

Delta-Mendota Subbasin Coordination Committee

June 10, 2019, 9:30 AM

Meeting Minutes

Coordination Committee Members and Alternates Present

Vince Lucchesi – Patterson Irrigation District
Ben Fenters – San Luis Water District
Augustine Ramirez – Fresno County
Joe Hopkins – Aliso Water District/Provost & Pritchard
Jim Stilwell – Farmers Water District
Jarrett Martin – CCID/SJREC
Ric Ortega – Grassland GSA
Alejandro Paolini – San Luis Canal Company

Authority Representatives Present

Andrew Garcia
Seth Harris
Claire Howard – CivicSpark

Others Present

Adam Scheuber – Del Puerto Water District
Ellen Wehr – Grassland GSA; Phone
Chris Rogers – CCID; Phone
Kyle Hill – CCID; Phone
Christina Guzman – Fresno County; Phone
Chris Olvera – Department of Water Resources; Phone

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Vince Lucchesi/Patterson ID 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.

No corrections or additions were made to the agenda.

3. Opportunity for Public Comment

No public comment was received.

4. Committee to Consider Approval of May 13, 2019 Meeting Minutes

The Committee considered approval of both items within the Consent Calendar together. This approval is captured under item 5.

5. Committee to Consider Approval of April 2019 Budget to Actual Report, Garcia/Neves

The Committee considered approval of the May 13th meeting minutes and the budget to actual report together. Ric Ortega/Grassland GSA motioned the approval and Augustine Ramirez/Fresno seconded. Vince Lucchessi/Patterson ID noted that he couldn't vote on the minutes because he didn't attend the May 13th meeting.

6. Committee to Discuss FY20 Budget Increase, Garcia

Andrew Garcia/SLDMWA explained that he has talked with the Woodard & Curran team to decrease their workload and associated costs. Andrew shared that he is reviewing the coordinated schedule to better understand the timing for budget needs for both Woodard & Curran and Water Authority staff time.

Ric Ortega/Grassland GSA emphasized that he wants to stick to the original coordinated expenses budget to get the group through GSP submission. The Committee discussed the opportunity to modify the dates and scope for the grant. This amended version of the budget will be presented during the next Coordination Committee meeting, and will be up for approval during the August Coordination Committee meeting.

7. Committee to Discuss Grant Agreement Amendment, Garcia

a. Coordinated Expense Reimbursement

Andrew Garcia/SLDMWA explained that he will work with Ian Jaffe (Woodard & Curran) and Chris Olvera (DWR) to discuss grant agreement amendment dates. Jarrett Martin/SJREC explained that having funds set aside for GSP submittal to cover the small severely disadvantaged communities within his plan area would be helpful. Andrew noted that this is not an action item since this grant is managed through West Stanislaus Irrigation District, but since all Coordination Committee members provided direction to inquire about the grant agreement timeline, he will ask DWR about amending it.

8. Committee to Discuss Subbasin Policies and Directives for GSP Implementation, Garcia

Andrew Garcia/SLDMWA explained that Lauren Layne/BMJ had previously provided input on language that confirms the Committee's intent to continue to meet and confer during GSP implementation. He explained that details won't be outlined yet to avoid unnecessary costs. Jim Stilwell/Farmers WD indicated wanting guidelines for future coordination and expressed concern of navigating implementation without guidelines. Andrew suggested including language that will allow for future guideline development outside of the GSP itself. Andrew suggested that he and Lauren Layne coordinate on draft language and circulate it with the Coordination Committee for their review.

9. Committee to Discuss Interbasin Meetings and Directives from Committee Representatives, Garcia

Andrew reminded the Coordination Committee of an upcoming interbasin coordination meeting with representatives from the Turlock Subbasin on June 19th. He explained that he wants input from the Committee on the level of information he should share with Turlock members. The Committee discussed focusing on sharing results from the Delta-Mendota rather than processes. Ellen Wehr/Grassland GSA asked about how Turlock is impacted by subsurface flow, and Jarrett Martin/CCID explained that both subbasins drain to the San Joaquin River.

Ric Ortega/Grassland GSA asked how the dialogue from this meeting will be used. Andrew shared that the results from the conversation will be documented, and the Coordination

Committee can further discuss a process for including this information in the Common Chapter. Andrew wants to schedule meetings with the Merced and Modesto subbasins soon, and indicated that those conversations will focus on water levels, subsidence, subsurface flows, and aquifer designations. He will continue to keep the Coordination Committee members updated about interbasin conversations.

10. Committee to Review Updated Coordinated Schedule, Garcia

Andrew Garcia/SLDMWA walked through the updated coordinated schedule that includes line items including Common Chapter review, common section development, and approval of common section from the Coordination Committee. He will confirm with Leslie about the final schedule for review and adoption of the common sections. Andrew asked each GSP group to confirm with their respective GSAs about tentative timing for GSP noticing and adoption. Jarrett Martin/CCID shared that the San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors GSP Group is aiming for a September 1st public noticing deadline, and recommend others target October 1st at the latest.

Andrew also shared that a new working group has been focusing on the data management system and timing needs in advance of the April 1, 2020 Annual Report deadline. He explained that this group is collaborating with members from the Communications Working Group, which now no longer has public workshops.

11. Committee to Discuss Annual Report Development, Garcia

The Committee briefly discussed the review of the Annual Report. Andrew confirmed that the DMS and Communications Working Group members are now focusing on the development of a draft Annual Report template.

12. Committee to Discuss Revised Upper Aquifer Sustainable Yield Memo, Garcia

Additional revisions were added to the Upper Aquifer Sustainable Yield memorandum. Andrew confirmed that this memo was recently recirculated to members of the Coordination Committee, and final comments from Ellen Wehr/Grassland GSA have been incorporated. Jim Stilwell/Farmers WD explained that he will share this version with Will Halligan/Luhdorff & Scalmanini and will provide final comments by the end of the week.

13. Committee to Discuss Round 3 Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant Application Budget, Garcia

The Committee discussed the Round 3 Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant. The past grant application costs were split by 15 GSAs (not including the S/DACs). Andrew noted that for Round 3, an agency can apply for the grant on behalf of a GSA. Chris Olvera/DWR noted that because the Delta-Mendota Subbasin received Category 1 and Category 2 funds, the Subbasin wouldn't be eligible for additional funding. He also noted that comments on the PSP will be received through June 17th. Andrew confirmed that he will be sharing comments prior to this deadline.

14. Committee to Discuss Proposed Description for the Delta-Mendota Subbasin Sustainability Goal as Required by GSP Regulation Section 354.24

Ric Ortega/Grassland GSA noted that agricultural use of water is specifically named in the draft sustainability goal definition. He expressed concern of only specifying agricultural water without naming other water users in the Subbasin. He shared that other users should be shared

or all should be kept high-level. Jarrett Martin/CCID noted that the goal should include mention of absence of undesirable results by 2040, and that the Delta-Mendota Subbasin's interbasin coordination efforts should be mentioned as well. Revised language for the sustainability goal definition will be shared with the Committee.

15. Working Group Updates

- a. Technical Working Group, Garcia
- b. Communications Working Group, Howard

No additional Working Group updates were shared under this agenda item.

16. Next Steps

- The Technical Working Group will review the common sections prior to the next Technical Working Group meeting
- Andrew will share a Doodle poll to confirm the date and time of the next Coordination Committee meeting, and he will coordinate with Leslie Dumas to get an update on the common section materials
- The July Coordination Committee meeting will be on July 16th

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

No reports were discussed under this item.

18. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:47 AM.