

# Paso Basin Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda

**Paso Robles City Council Chambers**    **Thursday, July 16, 2015**  
1000 Spring Street, Paso Robles                      **2 pm – 4 pm**

[www.PasoBasin.org](http://www.PasoBasin.org)

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|---|------------------|---------|
| 1. Introductions and Determination of a Quorum  | Committee/Public | 2:00 pm |
| 2. Approve June Meeting Minutes   | Chair/Staff      | 2:05 pm |
| 3. Consider moving Public Comment to the beginning of each agenda   | Committee        | 2:15 pm |
| 4. County Efforts (attachment)  | Staff/Chair      | 2:25 pm |
| a. Water District Application Review Process Update                 i. Consider moving September PBAC meeting to Wednesday, September 9th, 2-4pm                 ii. Funding options  |                  |         |
| b. Countywide Water Conservation Program Development Update   |                  |         |
| c. US Bureau of Reclamation Basin Study Selection   |                  |         |
| d. Public Well Logs   |                  |         |
| e. Consider advising the Board of Supervisors regarding County efforts  |                  |         |
| 5. Subcommittee Reports/Recommended PBAC Actions (attachments)  | Chair/Chairs     | 3:00 pm |
| a. Computer Model Update  |                  |         |
| b. Conservation   |                  |         |
| c. In-Basin Projects  |                  |         |
| d. Management:                 i. The subcommittee requests that the PBAC send a letter to the Board of Supervisors, copied to the Planning Commission, re-iterating a request in our letter of May 21, 2015: An Agricultural Offset Clearance should not be issued to a receiving site for discontinuous properties within the Red Zone as defined by GEI's (Fugro) Generalized Difference in Spring Groundwater Elevations between 1997 – 2013 map.                 ii. The subcommittee requests that the PBAC send a letter to the Board of Supervisors, copied to LAFCO, strongly suggesting that LAFCO make a condition of approval that the water district be prohibited from moving water outside of the basin. |                  |         |
| e. Outreach and Education   |                  |         |
| f. Supply Options   |                  |         |
| 6. Public Comment (if needed)   | Public           | 3:45 pm |
| 7. Future meeting topics/committee comments   | Committee        | 3:55 pm |
| 8. Adjourn (Next meeting August 20th, Templeton)  | Chair            | 4:00 pm |

The purpose of the Paso Basin Advisory Committee is to advise the County Board of Supervisors concerning policy decisions relating to:

- Implementation of the Basin Groundwater Management Plan
- Development of a "enhanced" Groundwater Management Plan for the Basin
- Formation of a new water district
- Transition of an initial County-supported district to an independent district
- Other policies and ordinances

The Committee will also serve as a public forum to discuss and collect comments on Basin

PASO BASIN ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
TEMPLETON COMMUNITY CENTER

June 18, 2015  
Draft Meeting Minutes

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An audio recording of the meeting and materials submitted during public comment are available online at [www.PasoBasin.org](http://www.PasoBasin.org)

Approximately 2:00 pm the meeting is called to order.

1. Introductions and determination of a Quorum- Quorum established.

*[Chairperson Luft reorganizes the agenda, in order to accommodate various members' timing commitments. Item 5 will be moved up, directly after meeting minutes review.]*

2. Approve May meeting minutes- The May 21, 2015 Paso Basin Advisory Committee (PBAC) minutes are reviewed, and Courtney Howard, County Public Works, reads two written requests for revisions to the draft minutes: (1) Member Engel observed that her attendance (and other members) was not accurately recorded; and (2) Alternate Member Halley requests expansion on Item 4 relating to details for the approach to full subscription of Nacimiento Water Project reserve water. Discussion ensues regarding other appropriate formats for Alternate Member Halley's comments, such as a letter to the PBAC at a future meeting. Suggestion is made to note the submittal of Upper Salinas Las Tablas Resource Conservation District letter related to conservation measures in Item 3a. Member Luft suggests correcting the Roll Call Vote Form for Motion 3 motion makers (first by Spencer, second by Kalvans) on the May 21<sup>st</sup> Roll Call Vote Form. Member Engel moves to approve minutes as amended, second by Member Kalvans. (19-0-2-3)
5. Municipality Water Use Update- Discussion ensues regarding the various municipal water use and supply sources. Member Neil speaks to Atascadero's recharge efforts and reduced water consumption. He also notes his Board's recent adoption of a policy relating to management of private wells. Member Kalvans discussed San Miguel's water use and points out an unusually large amount of water being used by the County playground. Discussion ensues about possible causes. Ms. Howard asks that San Miguel send details to County Parks Department, so that necessary actions can be taken. Member Luft and Dick McKinley, City of Paso Robles Public Works Director, discuss the status of a moratorium on new wells in Paso Robles. Member Britz speaks to Templeton's successful conservation efforts.
3. County Efforts (attachment)
  - a. Water District Application Review Process Update – Consider Moving August, September and October PBAC meeting days – David Church, Executive Officer of the San Luis Obispo Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO),

overviews today's LAFCO meeting and presentations by both the State Water Board SGMA Lead, Erik Ekdahl, and Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency General Manager, Gerhardt Hubner. He briefly touches on the discussions on basin boundaries and potential funding of the water district. He notes that the August 20<sup>th</sup> LAFCO meeting will be at the Paso Events Center at 5:30 PM, and September 17<sup>th</sup> LAFCO meeting will be at the San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors Chambers at 9:00 AM. He anticipates upcoming LAFCO staff efforts will be focused on the potential water district formation. Discussion ensues about watershed management strategies presented by Fox Canyon, the water district's relationship to other agencies in a Groundwater Sustainability Agency, and potential overlap of various governmental agencies. It is requested that a "study session" with the State Water Board be added to an upcoming meeting agenda. It is recommended that related discussion occur within the management subcommittee. Moving the August and September PBAC meeting dates was discussed due to potential conflict with LAFCO hearing dates. The August PBAC meeting will remain at the normal time and date. The September meeting of the PBAC was tentatively moved to September 9<sup>th</sup> from 2 to 4 pm. Committee members are asked to check their calendars before the July PBAC meeting.

- b. Countywide Water Conservation Program Development Update – The next Planning Commission hearing is on July 30<sup>th</sup>, with updated materials being posted online soon. It is requested that the management subcommittee will discuss the interim offset ordinance at their next meeting.
  - c. Paso Basin Open House follow up – Ms. Howard provides an overview of the recent Paso Basin Open House and relays the public's interest in seeing more Open Houses occur. An attendee recommends a new format for future Open House meetings: each presentation would be followed by a panel discussion and an opportunity to ask questions. Further discussion ensues.
  - d. Consider Advising the Board of Supervisors regarding county efforts – Member Luft notes that this topic has been informally addressed in previous conversation.
4. Subcommittee Reports/Recommended PBAC Actions
- a. Computer Model Update – Ms. Howard answers questions and facilitates discussion on the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin computer model and the status of refinement and recalibration efforts.
  - b. Conservation – Discussion ensues on efforts to engage the County's agricultural industry in subcommittee meetings with the hope of starting a dialogue on conservation practices. It is pointed out that Member Best believes that agency and committee collaboration is an emerging mindset. Members express a desire for the County to pursue grant funding.
  - c. In-Basin Projects – Member Werner provides an update on Member Best's pursuit of grant funding for Huer Huero Creek Watershed efforts. The State grant was not awarded, but the project still has the opportunity to receive Federal grant funding. Results of the Federal grant solicitation will be determined on September 1, 2015, and work could start as early as October 1, 2015. He announces that Carolyn Berg and Christine Halley will attend the next subcommittee meeting to

speaking about Proposition 1 funding opportunities— July 2<sup>nd</sup> from 11:30-1pm at North Coast Engineering, 725 Creston Road, Paso Robles.

- d. Management – Recommend that the Board of Supervisors direct staff to review the attached Frequently Asked Questions and Responses with legal counsel, verify data sources and revise as needed, and post to the pasobasin.org website – Member Brown states that the recommendation is to request staff to review the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ), as drafts has been taken as far as it can go and is ready to be sent to County Staff for legal counsel review. Discussion ensues on FAQ comments, such as a requested revision by Della Barrett regarding storage of imported water and recovery of banked water. Discussion ensues on PBAC’s role as advocating or informative. Member Tracy moves to forward the information to County staff and have them post it to the website after review, second by Member Spencer. (18-2-0-4)
  - e. Outreach and Education –Brief Paso Basin Open House discussion ensues.
  - f. Supply Options – Last meeting is discussed, the subject of which was the review of the State Water Tech Memo from the Supply Options Study which was reviewed and comments were provided back to the consultants. Subcommittee is now awaiting a response from the consultants as to their next steps. Discussion commences on providing informational workshops and opportunities to the public regarding State Water.
6. Public Comment – A question is posed about rules or regulations on the use of recycled water in growing food. Member Engel notes recent experience observing the installation of subsurface drip irrigation at a location in the basin. A question is posed regarding inclusion of water users using less than 2 acre-feet per year. Member Luft answers that it would be up to the future water district board to decide. Someone asks about the possibility of creating an elevation difference exhibit for 2014. Someone requests a concise and easy-to-read summary of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA).
  7. Future Meeting Topics/ Committee Comments –
    - a. Moving Public Comment to the beginning of the meeting
    - b. Having State Water Board come to the PBAC and make a presentation
  8. Adjourn – Meeting adjourned at approximately 4pm.

**Paso Robles Groundwater Advisory Committee - Roll Call Vote Form**  
**Meeting date: 06/18/2015**

Organization	Representative		MOTION 1				MOTION 2				MOTION 3				MOTION 4			
			AYE	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	AYE	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	AYE	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	AYE	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
<b>AGENCIES, ORGANIZATIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS</b>																		
Atascadero Mutual Water Company	John Neil	M	X				X											
	Jaime Hendrickson	A																
Central Coast Vineyard Team	Kris Beal	M					X											
	Willy Cunha	A	X															
City of Paso Robles	Christopher Alakel	M				X				X								
	Christine Halley	A																
City of San Luis Obispo	John Ashbaugh	M					X											
	Noah Evans	A	X															
Monterey County Water Resources Agency	Robert Johnson	M					X											
	Howard Franklin	A			X													
Paso Robles Imperiled Overlying Rights (PRIOR)	Steve Sinton	M			X		X											
	Kent Gilmore	A																
Paso Robles Wine Country Alliance	Patricia Wilmore	M	X				X											
	Jerry Reaugh	A																
San Miguel Community Services District	Anthony Kalvans	M	X							X								
	Vacant	A																
Shandon (County Service Area 16)	Susan Howard	M				X				X								
	Vacant	A																
SLO County Cattlemen's Association	Kurt Bollinger	M	X				X											
	Dale Evanson	A																
SLO County Farm Bureau	Paul Clark	M	X				X											
	Megan Silcott	A																
Templeton Community Services District	Jeff Britz	M	X				X											
	Tina Mayer	A																
Upper Salinas-Las Tablas RCD	Devin Best	M				X				X								
	Amy Smart	A																
<b>AT-LARGE</b>																		
Viticulture Agriculturalist At-Large	Dana Merrill	M	X				X											
	Robert Brown	A																
Non-Viticulture Irrigated Crop Agriculturalist At-Large	Bill Spencer	M	X				X											
	John DeRosier	A																
Environmental At-Large	Sue Harvey	M	X					X										
	Daniel Meade	A																
Rural Residential At-Large	Sue Luft	M	X				X											
	Michael Baugh	A																
	Claudia Engel	M	X				X											
	Maria Lorca	A																
	Edward C. Redig	M	X				X											
	Jim DeRose	A																
	William Frost	M	X				X											
	Laurie Gage	A																
	George Tracy	M	X				X											
	Don Wilson	A																
(District 1)	Randy Diffenbaugh	M	X				X											
	Randy Heinzen	A																
(District 5)	Erin Faulkner	M	X					X										
	Dr. Serena Friedman	A																
Undesignated At-Large	Larry Werner	M	X				X											
	Miller Newlon	A																
<b>Total:</b>			<b>19</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>								

**MOTION 1**

Item #:   2   Pass/Fail?:   Pass  

Motion Maker:   Engel   Seconder:   Kalvans  

AYE:   19   NO:   0   ABSTAIN:   2   ABSENT:   3  

Motion: Approve May meeting minutes less attendance record.

**MOTION 2**

Item #:   4.d.   Pass/Fail?:   Pass  

Motion Maker:   Tracy   Seconder:   Spencer  

AYE:   18   NO:   2   ABSTAIN:   0   ABSENT:   4  

Motion: Send the revised FAQ and Responses to County staff for legal counsel review, and then have the information posted on the website.

**MOTION 3**

Item #:        Pass/Fail?:       

Motion Maker:        Seconder:       

AYE:        NO:        ABSTAIN:        ABSENT:       

**MOTION 4**

Item #:        Pass/Fail?:       

Motion Maker:        Seconder:       

AYE:        NO:        ABSTAIN:        ABSENT:

**TO: Paso Basin Advisory Committee**  
**FROM: Courtney Howard, Water Resources Engineer**  
**DATE: July 16, 2015**  
**SUBJECT: Agenda Item # 3.a, b, c, and d: County Efforts**

### **Recommendation**

Receive an update on County efforts and consider developing recommendations for the Board of Supervisors.

### **Discussion**

#### **a. Water District Application Review Process Update**

The Board of Supervisors directed staff to submit an AB 2453 Paso Robles Basin Water District application to the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) by a vote of 3-2 during its April 21, 2015 meeting.

<http://agenda.slocounty.ca.gov/agenda/sanluisobispo/Proposal.html?select=4559>

LAFCO held their second study session on the application on June 18, 2015. They received a presentation from the State Water Board and General Manager of Fox Canyon Water District. At the meeting, LAFCO discussed an August hearing in Paso Robles and a September hearing in San Luis Obispo. LAFCO has also started mailing notices to stakeholders in the basin regarding these meetings. LAFCO also provided guidance regarding the use of Fugro's basin boundary as the preferred boundary. County staff anticipates an August 18, 2015 Board of Supervisors meeting for the discussion on the Prop 218 funding mechanism.

#### **b. Countywide Water Conservation Program Development Update**

Key dates and information regarding the development of the Countywide Water Conservation Program can be found at the following website:

<http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/planning/water-amendments/environmental-review.htm>

[http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/planning/water-amendments/County\\_General\\_Plan\\_and\\_County\\_Code\\_Amendments.htm](http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/planning/water-amendments/County_General_Plan_and_County_Code_Amendments.htm)

#### **c. US Bureau of Reclamation Basin Study Selection**

Great news for stakeholders overlying the Salinas River Valley: The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation will make \$950,000 available for the April 2015 Salinas and Carmel River Basins Proposal to conduct a comprehensive water study (to be matched \$1.16 million by study partners). See the attached press release and proposal excerpt.

#### **d. Public Well Logs**

On June 24, 2015, the Governor approved Senate Bill 83, which includes a section to modify language in the Water Code related to confidentiality of well data. The bill was approved as a trailer bill to the 2015-16 Budget, as such the bill takes effect immediately upon approval.

The bill's Legislative Counsel's Digest describes that previously the "law required a person who digs, bores, or drills a water well, cathodic protection well, or a monitoring well, or abandons or destroys a well, or deepens or re-perforates a well, to file a report of completion with the Department of Water Resources." And previously "the law prohibited those reports from being made available to the public, except under certain circumstances. This bill would instead require these reports to be made available to governmental agencies and to the public, upon request, as prescribed." Section 42 of Senate Bill 83 amends Section 13752 of the Water Code as follows:

*(a) Reports made in accordance with paragraph (1) of subdivision (b) of Section 13751 shall be made available as follows:*

*(1) To governmental agencies.*

*(2) To the public, upon request, in accordance with subdivision (b).*

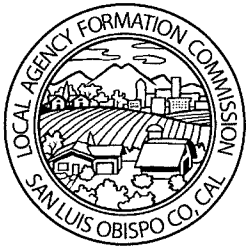
*(b) (1) The department may charge a fee for the provision of a report pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) that does not exceed the reasonable costs to the department of providing the report, including costs of promulgating any regulations to implement this section.*

*(2) Notwithstanding subdivision (g) of Section 1798.24 of the Civil Code, the disclosure of a report in accordance with paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) in the possession of the department or another governmental agency shall comply with the Information Practices Act of 1977 (Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 1798) of Title 1.8 of Part 4 of Division 3 of the Civil Code).*

Full Senate Bill 83 text can be found at:

[http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/pub/15-16/bill/sen/sb\\_0051-0100/sb\\_83\\_bill\\_20150624\\_chaptered.htm](http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/pub/15-16/bill/sen/sb_0051-0100/sb_83_bill_20150624_chaptered.htm)

**Attached: Letter from LAFCO to District: Formation Application 30-Day Initial Review  
USBR Press Release: Study Selection  
Proposal 9I Wfdh Salinas and Carmel River Basins Study**



LAFCO - San Luis Obispo - Local Agency Formation Commission  
*SLO LAFCO - Serving the Area of San Luis Obispo County*

June 25, 2015

COMMISSIONERS

Chairman  
TOM MURRAY  
Public Member

Vice-Chairman  
FRANK MECHAM  
County Member

MURIL CLIFT  
Special District Member

ROBERTA FONZI  
City Member

BRUCE GIBSON  
County Member

MARSHALL OCHYLSKI  
Special District Member

EDWARD WAAGE  
City Member

ALTERNATES

DAVID BROOKS  
Public Member

ROBERT ENNS  
Special District Member

ADAM HILL  
County Member

JAMIE L. IRONS  
City Member

STAFF

DAVID CHURCH  
Executive Officer

RAYMOND A. BIERING  
Legal Counsel

MIKE PRATER  
Analyst

DONNA J. BLOYD  
Commission Clerk

Mr. Wade Horton  
County of San Luis Obispo  
Public Works Department  
County Government Center  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

**Re: Formation of the Paso Robles Basin Water District  
Application 30-Day Initial Review**

Dear Mr. Horton:

This letter is to advise you that the LAFCO application for the formation of the Paso Robles Basin Water District has been received and LAFCO staff has completed the 30-day initial review of the application and finds that the following items need to be submitted;

- The Phase II NBS funding report that provides for a more detailed analysis of the revenues and the funding mechanisms to be used to fund the District.
- A final GIS layer of the original proposed boundary and latest groundwater elevation model layer for the basin or a graphic overlaying PRBWD.
- The number of registered voters within the proposed district boundary per the last report submitted to the Secretary of State by the County Clerk. The number of landowners and assessed value of land within the boundary of the proposed district based on the last equalized assessment roll.
- Information about the consistency of the formation of the district with the County's General Plan and Area Plans within the proposed boundary of the District. Please include information about projected growth and land uses in the area.
- Provide a plan regarding how the proposed district and the County Flood Control District would work together to manage the groundwater resources and resolve any conflicts that may arise.



LAFCO staff will continue its review and analysis of the application. Additional information may be requested as the LAFCO staff analysis of the application progresses. The application will remain on hold until the above information is submitted. Thank you for your help with this application. If you have any questions, please call me at 805-781-5795.

Sincerely,



David Church, AICP  
LAFCO Executive Officer

cc. John Diodati

## **Bureau of Reclamation Provides \$1.5 Million for River Basin Studies about How to Meet Future Water Demands**

**Funds Basin Studies for Salinas and Carmel River Basins in California and Lower Santa Cruz River Basin in Arizona, Selects Middle Rio Grande Basin in New Mexico and Mojave River Basin in California for plans of study.**

Media Contact: Peter Soeth, 303-445-3615

For Release: July 02, 2015

WASHINGTON - Bureau of Reclamation Commissioner Estevan López announced today that Reclamation will use \$1.5 million to partner with water managers in Arizona, California and New Mexico to conduct comprehensive water studies. This funding will help complete two basin studies and develop plans of study for two more.

"Reclamation and its partners are confronting widening imbalances between demand and supply in basins throughout the West," said López. "Working collaboratively with stakeholders within each respective basin, we can use the latest science and data to develop options that will achieve a sustainable water supply."

Reclamation selected the Salinas and Carmel River Basins in California and Lower Santa Cruz River Basin in Arizona as subjects for basin studies. A basin study is a comprehensive study that defines options for meeting future water demands in river basins in the western United States where imbalances in water supply and demand exist or are projected to exist in the future.

Reclamation will make \$950,000 available for the Salinas and Carmel River Basins that will be matched with \$1.16 million from the study partners. These California basins encompass 4,500 square miles with a population of 370,000 people and include the protected Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. The two basins also include 250,000 acres of agricultural land and have a combined economic output estimated to be \$11 billion annually. Through the basin study an integrated hydrologic model will be developed that identifies the risks and potential impacts of climate change on future water resources. It will then highlight options and adaptation strategies for helping to achieve a sustainable water supply.

In the Lower Santa Cruz River Basin, Reclamation will provide \$392,750, which will be matched by the study partner, the Southern Arizona Water Users Association. The Lower Santa Cruz River Basin encompasses 3,869 square miles in southeast Arizona and has a population of approximately 980,000 people, most of whom reside in the Tucson metropolitan area. The region heavily relies on water from the Central Arizona Project and, due to the ongoing drought, is seeing declines in the groundwater supply. An annual deficit of 250,000 acre-feet is projected by 2025. The basin study will identify the water resources needed to mitigate climate change impacts and improve water reliability for municipal, agricultural and environmental demands.

Two basins were selected to develop a plan of study. A plan of study helps a cost-share partner - such as a local water district - define the outcomes and set the scope and focus for a potential future basin study. Reclamation will develop the plans of study with each cost-share partner.

The two plans of study are:

- Middle Rio Grande - federal funding: \$84,000; non-federal funding \$89,000
- Mojave River Basin - federal funding: \$75,000; non-federal funding: \$75,000

Reclamation's share of the study costs may be used only to support work done by Reclamation or its contractors. The non-federal partners in a basin study must contribute at least 50 percent of the total study cost in non-federal funding or in-kind services. Non-federal partners typically include state and city agencies, municipal water districts and flood control and irrigation districts. Since 2009, total federal funding for the Basin Study Program is \$17.5 million.

The Basin Study Program is part of the WaterSMART Program. WaterSMART is the U.S. Department of the Interior's sustainable water initiative that uses the best available science to improve water conservation and help water resource managers identify strategies to narrow the gap between supply and demand. To learn more about WaterSMART, please visit [www.usbr.gov/WaterSMART](http://www.usbr.gov/WaterSMART).

To learn more about the Basin Study Program or the projects announced today, please visit [www.usbr.gov/WaterSMART/bsp](http://www.usbr.gov/WaterSMART/bsp).

###

## STUDY ABSTRACT

*Performing a comprehensive study to evaluate regional supplies and demands within the context of the anticipated effects of global climate change is essential for this environmentally, economically, and culturally significant study area.*

The Salinas and Carmel Rivers Basin Study provides opportunities to improve inter-agency collaboration and develop integrated strategies for securing regional sustainable water supplies that benefit agricultural, urban, and environmental water demands. Strategies for adapting to climate change, including changing precipitation patterns, runoff, and sea level rise must be developed and integrated into the watershed management of the Salinas and Carmel River Basins. The Basin Study will, therefore, provide a scientific and collaborative basis for the development and implementation of current and future planning decisions that will yield management and land use decisions for sustainable water supplies. This Study provides opportunities to develop solutions and strategies to fill gaps in supply and demand planning, reduce risks to property and infrastructure associated with climate change, and improve sustainability of aquifers and rivers in order to provide adequate water supplies for the benefit of all users well into the future.

Water years 2012-14 stand as California's driest three consecutive years for precipitation. This occurred in a period of record warmth, with new climate records set in 2014 for statewide average temperatures. At the time this proposal was prepared, in April 2015, the drought continues. The local participating agencies of the Salinas and Carmel Rivers Basin Study proposal (MCWRA, MPWMD, MRWPCA, SLOCPWD), who are responsible for stewardship of local natural resources, have an urgency to collaborate with Reclamation. A Basin Study would augment ongoing efforts by the participating local agencies and provide unprecedented opportunities for Federal, State and local agencies to collaborate and advance models of the Salinas and Carmel Rivers Basin Study via inter-agency work. The basins and sub-basins included in this proposal are currently experiencing insufficient water supplies and are projected to have insufficient water supplies in the future, as well as are facing legal and regulatory restrictions on water use. Finding replacement water supplies is vital for this region to be in

compliance with legal mandates, cope with climate change, and improve environmental conditions.

Substantial development within the 100-year floodplain of rivers in this Basin Study has placed billions of dollars of urban and agricultural property at risk during large flood events. In addition, climate change could impact fire risk in the National Forest lands that provide most of the runoff within the basins and are already subject to high fuel loads. Water resource management in the study area is divided among multiple layers of local, regional, State, and Federal agencies, as well as for-profit entities such as private utilities.

As further described in this joint effort proposal, the Basin Study partners are actively engaged in pursuing sustainable practices in accordance of with the requirements of the State's Groundwater Sustainability Act (SGMA). Together, the partners are developing plans for sustainable groundwater management in the basins. The partners have implemented changes in conjunctive use programs to improve steelhead recovery and we participate in one another's operating and public outreach committees. The partners are dedicated to pursuing and evaluating the challenges of water resource management so that together, along with decision makers, they will collectively ensure future generations are provided with the tools to adapt to available water supplies and demand in proactive and responsible measures.

### Basin Study Objectives

1. Improved regional collaboration in the development of an integrated modeling tool.
2. Identify Risks and Potential Impacts of climate change on future water resources (supply & demand).
3. Develop solutions and adaptation strategies to fill the gaps in supply/ demand.



*Recent picture by stakeholder in Paso Robles Basin shows that the Salinas River is dry due to the current drought.*

## Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Conservation Subcommittee minutes

Date: July 2nd 2015 1:30-3:30 am RCD Office

- I. Introduction and determination of a quorum:
  - A. Members present:
    1. Claudia Engel: Rural at large
    2. Devin Best: US-LT RCD
    3. Mike Baugh: Rural at large
    4. Anthony Kalvans: San Miguel CSD
    5. Robert Brown: viticulture
  - B. Members Absent:
    1. Kris Beal: viticulture
    2. Bill Spencer: non-irrigated
    3. Randy Heinzen: District 5
  - C. Member Reports:
    1. Member Engel gave a presentation on “deep drip Irrigation”. The committee reviewed the practice and discussed inclusion as a BMP for agriculture. Member Kalvans made a motion, seconded by Member Baugh, to incorporate “deep drip irrigation” as a feasible BMP for certain agricultural practices. report on In-Basin subcommittee. .
    2. Member Best provided an article regarding Mark Battany’s, UC Cooperative Extension, work on developing weather tools for the agricultural industry. The committee discussed the importance of having a comprehensive weather monitoring stations available to manage irrigated agriculture. Further discussion identified the importance of having these management tools readily available. Member Best described the State Water and Energy Efficiency Program (SWEET) which has been issued by CDFA to install such systems. The SWEET program has been successful throughout the county and and deadline for Round 3 applications is June 30, 2015. It was unclear if future funding would be available at this time. However, Member Best gave a synopsis of potential funding sources (e.g. Prop 1, CDFW Drought Response, etc.) that may be applicable to this region for similar type of work.
- II. Populate Conservation strategies:
  - A. Outreach letter distributed to Agricultural Groups.
    1. The group discussed the lack of response and how to proceed. The group chose to solicit input at face-to-face meetings. Two options were considered.
      - a. Consider reaching out to Vineyard Team, IGGPRA, Wine Alliance, and UCCE to come to a Conservation Subcommittee to discuss BMPs and ways to conserve water beyond the scope of the current list.
      - b. Redistribute follow-up letter to ag to encourage more input.
- III. Technical Peer Input
  - A. The group discussed hosting an informal dialogue with four (4) key representatives from irrigated viticulture at the next Conservation Subcommittee in August. The targeted organizations are: IGGPRA, Wine Alliance, Vineyard Team, and UCCE. Members will contact each organization and ask for a practitioner of water conservation measures represent their group.

Next meeting August 6<sup>th</sup>.

**In-Basin Subcommittee of the  
Paso Robles Basin Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes of July 2, 2015**

**DRAFT**

In-Basin Projects Subcommittee of the Paso Robles Basin Advisory Committee:

In attendance from the Subcommittee were Larry Werner, Ed Redig, Claudia Engel, Willy Cunha, Sue Luft, Jerry Reaugh (alternate) and Dan Meade (alternate). Carolyn Berg represented the County and Dick McKinley the City of Paso Robles. Also in attendance was Serena Friedman.

The May Minutes were approved with the correction of the spelling of Joy Sprague's last name.

Larry reviewed the positive results of Atascadero's use of Nacimiento water in basin recharge evidenced by the live stream passing through the Templeton area.

Dick McKinley, Paso Robles Public Works Director, touched on their similar use. He also reported that while the City has accomplished significant water use reduction they are still need to find 19% more reduction compared to 2013 use to reach their current goals.

Carolyn Berg gave a review of Regional Water Management Group (decision making body of the local Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) program) from the perspective of the State of California and our local agencies. She also reviewed the existing IRWM grant program and the new Proposition 1 opportunities to help us support water resources (such as water quality, supply and infrastructure). The Paso Treatment plant is on the IRWM list, along with some 130+ other projects. She emphasized the importance of positioning our local efforts to be competitive under various funding programs. The key ingredients for creating a competitive application are creating partnerships between agencies, demonstrating local buy in on projects (can include local and Federal funding to match State funding) and to be far enough along in the planning and implementation of the project (demonstrate "readiness to proceed"). The State is looking for good projects aimed at specific goals and parameters but also for projects that will be successful and achieve claimed benefits. Carolyn suggested that aligning projects with the California Water Action Plan goals will ensure the State understands how local benefits fit into the State's intended future of statewide water resources ([http://resources.ca.gov/california\\_water\\_action\\_plan/](http://resources.ca.gov/california_water_action_plan/)). They judge likelihood of project's successful implementation by the participation of multiple local agencies and user groups, by the existing plans already moving forward and by the willingness of other agencies and local groups to supply part of the funding. Prop 1 will package part of their support as loans. A portion of these will not need to be repaid if all the expected results are met.

Our Regional Water Management Group meets in SLO and reviews local projects and needs. They create a list of our local priorities that help guide our grant applications.

The County is moving Carolyn to take on more responsibilities for dealing with SGMA from the County's perspective. She will be an important resource as we move ahead. John Diodati will continue to shepherd the District Formation effort.

We have invited Carolyn to our October meeting (or best timing once State has released IRWM and/or groundwater funding guidelines) to bring us up to date on Proposition 1 implementation and SGMA.

Dick asked at what point we can start adding in the in-kind financial participation represented by the percentage of our local wages (and volunteer hours) that go towards our planning efforts.

Claudia gave a review of in ground or buried drip in alfalfa. Ed Bernard got a \$150,000 grant for a project he is currently installing on Camp 8 road for a field previously irrigated by sprinklers.

The next In-Basin Subcommittee meeting will be August 6, 2015 at North Coast Engineering, 725 Creston Road Suite B from 11:30-1:00pm.

Charge of the In-Basin Projects Subcommittee:

This subcommittee focuses on in-basin physical solutions that are identified on the Blue Ribbon Committee's prioritized solutions list and are not covered by another Subcommittee. Potential areas of focus include:

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Discussing the options/pros/cons for in-basin multi-party sponsored systems to convey or retain supplemental water, groundwater and/or storm water for residential, agricultural and/or environmental needs and groundwater management in geographically specific areas. For example, county service areas, irrigation districts, in- or off-stream retention systems on private property, etc. The study of recharge areas in the basin being conducted by the Upper Salinas-Las Tablas Resource Conservation District would inform this discussion.

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Monitor and report on Solutions in progress such as the efforts of the City of Paso Robles and the Atascadero Mutual Water Company to utilize additional Nacimiento water to further recharge the basin.

PASO ROBLES GROUNDWATER BASIN ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MANAGEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE  
PASO ROBLES CITY HALL

**July 6, 2015  
MEETING NOTES**

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1. Introductions and Members Present:

Subcommittee attendance:

Subcommittee Members	July, 2015	June, 2015	May, 2015	April, 2015	March, 2015	Feb, 2015	Jan, 2015
Christopher Alakel	---	X	X	---	---	---	---
Christine Halley	---	---	---	X	X	X	X
Bob Brown	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Paul Clark	X	X		X	X		X
Willy Cunha	X	X	X		X	X	X
Jim DeRose	---						
William Frost	X	X	X	X	X	X	---
Sue Harvey	X		X	X	X	X	X
Rob Johnson	---	X			X	X	
Sue Luft	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

County/LAFCO staff present – John Diodati, David Church

Other BAC members/alternates present - Claudia Engel, John Neil, Dana Merrill

Others present – Dick McKinley - Paso Public Works Director, Matt Turrentine

2. Approve June Management Subcommittee Notes: Subcommittee Member Cunha moved to approve June 1, 2015 meeting notes, as amended; seconded by Member Luft; passed unanimously with abstentions by Members Harvey and Clark.

3. Update on Ag Offset Ordinance: County Planning representatives were not present. Latest proposed Title 22 language was not provided by County Planning as requested. Subcommittee members expressed continued concern that a key issue may not have been addressed by County Planning staff. Member Harvey moved; seconded by Member Clark that the subcommittee requests that the PBAC send a letter to the Board of Supervisors, copied to the Planning Commission, re-iterating a request in our letter of May 21, 2015: An Agricultural Offset Clearance should not be issued to a receiving site for discontinuous



properties within the Red Zone as defined by GEI's (Fugro) Generalized Difference in Spring Groundwater Elevations between 1997 – 2013 map. The Red Zone is defined as change in groundwater elevation greater than 50 feet which is illustrated in the map's legend; passed unanimously. Subcommittee members also requested that County Planning staff provide the proposed language to deal with the gap between expiration of the urgency ordinance and the effective date of the interim offset ordinance.

4. Water District Formation Update: David Church, LAFCO Executive Officer, noted that LAFCO will hold a public hearing regarding the water district application on August 20<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 to 10:30 pm at the Paso Robles Event Center. Postcards are being sent to all landowners and all registered voters with the Bulletin 118 boundaries. Discussion ensued regarding notification to the entire Bulletin 118 boundaries (the Sphere of Influence) vs. the proposed water district boundaries (Fugro definition of the basin). John Diodati, County Public Works, indicated that a GIS layer delineating the Fugro boundaries will be available online by August 20<sup>th</sup>, so that registered voters and landowners will be able to determine whether they are within the water district boundaries or the Sphere of Influence.

David Church noted that LAFCO performs a five year municipal service review for special districts which LAFCO has approved. This review verifies whether the conditions of approval are being met.

5. Discussion of LAFCO imposing a no exceptions water export ban as a condition of district approval: David Church indicated that staff might consider suggesting to LAFCO that a total prohibition on the movement of water outside the basin be included as a condition of approval. He indicated that it was being reviewed to determine if such a condition would be legal. Subcommittee members expressed strong support for a no exceptions water export ban. Member Luft moved; seconded by Member Frost that the subcommittee requests that the PBAC send a letter to the Board of Supervisors, copied to LAFCO, strongly suggesting that LAFCO make a condition of approval that the water district be prohibited from moving water outside of the basin; passed unanimously.

Discussion /recommendation for weighted assessment options for district funding: John Diodati stated that staff is working with the Assessor's office on the Land Use Codes that are assigned to each parcel. The funding options will be presented to the Board of Supervisors on August 18<sup>th</sup>. John discussed a potential base rate for all parcels (such as \$10 - 15), with adders for a dwelling, etc. using secondary LUCs. Irrigated acreage will probably be charged by acreage, paying the bulk of the assessments. John Diodati listed the primary LUCs: vacant land, residential, commercial (which includes agriculture) and government (parks, libraries, etc.) and described the secondary LUCs which would be used for dwellings, outbuildings or second residences. Subcommittee consensus was that a reasonable base rate per parcel with adders for residences and irrigated agriculture would be acceptable. John Diodati will be attending the PBAC and the next Management Subcommittee meeting to further discuss funding.

6. Powers and Authority of the Proposed District and the FCD: This issue was continued to August.
7. Recommendations to the BAC: See above.
8. Public comments: No member of the public spoke.
9. Future Subcommittee Topics: See above.

Meeting adjourned approximately 11:10 am. Next meeting of the Management Subcommittee is scheduled for Monday August 3, 2015, at 9:00 am at Paso Robles City Council Chambers located at 1000 Spring Street.

*Notes prepared by R. Brown*

**TO: Paso Basin Advisory Committee**

**FROM: Courtney Howard, Water Resources Engineer**

**DATE: July 16, 2015**

**SUBJECT: Agenda Item # 7: Suggested Future Agenda Items**

The following list was developed to help members of the PBAC, the public, and County staff track requests for future PBAC agenda items. This list contains some of the potential items that have been requested by PBAC members, by the public, or by County staff. *Near-Term Items* are expected to come to the PBAC within several months, whereas *Long-Term Items* are expected to take longer. Items under the heading of "*Ongoing Updates*" reflect ongoing efforts/programs that staff or others would provide updates on as appropriate.

Near-Term Items

- State Water Overview
- USGS Water Quality Study Presentation (November)
- Potential new uses of Lake Nacimiento water in the Basin
- Potential for development of catchment basins for storm water
- Proposition 1 opportunities
- Percolation areas in the groundwater basin
- Basin hydrogeology overview

Long-Term Items

- Development of recommendations for a more robust monitoring and reporting program

Ongoing Updates (as needed)

- Basin boundary determinations – discuss differences between DWR 118 and Fugro
- Reservoir conditions and water use information
- Water District Legislation (AB 2453)
- Ordinances (Export, Water Waste, Net Water Neutral Development)
- Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) – invite State Water Board and/or Department of Water Resources staff and/or other Basin Management entities (e.g. Fox Canyon)
- Shandon State Water Turnout Project progress
- Paso Robles Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant Projects progress
- Subcommittee Reports
- Member Reports
- Water Surface Elevation Trends (annually after Spring measurements)