



**Northern Delta-Mendota Region Management Committee
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, May 7, 2025, 1:00 PM
Patterson City Council Chambers, 1 Plaza Circle, Patterson, CA**

Northern Delta-Mendota Region Management Committee Members and Alternates Present

Adam Scheuber, Alternate – Del Puerto Water District (DPWD)
Bobby Pierce, Member – West Stanislaus Irrigation District (WSID)
Vince Lucchesi, Member – Patterson Irrigation District (PID)
Lacey McBride, Member – Merced County
Christy McKinnon, Member – Stanislaus County
Maria Encinas, Member – City of Patterson

San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority (SLDMWA) Representative Present

Scott Petersen, Water Policy Director

Others Present

Caleb Stearns – WSID

Others Present via Zoom

Robert Kostlivy – Stanislaus County
Joel Andrews – City of Patterson
Lea Emmons – City of Tracy
Lauren Layne – Baker Manock & Jensen (BMJ)
Margaret Caligaris – Trihydro
John Brodie – Water & Land Solutions
Meredith Durant – EKI Environment & Water (EKI)
Anona Dutton – EKI
Amir Mani - EKI
Kait Palys – INTERA
Joshua Jendian – Wanger Jones & Helsley
Natalie Cochran – Woodard & Curran (W&C)

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Bobby Pierce of WSID called the meeting to order at 1:05 PM.

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 agenda of items.

3. Opportunity for Public Comment

No public comment was provided.

Consent Calendar

4. Committee to Review and Take Action on the Consent Calendar

- a. Minutes of the April 2, 2025 Meeting**
- b. Budget to Actual Report**

Adam Scheuber/DPWD provided the motion to approve the meeting minutes and Christy McKinnon/Stanslaus County seconded. The motion was passed unanimously by those present.

Adam Scheuber/DPWD provided the motion to approve the budget to actual, and Lacey McBride/Stanslaus County and Maria Encinas/City of Patterson seconded. The motion was passed unanimously by those present.

Report Items

5. Report of the Representative to the Coordination Committee

Vince Lucchesi and Scott Petersen noted to the Committee that the Plan Manager for the Delta-Mendota Subbasin has changed to Jarrett Martin. He will be coordinating with the Hallmark Group and INTERA team for administrative and coordination support.

6. Committee to Discuss Administrative Program and Fiscal Management Structure for GSP Implementation in the Northern Delta-Mendota Region in FY2027

Scott Petersen and Lauren Layne provided an update on the administrative and fiscal planning for GSP implementation in the Northern Delta-Mendota Region. The discussion centered on developing a financial administration and governance structure and determining the preferred approach for moving forward. A key focus was the formation of a Joint Powers Authority (JPA).

A desire was expressed to transition to a new organization in the current fiscal year, with SLDMWA, in coordination with the Committee, advancing budget development as a contingency plan should there be delays in finalizing the JPA.

Petersen and Layne also mentioned scheduling a special workshop in June related to fiscal and administrative entity formation. Discussions at the workshop are anticipated to cover how the JPA would be structured and the extent of its powers.

7. Committee to Discuss and Confirm Completions of Spring Groundwater Quality Sampling, Dumas

Scott Petersen provided an update on behalf of Natalie Cochran of Woodard & Curran.

The February groundwater quality sampling event was completed, and the results were officially submitted to the DMS as of Tuesday. The sustainable management criteria analysis is in progress and will be reported at the next Northern meeting.

Looking ahead, the next round of groundwater sampling is scheduled for August. In preparation, anyone with questions or concerns should coordinate with Woodard & Curran.

8. Committee to be Reminded to Upload all Data to DMS to Evaluate PRP Implementation.

Bobby Pierce and Anona Dutton of EKI notified that agenda item 8 was to be merged with agenda item 11.

9. Committee to Discuss Spring Water Level Data

Natalie Cochran of W&C provided the latest spring water level data update, with information collected in February and officially submitted to DMS as of May 6, 2025. Natalie Cochran affirmed these measurements will be submitted to the Department of Water Resources' (DWR) SGMA Portal to satisfy the "seasonal high" monitoring requirement. The sustainable management criteria analysis is in progress and will be reported out at the next Northern meeting and reported on the DMS.

10. Committee to Discuss SGMA Round 1 Grant Implementation Activities

Natalie Cochran of W&C updated the committee regarding implementation activities for the SGMA Round 1 Grant. A key focus of the discussion was ensuring that construction deliverables are finalized with the DWR before breaking ground. There was also consideration of whether these deliverables should be incorporated into the Request for Bid process. To streamline these efforts, Natalie Cochran will take the lead in coordinating with Lacey McBride (Merced County), Christy McKinnon (Stanislaus County), and Vince Lucchesi (PID) regarding the necessary requirements with DWR.

11. Committee to Discuss Implementation of Pumping Reduction Plans

Anona Dutton and Amir Mani of EKI summarized the status of Pumping Reduction Plan (PRP) implementation. During the March meeting, discussions centered on aligning upcoming actions and preparing for a report at the June 9th State Board meeting.

The committee discussed an accountability measure of including a PRP tracking report by GSA at future Northern Delta-Mendota Region Committee meetings. EKI was tasked with creating the template for the GSA representatives to fill out their respective PRP progress.

The committee recommended EKI create a regional recent-historical subsidence map showing subbasin boundaries.

Anona Dutton and Amir Mani (EKI) presentation additionally covered the need to extend the model period with more current data. The current model is only valid through 2023, preventing the ability to perform exercises like attribution analyses and support analyses for the annual report. The committee expressed understanding for the need for extending the model and discussed a subbasin-wide commitment may be challenging. The topic of model extension is expected to occur at the next subbasin-wide Coordination Committee meeting.

In addition to the PRP content, EKI also highlighted that several groundwater quality representative monitoring sites had built a sufficient historical record through the GSAs' monitoring efforts, rendering them ready to establish sustainable management criteria.

12. Next Steps

The following next steps were identified:

- Hallmark Group/INTERA to schedule June meeting on JPA
- EKI to develop template for GSAs to input PRP progress for reporting purposes
- EKI to produce a map showing INSAR across Subbasin boundaries
- EKI to continue development of white paper
- EKI to continue with SMC revisions for GWQ
- Natalie Cochran (W&C) to coordinate with Christy McKinnon (Stanislaus County), Lacey McBride (Merced County), and Vince Lucchesi (Patterson Irrigation District) on grant requirements re: proper noticing.

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

No reports were discussed under this item.

14. Future Meetings

- a. Northern Delta-Mendota Region Management Committee
 - i. Wednesday, June 4, 2025 at 1:00 PM
 - ii. Wednesday, July 2, 2025 at 1:00 PM
- b. Delta-Mendota Subbasin Coordination Committee
 - i. Monday, May 19, 2025 at 1:00 PM
 - ii. Monday, June 9, 2025 at 1:00 PM

Closed Session

15. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation (1 case)

The Committee met in closed session at 2:31 PM to confer with legal counsel on significant exposure to anticipated litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9: (1 case).

Open Session

16. Report items from Closed Session

There were no reports.

17. ADJOURNMENT

Bobby Pierce adjourned the meeting at 3:11 PM.