



PAJARO VALLEY WATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY

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

Wednesday, August 26, 2020, 3:00 p.m.

Committee Members	
Present	Absent
Mary Bannister, Director, Chair	Sam Cooley, Vice-Chair
Bob Culbertson, Director	
Amy Newell, Director	
Frank Capurro	
Rosemarie Imazio	
Jonathan Pilch	
Staff & Other Attendees	
Brian Lockwood, General Manager (GM)	Jesus “Chuy” Martinez, Water Systems Operations Supervisor (WSOS)
Helen Rodriguez, Finance and Administrative Services Manager (FASM)	Shinehah Bigham, Water System Operator (WSO)
Marino Hernandez, Water Resources Technician (WRT)	Marcus Mendiola, Conservation and Outreach Specialist (COS)
Casey Meusel, Associate Hydrologist (AH)	Angie Carreras, Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County
Erin McCarthy, Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County	Gerry Spinelli, PhD., Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County
Michael Cahn, PhD., University of California Cooperative Extension	

- 1. Welcome and Introductions.** Chair Bannister called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m.
- 2. Public and Member comments.** None.
- 3. Consider Approval of July 29, 2020 Projects and Facility Operations Committee Meeting Minutes.** Director Newell moved to approve the July 29, 2020 minutes; Committee Member Imazio seconded. The motion carried by the following voice vote:

Ayes: Bannister, Culbertson, Newell, Capurro, Imazio, Pilch
Noes: None
Abstain: None

Absent: Cooley

4. **Receive Update on Water Conservation Program.** GM Lockwood provided a brief overview of the Basin Management Plan Water Conservation Program and noted that analyses completed to date indicate the program is falling short of its goal. GM Lockwood then introduced program partners from the Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County, Ms. Erin McCarthy, Dr. Gerry Spinelli, and from the University of California Cooperative Extension, Dr. Michael Cahn who collectively delivered a presentation that summarized the status of the program, outreach efforts, challenges, and recommendations to improve the program. A roundtable discussion on how to improve participation in, and the success of, the program ensued.
5. **Receive Projects and Programs Update.**
 - a. **College Lake Integrated Resources Management Project.** GM Lockwood reported that the State Water Board postponed the water-right permit hearing from August 24 & 25, 2020 to September 22 & 23, 2020. The Board of Directors, on August 19, 2020, approved agreements with Carollo Engineers and Jacobs Engineering Group for design of the project components. GM Lockwood also shared that staff and the consultant teams will be holding a series of workshops in the coming months to discuss project component design. The fish passage design, under development by cbec eco engineers, has reached the 60% complete milestone.
 - b. **Proposed Watsonville Slough System Managed Aquifer Recharge & Recovery Projects.** GM Lockwood reported that the environmental lead of the project, Ms. Jill Hamilton of ESA, presented a summary of the project Draft EIR (DEIR) at the August 19, 2020 Board of Directors meeting. Staff anticipate publishing the DEIR on September 1, 2020 and hosting a public meeting on September 23, 2020 to enable agencies and the public to ask questions on the DEIR.
 - c. **Recycled Water Facility Improvements Project.** GM Lockwood reported the project remains at substantial completion as the contractor works through remaining punch list items.
 - d. **Coastal Distribution System F-Pipeline Expansion Project.** GM Lockwood reported that the contractor connected the new F-Pipeline to the existing Coastal Distribution System and is performing a pressure test. He shared that appurtenances are in construction and some agricultural land within the construction easement has returned to landowners and their tenants.
 - e. **Pajaro Valley Sustainable Groundwater Planning Project (SGMA 5-Yr Update)** GM Lockwood reported that on August 19, 2020, the Board of Directors formed a Groundwater Sustainability Committee. The composition of the Committee includes 12-appointed seats and 5-seats that will selected through an application process. Staff have developed a project webpage, are about to issue a press release, and will send outreach letters soliciting participation in the Committee. Earlier today, staff met with team members from the United States Geological Survey and Montgomery & Associates to discuss modeling efforts that will support the project.
6. **Receive Facility Operations Report.** WSOS Martinez reported that staff have delivered just over 2,800 acre-feet of supplemental water through July 2020. WSOS Martinez noted that the system is currently operating smoothly following issues created by high turbidity levels which unfortunately affected recycled water production during the recent heat wave. He shared that PV Water, City staff, and Carollo Engineers, are discussing options to mitigate future turbidity issues.
7. **Discuss Water Users Handbook and Rules & Regulations.** GM Lockwood provided a brief review of this recurring item. The Committee directed staff to remove this as a regular agenda item.

- 8. Discuss Future Agenda Items.** The Committee would like to continue discussing recommendations for improving participation in, and the success of, the Water Conservation Program.
- 9. Next Meeting:** Wednesday, September 30, 2020, at 3:00 p.m.
- 10. Meeting Adjourned at 4:14 p.m.**