

PASO ROBLES GROUNDWATER BASIN ADVISORY COMMITTEE:
TEMPLETON COMMUNITY CENTER

February 19, 2015
Draft Meeting Minutes

An audio recording of the meeting and materials submitted during public comment are available online at www.PasoBasin.org

Approximately 2:00 pm the meeting is called to order

1. Introductions and determination of a Quorum- Quorum established.
2. Approve January meeting minutes- The January 22, 2015, Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Advisory Committee was reviewed. One amendment was made to consistently refer to Bill Frost as William Frost. Member Cunha moves to approve the January meeting minutes, as amended, with a second by Member Kalvans. (20-0-2-2)
3. County Efforts (please see staff report)-
 - a. Countywide Water Conservation Program Development Update (e.g. offset programs)- Courtney Howard, County Public Works, mentions the County Planning Department will present options associated with developing an Agricultural Water Conservation Offset Program to the Board of Supervisors on February 24. Trevor Keith, County Planning, responds to questions regarding the nature of the options. Discussion ensues regarding basins and their levels of severity.
 - b. Water District Formation Update- John Diodati, County Public Works, reports on the outcome of the January 27, 2015, Board of Supervisors meeting. Mr. Diodati notes that water district powers, boundaries, Proposition 218, and schedule were the main topics of discussion. Mr. Diodati also notes that staff will return to the Board in April with a comparison of the two funding mechanisms (i.e. a “rate” or a “tax”). At that time a draft LAFCO application will be completed. Mr. Diodati mentions funding the District is a condition of formation, not a part of the LAFCO application, therefore, the Board of Supervisors is not required to make a final decision in April. Discussion ensues regarding Proposition 218 votes and determining the basis for cost distribution.
 - c. Nacimiento-San Antonio Interlake Tunnel Project Discussions- Ms. Howard informs the Committee that the County is in contact with Monterrey County regarding the project. Member Neil expresses concern about what effects the Nacimiento- San Antonio Interlake Tunnel Project may have on Nacimiento water reliability. Alternate Member Franklin explains the project’s initial engineering study included retaining all requirements of reservoir operation associated with

the Master Water Agreement with San Luis Obispo County. Mr. Franklin reports the projects expansion will increase spillway elevation at San Antonio and notes an outreach meeting will be conducted at Heritage Ranch on February 26; the meeting is primarily directed towards addressing lake side homeowner concerns.

- d. Computer Model Efforts Update- Ms. Howard announces she has posted the final report along with a document containing public comments and responses from the consultant. An update on the refined model runs will be provided in late March.
 - e. Consider Advising the Board of Supervisors regarding County efforts- Discussion ensues regarding whether to support the development of an interim or provisional Agricultural Water Conservation Offset Program and the expiration of the urgency ordinance. A motion to support the Program's development is made by Member Tracy with a second by Member Luft, and various members propose refinements to the motion under discussion. With concurrence from Members Tracy and Member Luft, the language of the passing motion is to advise the Board of Supervisors to continue with the process of adopting an interim ordinance that would stand until such time a management body is established to manage the Paso Basin, have the ordinance come back to PBAC for input and approve the ordinance before expiration of the urgency ordinance. Member Kalvans voted under protest. (20-2-1-1)
4. Subcommittee Reports/ Recommended PBAC Actions-
- a. Management- Alternate Member Halley reports on the Management Subcommittee's last meeting. Upon a motion by Alternate Member Halley and a second by Member Sinton the Committee votes unanimously to send letters to the Board of Supervisors recommending the release of surplus Nacimiento Water to the Salinas River, and to revise the approach to the supplemental water supply options study. (23-0-0-1) Alternate Member Halley relays the concern expressed by the subcommittee regarding the San Antonio-Nacimiento Intertie Project's potential impact on lake levels and reliability. Discussion ensues regarding San Antonio and Nacimiento water benefits to the basin. A suggestion is made for the Committee consider advising the Board of Supervisors to facilitate an agency wide discussion of SGMA at a future meeting.
 - b. Supply Options-. Ms. Halley summarizes topics discussed at the last Subcommittee meeting including an update on Paso's recycled water potential and the progress of unincorporated community water systems. The Committee discusses use of recycled water for irrigation and blending of recycled water with groundwater or Nacimiento water.
 - c. Computer Model Update- Ms. Howard notes that the benefit of recharging additional Nacimiento water into the Salinas River will be evaluated with the model.

- d. Conservation- Member Best reports on the Subcommittees February 5 meeting. The Subcommittee created a draft outreach letter intended for irrigators in order to solicit input on best practices for water use efficiency. Discussion ensues on the purpose of the letter and whether a letter is the best approach to request input. Upon a motion by Member Merrill and a second by Member Harvey the Committee votes unanimously for the Subcommittee to update the letter to address concerns expressed by the members and proceed with sending the letter to relevant organizations. (23-0-0-1)
 - e. In-Basin Projects- Member Werner spoke on the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) offered by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). The program's target is to increase water infiltration within the basin. Mr. Werner mentions it is worth investigating funding available through EQIP to help recharge the basin. The Subcommittee's future topics of discussion include: potential for additional water via the Salinas Dam, residential rural projects and best management practices, and NRCS practices and projects suitable for the area.
 - f. Outreach and Education- Alternate Member Hendrickson summarizes the Subcommittee's February 2 meeting including the update from County Staff on Water District application development outreach efforts. The Subcommittee suggested County Staff create a GIS parcel map with the Paso Basin boundary available for landowners. Ms. Hendrickson announces the Subcommittee is working on compiling a list of CSD and Mutual Water Companies within the Basin. After a brief discussion of the document, Member Luft motions to approve the PBAC Vision for At-Large Members, as amended by Ms. Howard, with a second by Member Wilmore, and the motion passes unanimously. (23-0-0-1)
5. Public Comment Public- Member Harvey notes that a well is being investigated that may have been improperly constructed and County Environmental Health is working with the driller assess the situation. Discussion ensues on improperly screened wells and cross contamination of water sources. Member Sinton speaks to a recent presentation by lawyer Wayne Lemieux, who specializes in water issues.
 6. Future meeting topics/committee comments Committee- No future topics suggested.
 7. Adjourn- Meeting adjourned approximately 4:00 pm.

The Paso Robles Advisory Committee approved these minutes on March 19, 2015.

/s/ Courtney Howard

COURTNEY HOWARD
Public Works Staff
