



**Northern Delta-Mendota Region Management Committee
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, August 6, 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)
Joel Andrews, Alternate – City of Patterson
Vince Lucchesi, Member – Patterson Irrigation District (PID)
Lacey McBride, Member – Merced County
Christy McKinnon, Member – Stanislaus County
Maria Encinas, Member – City of Patterson

Absent:

Bobby Pierce, Member – West Stanislaus Irrigation District (WSID)

Others Present

Kait Palys, INTERA
Scott Petersen, SLDMWA Water Policy Director
Caleb Stearns, West Stanislaus ID
Matt Garcia, Del Puerto WD

Others Present via Zoom

Amir Mani, EKI
Anona Dutton, EKI
Jackson Bouchard
Jessica Johnson, Baker Manock & Jensen (BMJ)
John Brodie, Water & Land Solutions
Leslie Dumas, Woodard & Curran
Margaret Caligaris, Trihydro
Taylor Blakslee, Hallmark Group

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Northern Delta-Mendota Region Management Committee Vice Chair Lucchesi called the meeting to order at 1:03 PM.

2. Opportunity for Public Comment

No public comment was provided.

Consent Calendar

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

- a. **Minutes of the June 4, 2025 Special Joint Meeting**
- b. **Minutes of the June 23, 2025 Special Meeting**
- c. **Budget to Actual Report**

Committee Member Encinas made a motion to approve the consent calendar. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Scheuber and passed.

Report Items

4. Committee to discuss SGMA Round 1 Grant Implementation Activities

Grant manager Woodard & Curran's Leslie Dumas noted that all construction work must be completed by December 31, 2025, and reviewed the remaining key grant dates. She said that final component documents must be submitted and received by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) by April 30, 2026.

Vice Chair Lucchesi asked for an update on the two, grant-funded interconnected surface water (ISW) wells and Ms. Dumas reported that Andrew Francis with LSCE confirmed a location for ISW #1 on County property and would be working on the documentation to continue the installation at that site.

Committee Member McBride reported that for ISW well #3 Merced County completed the bid process and they are using a new driller (Living Water) and Mr. Francis is working with the California Fish and Wildlife on the permit that has not been extended past September 30, 2025 due to the water fowl season.

5. Committee to Discuss Next Steps for Exceedance Policy Reporting Implementation via Pumping Reduction Program (PRP) Dashboard

EKI's Ami Mani provided an update on the pumping reduction plan (PRP) dashboard and noted that they have coordinated with Houston Engineering to connect with the underlying data in the data management system (DMS). He reminded the Committee to provide their GSA point of contact for PRP access so they can create an account in the dashboard.

Mr. Mani provided an update on the status of the well-mitigation plan and the State Water Resources Control Board's (SWRCB) comments.

Committee Member McBride encouraged looking into Chowchilla plan since they included mitigation for small systems in their plan.

Committee Member Scheuber asked for a copy of the EKI presentation for the Del Puerto Board of Directors.

6. Committee to Discuss Update on Establishing SMCs for New RMS Wells

Mr. Mani provided an update on the process of establishing sustainable management criteria (SMC) for new wells. He reviewed the proposed methodology for setting SMCs and noted that at least two years of data are needed to set SMCs.

Committee Member Lucchesi commented that he appreciated the approach but asked if managing to 2015 groundwater levels impacts the methodology. EKI's Anona Dutton replied that setting SMCs based on contours and using proxy wells can address this.

7. Committee to Discuss August Groundwater Level and Quality Monitoring

Ms. Dumas reported that August remainders for third quarter groundwater level and water quality sampling have been sent out.

8. Committee to Discuss Activity Agreement Signature

Ms. McBride reported that Merced County counsel requested a minor change to the activity agreement, and the August 6th version is the correct agreement to sign. Committee Member Scheuber requested the redline version of the letter be sent to the committee.

9. Review of Previous Meetings Action Items

Ms. Palys summarized the following action items:

- a. Scheduling Technical Group Meeting with USBR/USGS to Discuss CVHM2 Model for the San Joaquin Valley – Mr. Mani reported that the whitepaper was submitted to the subsidence report authors and a meeting was offered, but there has not been an update at this time.
- b. EKI coordination with Houston Engineering on PRP and DMS integration – in process.
- c. W&C coordination with DWR regarding Merced County EIF lead agency change – Ms. Dumas reported that DWR has been made aware.
- d. W&C to confirm if PID's grant reimbursement information was included in latest package to DWR – Ms. Dumas said this will be included in the next reimbursement package.
- e. City of Patterson to send Committee Member Scheuber proposed locations for Subsidence Benchmark Data Gap project.

10. Committee to Identify and Name the Secretary for the Northern Delta-Mendota Region Management

Ms. Palys informed the Committee that it would need to appoint a new secretary since that position was previously held by Scott Petersen with the San Luis Delta-Mendota Water Authority. She noted the recommendation was to appoint Hallmark Group since it was hired to perform the administrative duties that align with the Secretary duties.

Committee Member Scheuber made a motion to appoint Hallmark Group as the Secretary. The motion was seconded by Committee Member McKinnon and passed unanimously.

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

No reports were discussed under this item.

12. Adjourn

Vice Chair Vince adjourned the meeting at 2:09 p.m.