



FINAL MINUTES
Water Supply Planning Committee of the
Monterey Peninsula Water Management District
November 15, 2012

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 pm in the MPWMD conference room.

Committee members present: Bob Brower, Chair
Jeanne Byrne
David Pendergrass

Staff members present: David Stoldt, General Manager
Joe Oliver, Water Resources Division Manager
Larry Hampson, Acting Planning & Engineering Division Manager
Arlene Tavani, Executive Assistant

District Counsel present: David Laredo

Action Items

1. **Adopt Minutes of October 16, 2012 Committee Meeting**
On a motion by Director Byrne and second of Director Pendergrass, the minutes were approved unanimously on a vote of 3 – 0, with an amendment to Item 5, Discuss Preparation of IFIM Study. The reference to “Cal Am’s ASR water right” should be amended to read “Cal Am’s Table 13 water right.”

2. **Discussion and Possible Recommendation to the Board re Desalination Contingency Plan**
Director Byrne offered a motion that was seconded by Director Pendergrass, that at the next committee meeting staff present a plan for identification of a contingency project, including an estimate of the cost to prepare the CEQA analysis and the possibility of cost sharing the environmental work. The motion was adopted unanimously on a vote of 3 – 0. The committee expressed support for Cal-Am’s Monterey Peninsula Water Supply project, but there was consensus that environmental studies on a contingency project might be conducted in parallel with Cal-Am’s efforts so that an alternative water supply project could move forward in the event that Cal-Am’s project is delayed or halted due to legal, regulatory or environmental concerns.

During the public comment period on this item, George Riley requested that the District lay the groundwork for development of a contingency desalination plan. He suggested that the District petition the California Public Utilities Commission for reimbursement of the development costs, and also that the project proponent might enter into a cost sharing agreement with the District.

Discussion Items

3. **Future of Los Padres Dam and the District’s Role, Including Public Support for District Ownership**
The committee discussed the issues outlined in the staff report. There was consensus that the District must educate the public about the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) recommendation to remove Los Padres Dam, and the need to halt progress on that proposal. The

District should request letters from fishery/environmental organizations expressing opposition to removal of the dam, and support for an MPWMD steelhead recovery plan with the dam (to be developed) and eventual public ownership. Directors Byrne and Brower will be in Washington D.C. in February 2013 for an ACWA conference. That would be a good opportunity for them to present the letters to our elected officials. Some of the comments expressed at the meeting are listed here. (1) There was no mention in the NMFS report about seeking public input on removal of the dam. If the local population does not comment on the NMFS recommendation, the agency will move ahead with its plan. (2) The recovery plan did not include an alternative to dam removal. (3) The District could develop a recovery plan that describes how the Los Padres Dam would be managed for water supply and environmental protection. A Los Padres Dam transfer plan could be developed for transfer to public ownership following Cal-Am's completion of Los Padres Dam dredging or replacement of the fish ladder. (4) It is important that the community reach consensus on the value of retaining Los Padres Dam.

During the public comment period on this item, George Riley expressed support for local control of Los Padres Dam.

4. Status of Aquifer Storage and Recovery Water Availability Study

No report.

5. Status of Loan Agreements for Aquifer Storage and Recovery Related Costs

An agreement has not yet been developed. The District would like to recover \$2.2 million that has been spent on ASR development. This could be a taxable bank loan, amortized over 30 years with a balloon payment. The water supply charge would be utilized to pay back the loan.

6. Update on Groundwater Replenishment Project

Suggestions from the Public on Water Supply Project Alternatives

No comments.

Set Next Meeting Date

The committee agreed to meet again on Tuesday, December 4, 2012, at 10 am in the District conference room.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:15 pm.