



PAJARO VALLEY WATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY

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**PROJECTS & FACILITY OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
Teleconference Meeting**

Wednesday, May 26, 2021, 3:00 p.m.

Committee Members	
Present	Not Present
Mary Bannister, Director, Chair	Frank Capurro
Sam Cooley, Vice Chair	
Amy Newell, Director	
Stephen Rider, Director	
Rosemarie Imazio	
Jonathan Pilch	
Staff & Other Attendees	
Brian Lockwood, General Manager (GM)	Shinehah Bigham, Water System Operator (WSO)
Casey Meusel, Associate Hydrologist (AH)	Chuy Martinez, Water Systems Operations Supervisor (WSOS)
Helen Rodriguez, Finance and Administrative Services Manager (FASM)	Juan Cardenas, Maintenance Technician (MT)
Belinda Platts, Consulting Agronomist	Ryan Smith, City of Watsonville

- 1. Welcome and Introductions.** Chair Bannister called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.
- 2. Public and Member comments.** None.
- 3. Consider Approval of April 28, 2021 Projects and Facility Operations Committee Meeting Minutes.** Director Newell moved to approve the April 28, 2021 minutes; Cooley seconded. The motion carried by the following voice vote:

Ayes: Bannister, Cooley, Newell, Imazio, Pilch
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Capurro, Rider (arrived after vote)
- 4. Receive Soil Salinity and Water Quality Update for 2020.** AH Meusel introduced Belinda Platts, consulting agronomist, who delivered a presentation on Delivered Water Zone soil and water quality conditions in 2020. The presentation is available on the Committee's webpage: pvwater.org/projects-facility-operations-committee. Ms. Platts responded to questions following the presentation.

5. Receive Projects and Programs Update.

- a. College Lake Integrated Resources Management Project.** GM Lockwood reported that the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) delayed the water-right permit hearing due to Governor Newsom's drought proclamation for portions of California and has yet to reschedule the hearing. PV Water staff have provided comment on, and received comments from multiple local and regional agencies for, the 30% design plans for the College Lake Project. GM Lockwood shared that the first Ad Hoc Adaptive Management Plan Committee meeting was held April 29 and the second meeting is scheduled for June 15.
- b. Watsonville Slough System Managed Aquifer Recharge & Recovery Projects.** GM Lockwood reported that the agency is still awaiting response from the SWRCB on the water-right permit application following submittal of requested supplemental information.
- c. Recycled Water Facility Improvements Project.** GM Lockwood reported that an evaluation of constructing additional UV components at the Recycled Water Facility indicated it would provide additional reliability, but would also result in increased operations and maintenance costs due to the increased number of UV Banks that would be in use. Staff continue to evaluate the potential project and engage with City of Watsonville staff and consulting engineers.
- d. Pajaro Valley Sustainable Groundwater Planning Project (SGMA 5-Yr Update)** GM Lockwood reported that the Ad Hoc Sustainable Groundwater Planning Advisory Committee held its eighth meeting on May 13, and it approved a set of sustainable management criteria (SMC) for chronic lowering of groundwater levels to recommend to the Board of Directors (Board). On May 19, the Board received a presentation summarizing the progress thus far and the recommended SMC. On May 21, the project team met with the National Marine Fisheries Service, California Department of Fish & Wildlife, and the California Department of Water Resources to discuss interconnected surface water related analyses and proposed SMC. The Committee is scheduled to meet on June 10 with the focus on reviewing and approving SMC related to interconnected surface waters and land subsidence. Roundtable discussion on SMC ensued.

6. Receive Facility Operations Report. WSOS Martinez reported that Coastal Distribution System demand is very high, with an average of 28-29 acre-feet (AF) per day of water delivered, and approximately 600 AF in April. He expects demand to increase in the coming months of the growing season which may necessitate 24-hours of system operation. Roundtable discussion on system demand, new water supplies, grower challenges, and effects of conservation on recycled water production ensued.

7. Discuss Future Agenda Items. The Committee requested a presentation providing an overview of Coastal Distribution System operations and the supply sources.

8. Next Meeting: Wednesday, June 30, 2021, at 3:00 p.m.

9. Meeting Adjourned at 4:17 p.m.