



FINAL MINUTES
Water Supply Planning Committee of the
Monterey Peninsula Water Management District
February 10, 2015

Call to Order The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am in the Water Management District conference room.

Committee members present: Robert S. Brower, Sr. - Committee Chair
David Pendergrass
Jeanne Byrne

Committee members absent: None

Staff members present: David Stoldt, General Manager
Larry Hampson, Planning & Engineering Division Manager
Arlene Tavani, Executive Assistant

Comments from the Public No comments were directed to the committee.

Action Items

1. **Consider Adoption of January 21, 2015 Committee Meeting Minutes**
On a motion of Byrne and second of Pendergrass, the January 21, 2015 meeting minutes were approved unanimously on a vote of 3 – 0 by Byrne, Pendergrass and Brower. No comments from the public were directed to the committee during the public comment period on this item.

2. **Discussion and Recommendation to the Board on the Acquisition of Los Padres Dam**
Byrne offered a motion that was seconded by Pendergrass, to recommend that the Board direct staff to develop a comprehensive action plan for intervention at Los Padres Dam with a focus on dredging, sediment management, preservation of water rights, and investigations into CEQA, liability, and project costs. The motion was adopted on a vote of 3 – 0 by Byrne, Pendergrass and Brower. No comments from the public were directed to the committee during the public comment period on this item.

Committee Comments: (1) We should investigate the possibility of dredging Los Padres reservoir as an emergency measure due to the drought. Other areas of California have accomplished dredging projects with minimal environmental review due to the drought emergency. (2) There is an urgent need for the project, due to the uncertainty of the California American Water. (3) Studies proposed for completion in the Los Padres Dam Long-Term Plan would determine if dredging is a preferred option. The 2015-

2017 General Rate Case (GRC) includes joint funding between Cal-Am and the Water Management District for those studies. Until the GRC is approved, the Water Management District could decide to fund the studies and then be reimbursed. (4) If dredging and other measures were to increase storage by 1,200 acre-feet, water rights are needed to divert that water for community use. Cal-Am has 800 acre-feet of water rights that could be utilized. The Water Management District could make application to the SWRCB to use 400 acre-feet of its 2808B water rights permit for diversion. (5) One concern is that if storage is available at Los Padres Dam, it might be used in the short-term until Cal-Am's desal project is online. However, there may be objections to using it long-term which could result in the desal project being downsized. (6) In order to be considered a water supply option, the cost of new water from Los Padres must cost less per acre-foot than the price of water from the desal plant. (7) One possible scenario is that the Water Management District could raise the spillway at Los Padres with a rubber dam, and also dredge to create additional storage. In conjunction with those projects, the District would file water rights applications with the SWRCB for 3 potential ASR sites and expansion of storage at the dam. (8) Staff should proceed aggressively, and not be dissuaded by the previous opinion of the Division of Safety of Dams that it would only work with Cal-Am, the owner of the dam.

3w. Consider Development of Recommendation to the Board on Amendment to Cost Sharing Agreement with DeepWater Desal (item added on 2/10/15)

On a motion by Pendergrass and second of Byrne, the committee recommended that the Board of Directors approve an amendment to the cost sharing agreement with DeepWater Desal. The motion was adopted on a vote of 3 – 0 by Pendergrass, Byrne and Brower. No comments were directed to the committee during the public comment period on this item.

3y. Consider Development of Recommendation to the Board on Funding Acquisition of Pure Water Monterey Pilot Plant (item added on 2/10/15)

Byrne offered a motion to recommend that the Board of Directors fund acquisition of the Pure Water Monterey pilot plant. The motion was seconded by Pendergrass and adopted on a vote of 3 – 0 by Byrne, Pendergrass and Brower. No comments from the public were directed to the Board during the public comment period on this item.

3z. Consider Development of Recommendation to the Board on Award of Local Project Grant Funds to City of Pacific Grove (item added on 2/10/15)

On a motion by Pendergrass and second of Byrne, the committee recommended that the Board of Directors award Local Project Grand Funds to the City of Pacific Grove. The motion was adopted on a vote of 3 – 0 by Pendergrass, Byrne and Brower.

In response to a question from the committee, Mike McCullough, Recycled Water Project Assistant for the Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency (MRWPCA), stated that the City of Pacific Grove may have overestimated the amount of recycled wastewater that will be available for use. Also, there has been no discussion of the increase in costs for MRWPCA to treat the heavy waste stream that will flow from the Pacific Grove treatment facility to the MRWPCA facility.

Discussion Items

3. Progress Report on Property Lease from City of Seaside for Aquifer Storage and Recovery Project

Revised lease documents have been submitted to the City of Seaside. Staff will contact the City again in approximately one week.

3. Discuss Development of Groundwater Sustainability Plan

Stoldt reported that he will submit a recommendation for the Water Management District to become the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for areas within the District's boundaries and the Seaside Groundwater Basin. The timing for this action has not been determined. Development of a groundwater sustainability plan may require regulation of pumpers on the Carmel River, and a determination of safe yield. The County of Monterey plans to conduct facilitated meetings with stakeholders within its jurisdiction on development of a GSA. There is a possibility that these discussions could result in development of a joint powers authority. Stoldt has requested to be a member of the JPA so that he can monitor the process, as some regulatory agencies do not acknowledge that there is a boundary between the Seaside Groundwater Basin and the Salinas Valley Groundwater Basin.

5. Update on California American Water Co. Desalination Plant

The committee reviewed the project schedule presented in the staff report.

6. Update on Pure Water Monterey Project

See item 3y.

7. Update on Local Projects Grant Request by City of Pacific Grove

See item 3z.

Suggestions from the Public on Water Supply Project Alternatives

No comments.

Set Next Meeting Date

The meeting was scheduled for March 17, 2015 at 10 am.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am.