

Delta-Mendota Subbasin
Technical Subcommittee Meeting

Monday, November 13, 2017, 1:00 PM
541 H Street, Los Banos, CA

DRAFT Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Kirsten Pringle, Lacey Kiriakou, Vince Lucchesi, Adam Scheuber, Jim Stilwell, Jarret Martin, Joe Hopkins, Larry Harris, Glenn Allen, Joe McGahan, Rick Iger, Ric Ortega, Ken Swanson, Andrew Garcia ; Will Halligan

1. Introductions

Kirsten Pringle, Stantec, called the meeting to order at approximately 1:05 PM.

2. Review of Meeting Minutes from September 25, 2017

Ms. Pringle stated that the draft meeting minutes from the previous Technical Subcommittee meeting, held on September 25, 2017, were provided via email by Andrew Garcia, San Luis Delta Mendota Water Authority (Authority). She added that the meeting minutes will be archived on the Delta-Mendota Subbasin website, once developed. There were no comments on the draft meeting minutes.

3. Groundwater Sustainability Plan Updates

The Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) representatives provided updates on the status of their Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) development. Mr. Garcia stated that the Authority will be issuing a Notice of Intent (NOI) to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) for preparation of a GSP for the North and Central Delta-Mendota GSAs in mid-December. He also stated the Authority has hired a consulting firm to conduct disadvantaged community outreach for the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) implementation, Integrated Regional Water Management Plan, and other regional water programs. The representative from Fresno County stated that the Fresno County Board of Supervisors will be voting on whether to develop one or two GSPs for the two Fresno County management areas. The representatives from Aliso Water District and Farmers Water District stated that they are waiting on technical decisions from the group to further their work on their GSPs. The representative from the San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Water Authority (Exchange Contractors) provided several updates, including updates on the NOI to DWR, draft hydrogeological conceptual model report, development of a water budget, and memorandum of agreement with Fresno County. The representatives from Grassland Water District stated they have submitted their GSA's NOI to DWR.

4. Grant Allocation Percentage Recommendation

Mr. Garcia led a discussion of the percentage allocations for the Proposition 1 GSP Development Grant. The group discussed four options for the percentage allocations.

The group agreed to allocate the funding of the Proposition 1 Funding Grant, if received, based on the percentages in Option 4, which was calculated as an average of the first three options.

5. Coordinated Plan Expenses

Mr. Garcia led a discussion of the scope and fee estimates for the coordinated plan expenses. The group discussed the scope of the coordinated activities conducted by the Authority, the breakdown of coordinated tasks, and costs for the coordinated plan tasks. A representative from Grassland Water District proposed splitting the coordinated costs by GSA, rather than GSP group. Representatives from other GSAs asserted that the costs should be split by GSP group.

6. Coordination Agreement Language Review

Ms. Pringle led a discussion of sections 4.4, 7, 8, and 9 of the draft Coordination Agreement. The group provided multiple suggested changes to the language of the draft Coordination Agreement. The group discussed the recommendation process for subcommittees and workgroups, as described in Section 4.4 of the Agreement. The group agreed that subcommittees and workgroups will use a straw poll decision-making method, with one voting representative from each GSP group. The group agreed that Mr. Garcia will provide the Delta-Mendota Coordination Committee with a report-back on the results of the straw poll votes made by the Technical Subcommittee. The group agreed that the language in Subsection 7.2.3 should be revised to allow for, but not require, individual well data to be aggregated. The group agreed to seek further clarification from DWR on the phrase “same data and methodologies,” as described in Section 8. The group agreed to clarify the subject of the language in Section 9. The group discussed whether to remove Subsection 10.2, which provides a summary of SGMA requirements for the coordinated water budget; the group agreed to keep Subsection 10.2 in the Coordination Agreement.

7. Next Steps

Each GSP group representative will bring their group’s draft GSP development schedule to the next Delta-Mendota Technical Subcommittee meeting.

Each GSA group representative will bring the final coordinated plan expenses scope and budget to their boards for approval by early December.

Mr. Garcia will provide the group with the draft GSP development schedule for the North and Central GSAs.

Ms. Pringle will provide the group with example GSP development schedules from other subbasins.

Mr. Garcia will provide the group with the revised coordinated plan expenses fee table.

Mr. Garcia will provide the group with a revised version of the draft Coordination Agreement.

Mr. Garcia will research the SMGA definition for water budget “assessment.”

The next Delta-Mendota Coordination Committee meeting will be tentatively held on either Wednesday, December 13 or Thursday, December 14.

The next Delta-Mendota Technical Subcommittee meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 12.

The meeting was adjourned by Ms. Pringle at approximately 3:45 PM.