



PAJARO VALLEY WATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY

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PROJECTS and FACILITY OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

Water Resources Center
500 Clearwater Lane, Watsonville, California 95076

Wednesday February 25, 2015, 3:00 p.m.

Meeting Attendees

Dale Huss	Warren Koenig	Kevin Silveira
Dave Cavanaugh	Mary Bannister	Steve Palmisano
Amy Newell	Jesus "Chuy" Martinez	Paul Faurot
Rich Persoff	Brian Lockwood	John Garrone
Frank Capurro	Lauren Valk	Laura Taay
Stuart Kitayama	Teresa Delfino	

- 1. Welcome and Introductions.** Dale called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.
- 2. Public and Member comments.** Amy asked about the status of effort to increase delivered use, particularly at night and during the shoulder months. Dale provided an update.
- 3. Consider Approving Minutes of Last Water Quality and Project Operations Committee Meeting.** Amy moved approval – Chuy seconded. The minutes were approved.
- 4. Discussion of Project and Facility Operations Committee Mission and By-Laws.** Dale inquired as to what role this committee will have with respect to the proposed projects and programs as they move forward. Mary suggested the role would be to advise staff and the board on the implementation of the projects. There was discussion about the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act related Groundwater Sustainability Agencies. Dave stated that the PVWMA board of directors may look to this committee for input. Brian noted the importance of feedback from customers (growers) of the delivered water service. Rich stated that he hoped this committee would facilitate dialogue and consensus building about the proposed and other projects. Amy inquired about the Bylaws, Article III, Section 1, how members will be selected. Lauren stated she would clarify the language. Lauren presented a brief overview of the Brown Act. Stuart asked about the makeup of the committee, in particular with three growers as delivered water customers. Lauren asked that people submit comments on the Bylaws to her (at lvalk@abc-law.com). There was discussion about striking Article VI, Section 2.
- 5. Basin Management Plan Projects Update.** Brian summarized the status of delivered water enhancement projects: staff and consultants, under direction from the board of directors, are moving

forward with four capital projects 1) Recycled water storage and distribution pump improvements, 2) Blend well pipeline improvement project that will improve delivered water reliability and quality, 3) K1 pipeline project to serve approximately 180 irrigated acres of ag land impacted by seawater intrusion in the Bluff Road area of Northern Monterey County, and 4) Basin monitoring network improvements (new monitoring wells). Roundtable discussion ensued about the details of the proposed projects. Dale commended the Agency on its ability to obtain grant funding. Chuy stated that staff has been discussing relocating existing turnouts that have not previously been used for use along the K1 pipeline.

- 6. Facility Operations Update.** Chuy provided the update and presented the committee with a delivered water comparison for calendar years 2013 & 2014. Chuy reported that he stopped the Harkins Slough Diversion Facility from diverting water shortly after the last committee meeting. Just over 60 acre-feet of water were diverted to the recharge basin at a rate of about three acre-feet per day. The reason for stopping the diversion was due to high salinity levels in the slough. Warren asked if staff was pumping water downstream in the slough to move the brackish water. Chuy reported that under current conditions it wouldn't make sense (the water would naturally flow back upstream). Chuy also reported on damage to agency property (valve boxes, pipeline markers, etc.) by growers' tractors and trucks. Dale suggested the agency send a letter to the landowner/grower responsible to let them know what it is going to cost to repair, and let them know they could be liable if additional damage occurs in the future. The agenda for the March 24 Growers/Irrigators Meeting was discussed. Kevin reported on Recycled Water Facility (RWF) maintenance and communications issues. Staff is working to improve communications and keep them secure. His staff is also working on developing a "Master Spare Parts & Inventory List and Schedule" to help agency staff budget accordingly for future needs. With the RWF having been run hard for six years now, components need to be replaced. Kevin's staff does not run a "predictive replacement program" due to limited staff and resources, but they proactively track needs to help for planning. Rich asked Kevin about earthquake preparedness. Kevin responded that natural gas would automatically shut off. Given his experience with natural disasters over the years such as floods and the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake, the Waste Water Treatment Plant has fortunately fared well.
- 7. Water Quality Update.** Brian presented water quality results: Since April 1, 2009 and through January 29, 2015, staff has collected 546 water quality samples from turnouts. The long-term average concentration of selected constituents is as follows: Total Dissolved Solids – 612 mg/L; Chloride – 104 mg/L; Sodium – 94 mg/L; Nitrate as NO₃ – 26; SAR – 2.56; E.C. – 1.05 millimhos/cm. Brian also presented CDS source water quality results and pointed out that the concentration of nitrate in the Harkins Slough Facility Recovery Wells has been increasing, likely as a result of not diverting any significant volume of water to the recharge basin since 2011. Brian suggested including the water quality update quarterly instead of monthly due to the revised sampling frequency. The committee agreed.
- 8. Discuss Future Water Quality and Project Operations Committee Agenda Items.** 1) Leave the Bylaws on the agenda and include comments; 2) Crisis Communication Plan.
- 9. Next Meeting:** Wednesday, February 25, 2015, at 3:00 p.m.
- 10. Meeting Adjourned at 4:15 p.m.**