Meeting: Sites Reservoir Committee Meeting

April 22, 2022 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Location:

Maxwell Project Office, 122 Old Highway 99

Reservoir Committee Chair:

Thad Bettner (Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District)

Reservoir Committee Vice-Chair:

Valerie Pryor (Zone 7 Water Agency)

Treasurer:

Jamie Traynham (Davis Water District)

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Chair Bettner called to order the Reservoir Committee Meeting at the hour of 9:00 a.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Roll of the Reservoir Committee was called (Attachment A) which resulted in 21 eligible representatives. This equated to 98% of the current participation percentage being in attendance, which is greater than the 50% needed to have a quorum of the Reservoir Committee.

INTRODUCTIONS:

The Sites Staff, Consultants, and members of the public introduced themselves.

AGENDA APPROVAL:

It was moved by Pryor, seconded by Vanderwaal to approve the April 22, 2022 Reservoir Committee Meeting Agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED SESSION:

Counsel Doud announced the Reservoir Committee would consider the following Closed Session matter:

5. Closed Session:

5.1 Negotiations concerning Sites Project operation terms, conditions and agreements with the United States Fish & Wildlife Service (Govt. Code §§54956.9(c)).

PERIOD FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

Chair Bettner called for a period for public comment. Hearing none, he closed the period for public comment.

1. CONSENT AGENDA:

It was moved by Marks, seconded by Pryor to approve Consent Agenda Item Numbers 1.1 through 1.3 as follows:

- 1.1 Approve the March 18, 2022 Joint Reservoir Committee and Authority Board Meeting Minutes.
- 1.2 Accept the Sites Project Authority Treasurer's Report.
- 1.3 Approve the Payment of Claims.

Motion carried unanimously.

2. ACTION ITEMS:

2.1 Approve a legal services agreement in the amount of \$750,000 with Nossaman LLC to provide Real Estate and Inter-Agency Agreements Legal Services for the period of May 1, 2022 through December 31, 2024.

Mr. Trapasso provided an update on the procurement process for the Real Estate and Inter-Agency Agreements Legal Services. He stated the Interview Panel consisted of Valerie Pryor, Gary Evans, Gray Allen, Bob Tincher, Michael Azevedo, and Robert Cheng. The panel interviewed four law firms on April 6, 2022, and unanimously voted to recommend Nossaman, LLC to perform both legal services.

Mr. Trapasso noted Nossaman, LLC has strong relevant experience in both areas of service and the individual attorneys proposed to perform the direct work demonstrated knowledge and experience that would be complementary to the Sites team and are expected to fit well with the organizational culture and values of the Sites Authority.

Brief discussion followed.

ACTION:

It was moved by Azevedo, seconded by Pryor to recommend to the Authority Board to approve a legal services agreement in the amount of \$750,000 with Nossaman LLC to provide Real Estate and Inter-Agency Agreements Legal Services for the period of May 1, 2022 through December 31, 2024.

Motion carried unanimously.

3. <u>Discussion and Information Items</u>:

3.1 Receive an update on the status of the operations modeling completed in support of the Project's Biological Assessment and State Incidental Take Permit application.

Ms. Heydinger provided an overview of the Biological Assessment and State Operations ITP Modeling Update and spoke to the following:

Background - Changes from RDEIR/SD Model

Incorporated climate change baseline

- Deadpool reduced to 60 TAF.
- Shifted focus to Alternative 3.
- Proportionally reduced storage allocation to local PWAs to make room for Reclamation.
- Incorporated revised diversion criteria.
- Expanded operations to improve Shasta cold water pool, fall flow stability, and spring pulse actions.
- Requested by Reclamation.
- Other minor modifications, updates and model improvements.

Takeaways from Updated Modeling

- More federal investment results in less cost for local PWAs and more efficient reservoir operations (greater overall releases)
- 2. Benefits for local PWAs do not substantially change with model updates and increased federal investment
- 3. Changes in modeling and federal storage result in greater overall anadromous fish benefits

Reclamation Investment Improves Overall Project Performance

More federal investment results in less cost for local PWAs due to lower storage allocation and more efficient reservoir operations (greater overall releases).

Local PWAs Supplies do not Substantially Change with Reclamation Investment

Benefits for local PWAs do not substantially change with model updates and increased federal investment.

SOD increases under Alt 3B due to increased storage and movement of water in Wet and Above Normal years. NOD is more static due to less active use of storage.

Changes in Modeling and Federal Storage Result in Greater Anadromous Fish benefits

SALMOD - Decrease in Long-Term Average Salmon Mortality

Important for federal funding, meeting project objectives

Next Steps

- Agree on changes to storage allocation among Local PWAs to "make room" for Reclamation @ Alt 3 level.
 - Rebalance to final participation levels before Phase 3.
- Provide input on storage space for the offer letter to Reclamation.

- Complete other models required for Biological Assessment/Operations ITP application.
- Complete modeling for Final EIR/EIS.

Executive Director Brown emphasized the need to start spreading awareness of the increase in the survival rate of salmon, rather than focusing on the decrease of immortality.

Mr. Evans inquired about the compounding effect of an increase in salmon yearly.

Ms. Forsythe noted that currently there is no compounding model but will be looking into modeling platforms that would help quantify the increase.

Discussion followed.

3.2 Review and Comment on the updated Amendment 3 Project Schedule findings including a critical path analysis through the end of Phase 2 of the Project.

Mr. Maltby provided an update on the Amendment 3 Project Schedule and spoke to the following:

Background

Focus:

- Amendment 3 Work Period (1/1/22 12/31/24).
- End of Amendment 3 = Investor Commitment.

Goals:

- Develop a detailed planning level schedule to help guide decision making.
- Establish "Baseline" schedule to track progress and manage changes.

Schedule Takeaways

- 1. Critical path for Investor Commitment goes through Updated Project Cost Estimate and Geotech Work Packages 3 & 4.
- 2. Other key activities narrowly off the critical path are:
 - WIFIA Negotiations with approximately 4 months of float.
 - Water Right Permit with approximately 7 months of float.
- 3. Contract Strategy will drive the development of the schedule through project completion.
- 3 Paths to Investor Commitment.

Next Steps

- 1. Track Against Established Baseline (ongoing)
- 2. Master Schedule through Project Completion
 - Target completion date: Fall 2022
 - Predecessor: Contract Strategy Summer 2022

Brief discussion followed.

3.3 Review and comment on Amendment 3 Project Agreement Approval Process including estimated participation levels, outreach and rebalancing, and schedule.

Executive Director Brown presented an update on Amendment 3 Rebalancing Results and spoke to the following:

- Signed agreements were due on March 31, 2022.
- Expressed Interest in re/new Participation.
- · Carter Mutual was the only participant that withdrew.
- Colusa County participation decreased, and Wheeler Ridge participation increased.
- Participation is on target with capacity and currently fully subscribed.
- All participants received approval from their boards.
- At this time there is no deadline for submitting a letter of interest for participation and will continue to invite any expressed interest.
- Voluntary reductions would need to happen to make room for new interests.

4. Reports:

4.1 <u>Chairpersons' Report</u>:

None.

4.2 Workgroup Chairpersons' Report:

Reservoir Operations & Engineering Workgroup

Mr. Kunde provided an update on the Workgroup's meeting held on April 13, 2022. and spoke to the following:

- Charter review by Mr. Robinette.
- In-depth presentation on Biological Assessment and Take Permit Modeling.
- Amendment 3 schedule update.
- Contact strategy/Delivery method sub workgroup.

Discussion followed.

Budget & Finance:

Ms. Traynham provided an update regarding Amendment 2 closeout and finalizing unallocated funds.

Environmental Planning & Permitting Workgroup:

Chair Bettner noted they are still looking for a new Chair and Vice-Chair for this workgroup.

4.3 Reservoir Committee Participant Reports:

None.

4.4 Executive Director's Reports:

Executive Director Brown provided an update on the following:

- Monthly status report.
- Work Plan Key Deliverables Report.
- · Meetings Action Items Summary.
- Deadpool:
 - O&E will need to consider the risks of further adjustments to Deadpool.
 - The updated modeling has been adjusted to account for an initial reduction of Deadpool to 60taf.
- Environmental Water Management Advisory Committee:
 - Volunteers for the advisory committee are Mr. Bransford for the (AB) and Mr. Nuedeck for the (RC).

Chairman Bettner declared a recess at 10:11 a.m., and convened into Closed Session to consider the following matter:

5. Closed Session:

5.1 Negotiations concerning Sites Project operation terms, conditions and agreements with the United States Fish & Wildlife Service (Govt. Code §§54956.9(c)).

Chairman Bettner adjourned Closed Session at 11:02 a.m. and reconvened into Open Session.

6. Report from Closed Session

Counsel Doud stated as to Closed Session there was no reportable action taken.

7. Recap:

7.1 Suggested Future Agenda Items.

None.

7.2 **Upcoming Meetings**:

Authority Board

Wednesday, April 27, 2022 - 1:30 to 4:00 PM

Reservoir Committee

Friday, May 20, 2022 - 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Chairman Bettner adjourned the Reservoir Committee Meeting at the hour of 11:05 a.m.

Thad Bettner, Chairman

Sa∕ndra Yarbrough, Bo#rd

Meeting: Reservoir Committee April 22, 2022

Subject: Roll Call 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Current Voting Committee Participants (22):

	Pct	Participant	
\boxtimes	3.47	American Canyon, City	
	2.42	Antelope Valley-East Kern WA	
\boxtimes	5.28	Coachella Valley WD	
\boxtimes	5.28	Colusa County	
\boxtimes	5.05	Colusa Co. WD	
\boxtimes	2.41	Cortina WD (1)	
\boxtimes	2.87	Davis WD	
\boxtimes	0.00	Department of Water Resources (non-voting)	
\boxtimes	4.22	Desert WA	
\boxtimes	3.17	Dunnigan WD	
\boxtimes	3.77	Glenn-Colusa ID	
\boxtimes	2.57	Irvine Ranch WD	

	Pct	Participant		
\boxtimes	2.57	LaGrande WD (1)		
\boxtimes	17.29	Metropolitan WD		
\boxtimes	3.47	Reclamation District 108		
\boxtimes	2.42	Rosedale-Rio Bravo WSD		
\boxtimes	8.70	San Bernardino Valley MWD		
\boxtimes	6.48	San Gorgonio Pass WA		
\boxtimes	2.42	Santa Clara Valley WD		
\boxtimes	3.77	Santa Clarita Valley WA		
\boxtimes	3.89	Westside WD		
\boxtimes	3.19	Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa WSD		
\boxtimes	.00	US Bureau of Reclamation (non-voting)		
\boxtimes	5.28	Zone 7 WA		
	100.00	Total		

21 Voting members represented at Meeting start \boxtimes

98% Represented participation percentage

Representation has been delegated as follows:

- (1) To Jamie Traynham, Davis WD
- (‡) Not present after _____

Meeting:

Reservoir Committee

April 22, 2022

Subject:

Attendance

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Current Voting Reservoir Committee Participants (23):			
Participant	? Representative	?	Alternate/Delegate
American Canyon	Felix Hernandez		Jason Holley
Antelope Valley-East Kern	Dwayne Chisam		Dan Flory
Coachella Valley	Robert Cheng	\boxtimes	Petya Vasileva
Colusa County	Mike Azevedo	\boxtimes	Gary Evans
Colusa County Water District	Shelley Murphy		Joe Marsh
Cortina Water District	Jim Peterson		Chuck Grimmer Jamie Traynham
Davis Water District			Tom Charter
Desert Water Agency	Mark Krause	\boxtimes	Steve Johnson
Dunnigan Water District	Bill Vanderwaal		Jake Spooner
Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District		\boxtimes	Holley Dawley
Irvine Ranch	Paul Weghorst	\boxtimes	Kellie Welch
LaGrande Water District	Zach Dennis		Ken LaGrande Jamie Traynham
Metropolitan Water District	Randall Neudeck	\boxtimes	Nina Hawk
RD 108	Bill Vanderwaal		Lewis Bair
Rosedale-Rio Bravo			Dan Bartel
San Bernardino Valley			Heather Dyer
San Gorgonio Pass	∠ Lance Eckhart		Thomas Todd
Santa Clara Valley	Cindy Kao	\boxtimes	Katherine Maher
Santa Clarita Valley	Dirk Marks		Steve Cole
Westside Water District	Allan Myers		Dan Ruiz
Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa	Rob Kunde		Sheridan Nicholas
Zone 7		\boxtimes	Amparo Flores

Non-Voting Committee Participants (2):

	Representative/		
Participant	2 Other	2 Alternate/Other	
Dept of Water Resources	Rob Cooke Jagruti Maroney	David Sandino	⊠ Alex Vdovichenko
	Ajay Goyal	Jim Wieking	Dave Arrate
Bureau of Reclamation	Richard Welsh	☐ Don Bader	Chris Duke
	✓ Vanessa King✓ Natalie Taylor	Derya SumerMichael Mosley	Jessica Boyt Shana Kaplan
Authority, Non-Sig	gnatory (6):		
	Representati		
Participant	₹ ve	2 Alternate	Alternate
PCWA	Ed Horton	Ben Barker	Darin Reintjes
Roseville	Sean Bigley	Trevor Joseph	Jason Marks
Sacramento County V	VA Jeff Harris	Brett Ewart	Ann Sanger
Staff:			
1 Name	Representing	? Name	Representing
Brown, Jerry	Sites Project Authority	Trapasso, Joe	Sites Project Authorit
Forsythe, Ali	Sites Project Authority	🛛 Tirado, Yolanda	Sites Project Authorit
Robinette, JP	Sites Project Authority	Xarbrough, Sandra	Sites Project Authorit
Spesert, Kevin	Sites Project Authority		
Consultants:			
2 Name	Representing	2 Name	Representing
Alexander, Jeriar Grace, Lui	nn Fugro	Doud, Alan	Young Wooldridge
Boling, Robert	HDR	Forrest, Mike	AECOM
☐ Briard, Monique	ICF	☐ Floyd, Kim	Floyd
Brown, Doug	Stradling	Harris, Cheyanne	Brown & Caldwell
☐ Brown, Scott	LWA	☐ Herrin, Jeff	AECOM
☐ Bruner, Marc	Perkins Coie		HDR
		🖾 Katz, Sara	Katz & Associates

[?]	Name	Representing	?	Name	Representing
\boxtimes	Kivett, Marcia	Brown & Caldwell		Rossetto, Sarah or	Katz & Associates
	Kuney, Scott	Young Wooldridge		Ann Newton	
	Leaf, Robert	Ch2m		Rude, Peter	Ch2m
\boxtimes	Luu, Henry	HDR		Spranza, John	HDR
\boxtimes	McDonald C	CMD West	\boxtimes	Traynham, Hailey	Brown & Caldwell
				Van Camp, Marc	MBK
	•			Warner Herson,	Phenix
	Maltby, Marcus	Brown & Caldwell		Laurie	
	Montague, Doug	Montague DeRose		Westcot, Cathy	HDR
	- · · -	ASSOC.			
	Micko, Steve Maltby, Marcus Montague, Doug	Ch2m Brown & Caldwell Montague DeRose Assoc.		Warner Herson, Laurie	Phenix

Other Attendees: (Check box to have email address added to the distribution list)

Name	Representing	Contact (Phone & E-mail)
Juleah Cordi	Assemblyman Michael Gallagher's Office	
Israel Sotelo	Senator Jim Nielsen's Office	
Laura Nicholson	Senator Jim Nielsen's Office	
Caitlin Nielsen	HDR	
Anthony Middleton	Keiwit Infrastructure Group	
Lillian Xie	Valley Water	
Dee Bradshaw	Metropolitan	
Charles Gardiner	Catalyst Group	
Cindy Saks	SBVWMD	
Jeff Kivett	B&C	