

SLO City/County Library Community Room
995 Palm Street, San Luis Obispo CA

Wednesday, April 2nd, 2025
1:30PM

MINUTES (Approved)

Chairperson: Thomas Burhenn
Vice Chairperson: Christine Mulholland
Secretary: Brendan Clark

The following action minutes are listed as they were acted upon by the Water Resources Advisory Committee (WRAC) as listed on the Regular Meeting agenda for **April 2, 2025** together with staff reports and related documents attached thereto and incorporated therein by reference.

The video 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

The number of voting Members present is 17. Quorum met.

2) Approval of March 5, 2025, WRAC Meeting Minutes

Item start time ~ 00:04:47

T. Burhenn introduces the item and asks for questions or comments from the Committee.

C. Mulholland moves to approve the March 5, 2025 meeting minutes as presented.

D. Roques seconds the motion.

Motion carries 17-0-0-0.

3) Receive Presentation Stantec on SB-552 Water System Consolidation Analysis and Provide Feedback

Item start time ~ 00:05:16

T. Burhenn and B. Clark introduce the item and C. Poytress presents on the SB-552 Water System Consolidation Analysis and related efforts.

M. Van Ryn asks if the presentation will be made available to the WRAC membership. C. Poytress responds.

E. Greening asks if the costs of a merger would require a vote under Prop 218. C. Poytress responds.

D. Chipping asks if the criteria for water deliveries has been developed beyond the conceptual stage. C. Poytress responds.

J. Green asks if funding is currently available for consolidation. C. Poytress responds.

J. Marx notes the demolition of the Hidden Hills Mobilodge (listed on the small water systems spreadsheet), suggests a need to reevaluate the accuracy of the currently available data, and comments that the project concept should also consider existing land use policies designed to curb urban sprawl. C. Poytress and B. Clark respond.

P. Brown highlights Oceano CSD's current domestic water consolidation efforts with small systems and offers feedback to members seeking clarity on the scope of work and funding opportunities related to consolidation analysis.

D. Crater asks if there are underlying assumptions that consolidated domestic wells will be abandoned when consumption is provided by the receiving system. P. Brown responds.

L. Azeem asks where the connection cost estimates originated. C. Poytress responds.

G. Grewal asks what cost considerations are being given to property owners. C. Poytress responds.

J. Edwards suggests using recent consolidation efforts by S&T Mutual Water Company in the Los Osos basin as a case study. C. Poytress responds.

4) Discuss County's Legislative Platform and Consider Forming an Ad-Hoc Subcommittee to Review

Item start time ~ 00:45:07

T. Burhenn introduces the item and requests feedback from Committee Members.

Committee Members discuss the purpose, timing, and intent of forming an Ad-Hoc Subcommittee, and explored alternative methods for WRAC Membership to provide feedback on the County's Legislative Platform, both individually and collectively.

No action taken.

5) Election of Vice-Chairperson

Item start time ~ 01:06:30

T. Burhenn introduces the item and asks for Vice-Chair nominations from the Committee.

C. Mulholland volunteers to serve as the Committee Vice-Chairperson.

P. Brown moves to nominate C. Mulholland as the Committee Vice-Chairperson.

J. Guthrie seconds the motion.

Motion carries 17-0-0-0.

6) Ongoing Updates

Item start time ~ 01:08:20

a) Rain & Reservoir Report

B. Clark comments that hard copies of the report have been printed for in-person attendees.

b) California Drought Monitor Summary

No comments.

c) Groundwater Basin Management Efforts

G. Grewal comments on the efforts of the Paso Basin GSAs to form a JPA.

J. Marx comments that the SLO Basin GSA Committee has explored the costs and feasibility of providing vintners and other parties access to the City's excess treated water.

d) Flood Control Zones

No comments.

e) Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM)

J. Edwards asks if funding for the Central Coast Blue Project is being withdrawn due to viability concerns. B. Clark responds.

f) Master Water Report (MWR) Update

No comments.

g) State Water Project (SWP)

B. Clark notes that the State Water Project Subcontractors Advisory Committee meeting that was scheduled for Friday, April 4th has been canceled.

h) Desalination Executable Solution and Logistics Plan (DESAL Plan)

B. Clark notes that updates for the Stakeholder Engagement Plan will be provided at the next WRAC meeting in May.

i) Various County Water Programs, Policies, and Ordinances

No comments.

j) Open Reporting on Water Conservation Opportunities & Information

D. Chipping comments on the Maven's List Newsletter.

7) Future Agenda Items

Item start time ~ 01:19:30

G. Grewal comments on the history of the Santa Margarita Nacimiento pipeline repairs and the loss of supplemental water.

E. Greening asks if the Nacimiento pipeline in Santa Margarita has been fixed. G. Grewal responds.

M. van Ryn asks about the source of the 5-year rolling annual yield metric and who compiled the statistics. Committee Members discuss.

D. Chipping requests an update on the State Water Project take-out from the Morro Bay pipeline to Los Osos, along with information on the cost and environmental analysis. B. Clark responds.

8) Public Comment for Items not on the Agenda

E. Greening comments that the SLO Beaver Brigade will be hosting their Third Annual Beaver Festival on Saturday, April 12th from 10am-3pm at SLO Mission Plaza.

E. Eby comments that the Central Coast Greenhouse Growers Association is hosting its 22nd Annual Open House & Scholarship Fundraiser on Saturday, April 12th, 9am-2pm at Nipomo High School.