



Meeting of the Delta-Mendota Subbasin Coordination Committee

Monday, February 9, 1:00 PM
SLDMWA Board Room 842 6th St., Los Banos, CA 93635

Meeting Minutes

PARTICIPANTS:

Committee Members

Joe Hopkins, Aliso Water District
Augustine Ramirez, Fresno County A&B
John Wiersma, San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors
Lacey McBride, Central DM Region
Jim Stilwell, Farmers GSA
Ric Ortega, Grassland Water District – *Call in from San Luis Obispo location, exercising the contagious illness provision (Gov. Code section 54953.8.3(c)(2)) under the Just Cause statute of the Brown Act.*
Vince Lucchesi, Northern DM Region – *Call in from Ridlon location, exercising the childcare/caregiving provision (Gov. Code section 54953.8.3(c)(1)) under the Just Cause statute of the Brown Act.*

Others Present

Lauren Layne, Legal Counsel, Baker Manock & Jensen
Kait Palys, INTERA
Juan Cadena, Panoche Water District
Palmer McCoy, Mercy Springs Water District
Steve Stadler, San Luis Water District

Present Via Zoom/Phone

Amir Mani, EKI
Anona Dutton, EKI
Andrew Francis, LSCE
Ethan Andrews, Provost & Pritchard
Gilbert Torres, Fresno County
Jacinta Cabral, Madera County
Jason Dean
John Brodie
Liam's iPhone
Lisa Beutler Stantec

Leslie Dumas, Woodard & Curran
Patrick McGowan, Panoche Water District
Rick Iger, Provost & Pritchard
Ryo Takanashi, Water One
Sarah Boogay, California Department of Water Resources
Thomas Cleverdon
Will Halligan, LSCE

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Committee Chair Hopkins called the meeting to order at 1:13 pm.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Committee Chair Hopkins led 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 items.

4. Opportunity for Public Comment

Chair Hopkins opened the floor for public comments, and no public comments were provided.

Consent Calendar

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

- a. Minutes of the January 12 2025 Meeting
- b. Budget to Actual Report

MOTION

Director Ramirez made a motion to approve the consent calendar, including the January 12, 2026 Meeting Minutes and Budget to Actual Report. Director Wiersma seconded the motion, and it passed by roll call vote. Lucchesi abstained, as he was unable to have his camera on at this time.

Closed Session

6. Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation

7. Legal Counsel - Anticipated Litigation

The Committee will meet in closed session 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 cases)

Open Session

8. Report from Closed Session –

The Board reentered open session at 1:54 p.m. and legal counsel Lauren Layne stated that there was no reportable action.

Action Items

9. Committee to Consider Authorizing EKI to Expand PRP Dashboard Data to All GSAs, Beyond Current Zone Restrictions

Mr. Blakslee provided an overview of the expansion of the PRP Dashboard access to GSAs, noting that the Central DM Committee motioned to approve this effort during their meeting on January 22, 2026.

MOTION

Director Hurley made a motion to Authorize EKI to expand access to PRP dashboard data to all GSAs, beyond current zone restrictions. The motion was seconded by Director Ramirez and passed unanimously.

10. Committee to Approve Fiscal Year 2027 Budget for the Northern Delta-Mendota Management Region Activity Agreement (Fund 64) and Authorize Initial Cash Call

Mr. Blakslee provided a summary of the Northern DM budget for FY27 and walked the Board through the cash call that would support 6 months of Northern DM activities.

MOTION

Director Ramirez made a motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2027 Budget for the Northern Delta-Mendota Management Region Activity Agreement (Fund 64) and authorize the initial cash call. The motion was seconded by Director Hurley and passed unanimously via roll call vote.

Chair Hopkins asked if the Northern DM budget also covers the cost of the Northern DM seat on the DM Authority Board, and Mr. Petersen and Ms. Layne responded that those costs are not covered under the Northern DM budget, and confirmed that the costs covered under the Northern DM budget are only those actions that are pursuant to the Special Project Agreement.

Report Items

11. Program Management Report

a. Review of Previous Meeting Action Items

Mr. Blakslee provided an overview of action items.

b. Schedule of Key Milestones

Mr. Blakslee provided an overview of the schedule of key milestones, which was provided in the packet.

c. Additional Funds for Hallmark Group

Mr. Blakslee provided background regarding the SLDWMA authorization of additional funds to Hallmark Group and noted that he can distribute the budget

to actual slide that was shared in his presentation. This item did not require action by the Board of Directors.

12. GSP Implementation Updates

a. Update on Q4 Groundwater Levels and Groundwater Quality and DMS Upload

Leslie Dumas, Woodard & Curran (W&C), gave an update on the groundwater level data received from GSAs, noting that some data was still missing. Mr. Blakslee shared the maps of the wells with exceedances and those missing data, which was shared in the Board packet.

b. Update on Pumping Reduction Plan and GSP Implementation Tracking and Exceedance Reporting

Anona Dutton and Amir Mani (EKI) provided a summary of the wells with groundwater level exceedances, and a review of those wells which do not have monitoring data uploaded to the DMS.

Mr. Blakslee recommended that well metering requirements and overdraft reduction tracking and reporting in the Subbasin be added to the agenda for the upcoming technical ad hoc meeting.

Chase- can HG work with EKI to get Baseline numbers back out to us,
Stilwell- and can those baseline values be broken down by aquifer? Amir- yes.

Chair Hopkins stated that the Bureau of Reclamation is no longer collecting subsidence data points on a biannual basis (measurements ended in December 2025). Director Martin stated they acquired the units for monitoring subsidence and recommended further discussion at subsequent meetings to reconsider addressing subsidence monitoring in the basin. Chair Hopkins directed staff to add this item to the ad hoc meeting agenda, as well.

Rick Iger (P&P) asked that if anyone could get out and gather subsidence data points prior to the irrigation season, as they are crucial for monitoring.

c. Update on Water Year 2025 Annual Report Development

Mr. Blakslee provided an update on the annual report development, including a timeline for receiving data and submitting the report to DWR. Ms. Dumas stated that they are awaiting some components regarding the SMCs and change in storage assessments from EKI. Chair Hopkins stated the Board should anticipate a special meeting to discuss and approve the annual report in late March.

d. Report from GSAs with Exceedances

Mr. Blakslee provided an overview of any exceedances, noting that staff will reach out to those GSAs with exceedances to provide an initial report during the next meeting.

13. Update on Facilitation Support Services Outreach Activities

a. Update on Status of Meetings with Adjoining Subbasins Regarding Comment Letters on Periodic Evaluations

Lisa Beutler (Stantec) stated that the 2026 meetings will be in held in March and that she will work with the communications ad hoc committee regarding the domestic well mitigation policy brief/ workshop.

14. SWRCB Updates

a. Update on SWRCB Coordination

Director Martin stated that he anticipates meeting with SWRCB again in the coming quarter and does not have major updates at this time.

15. SGMA Round 1 Implementation Grant

a. Update on Status of Interconnected Surface Water (ISW) Well Construction Project

Andrew Francis (LSCE) provided updates on the status of the ISW well construction project, stating that the well was completed on February 3, 2026 with 3 completion zones.

b. Update on Status of Subsidence Monitoring Project

Chair Hopkins stated that subsidence monitoring sites have been identified, the survey equipment has been purchased, and that they have filed a Notice of Exemption on the remaining benchmark points.

c. Update on Status of All Grant Projects

Ms. Dumas stated that amendment 6 is moving through DWR. Component completion reports have been completed for 3 of the 14 components, with invoice 14 anticipated to be delivered to DWR within the next week.

16. Next Steps

- Staff to coordinate the expansion of PRP data access beyond current zone restrictions.
 - EKI to include Tranquility GSA in Zone 1 and 4 maps in the PRP.
- Post the Northern DM FY27 Budget on the Subbasin website.
- Staff to invoice the Northern DM Committee GSAs for 6 months of operations.
- Staff to follow up with GSAs missing Q4 date in the DMS.
- Staff to schedule a Special Joint Meeting of the JPA Board and Coordination Committee at the end of March to approve the annual report.
- Staff to convene a technical ad hoc committee to discuss well registration/ metering compliance, overdraft reduction, and updates to the DMS.

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

Nothing to report.

- 18. Next Meeting(s):**
a. March 9, 2026, 1 p.m. PST, Grassland Water District Board Room
- 19. Adjournment**
Chair Hopkins adjourned the meeting at 1:56 p.m.



2026 DELTA-MENDOTA SUBBASIN GSAs JPA BOARD MEETING DATES (*2nd Monday, unless otherwise listed*) - Grassland Water District Board Room

March 9, 2026
April 13, 2026
May 18, 2026
June 8, 2026
July 13, 2026
August 10, 2026
September 21, 2026
October 12, 2026
November 16, 2026
December 14, 2026

LIST OF ACRONYMS

CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
DMS	Data Management System
DWR	California Department of Water Resources
FSS	Facilitation Support Services
GSA	Groundwater Sustainability Agency
GSP	Groundwater Sustainability Plan
ISW	Interconnected Surface Water
JPA	Joint Powers Authority
MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MT	Minimum Threshold
PRP	Pumping Reduction Plan
RMW	Representative Monitoring Wells
SLDMWA	San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority (Authority)
SMC	Sustainable Management Criteria
SWRCB	State Water Resources Control Board