

**REPORT FOR THE MEETING OF
THE ADVISORY WATER COMMISSION OF THE SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL
AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
January 19, 2011**

The regular meeting of the Advisory Water Commission of the San Joaquin County Flood Control and Water Conservation District was held on Wednesday, January 19, 2011, beginning at 1:00 p.m., at Public Health Services, 1601 E. Hazelton Avenue, Stockton, California.

Roll Call

Present were Commissioners Nomellini, Lowery, Edwards, Alternates Conarro and Holbrook, Secretary Lytle, Vice-Chair Price and Chairman McGurk. Others present are listed on the Attendance Sheet. The Commission had a quorum.

Approval of Minutes for the Meeting(s) of December 15, 2010.

Motion carried unanimously to approve the minutes of December, 15 2010 (Edwards/Lowery).

SCHEDULED ITEMS

I. Discussion Items:

A. Discussion on SWRCB San Joaquin River Flow and Southern Delta Salinity Objectives Workshop – DeeAnne Gillick

Ms. Gillick, Special Water Counsel for the County, updated the commission regarding the proceedings with the State Water Resource Control Board (SWRCB). The SWRCB is re-evaluating San Joaquin River Flow objectives measured at Vernalis. In addition, the SWRCB is evaluating whether to put aside existing water quality standards applicable in South Delta waterways. A draft technical report was released by the State Board in October 2010, and a workshop was held in January of this year. The State Board will need to prepare an environmental document to support any decision change the flow requirements on the San Joaquin River or the Southern Delta Water Quality Standards.

The SWRCB evaluated the unimpaired flow of the San Joaquin River and tributaries to the San Joaquin (Merced, Tuolumne and Stanislaus); this is the natural flow absent reservoirs and dams. This information was evaluated based on current hydrology. The board plans to make a formal decision regarding flow requirements by the year 2012. The second part of this report deals with the Southern Delta water quality standards. Currently, there are three measuring points within the South Delta to make sure salt levels are adequate. The current problem is created due to the high salinity level of the San Joaquin River flowing into the Delta. Due to the use of water on the Westside in the valley, the drain water is highly salty due to soil conditions. A report was prepared last year regarding salinity levels within the Delta, and concluded the current salinity standard is adequate and could even be relaxed further to allow for more salinity. The South Delta Water Agency (SDWA) disagrees with the assumptions in this report. The SDWA will provide more information regarding the requirements to the State Board by the deadline.

B. Update on DWR CASGEM Groundwater Program Monitoring Entity Designation for San Joaquin County – Brandon Nakagawa

Mr. Nakagawa, County Water Resources Engineer discussed a letter sent by the Public Works department to the state regarding the implementation of the California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring (CASGEM) program. This program is state mandated from the 2009 legislative package regarding water SBx7 6 (Amendment to Water Code, Part 2.11 Groundwater Monitoring). San Joaquin County Flood Control and Water Conservation District has monitored groundwater elevations throughout the county since 1971 and will continue to monitor in accordance with SBx7 6. The District will also share groundwater information with the San Luis and Delta-Mendota Water Authority in the Tracy Sub-Basin area and with East Bay Municipal Utility District.

C. Update on San Joaquin County Flood Management and SJAFCA Activities – Barry O’Regan

Mr. O’Regan, interim San Joaquin County Flood Management Manager, stated that FEMA has approved the Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMR) for the Smith Canal. SJAFCA can proceed with the proposed project where a closure gate would be installed at the mouth of the Smith Canal. SJAFCA will determine the process in moving forward with this project. The Lower Calaveras River map revisions should be considered soon. Levee certifications through the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers will be discussed at the next SJAFCA board meeting.

Mr. O’Regan announced the hiring of John Maguire as the new Engineering Services Manager for San Joaquin County Flood Management Division. Dr. Lytle thanked Mr. O’Regan for his service to the County.

D. Update on Delta Counties Coalition, BDCP, Delta Stewardship Council, Conservancy and Protection Commission Activities – Mel Lytle

Dr. Lytle updated the commission on various Delta activities. The Delta Counties Coalition (DCC) continues to be very active in their efforts to represent the Delta Counties. Currently, there is a series of planning activities in process. The Delta Stewardship Council (DSC) is developing their Delta Plan. The Delta Conservancy is developing a strategic plan. The Delta Protection Commission (DPC) is working on two different plans; an economic study, and a primary zone re-evaluation. And, the Delta Counties Coalition (DCC) is also developing a strategic plan. The Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) has not been able to develop their entire plan yet. Instead of a canal, they are now proposing a tunnel facility with the same type of intake features as the canal that will allow them to divert between 12,000-15,000 cfs. The impact of diverting this amount of water from the Sacramento River remains a major concern.

II. Action Items:

A. Discussion and Possible Action on Notice of Preparation of Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Delta Plan – Mel Lytle

Dr. Lytle discussed the Delta Stewardship Council (DSC) and the Delta Plan. They are moving forward with their Delta Plan. This is a very comprehensive legally binding plan based on statutes required to develop. A draft Environmental Impact Report is being prepared and scoping meetings have begun. The Delta Plan will strongly influence the events and issues regarding this area of the State. San Joaquin County has been participating with the Delta Counties Coalition (DCC) in supplying comments to be incorporated in the interim plan. An attachment of the draft comments was provided to the commission.

Dr. Lytle is not recommending any action at this time, but would like to submit comments for signature by the Board of Supervisors on behalf of San Joaquin County to the DSC.

III. Communications:

- A. SWRCB Notice on Withdrawal of Cease and Desist Order Against Nelly Mussi and Rudy Mussi Investments
- B. Reuters – Extreme Weather Sparks Global Commodities Rally

Public Comment: None

Possible Future Agenda Items: None

Adjournment: 2:15 pm

Next Regular Meeting: February 16, 2011 1:00 p.m.

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