

## Delta-Mendota Subbasin Coordination Committee

April 8, 2019, 9:30 AM

### Meeting Minutes

#### Coordination Committee Members Present

Ben Fenters – San Luis Water District  
Vince Lucchesi – Patterson Irrigation District  
Ric Ortega – Grassland Water District  
Alejandro Paolini – San Luis Canal Company  
Augustine Ramirez – Fresno County  
Joe Hopkins – Aliso Water District/Provost & Pritchard

#### Others Present

Kyle Hill – Central California Irrigation District  
Chris Rogers – Central California Irrigation District  
Claire Howard – CivicSpark/SLDMWA  
Andrew Garcia – SLDMWA  
Leslie Dumas – Woodard & Curran  
Sean Allen – California Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Will Halligan – Luhdorff & Scalmanini/Fresno County/Farmers Water District  
Ken Swanson – Grassland Water District  
Seth Harris – SLDMWA

#### By Phone

Jim Stilwell – Farmers Water District  
Ellen Wehr – Grassland Water District  
Christina Guzman – Fresno County  
Adam Schubert – Del Puerto Water District  
Lauren Layne – Baker, Manock & Jensen  
Courtney DePorto – Granite Construction Company

## AGENDA

1. **Call to Order/Roll Call**  
Vince Lucchesi/PID called the meeting to order at 9:34 AM.
2. **Committee to Consider Corrections or Additions to the Agenda of Items, as authorized by Government Code Section 54950 et seq.**  
There were no corrections or additions to the meeting agenda.
3. **Opportunity for Public Comment**  
No comments were provided.

### Consent Calendar

4. **Committee to Consider Approval of February 11, 2019 Meeting Minutes**  
Vince reminded the Committee that there was not a quorum of Coordination Committee members at the most recent Coordination Committee meeting on March 11, so the Committee had to approve minutes from both the February 11<sup>th</sup> and March 11<sup>th</sup> meetings. Since these items are part of the Consent Calendar, the approval for both minutes was combined into a single vote.
5. **Committee to Consider Approval of March 11, 2019 Meeting Minutes**  
Alejandro Paolini/SLCC motioned to approve both the February 11<sup>th</sup> and March 11<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes; Ric Ortega/GWD seconded the approval. Both meeting minutes were approved without amendments.

### Action Items

6. **Committee to Consider Approval of Budget-to-Actual Reports, Garcia/Neves**  
Andrew Garcia/SLDMWA presented the budget-to-actual report for expenses for the Coordination Committee. This report included costs incorporated from the January and February invoices prepared by the Woodard & Curran team. Andrew explained that he had anticipated the January and February expenses to be approximately \$20,000, which would follow the trend of costs from the latter end of 2018. Unanticipated iterations of technical work, mostly for preparing the Subbasin water budgets, and additional coordination efforts increased the expenses for January and February. The invoice covering work completed during January and February totaled to approximately \$96,000. Andrew split the costs for these months into equal expenses for January and February of approximately \$48,000. Andrew explained that approximately \$10,000 of the January and February expenses will qualify for reimbursement through Category 1 funding.  
  
Ellen Wehr/GWD requested an ongoing dialogue on the Woodard & Curran team's efforts so that the Coordination Committee members are fully updated on the ongoing work. Andrew explained that he will share the Woodard & Curran invoices with the Coordination Committee so that all members can review the consultant team's work and associated expenses.  
  
Joe Hopkins/P&P asked if the Coordination Committee should consider having a specific group focusing on finance. Andrew explained that an idea for such a subgroup was floated earlier on,

but the Coordination Committee had at that time decided against the inclusion of a finance group. Joe also asked about the status of the planning grant, and explained that he wants to ensure that the Committee ensures full use of the grant.

Agenda item 6 was tabled at this time. The Coordination Committee will revisit the budget-to-actuals report at the next Coordination Committee meeting, to be held May 13th.

**7. Committee to Authorize Budget Increase for Flow Modeling and Intrabasin Coordination, Garcia**

Agenda item 7 was also tabled at this time. The Coordination Committee will revisit the budget increase in more depth and consider authorization at the next Coordination Committee meeting.

**Report Items**

**8. Committee to Review Final Historic and Current Water Budgets with Incorporated Revisions, Dumas**

Leslie Dumas/W&C presented the finalized historic and current water budgets to the Coordination Committee. The updated water budgets incorporate revisions provided by various Committee members that refine the results for the historic period of water years 2003-2012 and the current period of water year 2013.

**9. Committee to Discuss Preliminary Subbasin Monitoring Network for Water Levels, Water Quality, Surface Water – Groundwater Interactions, Change in Storage, Dumas/Garcia**

Andrew explained that the Coordination Committee had previously discussed the structure of a tiered monitoring network. Andrew said that he wants to ensure that each GSP group has the same understanding of the SGMA regulations for forming the coordinated data management system.

Will Halligan/LSCCE reminded the Coordination Committee that the BMPs have a recommended monitoring network distribution. Andrew explained that the wells measuring the seasonal high and seasonal low should also be included in the data management system. The Coordination Committee expressed general conflict between interpreting the regulations and achieving realistic targets for time and cost savings. The Coordination Committee concluded that it will review the regulations and prepare to discuss this concept during the monitoring network and data library call on Wednesday, April 10<sup>th</sup>. Leslie explained that she will follow up with DWR to confirm the regulations and will report back to the Coordination Committee once she hears back.

**10. Committee to Discuss Development of a Coordinated Subsidence Monitoring Network, Dumas/Garcia**

Andrew presented the Coordination Committee's imperative to develop a coordinated subsidence monitoring network for the Delta-Mendota Subbasin. He asked if the Coordination Committee members preferred an approach that used a Subbasin-wide or sum-of-the-parts method. Andrew explained that the Bureau of Reclamation will complete LIDAR and hydrographic surveys in the next three weeks of the Delta-Mendota Canal, and a finalized report

is expected to be shared in July. The Committee discussed identifying existing data including the DMC survey, extensometers, and USGS information.

**11. Committee to Discuss Draft Memorandum of Intent for Interbasin Coordination, Garcia/Layne**

Andrew presented the draft memorandum of intent (MOI) developed by Lauren Layne/BMJ. He explained that an MOI can be used to formally acknowledge the need for interbasin coordination, and represents a means of demonstrating coordination at this level. An MOI for interbasin coordination also provides each participating group the opportunity to pledge to address resulting discrepancies following GSP submission, particularly for adjoining Subbasins working toward different deadlines.

**12. Committee to Discuss Draft Non-Disclosure / Data Sharing Agreement for Subbasin Data Management System, Garcia/Layne**

Garcia explained Lauren Layne helped develop non-disclosure language for incorporation into the Data Sharing Agreement. The GSP Groups will review the draft agreement and language.

**13. Committee to Discuss Coordination and GSP Implementation Tasks, Responsibilities, Budget Estimate Development and Approval Timeline, Garcia**

Garcia reviewed a list of initial anticipated tasks for GSP implementation, which has been developed into a survey and shared with GSP Group representatives. He emphasized the importance of finalizing the tasks and responsibilities associated with GSP implementation because the results will determine staffing needs and expenses for SLDMWA and consultant efforts. He shared that SLDMWA wants solidified responsibility determined by July.

Ortega asked how the breakdown of task responsibilities and associated costs will be determined if there are major discrepancies needs for the GSP groups. Garcia responded by highlighting the importance of the GSP groups' survey responses; he said that more survey responses will clarify potential discrepancies between GSP Groups' needs and how these variations will be addressed.

**14. Committee to Discuss Schedule of Review and Adoption for Annual Report, Garcia**

Garcia reminded the Committee that SGMA regulations require the first annual report by April 1, 2020, two months after the GSP submission date. He explained that Scott Peterson, SLDMWA's water policy director, is going to reach out to DWR about postponing the annual report filing date.

**15. Committee to Discuss Approval Process for Lower Aquifer Sustainable Yield, Garcia**

The Committee discussed the lower aquifer sustainable yield recommendation of 250,000 AF. Garcia reminded the Committee that this determination has not yet been formally approved. A staff report has been prepared and circulated for GSP Group members to review. The Technical Working Group determined that the lower aquifer will not be allocated among the GSP groups; the value will be included in the Common Chapter. The lower aquifer sustainable yield will be considered for approval during the May Coordination Committee meeting.

**16. Committee to Discuss Determination of Upper Aquifer Sustainable Yield, Dumas/Garcia**

The Committee discussed the process for determining a sustainable yield value for the upper aquifer. The Committee determined that using a range to reflect the value will support the determination process. Will Halligan expressed concern regarding developing a year to year range versus an average annual result. He explained that he anticipates that a year to year range would be challenging to confirm.

The Committee discussed using a range that incorporated a level of uncertainty, as well as the need to determine using the projected water budgets with or without climate change factors incorporated. Ellen Wehr/Grassland requested a report from the Technical Working Group, which will be meeting on April 16<sup>th</sup>. The determination by the Technical Working Group will be reviewed during the May Coordination Committee meeting.

**17. Working Group Updates**

**a. Communications Working Group, Howard**

Claire Howard/CivicSpark reminded the Committee members of the upcoming public workshops scheduled for the end of the month. She explained that the Communications Working Group has been working on the presentation slides and developing an outreach strategy to boost stakeholder participation. Claire shared that she will reach out to GSP Group representatives to confirm their attendance during the workshops.

**18. Next Steps**

Andrew reminded the Committee to complete the GSP implementation task responsibility survey and reiterated the importance of finalizing the breakdown between SLDMWA and consultant tasks.

Leslie reminded the Committee of a call beginning at 2:30 PM with the Technical Working Group, and confirmed that results from the Technical Working Group regarding methodology will be shared with the Coordination Committee at the next meeting.

**19. Reports Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2(a)(3)**

No additional reports were made.

**20. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 PM.