



Reservoir Committee & Authority Board

September 19, 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 9:02 a.m., followed by Roll Call and the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL/ATTENDANCE:

Authority Board: 8 members in attendance, resulting in a quorum.

Reservoir Committee: 16 representatives (66.36%) attendance, resulting in a quorum.

INTRODUCTIONS:

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

AGENDA APPROVAL:

ACTION RC: Moved by Mr. Navarrot, seconded by Mr. Plinski, to approve the September 19, 2025, meeting agenda as amended with the additional item. **Motion carried unanimously.**

ACTION AB: Moved by Director Kaplan, seconded by Director Allen, to approve the September 19, 2025, meeting agenda as amended with the additional item. **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 5.5.

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:**

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

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

- 1.1 Reservoir Committee and Authority Board consider approval of August 22, 2025, 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 Sites Project Authority Payment of Claims.
- 1.4 Reservoir Committee and Authority Board consider approval of a Task Order Amendment with Best, Best and Krieger (BBK) for additional construction legal services in the amount of \$172,000 increasing the total task order amount from \$358,117 to a revised total not to exceed \$530,117 for the period of March 22, 2024, through December 31, 2025.
- 1.5 Reservoir Committee and Authority Board consider approval of a Task Order Amendment with HDR, Inc. for additional environmental permitting and planning staffing support in the amount of \$75,000, increasing the total task order amount from \$16,480,302 to a revised total not to exceed of \$16,555,302 for the period of January 1, 2022, through December 31, 2025.

2. **ACTION ITEMS:**

None.

3. **DISCUSSION AND INFORMATION ITEMS:**

- 3.1 Review and comment on the continued development of components of the contracting strategy for terrestrial biological mitigation.

Ms. Forsythe gave a presentation, reviewing the importance of mitigation efforts and associated timing. She reviewed components of the Agency’s strategy related to the Request for Qualifications, Request for Proposals, and contract. She noted some of the industry feedback that has been received, and addressed minimum acreage commitment, explaining staff’s assessment and recommendation. Ms. Forsythe addressed bonding requirements, including staff’s assessment and related recommendations. She addressed staff’s review of labor considerations and workforce requirements. She explained considerations about the use of Sites-owned property and annual price adjustments.

Ms. Forsythe explained this item's considerations were reviewed at the mitigation workgroup. Executive Director (ED) Brown commented on the item, stating that the selected firm will be relied on for all of these significant components.

Vice Chair Sutton asked if the contract would be broken up into multiple contracts, and Ms. Forsythe explained the benefits of keeping it as one contract. In response to an inquiry from Vice Chair Sutton, ED Brown said the total cost is approximately \$800M.

Mr. Cheng asked about strategy commitment and if the phases are meant not to over-commit. He asked about extra mitigation credits and Ms. Forsythe said the Project anticipates owning mitigation rights, so if there is an over-purchase of mitigation, those credits can be resold. Mr. Cheng asked about acreage and if the Project's approach is common and Ms. Forsythe said there are various possible approaches, but the approach is based on having a good estimate and it can be adjusted.

Director Kaplan said that labor considerations should be well communicated, related to what is and what is not considered "skilled workforce." A clear, shared understanding is beneficial.

Ms. Kao asked if there are any concerns related to the ability to secure credits. Ms. Forsythe said the Agency is contracting for this task and has already done some internal research to confirm that the needed mitigation is possible.

3.2 Review and comment on the priorities for engineering and construction and related activities in preparation for the initiation of Phase 3/4/5. s

ED Brown said the 2026 budget will come to the Board and Committee in October for approval, and this item is meant to give foundational context for that future item. Mr. JP Robinette and Kyle Hughes gave a report on this item. They noted the budget is organized around certain imperatives to prepare the group for returning to their home boards, and said this item relates to being able to proceed with the project. Kyle Hughes reviewed objectives, near-term priority land actions, and areas of focus to support work beyond 2027.

Mr. Hughes reviewed the primary objectives contained within Work Package 1, which consist of facilitating a rolling start, and reducing construction contingencies and furthering the detailed design. He explained some of the efforts that will need to be completed to meet these objectives.

In response to a comment from Mr. Urkov about the role of the mitigation contractor versus what the Project is doing, ED Brown said accessing the land is part of this item, and the work in the presented work package is meant to address that. Ms. Forsythe reiterated the mitigation efforts in advance are preferred and the mitigation contractor will work on this, but staff are getting past some hurdles ahead of time.

Chair Kunde said this item went to the Operations & Engineering Workgroup before this meeting, and staff explained that the approach as presented will reduce cost.

3.3 Review and comment on process and timing for the assignment of capacity among existing Participants.

ED Brown opened this item by reviewing the late water right schedule projection with the California Water Commission (CWC) final hearing process. He walked through the timeline for the remainder of 2025 and 2026. He reviewed the three sequential steps to get to investor commitment, which are assignments and delegations within existing participation, addressing the Bureau of Reclamation’s request for a percentage, and activation of the waitlist. ED Brown addressed the Sites Phase 2 assignments of rights and duties, voting threshold for assignment approval details, and the Reservoir Committee’s actions “subject to the direction of” each Project Agreement Member’s agency, and the road map steps to be ready for investor commitment.

Chair Kunde commented on his role as representative for Wheeler-Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District, about the timing for final approval. He noted the significance of considerations associated with the sequential steps for investor commitment, and various approaches related to timing for approaching home boards. Mr. Plinski brought up the topic of downstream capacity as an important consideration. Ms. Pryor said it would be helpful for the Project to give the group a one-page sheet with all the important details to give reports back to home boards and have consistent messaging.

ED Brown said that when starting investor commitment, the Project is looking to understand the recommendations staff will make to their boards, and he emphasized the need for group members to communicate with their governing bodies on how to move forward in accordance with what’s been presented.

3.4 Receive an update on construction and operations considerations for the Lower Colusa Basin Drain System.

Mr. Robinette reported a Frequently Asked Questions document has been provided related to real questions that have been put forth. Some of the topics are related to lower Colusa Basin Drain System principles of use. He addressed the real property considerations, Knights Landing Outfall Gates and Wallace Weir term sheets, and upcoming efforts to incorporate into program baseline report. Chair Kunde noted these topics have been reviewed by multiple workgroups.

Mr. Robinette spoke of conveyance into and out of the Sacramento River, the items needed before the Benefits and Obligations (B&O) agreements signing. Mr. Robinette reviewed multiple real estate considerations and noted the real estate team and legal counsel determined the land rights that are needed to accomplish objectives, and the lands that can be acquired by the Authority within the Project’s schedule requirements. Mr. Robinette reviewed the purpose of term sheets and upcoming efforts to incorporate the risks and costs into the program baseline report. He said staff is asking the engineer to look at the total existing conveyance to ensure understanding since the Project is dependent on the facilities.

Ms. Pryor said this analysis is important and there needs to be assurance of access to water. ED Brown asked the group what understanding is needed, and multiple people offered their thoughts regarding that data that would be beneficial, such as hydraulic analysis, water delivery, and costs.

4. REPORTS:

4.1 Chairpersons’ Reports:

Chair Kunde reported that many of the items discussed at this meeting have been previously reviewed in workgroups. He gave a comprehensive summary of these meetings to illustrate the large amount of activities advancing through the end of Phase 2, and the scope of work occurring outside of the Board and Committee monthly meeting.

Vice Chair Sutton made comments about the overall significant importance of the project and how critical it is for members to be communicating and working with their home boards.

4.2 Committee & Workgroup Chairs' Reports:

Operations & Engineer Workgroup: Chair Kunde said the group met and talked about conditions precedent, the elements of Phase 3, project progress and timing, and CalSim 3 modeling.

4.3 Authority Board & Reservoir Committee Participant Reports: None

4.4 Executive Director's Reports:

ED Brown gave a brief report.

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

5. CLOSED SESSION: 11:01 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.

5.4 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: Department of Water Resources

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

5.5 Conference with Real Property Negotiators (Gov. Code §54956.8):
Property: Various parcels comprising the Sites Reservoir and related facilities.
Agency Negotiators: Jerry Brown

Negotiating Parties: Colusa County, Glenn County, Yolo County
Under Negotiation: Price and terms of payment

6. **REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION: 12:56 p.m.**
Counsel Doud 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, October 17, 2025 (9:00 a.m. – noon)
Maxwell Project Office & Virtual

Chair Sutton adjourned the Reservoir Committee and Authority Board Meeting at 12:56 p.m.

Jeff Sutton, Authority Board Vice-Chair

Jordan Navarrot, Reservoir Committee Vice Chair

MJ Brown, Board Clerk

Current Voting Committee Participants (22):

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

16 Voting members represented at the start of the meeting.

66.36% Represented participation percentage.

Representation has been delegated as follows:

(1) Proxy to Jamie Traynham, Davis WD

(‡) Not present after _____

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

Associate Members (non-voting)		Primary		Alternate
Western Canal Water District	<input type="checkbox"/>	Greg Johnson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ted Trimble
Zone 3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mike Urkov	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wendy Tyler

Non-Voting Committee Participants (2)		Primary		Alternate/Other
Department of Water Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rob Cooke	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Bureau of Reclamation	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Adam Nickels Allison Jacobson	<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Natalie Taylor Jesse Sikora

Current Voting Reservoir Committee (22)		Primary		Alternate
American Canyon, City	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jason Holley	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Antelope Valley-East Kern WA	<input type="checkbox"/>	Matt Knudson	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Coachella Valley Water District	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Robert Cheng	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Petya Vasileva
Colusa County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mike Azevedo	<input type="checkbox"/>	Daurice Kalfsbeek Smith
Colusa County Water District	<input type="checkbox"/>	Halbert Charter	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Esther Saenz	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	David Tate

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

Authority Shared Seats		Primary		Alternate
Roseville	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	George Hanson Joshua Alpine	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Sean Bigley Darin Reintjes
Sacramento County	<input type="checkbox"/>	Kerry Schmitz	<input type="checkbox"/>	

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>
Juleah Cordi	ASM Gallagher	Ed Hulbert	Butte Sink Mitigation
Jesse Johnson	Operation Engineers Local 3	Luis Flores	Public
Nancy Moricz	Kleinfelder	Ken Bohannan	Kleinfelder

Members of the Public

<i>Name</i>	<i>Representing</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Representing</i>
Christy Scofield	Public	Ryan Everest	Bureau of Reclamation
Ricky Cruz	Nor Cal Carpenters Union	Krystal Bell	Westervelt Ecological Services
Amanda Dwyer	Westervelt Ecological Services	Skip Moss	Natural Resources Group

Virtual Attendance

Virtual Attendance	82	
Marcia Kivett	Rivera, Itzia@DWR (External)	Lance Eckhart Pass Agency (External)
Wendy Ambriz	Amparo Flores (External)	Charlene Sun (External)
Jerry Brown	Pryor, Valerie (External)	Louis Jarvis (External)
JP Robinette	Jarod's Notetaker (Otter.ai) (Unverified)	Rob Natoli (External)
Conference	Esther Saenz (External)	19167013226 (Unverified)
15304546811 (Unverified)	Ryan Shaw	Dawson, Elizabeth (External)
MJ Brown	Ryan,Russell E (External)	Duval, David (External)
Edgar Lerista (External)	Marcus Maltby (External)	Edstrom, Andrew
Scott Brown (External)	Spranza, John (External)	Daniel Bender (External)
Petya Vasileva	Alexander, Jeriann (External)	Luu, Henry (External)
Mike Azevedo (Unverified)	Sara M. Katz (External)	Andrew Gschwind (External)
Eric McDaris (External)	Michael Yuen	Hentz, Chris (External)
Cindy Kao (External)	Vincent Gin (External)	Douglas Montague (External)
C McD	Shafer, Mark (External)	Richard Welsh
Jason Holley (External)	Xzandreaa Fowler - Colusa County (Unverified)	Arsenijevic, Jelica (External)
Xie, Lillian (External)	Davis-Fadtke, Kristal@Wildlife	Tim Busch (External)
Chris Hentz -Zone 7 (Unverified)	Michael Plinski (External)	Julio Reyes
Anthony.Middleton	Ayoub Antabeel	Brian Thomas
David Tate (External)	Summer Shadley, MUSD (Unverified)	Peterson, Stephen
Cooke, Robert@DWR (External)	Robert Cheng	Matthew Peyrucain (External)
Javier Arias	Rude, Pete	Micko,Steve (External)
Jason Brown (External)	Richard Welsh (External)	Mickey Nixon (External)
Kanetis, Nick	Alcott, Derrick@Wildlife	Jim Bowley
Foss, Elizabeth (External)	Stanley, Robert@Wildlife	Bradshaw,Dee (External)
Marko Pala (External)	Hether, Michael	Newens, Richard (External)
Shayleen O'Connell	Andrea E. Rocha (External)	Richard Turkson
Desi Dikova (External)	Sikora, Jessica L (External)	
Roccucci, Pauline	Lonnie Rejda (External)	