



**Delta-Mendota Subbasin Coordination Committee
Draft Meeting Minutes
Monday, May 19, 2025, 1:00 PM
SLDMWA Board Room 842 6th St., Los Banos, CA 93635**

1. Call to Order/Roll Call, Hopkins at 1:01pm

The Delta-Mendota Subbasin Coordination Committee meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. and a roll call was made consisting of a quorum as indicated below.

Present	Individual	Role	Affiliation
In-Person	Joe Hopkins	Member (Chair)	Aliso WD
x	Roy Catania	Alternate	Aliso WD
Zoom	Lacey McBride	Alternate	Central DM Region
x	Steve Stadler	Member	Central DM Region
In-Person	Jim Stillwell	Member	Farmers WD
In-Person	Augustine Ramirez	Alternate	Fresno County A&B
X	Buddy Mendes	Member	Fresno County A&B
X	Ken Swanson	Alternate	Grassland WD
In-Person	Ric Ortega	Member	Grassland WD
X	Christy McKinnon	Alternate	Northern DM Region
In-Person	Vince Lucchesi	Member	Northern DM Region
In-Person	Jarrett Martin	Alternate	San Joaquin Exchange Contractors
In-Person	John Wiersma	Member	San Joaquin Exchange Contractors

Others Present In Person:

- Lauren Layne (Baker Manock & Jensen)
- Taylor Blakslee (Hallmark Group)
- Anona Dutton (EKI)
- Patrick McGowan (Panoche Water District)
- Chase Hurley (Water and Land Solutions)
- Chuck Bergson (City of Los Banos)

Other Remote Participants by Zoom:

- Adam Scheuber

- Andrew Francis (LSCE)
- aortiz
- Christy McKinnon (Stanislaus County)
- Ethan Andrews (P&P)
- Gilbert TorresJacinta Cabral
- JamesID-RD1606
- Jason Dean (Westside Ag)
- Jessica Alwan (Hallmark Group)
- Kait Palys (INTERA)
- Kristen Manzano (Hallmark Group)
- Leslie Dumas (Woodard & Curran)
- Lisa Beutler (Stantec)
- Rick Iger (P&P)
- Sam Cunningham (P&P)
- Sarah Gerenday (EKI)
- TerraAg Ventures
- Thomas Cleverdon
- Will Halligan (LSCE)

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Hopkins lead the pledge of allegiance.

3. 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.

4. Opportunity for Public Comment

Chair Hopkins opened the floor for public comment and there was none.

Consent Calendar

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

a. Minutes of the April 14, 2025 Meeting

b. Budget to Actual Report

Committee Member John Wiersma made a motion to approve the consent calendar. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Vince Lucchesi and passed unanimously.

Report Items

6. Committee to Discuss Future Financial and Administrative Structure

Legal Counsel Lauren Layne reported that a joint powers authority formation workshop will be scheduled in June 2025 and directed staff to coordinate this workshop.

7. Committee to Discuss Response to Red Flag Review of the GSP

Committee Member Jarrett Martin reported that a meeting with State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) staff is scheduled for June 9, 2025. He noted that attendees will include Committee Members Ric Ortega, Jim Stillwell, and Chase Hurley as well as technical consultants from EKI. He reported there have been no new developments since the last meeting.

8. Committee to Discuss Response to Comment Letters on Adjoining Subbasin Periodic Evaluations/Intervention GSPs

Chair Joe Hopkins provided an update on the need for meetings with adjoining subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) to discuss public comment letters submitted by the Delta-Mendota subbasin on neighboring subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan periodic evaluations.

The Coordination Committee agreed that smaller regional ad hoc groups should be formed to ensure timely discussions with each subbasin and developed a draft list of those ad hocs to meet with each subbasin. The group noted that outreach consultant Lisa Beutler will organize these meetings in June and requested EKI develop general talking points to ensure consistency in messaging.

EKI noted that their participation in these meetings was not budgeted for, but the Committee consensus was to include EKI in these meetings due to the importance.

9. Committee to Discuss FSS Outreach

Committee Member John Wiersma provided an update on outreach activities and noted the draft newsletter should be ready in June.

10. Committee to Discuss SGMA Round 1 Implementation Grant

a. ISW Well Construction Management

i. Status of Easements and Construction Bidding

Chase Hurley provided an update on the installation of interconnected surface water (ISW) wells. He noted that the well in Merced County are expected to be finalized by December 2025. He said that the wells in Stanislaus County are navigating additional complications related to easement coordination and securing grant funding. Technical consultant Woodard & Curran's (W&C) Leslie Dumas said the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) has indicated that the grant could cover costs, but an amendment is required to secure the necessary funds.

ii. Construction Status for ISW Sites

Ms. Dumas provided an update on the construction status for interconnected surface water sites.

b. Continuous GPS Subsidence Monitoring Stations Construction Bidding and Contracting

The Committee discussed the available grant funding for the continuous GPS subsidence monitoring stations and tasked Jarrett Martin and Joe Hopkins to work with staff on this project.

11. Committee to Discuss Pumping Reduction Plan Implementation

EKI's Anona Dutton provided an update regarding Pumping Reduction Plan implementation. She also reported that the model needs to be extended to develop the Annual Reports due to DWR and this has not been done for two years. The Committee requested Ms. Dutton come back with a proposal for consideration of approval at the June 9, 2025 meeting. Ms. Dutton also gave a brief status of the exceedance reporting template and planned to provide that for the June 9, 2025 meeting for Committee consideration.

12. Committee to Discuss Scheduling Technical Group Meeting with USBR/USGS to Discuss CVHM2 Model for the San Joaquin Valley

The Committee discussed a draft white paper EKI developed regarding subsidence. Ms. Layne reported that the document is still an internal draft and will be released once it is finalized.

13. Committee to Discuss Spring Water Level and Quality Monitoring Results and Second Quarter Water Level Monitoring

Ms. Dumas reported on the status of spring water level and quality monitoring results, and progress on second-quarter monitoring data collection. She noted that February data in the data management system (DMS) resulted in five groundwater level exceedances. The Committee discussed who is responsible for reporting exceedance and requested a report on this process at the next meeting.

14. Committee to Discuss Potential Updates to the Data Management System

Ms. Dumas presented a list of potential improvements to the DMS. Ms. Dutton requested that an option to report on exceedances be included in the list of potential improvements. The Committee requested Ms. Dumas update the cost estimate for each option to assist the Committee in prioritizing potential DMS improvements.

Committee member Vince Lucchesi left at 3:20 p.m.

15. Next Steps

- Coordinate JPA workshop in June 2025.
- Coordinate meetings with adjoining subbasins regarding comment letters on periodic evaluations.
- Resolve remaining interconnected surface water well installation issues.
- Coordinate purchase of grant-funded subsidence monitoring equipment.
- Present proposal for updating the model for Annual Report development.
- Present the draft subsidence white paper when finalized.
- Distribute the list of exceedances and summarize the reporting process.
- Update the pricing list for potential DMS improvements.

16. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation

Closed session began at 3:21 p.m. and concluded at 4:09 p.m.

Committee member Jim Stillwell left at 4:03 p.m.

17. Report from Closed Session

No reportable action.

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

There were no reports.

19. Next Meeting: June 9, 2025

Chair Hopkins reported that the next meeting is on June 9, 2025.

20. Adjournment

Chair Hopkins adjourned the meeting at 4:10 p.m.