



SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT (VALLEY WATER)
WATER STORAGE EXPLORATORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

THURSDAY, JANUARY 27, 2022

(Paragraph numbers coincide with agenda item numbers)

A regular meeting of the Water Storage Exploratory Committee (Committee) was held on January 27, 2022, via Zoom.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Water Storage Exploratory Committee was called to order by Committee Chair Director Gary Kremen at 9:00 a.m.

1.1 ROLL CALL

Valley Water Board Members in attendance were: Committee Chair, Director Gary Kremen (District 7), Director Richard P. Santos (District 3), and Director John L. Varela (District 1).

Valley Water Staff in attendance were: Emmanuel Aryee, Aaron Baker, Neeta Bijoor, Glenna Brambill, Andrew Garcia, Vincent Gin, Alexander Gordon, Samantha Greene, Andy Gschwind, Christopher Hakes, Brian Hopper, Dana Jacobson, Cindy Kao, Candice Kwok-Smith, Michael Martin, Ryan McCarter, Heath McMahon, Carlos Orellana, Steve Peters, Melanie Richardson, Metra Richert, Don Rocha, Jamie Silva, Kirsten Struve, Charlene Sun, Jing Wu, and Beckie Zisser.

Guests in attendance were: James Crowder (Soluri Meserve) Thomas Francis and Danielle McPherson (BAWSCA), David Cramer (Walsh), Hon. Steve Jordan (BAWSCA and Purissima Hills Water District), Marguerite Patil (Contra Costa Water District {CCWD}), Gavin Tasker-Barnard Construction), Bill Tuttle (San Jose Water Company-SJWC), Hon. John Weed (Alameda County Water District {ACWD}).and Eric Zagol (Mott Macdonald).

Public in attendance were: Director Barbara Keegan (Valley Water Board Member, District 2), Arthur Keller, Ph.D., Doug Muirhead, Manny, and Rob.

2. TIME OPEN FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY ITEM NOT ON AGENDA

There was no one present who wished to speak.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3.1 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Director Richard P. Santos, second by Director John L. Varela, and by roll call and unanimous vote carried to approve the minutes of the October 29, 2021, meeting of the Water Storage Exploratory Committee as presented.

4. ACTION ITEMS

4.1 LOS VAQUEROS RESERVOIR EXPANSION PROJECT UPDATE

Mr. Michael Martin reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda item.

The Water Storage Exploratory Committee discussed the following: conveyance vs storage, rate's impact, next report to contain the rates/dollars, and any staff recommendations.

Mr. Vincent Gin was available to answer questions.

The Water Storage Exploratory Committee took no action.

4.2 STANDING ITEMS

The Committee received verbal reports on the following projects:

GROUNDWATER BANK UPDATE: reported on by Ms. Cindy Kao

McMullin GSA Groundwater Bank:

- McMullin is continuing to develop a joint EIR/EIS and updating a Feasibility Study (expanding and revising it as part of the USBR approval process for CVP Banks) environmental review work and early design of the project facilities
- McMullin is working on developing a funding and participation agreement.
- VW staff is working to secure additional information about project costs, milestones, and timeline.
- DWR's comments on the McMullin GSP which, if not already released, will be released on January 28th. Imported Water Unit staff will be reviewing

AVEK Groundwater Bank:

- We've worked with them to develop a draft Pilot Banking Agreement - to test the feasibility of the bank for us and understand any administrative challenges that may arise.
- The intent is to allow us to put down a small amount of water (flexibility for up to 15,000 AF)
 - The intent is to effectively test the ability to return the water and secure the necessary agreements with DWR.
 - And to test the ability of AVEK will store "banked" water in San Luis Reservoir on behalf of Valley Water for direct recovery

Mr. Vincent Gin and Mr. Andrew Garcia were available to answer questions.

The Committee would like to have the tours placed on the calendar when feasibly safe to go.

PACHECO RESERVOIR EXPANSION PROJECT UPDATE: reported on by
Mr. Ryan McCarter

- Draft EIR is out for public comments until February 15, 2022, then staff will compile comments for final EIR
- 2nd Phase field investigation gather additional data for the power transmission line and access at dam site, working with Division of Safety of Dams (DSOD) for work-plan get buy-in on the Phase 2 geotechnical investigation
- Correspondence with the DSOD on the dam type, had question on the heart fill may be long road to get approved and permitted so considering switching to the earth fill site upstream site, looking at alternative analysis and will go over this information at the February 16, 2022, meeting

Committee Questions:

- ✚ Cost implications on change-downstream earth fill dam = \$2.5 billion price tag used in CIP, staff recommended alternative upstream heart fill upstream = \$2.1 billion price range. Upstream earth fill is coming in at \$2.3 billion
- ✚ Continued communications with indigenous tribes-working with the tribal representatives and there is an assigned monitor during the site visits.
- WIFIA application working on submitting April 2022
- Potential partnership opportunities and discussions are ongoing, the consultant team is on board
- Pacheco Pass Water District (PPWD) meeting held January 25, 2022, Board Members: Ryan Bergamini. Mark Tobias, and other members are: Shawn Bourdet, Garrett Hertel and Mark Rossi.
- PPWD planning on moving forward with the spillway repair
Committee Question:
 - ✚ is there a pending lawsuit/mandate, no there was a DSOD restriction letter, PPWD had a funding issue with managing the repair project

Note: after the 1/27/2022, meeting we received updated information on the Pacheco Pass Water District Board of Directors being:
Garrett Haertel. Board President, Mark Tobias. Board Vice President and other Board Members are, Ryan Bergamini, Shawn Bourdet, and Scott Rossi.

SITES: reported on by Ms. Cindy Kao

- In December, the California Water Commission voted in favor of the feasibility of the Sites project, which keeps the project eligible for \$800M in WSIP funding
- The project is up for the next phase of funding and we are being asked to consider executing an amendment to the existing agreement that would cover funding for the next 3 years.
 - Staff is analyzing the current status of the project - (benefits, costs, and financial information)

- Current Participants are being asked to seek approval to continue funding by the end of March
- We are hoping to bring our recommendation to the next meeting of this committee before going to the full board in March.

B.F. SISK DAM RAISE PROJECT: reported on by Ms. Cindy Kao

- Valley Water Staff is coordinating with the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority (SLDMWA) on developing the project description and cost sharing consideration. We have been told that a cost share agreement is expected to be developed this spring. The SLDMWA voted to hire a project manager to move the project forward more efficiently.
- Staff thanked and gave credit to Valley Water partner, Mr. Jeff Cattaneo, District Manager-District Engineer of San Benito County Water District for his idea and key driver for the hiring of the project manager.

SEMITROPIC: reported on by Ms. Cindy Kao

- Through December, VW recovered approximately 35,959 acre-feet from Semitropic
- VW currently has roughly 297,208 AF in storage (~85% full)
- Imported Water Unit staff will be reviewing DWR's comments on the Semitropic and Kern Subbasin GSPs which, if not already released, will be released on January 28th.

The Water Storage Exploratory Committee took no action.

4.3 REVIEW WATER STORAGE EXPLORATORY COMMITTEE WORK PLAN AND THE COMMITTEE'S NEXT MEETING AGENDA

Ms. Glenna Brambill reviewed the agenda materials as outlined in the agenda item.

The next meeting agenda items are:

- Cardiz, Inc, Water Project presentation
- Agricultural needs (water storage/water supply) discussion, partnership with farmers
- Sites Project

The Committee Chair will work with the Clerk of the Board Unit in scheduling the next meeting.

The Water Storage Exploratory Committee took no action.

5. CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMITTEE ACTIONS

Ms. Glenna Brambill noted there were no action items for Board consideration.

6. CLOSED SESSION

6.4 DISTRICT COUNSEL REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Brian Hopper noted there was no reportable action.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Committee Chair Director Gary Kremen adjourned the meeting at 10:31 a.m.

Glenna Brambill
Board Committee Liaison
Office of the Clerk of the Board

Approved: 3-7-2022