

MOKELUMNE RIVER FORUM

MEETING No. 25

DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY

MEETING DATE: February 15, 2007

LOCATION: San Joaquin Farm Bureau
3290 North Ad Art Road
Stockton, CA 95215

ATTENDEES: Mike Harty
Tom Francis – East Bay Municipal Utility District
Mike Floyd – Department of Water Resources
Terry Strange – Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Council
Gary Goffe – Calaveras Public Utility District
Bob Granberg – City of Stockton
Mel Lytle – San Joaquin County Dept. of Public Works
Jim Hanson – Hanson Engineering
Lena Tam – East Bay Municipal Utility District
Rob Alcott – East Bay Municipal Utility District
Jim Abercrombie – Amador Water Agency
Gerald Schwartz – East Bay Municipal Utility District
Ed Pattison – Calaveras County Water District
John Skinner- East Bay Municipal Utility District
Joe Mehrten – North San Joaquin Water Conservation District
John Ferreira – North San Joaquin Water Conservation District
Kevin Kauffman – Stockton East Water District
Barbara Barrigan-Parilla – Restore the Delta
Tom Gau – San Joaquin County Dept. of Public Works
Tom Flinn – San Joaquin County Dept. of Public Works
Charlie Swimley – City of Lodi Public Works

ACTION ITEMS AND AGREEMENTS

1. A meeting of elected officials from Forum members and staff will be held on Feb. 26, 2007 at the San Joaquin Farm Bureau's Stockton offices from 10 am to 1 pm. The subject of the meeting will be the proposed Inter-Regional Conjunctive Use Project (I-RCUP) and possible funding opportunities through State Senator Mike Machado.
2. Mike Harty will email Forum members a set of the handouts provided to elected officials at the December 2006 Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) meeting.

3. The Forum will add Dante Nomellini of the Central Delta Water Agency and John Herrick of the South Delta Water Agency to the distribution list for Forum meeting summaries (Mike Harty and Tom Francis to follow up).
4. Joe Mehrten and John Ferreira of North San Joaquin Water Conservation District (NSJWCD) will be added to the Forum distribution list.
5. Mel Lytle will oversee the process of incorporating numerous edits proposed to the I-RCUP project concept description, with assistance.
6. Mike Harty will prepare and circulate in advance a draft agenda for the Feb. 26th elected officials meeting to the entire Forum via email.
7. Mike Harty, Mel Lytle, Jim Abercrombie, and John Skinner will be designated presenters at the Feb. 26th Elected's meeting.
8. Tom Francis will prepare the PowerPoint presentation to be used by the presenters at the Elected's Meeting.
9. Barbara Barrigan-Parilla of *Restore the Delta* will be added to the Forum's email list and Mike Harty will follow up with her about a relationship between the campaign and the Forum.
10. NSJWCD will provide the breakfast at the next Forum meeting, which will be held on March 15, 2007 at San Joaquin Farm Bureau's Stockton offices beginning at 9 am.

PRELIMINARY MATTERS

January Meeting Summary

An electronic version of the January 18, 2007 draft meeting summary was distributed via email prior to the February meeting. Printed copies were also provided to Forum participants at the meeting. There were no requested edits to the January meeting summary.

Purpose and Agenda

The primary purpose for the meeting was to review the goals for the planned meeting on February 26th among Forum member elected officials and staff, including the desired outcomes. There were no requested changes to the agenda.

AGENDA TOPIC: UPDATES FROM FORUM MEMBERS

Department of Water Resources (DWR): Mike Floyd of DWR noted that workshops will be held throughout the State to discuss the Prop. 84 initiative and receive feedback from interested parties regarding how funding should be used. He also discussed recent events regarding Prop. 50 Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) implementation grant funding. Mike noted that there was an agenda item for the Feb. 20th SWRCB meeting to consider a proposal to award funding to the nine Step 2 grant applicants (those nine were not originally recommended for grant awards). This approach would remove a second round of Prop. 50 funding and speed up the process. The downside is that other potential applicants that had hoped to compete for the Prop. 50 funds would no longer be able to do so. He encouraged those having concerns to be present at the Board meeting to express their views.

Calaveras Public Utility District (CPUD) – Gary Goffe of CPUD noted that the County's Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) representative initiated discussions about the possibility of coordinating services across the County's twelve sewer, water and fire districts. A water and wastewater forum was held in January 2007. Due to the growth in the County there are issues regarding how new developments will be served, and LAFCO was a bit confused regarding where service boundaries were drawn. LAFCO would like to see good coordination among the water and wastewater service providers.

City of Stockton (Stockton) – In reference to the Prop. 50 funding process, Bob Granberg advised that the City had prepared a letter to the SWRCB expressing dissatisfaction with the possible elimination of a second round of IRWMP implementation grant funding.

San Joaquin County Dept. of Public Works (SJC) – Mel Lytle reported that the Northeast San Joaquin Groundwater Banking Authority (GBA) had also submitted a letter to the SWRCB critical of eliminating a second round of Prop. 50 IRWMP implementation grant funding. Regarding other SJC efforts:

- The GBA is working on their IRWMP write-up;
- The GBA expects to issue a notice of preparation (NOP) for the programmatic EIR that is being produced as an IRWMP parallel effort;
- Preliminary results from SJC's MOCASIM hydraulic model were presented at a recent GBA meeting. Mel indicated he would be willing to present MOCASIM information at an upcoming Forum meeting if participants were interested;
- SJC's FERC application for their Duck Creek project has been accepted, and the protest period is now open; and
- The Bureau continues to develop a Plan of Study (POS) for an upcoming Feasibility Study being prepared for SJC's proposed MORE Water Project. Mel anticipates that a draft POS will be completed in mid- to late March 2007.

Hanson Engineering / Woodbridge Irrigation District (WID) – Jim Hanson noted that WID sold approximately \$3 million in bonds that will go toward the construction of new fish screens to be installed on the WID dam's headworks this spring.

Calaveras County Water District (CCWD) – Edwin Pattison of CCWD added to the comments of Gary Goffe regarding the LAFCO matter. A technical advisory committee was reviewing water and wastewater matters in Calaveras County with an eye to promoting coordination of services. Edwin also noted that the Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority (UMRWA) would be holding a workshop soon (likely a one-day event in June 2007) to discuss a physical model of the watershed. This model primarily provides a tool to review water quality considerations (vs. MOCASIM and/or EBMUDSIM which are more hydraulic models).

North San Joaquin Water Conservation District (NSJWCD) – Joe Mehrten and John Ferreira (board members with NSJWCD) introduced themselves. Joe noted that in particular he is concerned about aquifer preservation and enhancement. He also commented that an interview of Ed Steffani of NSJWCD published in the *Stockton Record* recently may interest Forum members.

Stockton East Water District (SEWD) / Eastern Water Alliance (EWA) – Kevin Kauffman of SEWD advised that there was a joint meeting of agencies belonging to the EWA to discuss NSJWCD's request that the SWRCB reconsider its denial of NSJWCD's request for an extension of their Mokelumne River 20 TAF water right. EBMUD staff were also present to discuss what options, if any, may be available. One possibility would be a joint letter of support signed by both EBMUD and NSJWCD regarding the extension requests that both agencies have before the SWRCB. Kevin noted that the SWRCB would take up the topic of reconsideration of their denial of NSJWCD's water right extension request at their Feb. 20th board meeting. *Note that at the Feb. 20th meeting, the SWRCB voted to hold a subsequent hearing to reconsider the denial.*

Kevin advised that NSJWCD feels compelled to protest EBMUD's request for an extension of their water right associated with their Camanche Reservoir. Submitting a protest will best insure that NSJWCD remains at any bargain table that may be convened by EBMUD to resolve protests.

Finally, Kevin commented on the desirability of engaging South and Central Delta Water Agencies regarding the Forum and the Integrated-Regional Conjunctive Use Project (IRCUP) concept. Mel Lytle noted a concern expressed by the Delta agencies about the potential impact of an IRCUP on the availability of good recharge sites in the County. There was general agreement to start sending meeting summaries to Dante Nomellini of the Central Delta Water Agency and John Herrick of the South Delta Water Agency

**AGENDA TOPIC: REPORT FROM THE SUB-COMMITTEE REGARDING
I-RCUP CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT**

Mike Harty summarized a meeting of elected officials from Foothill counties, San Joaquin County and EBMUD in December 2006 at ACWA's winter gathering. One outcome was a commitment from the Forum to develop more detailed information regarding a possible joint project (i.e., the I-RCUP). Mel Lytle advised that Tom Gau had met recently with State Senator Mike Machado, and that the Senator expressed some interest in the I-RCUP, asking for more detailed information in order to explore state funding options. Tom confirmed that Sen. Machado proposed working with other state officials to secure inter-regional support for this effort. A follow-up meeting to the ACWA discussion among Forum elected officials is planned for Monday, Feb. 26, 2007 at the Farm Bureau's Stockton offices to further discuss the I-RCUP and the recent request from Sen. Machado. [See next agenda topic]

Jim Abercrombie noted that the I-RCUP project description, as developed by the sub-committee, could also be provided to other elected officials, since it was written from a joint-interest perspective.

Mel Lytle walked the group through the 13-page draft IRCUP concept document. The following comments were offered by meeting participants:

- A fact sheet should be prepared by Mel that would briefly summarize key I-RCUP details and be included immediately following the project description cover page;
- Mike Harty should revise language on page 3 regarding the interests and critical participation of environmental and conservation organizations;
- Jim Abercrombie should review the need to change the description of participating agency water interests as shown on page 5 to specifically identify the interests of Jackson Valley Irrigation District (JVID);
- Edwin Pattison asked that edits be made to specifically identify CPUD interests and CCWD interests;
- Mike Harty should edit Table I – List of Potential Stakeholders – to more accurately reflect the role of environmental and conservation groups;
- Rob Alcott of EBMUD asked that a brief introduction accompany the Figure that is shown on the top of page 8;
- On page 8, Mel Lytle noted that there is now a listing of SJC's Mokelumne water right application. Rob Alcott also asked Mel to list EBMUD's water right application regarding their Camanche Reservoir
- On page 9, Mel Lytle noted that he was likely going to be adding some minor wording to clarify the City of Stockton's interests;
- Mike Harty will be reviewing the document in general to recommend how and where to present ways that environmental interests could be

considered as I-RCUP plans are developed. Terry Strange of the Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Council (UMRWC) noted that he currently sees very little attention to environmental benefits included in the current I-RCUP project write-up. Mike will address this as part of his edits, and will include relevant MOU language.

- There was some concern by several forum members about the language included in the draft scope of work description (Appendix A and in particular section A-3) and whether it is consistent with core project requirements. Mike Harty will redraft section A-3 to address the concerns.
- The map that appears at the end of the I-RCUP, which illustrates Forum agency participants and their jurisdictional boundaries, will be modified by Tom Francis of EBMUD to reflect recent changes to SEWD's and NSJWCD's boundaries.

Forum participants requested a revised I-RCUP description that they could provide to their respective elected's prior to the February 26 meeting. Mel Lytle indicated he would be able to make the required edits and provide the revised document to Mike Harty for circulation among Forum members.

AGENDA TOPIC: PLANNING FOR FEB. 26TH ELECTED OFFICIALS MEETING
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Mike will draft an agenda and share it with the entire Forum prior to the meeting.

Mike Harty, Mel Lytle of SJC, Jim Abercrombie of AWA and John Skinner of EBMUD will be presenters. Aside from Mike, the presenters will concentrate on discussing the I-RCUP project. Mike will provide an intro to the I-RCUP discussion and generally facilitate the elected's meeting. Tom Francis will prepare a PowerPoint presentation that incorporates slides for all presenters. Mike Harty will share the I-RCUP concept document as finalized and the PowerPoint with the entire Forum. The meeting participants suggested that a desired outcome of the elected's meeting was support for approaching Sen. Machado for I-RCUP study monies / funding support.

SUMMARY OF THE "RESTORE THE DELTA" CAMPAIGN BY BARBARA BARRINGAN-PARRILLA
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Barbara Barringan-Parrilla of *Restore the Delta* attended the Forum meeting for the first time. She summarized its key information, including members and mission. A core goal is a "fishable, swimmable, farmable" Delta by the year 2010. Their membership includes a broad range of stakeholders including water agencies, environmental organizations, citizen activists, and farming representatives. The campaign has some current concerns, including plans that appear to support a proposed peripheral canal. The campaign has a weekly newsletter and a website (www.restorethedelta.org) in order to provide updates and distribute information.

Discussion followed with Forum members regarding how to include and/or inform Barbara and her group in future Forum activities and vice-versa. Barbara plans to speak with her advisory board about the appropriate relationship with the Forum. Mike Harty will take the lead in keeping the lines of communication open.

CLOSING

The February 15, 2007 Mokelumne River Forum Meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:00 noon.

NEXT FORUM MEETING

The next meeting of the Forum is scheduled for Thursday, March 15, 2007 at 9:00 a.m. at the SJFB's meeting facilities in Stockton.

NSJWCD agreed to provide breakfast at the next Forum meeting.

NOTE: The initial draft of these meeting minutes was prepared by Tom Francis of EBMUD. Mike Harty reviewed and edited the draft. Please send comments or questions to Mike.