



**PROJECTS & FACILITY OPERATIONS
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

Water Resources Center Conference Room
500 Clearwater Lane, Watsonville, California

Wednesday December 11, 2019, 3:00 p.m.

Committee Members	
Present	Absent
Jonathan Pilch	Mary Bannister, Director, Chair
Bob Culbertson, Director	
Amy Newell, Director	
Sam Cooley, Vice-Chair	
Frank Capurro	
Rosemarie Imazio	
Staff & Other Attendees	
Shinehah Bigham, Water System Operator (WSO)	Casey Meusel, Associate Hydrologist (AH)
Brian Lockwood, General Manager (GM)	

- 1. Welcome and Introductions.** Vice-Chair Cooley called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.
- 2. Public and Member comments.** None.
- 3. Review Committee Membership and Make Recommendation to the Board of Directors for 2020.** GM Lockwood provided a brief review of current Committee membership. Director Newell moved approval of a recommendation to the Board of Directors (Board) that the current membership be retained for 2020; Director Culbertson seconded. The Committee approved the recommendation.
- 4. Consider Approval of September 25, 2019 Projects and Facility Operations Committee Meeting Minutes.** Director Culbertson moved approval of the September 25, 2019 meeting minutes; Rosemarie seconded. The Committee approved the minutes of the September 25, 2019 meeting.
- 5. Receive Projects and Programs Update.**
 - a. College Lake Integrated Resources Management Project.** GM Lockwood reported that the Board voted to certify the EIR and formally approve the project at the October Board Meeting. Following the certification, a Notice of Determination was filed with the County of Santa Cruz

and the State Clearinghouse initiating a 30-day period when a lawsuit can be filed against the EIR. The 30-day period expired with no lawsuits filed. The project team is working with fisheries regulatory agencies on the fish passage conceptual design and to establish terms of dismissal for their water right protests. In addition, members of the team have either met with or attempted to meet with the two additional parties that filed water right protests in an attempt to resolve the protest. Due to a lack of progress, PV Water has requested that the State Water Resources Control Board intervene to help facilitate resolution of the protests. GM Lockwood also reported that the project team is preparing to deploy additional piezometers in the vicinity of the project to monitor shallow groundwater. PV Water has offered to install piezometers on parcels 051-101-50, 051-101-24, 051-441-12, and 051-441-20 however, at this time, only the property owner of parcel 051-101-050 has agreed to the offer. The project team is also working to reinstall two piezometers on parcel 051-031-28 that had been unintentionally destroyed by farming activities. Director Newell shared that at the November Board Meeting an Ad Hoc Funding Committee was created and a group of landowners expressed concern over the cost of the project. A roundtable discussion on the project and cost ensued.

- b. Proposed Watsonville Slough System Managed Aquifer Recharge & Recovery Projects.** GM Lockwood shared that the water right application for the Struve Slough Project is nearing completion and that recent hydrologic modeling results indicate a capacity to divert potentially more than 3,000 acre-feet during wet years. GM Lockwood also reported that a meeting was held this morning to discuss groundwater modeling of the existing recharge basin. Recovery of recharged water has historically been challenging due to the hydrogeology of the shallow subsurface aquifer and the modeling effort will help guide water recovery design and planning efforts.
 - c. Recycled Water Facility Improvements Project.** GM Lockwood reported that the project construction is moving quickly with a concrete pour planned for tomorrow to form the structure walls. The project is on schedule and the disk filters are in transit from overseas. The project will require two shutdowns of the Recycled Water Facility to complete which will staff are trying to coincide with the annual maintenance shutdown.
 - d. Coastal Distribution System F-Pipeline Expansion Project.** GM Lockwood reported that the bid opening for the project was held on November 27th and seven bids were submitted ranging from \$3.2 to \$4.9 million. The Board will be reviewing a contract agreement for approval with Specialty Construction at the December meeting next week. Following approval of the agreement by the Board, the last major tasks prior to construction are obtaining landowner signatures and a Coastal Development Permit.
- 6. Receive Facility Operations Report.** WSO Bigham reported that only 0.8 acre-feet have been delivered so far in December however for the year, a record amount of over 4,900 acre-feet have been delivered. The record total was achieved despite some brief facility shutdowns during the year. Operations staff will be discussing with City of Watsonville staff more in depth maintenance actions now that the facility is over ten years old. WSO Bigham also shared that the December quarterly meter reads are almost complete and that the agency purchased a replacement vehicle for an aging operations truck.

- 7. Receive Water Quality Quarterly Report.** AH Meusel presented the 2019 Q3 water quality results to the Committee; tables and graphs summarizing the results are included in the agenda packet.
- 8. Discuss Water Users Handbook and Rules & Regulations.** GM Lockwood briefly summarized past discussions and reiterated the purpose of keeping this item on the agenda to afford opportunity for the Committee to discuss potential changes to the existing priority structure.
- 9. Discuss Future Agenda Items.** None.
- 10. Next Meeting:** Wednesday, January 29, 2020, at 3:00 p.m.
- 11. Meeting Adjourned at 3:56 p.m.**