

MINUTES (Approved)

Chairperson: Andy Pease
Vice Chairperson: Eric Greening
Secretary: Brendan Clark

The following action minutes are listed as they were acted upon by the Water Resources Advisory Committee (WRAC) and as listed on the Regular Meeting agenda for **November 6th, 2020** together with staff reports and related documents attached thereto and incorporated therein by reference.

The audio recording of the meeting and materials submitted to the WRAC are available online: [https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Public-Works/Committees-Programs/Water-Resources-Advisory-Committee-\(WRAC\).aspx](https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Public-Works/Committees-Programs/Water-Resources-Advisory-Committee-(WRAC).aspx)

Call to order at 1:30 PM

1) Determination of a Quorum and Introductions

A quorum of 19 is established.

2) Approval of September 2, 2020 Meeting Minutes

C. Mulholland moves for the approval of the previous meeting minutes which is seconded by E. Greening (15-2-2).

3) Election for Vice-Chairperson

E. Greening nominates R. Dienzo for Vice-Chairperson which is seconded by T. Gray. The nomination is accepted by R. Dienzo, and the motion carries (19-0-0).

4) Consider recommending participating in the preliminary planning and design phase of the State Water Delta Conveyance Project and consider forming an ad-hoc subcommittee to participate in the Water Management Tools Study process

C. Howard presents on the County of San Luis Obispo State Water Project Recommendations. The main points of the presentation are as follows:

- Delta Conveyance Project Overview
- Considerations for DCP Planning and Design Phase Participation
- Recommendations

A. Pease asks about what forming an ad-hoc would entail. C. Howard responds that the group would follow the issue closely and report back to WRAC on things like what local needs include.

D. Chipping asks about concerns with unknowns especially involving costs. C. Howard responds that there is a high contingency.

D. Loucks comments on concerns over high contingency and cost without a clear benefit and concerns with pipeline capacity. C. Howard responds that she does not have more detail on the benefits; the two year commitment would be in the funding agreement; and there is the ability for 10,000 AFY additional capacity in the northern part of the pipeline while the southern capacity depends on negotiations.

C. Bourbeau asks about the subcontracting agencies financial involvement and funding from nonparticipating agencies. C. Howard answers that subcontractors and county wide taxpayers help to pay for the project. She adds that unused state water allocations could be sold and open the door to work on a solution to relieve the obligation on taxpayers.

H. Graves comments that we should think about protecting the allocation, so that if it is not used it can be sold. Additionally, the project is paid for by users and that the price is not as concerning if you think of it as protecting an asset, so the state water project is something we should be involved in.

C. Mulholland and D. Lance expresses additional concerns of the benefits of the project.

C. Mulholland moves for not recommending that the County BOS moves participate in the Preliminary Planning and Design Phase for the DCP via the Funding Agreement. Motion carries (10-7-1).

H. Graves, S. Gibson, and G. English express interest and move forward to establish an ad-hoc committee. A. Lindstrom is volunteered to participate in the ad-hoc committee as well. H. Graves is designated as the convener (consensus).

After the meeting, B. Clark received correspondence from Brent Burchett that the Farm Bureau intended to vote "no" on the Item 4 motion which would have resulted in a 10-8 vote. (attached)

5) Receive Presentation from Mark Battany of the UC Cooperative Extension on Evapotranspiration

M. Battany presents on evapotranspiration. The main points of the presentation are as follows:

- Evapotranspiration overview
- Actual vs potential evapotranspiration
- Estimating with satellite data

B. Clark asks about the frequency of data updates on the various ET websites, and M. Battany responds that data is received about once every 4 days from satellites and every 15 minutes from weather stations.

6) Receive Update from County Environmental Health Department on the interim moratorium on the land application of treated sewage sludge/biosolids

L. Terry provides an update on the interim moratorium on the land application of treated sewage sludge/biosolids. She states that Nov. 17 environmental health will be introducing to the County BOS an amendment to section 8.13 SLO County code in adopting an extension on the interim moratorium on the land application of treated sewage sludge/biosolids. The board adoption hearing is scheduled for December 15th, 2020.

B. Clark proposes adding this item to the December 2020 meeting agenda to receive a full presentation and receive WRAC's recommendations on the extension of the ordinance.

A. Pease asks if there is language in the extension to allow for action prior to the 5-year period. L. Terry responds that there is, but there is no language compelling action prior to 5 years.

A. Pease states that a full presentation will be added as a future agenda item.

E. Greening adds that he would like to weigh in on recommending the adoption of the extension to the County BOS.

7) Ongoing Updates:

a) Rain & Reservoir Report

No comment.

b) California Drought Monitor Summary

No comment.

c) Groundwater Basin Management Efforts

No comment.

d) Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM)

No comment.

e) Stormwater Resource Plan (SWRP)

No comment.

f) State Water Project (SWP)

No comment.

g) Various County Water Programs, Policies, and Ordinances

No comment.

h) Open Reporting on Water Conservation Opportunities & Information

No comment

8) Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda

No comment.

9) Future Agenda Items

B. Clark states that at the December meeting a stormwater capture subcommittee will be introduced, and M. Travis will share more about her CivicSpark fellowship project related to this.

Meeting Adjourned at 2:30.