



PAJARO VALLEY WATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY

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**PROJECTS & FACILITY OPERATIONS
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

Water Resources Center
500 Clearwater Lane, Watsonville, California 95076

Wednesday February 28, 2017, 3:00 p.m.

Committee Members	
Present	Absent
Rosemarie Imazio, Director	Dave Cavanaugh, Director, Vice Chair
Amy Newell, Director	Vacant Seat
Warren Koenig	
Sam Cooley	
Frank Capurro	
Staff & Other Attendees	
Brian Lockwood (GM) General Manager	Shinehah Bigham (WSO) Water System Operator
Casey Meusel (AH) Associate Hydrologist	Chuy Martinez (WSOS) Water System Operations Supervisor
Beau Kayser, City of Watsonville Water Operations Supervisor	Robert Stephens, Public

- 1. Welcome and Introductions.** Director Newell called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.
- 2. Public and Member comments.** Mr. Stephens, manager and part owner of the Elkhorn Ranch, conveyed his interest in receiving delivered water service for the 200 acres of the total 1,100 acre ranch that are in agricultural production. Specifically, Mr. Roberts wanted to understand the process and what is taken into consideration in determining the areas that receive delivered water. GM Lockwood shared with Mr. Stephens that originally demand surveys and cost benefit analyses assessing the ability to mitigate seawater intrusion informed the delineation of the Delivered Water Zone (DWZ) area. GM Lockwood informed Mr. Stephens that the discussion of how to address delivered water expansion requests from landowners has been an agenda item for multiple meetings in 2017 and that currently the irrigation demand in the DWZ is approximately twice the available supplemental water supply.

- 3. Election of Officers: Chair & Vice Chair.** Mr. Cooley moved to nominate Vice Chair Cavanaugh as Chair of the Project and Facility Operations Committee; Mr. Koenig seconded. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Cooley moved to nominate Mr. Capurro as Vice Chair; Director Newell seconded. The motion carried unanimously.
- 4. Consider Approval of prior Projects and Facility Operations Committee Meeting Minutes.** Director Newell requested that the December 6, 2017 meeting minutes be modified to identify Beau Kayser's organization and title on the attendee list and that the last sentence of Item 6 reflect "Chair Huss' retirement" as opposed to "resignation" from the Committee. Mr. Koenig moved approval of the December 6, 2017 meeting minutes contingent upon incorporating the suggested edits; Director Imazio seconded. The Committee approved the minutes of the December 6, 2017 meeting.
- 5. Discuss Vacant Committee Seat: Inside Delivered Water Zone Grower.** GM Lockwood informed the Committee that staff has sent a message to growers in the DWZ to solicit interest in the vacant seat. Staff has also made announcements at recent Santa Cruz County Farm Bureau Legislative Committee meetings. With no candidates offering to join the Committee, staff will continue to communicate with growers and will revisit the item at the next meeting.
- 6. Receive Projects and Programs Update.**
 - a. Basin Management Plan Implementation.**
 - i. Proposed College Lake Integrated Resources Management Project.** GM Lockwood reported that the Basin Management Plan Implementation team is continuing to pursue site access agreements with property owners around College Lake and along the proposed pipeline to allow preliminary environmental surveys. Modeling efforts are being coordinated with the Army Corps of Engineers and the County of Santa Cruz to ensure the incorporation the most current data. The College Lake models will inform the development of an operational plan. GM Lockwood also shared that the proposed treatment plant footprint is expected to increase from one acre to five acres due to the need for sedimentation basins. GM Lockwood advised the Committee that staff would be looking to the Committee and the Board of Directors for a decision whether to make the proposed project water available en-route to the DWZ because it would affect treatment plant design due to disinfection contact time requirements for chlorine. Roundtable discussion ensued.
 - ii. Proposed Slough Projects.** GM Lockwood summarized a recent meeting that discussed how to proceed with Phase II investigation activities for the proposed slough projects. The Phase II investigation proposes to include multiple borings and the potential installation of permanent or semi-permanent monitoring wells at the potential recharge basin sites. He noted that the team is investigating what information is necessary to support the CEQA process, and is evaluating the costs and benefits of separating the Phase II investigation activities into additional phases. GM Lockwood plans to report back to the Committee on the investigation findings.
 - b. Recycled Water Facility Improvement Projects.** GM Lockwood shared that the Board of Directors recently approved final completion of the Recycled Water Storage and Distribution Pump Station Improvements Project; staff filed the Notice of Completion with the County of Santa Cruz on January 31st, 2018. Phase II of the Proposition 1 and SRF funded Recycled Water Facility Improvement Projects will focus on alleviating the bottleneck limiting recycled water production. In 2017, the Committee reviewed technical memorandums that outlined potential options to increase recycled water production and reliability. The options included chemical treatment of disk filters, constructing additional disk filter trains, and adding an

additional UV disinfection train. The Committee directed staff to pursue disk filter improvements in Phase II and not proceed with an additional UV train due to the limited benefit for the cost. At the February Board of Directors meeting, the Directors approved a contract with Carollo Engineers to design the Disk Filter Improvements Project and produce biddable documents. The anticipated schedule has construction expected to be completed by the end of 2019. The SRF Phase III includes construction of a new 0.5 million-gallon recycled water storage tank. Later this year, staff will present the Committee with information about the potential cost savings of constructing the SRF Phase II & III work concurrently in 2019.

- 7. Receive Facility Operations Report.** WSOS Martinez provided an update on recent system operations. Year to date 363 acre-feet of supplemental water consisting of 89% (323 acre-feet) recycled water has been provided to delivered water service customers. WSOS Martinez noted that recovery well production could be limited this coming growing season if recharge activities do not occur due to brackish backflow conditions in the sloughs. However, production from the Harvest Drive Properties LLC well may potentially offset the reduced recovery well production. WSOS Martinez also shared that the routine annual maintenance of the recycled water facility is being performed while the facility is in service due to the continued demand for delivered water.
- 8. Discuss Proposed Revisions to Water Use Permit Application Form.** GM Lockwood presented a draft version of the revised Water Use Permit Application form. The revised form decouples the landowner and tenant signatures required for delivered water use and would eliminate the need to repeatedly obtain landowner signatures with each new tenant. The revised form and the Delivered Water User Handbook it is a part of were requested to be brought back to the Committee for approval at a future meeting.
- 9. Discuss Annual Irrigators Meeting, March 22, 2018.** GM Lockwood informed the Committee that operations staff are hosting the Annual Irrigators Meeting on March 22, 2018.
- 10. Receive Quarterly Water Quality Report.** AH Meusel gave a brief summary of the average delivered water quality for Q4 of 2017.
- 11. Receive Update on City of Watsonville's Corralitos Creek Treatment Plant Improvement Project.** GM Lockwood presented an analysis performed by Carollo Engineers of the potential yield for the proposed project based on historical data that indicated an estimated average yield of 260 acre-feet per year and a maximum yield of 470 acre-feet per year. The original project design proposed an average 1,000 acre-feet per year yield with construction required to be completed by January 31st, 2019. After the grant was modified, the proposed facility was also modified to reduce costs, bringing the anticipated annual average yield to 500 acre-feet. City representatives are investigating if they will still receive the awarded grant despite the anticipated reduction in yield, and they are inquiring if another time extension for completing the project is possible. The Committee advised Agency staff to continue exploring the potential project with City of Watsonville staff and report back with new developments.
- 12. Receive Update on Pajaro Valley Hydrologic Model Improvements.** GM Lockwood provided a summary of the model improvements, updates, and simulations performed by the United States Geological Survey (USGS) working cooperatively with staff. The USGS will be presenting preliminary results at an upcoming Board of Directors' meeting along with a proposed new scope of

work to support future model updates, the development of SGMA reporting tools, and a subsidence analysis of the Pajaro Valley Sub-basin.

13. Discuss Future Agenda Items. The Committee requested that Item 5 “Discuss Vacant Committee Seat: Inside Delivered Water Zone Grower” be revisited at the next meeting. The Committee also requested that the Delivered Water Users Handbook, including the revised Water Use Permit Application form, be brought back for approval at a future meeting and that staff continue to update the Committee with new developments on the City of Watsonville’s Corralitos Creek Treatment Plant Improvement Project as appropriate.

14. Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 28, 2018, at 3:00 p.m.

15. Meeting Adjourned at 4:33 p.m.