve the consent agenda. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- 1.1 Reservoir Committee and Authority Board consider approval of April 18, 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 acceptance of the Sites Project Authority's First Quarter 2025 Budget Year Quarterly Financial Report. **(Attachment A)**

2. **ACTION ITEMS:**

- 2.1 Reservoir Committee and Authority Board consider authorizing the Executive Director to sign the National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 Programmatic Agreement.

Executive Director (ED) Brown opened the item, and Ms. Forsythe gave a presentation related to the Programmatic Agreement, including the Record of Decision to conclude the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) process requirements, which entail considerations related to the National Historic Preservation Act. She explained the purpose of the Programmatic Agreement and noted it is a condition precedent for all funding sources and federal permitting.

Ms. Forsythe said the Authority is close to both completing the Programmatic Agreement and beginning its implementation. She explained staff is requesting the Board authorize signing the Agreement in order to encourage others to sign. Ms. Forsythe reviewed the next steps in the Agreement process.

In response to Vice Chair Sutton asking for clarification, Ms. Forsythe explained the components related to facilities constituting National Historic Preservation considerations and said it is not solely age as a component, but other significant elements, that warrant that characterization.

Ms. Forsythe explained those resources that are valuable to tribes will need to be considered. Director Vanderwaal asked about commitment to resources and Ms. Forsythe confirmed there are commitments related to timelines. She said some facilities, such as pump stations, are included in the Agreement.

Vice Chair Sutton asked about unowned properties and asked if the Agreement has ongoing duty for these, and Ms. Forsythe there is "drive by" assessment and the Authority is also trying to assess properties it doesn't yet own.

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

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

- 2.2 Reservoir Committee and Authority Board consider authorizing the Executive Director to sign the Project's Master Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement.

Ms. Forsythe said staff are ready to request authorization for the Executive Director to execute the Project's master lake and streambed alteration agreement. Staff and the Authority's consultants have been working with California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) on the Master LSA Agreement since 2023, readying it for signature.

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

ACTION AB: It was moved by Vice Chair Sutton, seconded by Chair Durst to approve agenda item 2.2. **Motion carried unanimously.**

3. **DISCUSSION AND INFORMATION ITEMS:**

- 3.1 Review and comment on the proposed evaluation criteria for the Reservoir Construction Manager at Risk Request for Proposal.

Mr. JP Robinette opened this item and explained that evaluation criteria for the Reservoir Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) Request for Proposal (RFP) has gone through the Operations and Engineering (O&E) workgroup. The workgroup wanted to prioritize selecting evaluation criteria related to the proposed team, the people the CMAR would bring to the Reservoir package, considerations about the community outreach and workforce development locally, and how the contractor would involve local businesses and vendors. A key consideration was how the selected firm would honor commitments to organized labor. Mr. Robinette said financial savings are also a consideration.

Mr. Robinette noted the short-listed firms align well with the values of the Sites Authority. The RFP is anticipated to be issued in June and be due in August. Review is scheduled for September, with a report back to the Board and Reservoir Committee in October.

ED Brown asked for any input on the proposed evaluation criteria. A question was raised about the make-up of the evaluation committee. Mr. Robinette explained who the evaluators and scorers are, and said they represent a diverse and independent group of individuals with public agency and CMAR type experience. There are no Board members on the evaluation committee.

Chair Durst asked what the role of the O&E workgroup is, and ED Brown explained that group has outlined the evaluation criteria, and the Evaluation Committee is a different group.

Mr. Robinette clarified the proposals will likely provide data and approaches about cost savings for the Evaluation Committee to review.

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In response to questions about the team responsible for the evaluation, and balancing cost savings with commitments to the community, ED Brown said the evaluation will contemplate how the Reservoir CMAR meshes with the Authority's values and what is known about the local community considerations. Mr. Robinette stated they will be looking for creativity on cost savings, but not at the cost of values related to the local community. . Additional questions were raised as to the involvement of TCCA and GCID as facility use operators in the selection of this contractor due to interface risk. There are construction access roadways to cross TCCA/GCID facilities but the majority of the onsite work on TCCA and GCID lands are going to be within the conveyance CMAR package which will come later. However ED Brown encouraged that advisory support from TCCA, GCID and the County would be beneficial

3.2 Receive an overview of the Project's Construction Biological Opinion.

Ms. Forsythe opened this item and gave a presentation. She reviewed the history of the Project's construction biological opinion, and the anticipated construction impacts to various species. She explained the biological opinion is a condition precedent for funding sources and federal permitting.

Ms. Forsythe went over the proposed approach in biological assessment and biological opinion, and how it reflects the biological assessment commitments.

Ms. Forsythe reviewed next steps which include reviewing the draft Final Biological Opinion, coordination with Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District and Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority on facilities and operations, final changes to US Fish and Wildlife Service receiving the Biological Opinion. She said if there are unexpected terms that will be included, this item will come back for further review and discussion.

3.3 Review and comment on the Biological Terrestrial Mitigation Contractor Procurement checklist of items to be completed before issuing the Request for Qualifications (RFQ).

ED Brown said this item follows along with what has been done with the CMAR development, including identifying what is unique, and what is related, to policy issues for the biological mitigation contractor procurement. He explained that staff are looking for feedback. Ms. Forsythe said the Project is following a two-step process which consists of a Request for Qualifications and then a Request for Proposals. She reviewed the procurement checklist items focused on the RFQs. She explained the checklist provides guidance, and staff is requesting concurrence from the Authority Board and Committee.

Ms. Forsythe went through the checklist items, including several contract terms that assign risk. She reviewed the questions related to the structure of the contract to receive the best value for the Authority while addressing risk factors.

Ms. Forsythe explained that ensuring a cost effective delivery of mitigation that incorporates the critical stacking assumptions, and assignment of long-term permit requirements, are important considerations. She spoke about the application of locational preference and local considerations.

Finally, Ms. Forsythe reviewed the policy questions and impacts of the RFQ/RFP selection criteria.

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- 3.4 Receive the Draft Reservoir Operations Plan, Version 2.1, to accompany the April 2025 preliminary final draft Benefits and Obligations Contract. Staff requests Storage Partner comments on this draft no later than July 18, 2025 (**Attachment A**)

Ms. Forsythe noted the group has Version 2.1 of the Operations Plan in their packet and staff are looking for comments and feedback soon. She said this item has gone through the O&E workgroup multiple times, and encouraged review and comments. The draft will stay in draft form until the Benefit and Obligations (B&O) contract period and escrow period are near finalized, at which time this item will come back and be presented as a final draft.

ED Brown noted elements in the Operations Plan can be traced back to the B&O to see where those elements originated.

4. REPORTS:

4.1 Chairpersons' Reports:

RC: Vice Chair Navarrot said he appreciated the Authority's gathering at the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) conference.

Board: Chair Durst agreed the open house at ACWA was beneficial, saying it was well attended and the team did a great job of answering questions. Vice Chair Sutton echoed these comments and said he and Chair Durst are splitting representation locally and in Washington D.C.

Ms. Kaplan reported on a meeting with the Department of Interior, and said there is some uncertainty because of staff changes there. She said joint letters for the Project to the Bureau of Reclamation and Army Corps of Engineers would have more impact instead of individual letters.

4.2 Committee & Workgroup Chairs' Reports:

Environmental & Permitting Workgroup – Ms. Maher said the Environmental & Permitting workgroup met last week and received updates on mitigating strategy and reviewed some items that were presented at this meeting. The next meeting will be held in August.

Value Planning Ad Hoc Subcommittee and Operations & Engineering: Chair Kunde reported the group has met multiple times and discussed affordability, the range of benefits that might be available, CalSIM 3 results and the assumptions in the model that create constraints. He said the group had ideas on improving affordability. They reviewed the geotechnical components and costs, and assumptions for cost estimates, and a risk assessment for possible changes. The subcommittee discussed a cost probability draft that included considerations like soft costs and change orders. The subcommittee considered how to include construction budgets with the offer of capacity, and how to approve changes over time. The workgroup considered various levels of estimates and decided to recommend a conservative cost estimate. They provided feedback on staff presentation related to cost estimate. The next meeting will focus on improvements for affordability, and evaluation of those items will become part of Phase 3 of the workplan.

4.3 Authority Board & Reservoir Committee Participant Reports: None

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4.4 Executive Director's Reports:

ED Brown reported:

- The ACWA gathering was very good, with many helpful questions raised.
- Mr. Robinette has an article that was published in the National Association of Water Agencies' blog.
- The Authority has secured all cash calls, and the only outstanding dues are those of one associate member.

5. CLOSED SESSION: 10:45 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: California Department of Water Resources

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

6. REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION: 12:16 p.m.

Vice Chair Sutton reported that there was no action taken in Closed Session. There was nothing further to report.

7. RECAP: None.

7.1 Suggested Future Agenda Items: None.

7.2 Upcoming Meetings:

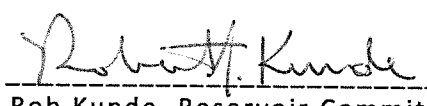
Reservoir Committee & Authority Board

Day of Friday, June 20, 2025 (9:00 a.m. – noon)

Maxwell Project Office & Virtual

Chair Sutton adjourned the Reservoir Committee and Authority Board Meeting at the hour of 12:16 p.m.


Jeff Sutton, Authority Board Vice Chair


Rob Kunde, Reservoir Committee Chair

DocuSigned by:


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MJ Brown, Board Clerk

Reservoir Committee's Roll Call**May 16, 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-☒**86.19%** Represented participation percentage.

Representation has been delegated as follows:

(1) Proxy to Jamie Traynham, Davis WD

(+) Not present after _____

Meeting Attendance**May 16, 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 Roccucci
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**May 16, 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	☐	Cindy Kao	☒	Katherine Maher
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	Chuck Adamson	Operating Engineers Local 3
Christy Scofield	Public	John Belperio	NorCal Carpenters

Meeting Attendance**May 16, 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>
David Morgan	Doug LaMalfa		

Virtual Attendance**Virtual Attendees: 79**

Marcia Kivett	Xzandreaa Fowler - Colusa County (Unverified)	Rude, Pete
Wendy Ambriz	Lance Eckhart (Unverified)	Matt Byrne
Jerry Brown	Eric.Patterson1	Esther Saenz (External)
C (Unverified)	Xie, Lillian (External)	Danielle Jolette (External)
15304546811 (Unverified)	Jordon Navarrot (External)	Tony Rathbun (Unverified)
MJ Brown	Joel Kantola	Brian Thomas
Joy Eldredge (External)	Rubina Chaudhary (External)	Dawson, Elizabeth (External)
Nathan Monroe	Luu, Henry (External)	Shafer, Mark (External)
Mike Anderson (Unverified)	Sikora, Jessica L (External)	19169073190 (Unverified)
15303666077 (Unverified)	Michael Plinski (External)	Ciara Fisher - Colusa County Planning (Unverified)
Louis Jarvis (External)	Gardels, Derek (External)	Nicholas Turner (External)
Eric McDaris (External)	Ayoub Antabeel	Punyamurthula, Sujana (External)
Jason Brown (External)	Neudeck,Randall D (External)	Fritz (Unverified)
Petya Vasileva	Marcus Maltby (External)	Peterson, Stephen
Pamela Katleba-Jenkins Westside Water	Jacobson, Allison M (External)	Golden, Shawn (external)
Kanetis, Nick	Katherine Maher (External)	Brent's Notetaker (Otter.ai) (Unverified)
Steve Cole (External)	Davis-Fadtke, Kristal@Wildlife	C McD
Waldrop, Heather (External)	Pryor, Valerie (External)	Lui, Grace (External)
Marika Bernardi (External)	Andrea E. Rocha (External)	David Tate (External)
Foss, Elizabeth (External)	Jillian Smith	RRBWSD Admin (External)
Robert Huang (External)	Richard Turkson	Jeff Kivett (External)
Arsenijevic, Jelica (External)	Desi Dikova (External)	Noyes, Mark (External)
Ewan Smith	Spranza, John (External)	Barrett, Leslie (External)
Douglas Montague (External)	Logan Dennis	Micko,Steve (External)
Matthew Reed (External)	Rivera, Itzia@DWR (External)	Jason Holley (External)
Ryan,Russell E (External)	Hentz, Chris (External)	
Rob Natoli (External)	Daniel Bender (External)	