



PAJARO VALLEY WATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY

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PROJECTS & FACILITY OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

PV Water, Koenig Conference Room, 36 Brennan Street

Wednesday, December 13, 2023, 3:00 p.m.

| Committee Members | |
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| Present | Not Present |
| Stephen Rider, Director, Committee Chair | Sam Cooley, Committee Vice Chair |
| Amy Newell, Director | Rosemarie Imazio |
| Tom Broz | |
| Stuart Kitayama | |
| Jonathan Pilch | |
| Staff & Other Attendees | |
| Brian Lockwood, General Manager (GM) | Casey Meusel, Associate Hydrologist (AH) |
| Chuy Martinez, Water System Operations Supervisor (WSOS) | Marcus Mendiola, Conservation and Outreach Specialist (COS) |

- Welcome and Introductions.** Chair Rider called the meeting to order at 3:09 p.m.
- Committee Member and Public Comments.** None.
- Consider Approval of October 25, 2023, Projects and Facility Operations Committee Meeting Minutes.** Director Newell moved to approve the October 25, 2023, minutes; Committee Member Pilch seconded. The Committee approved the minutes of the October 25, 2023, meeting.
- Review Committee Membership and Make Recommendation to the Board of Directors for 2024.** GM Lockwood provided a review of the current Committee composition and described the purpose of this item. Following a roundtable discussion, the Committee, through verbal consensus, recommended that the Board of Directors maintain the current non-director membership with director membership to be assigned by the Board of Directors.
- Receive Projects and Programs Update.**
 - College Lake Integrated Resources Management Project.** GM Lockwood reported that PV Water received permit extensions to continue construction on the new weir structure until December 15. The contractor is removing some of the shoring this week under the supervision of an aquatic ecologist. Construction of the raw water pipeline, which will convey water from the weir to the Water Treatment Plant, has commenced. The contractor anticipates completing construction on all College Lake Pipeline segments located in agricultural fields by December 31, weather permitting. WSOS Martinez added that the

Operations Team is testing isolation valves in preparation for the College Lake Pipeline tie-in to the Coastal Distribution System. Construction of the College Lake Pipeline alignment located along Riverside Drive will begin in January and is expected to take 3-4 months to complete. GM Lockwood noted that the contractor has billed PV Water for approximately 70% of the College Lake Pipeline Project and 35% of the Intake and Water Treatment Plant Project. Lastly, GM Lockwood noted the agency received a letter from a College Lake area property owner encouraging PV Water to disc the Capurro Ranch. Roundtable discussion ensued.

- b. Watsonville Slough System Managed Aquifer Recharge & Recovery Projects.** GM Lockwood reported that all necessary surveys to support the project have been completed and a single geotechnical boring remains. Staff anticipate the 30% design plans to be complete by February. Funding for the project through an EPA WIFIA loan has now been split into two separate loans for the College Lake Project and this project. Lastly, GM Lockwood reported that motor protection devices for active Harkins Slough recovery wells are being evaluated and will soon be installed.
 - c. Agricultural Water Conservation Program.** GM Lockwood provided an overview of the Conservation Program purpose and current structure which includes rebates to support investments of water saving devices and technology. Variable Frequency Drive (VFD) technology have been considered for rebates previously however staff would like the program's technical partner, the Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County (RCD-SCC), to provide clear assessments of anticipated water savings as rebate requests increase in cost. Staff shared that increasing rebate costs may create challenges to how many applicants could receive rebates with the current budget allocation. Roundtable discussion ensued with the Committee members supportive of VFDs being included in the rebate program but not extending it to the replacement of damaged or old existing VFDs. Staff expressed intent to work with the RCD-SCC to develop a water savings assessment method and evaluate budget options, and will bring the information to the Committee for consideration at a subsequent meeting.
- 6. Receive Facility Operations Report.** WSOS Martinez reported that current delivered water demand is between 12-14 acre-feet per day and a weakening in demand is expected with forecasted rain. Based off current distribution totals, he approximates roughly 4,000 acre-feet will be delivered in 2023, equating to roughly 700 acre-feet less than delivered in 2022. Lastly, he shared that staff have scheduled maintenance on Blend Wells 1 and 2 in preparation for the 2024 irrigation season.
 - 7. Discuss Future Agenda Items.** None.
 - 8. Next Meeting:** Wednesday, January 31, 2024, at 3:00 p.m.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:29 p.m.