


SOLANO COUNTY WATER AGENCY



MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 7

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: David B. Okita, General Manager 

DATE: September 8, 2011

SUBJECT: September General Manager's Report

The overall water supply situation this year remains very good. At the end of summer we expect Lake Berryessa capacity to be about 1.3 million acre feet, about 300,000 acre feet short of capacity. There is a good chance that the reservoir will reach capacity this upcoming winter. State Water Project supplies are 80%, but because the Delta has been in excess conditions all summer, we can take as much State Water Project water as we want. Next year's State Water Project allocations will be higher than usual due to better starting reservoir conditions.

The September meeting will focus on settlement of our Area of Origin litigation. A key negotiating session is September 1 & 2. We will be sending a memo updating the Board on the negotiations prior to the September 8 Board meeting. All parties to the litigation will be briefing their Boards about this time prior to another negotiating session later in the month.

If you have any questions please contact me at 455-1103 or by e-mail at dokita@scwa2.com.

Sept.2011.lt7.mem

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**REPORT OF CONSTRUCTION CHANGE ORDERS
AND CONTRACTS APPROVED BY GENERAL
MANAGER UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY**

Construction Contract Change Orders (15% of original project costs or \$50,000, whichever is less)

Construction Contracts (\$30,000 and less)

Professional Service Agreements (\$30,000 and less)

Clean Lakes, Inc - Lake Solano Bathymetry - \$16,000

Ursula Heffernon - Water Education Program - increase of \$5,000 to \$15,000.

Douglas Nolan - School Water Education Program, increase of \$10,000 to \$15,500.

Ernst & Young - Share of SWP audit costs - \$18,462

Non-Professional Service Agreements (\$30,000 and less)

Construction contracts resulting from informal bids authorized by SCWA Ordinance

Note: Cumulative change orders or amendments resulting in exceeding the dollar limit need Board approval.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Solano Water Advisory Commission
Meeting Minutes
August 24, 2011

Present: David Okita, Chris Lee and Thomas Pate, Solano County Water Agency; Royce Cunningham and Steve Sawyer, Vacaville; Melissa Morton; Benicia; Dave Mansfield, Solano Irrigation District; Felix Riesenber, Fairfield; Franz Nestlerode, Pam Sahin, Eric Jansen, Vallejo; Mike Hardesty RD 2068; Kathy Barnes Jones, Solano County; John Currey, Dixon RCD; Rick Wood, guest; Erik Nugteren, guest.

Travis AFB: Sara Bierman, Gregory Parrott; Jim Christensen, John Danne, Ashley Holman, Merrie Schleiter-Lowe.

The meeting was called to order at 12:35 PM.

1. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of May 25, 2011 were approved.

2. Travis AFB

Travis AFB and Vallejo representatives explained that Travis is considering shifting to all groundwater because they are having trouble meeting Stage 2 DFB regulations with their old surface treatment plant run by Vallejo. They have an October 2013 deadline. Blending surface water with groundwater actually increases THM's. Travis is doing outreach because they understand that the groundwater basin (Tehama Formation) is being utilized and their increased use could have impacts on existing users.

David Okita reported that SCWA and local groundwater use agencies monitor groundwater levels collectively and have performed studies to learn more about the aquifer. Those studies are not complete so some basic knowledge about the basin is lacking, such as recharge source. We have not increased the pace of these investigations because data shows that groundwater levels are not trending towards decline and there were no plans to substantially increase use.

The Commission thanked Travis for this early consultation and expressed a willingness to work with Travis on their water supply options. There is a strong interest in follow-up if Travis wishes to pursue increased use of groundwater.

3. Irrigated Lands Program

John Currey, Dixon Resource Conservation District, provided an overview of the CVRWQCB Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program. The CVRWQCB is considering

expanding the current program that deals only with water quality of surface water discharges to groundwater quality. A groundwater quality monitoring program would be very expensive for local growers. There is a lack of groundwater quality data in areas of irrigated lands in Solano County. John asked for any groundwater quality data available. Mike Hardesty noted that the increased scrutiny on groundwater quality could impact all water users and their discharges, not just agriculture.

4. SCWA General Manager's Report

David Okita reported on the status of BDCP. There has been a change in the Federal leadership that is anticipated to improve progress. Water contractors are expected to contribute the necessary extra funding to complete BDCP. The new State Administration is making an effort to better involve stakeholders in the BDCP process. David is working with Solano County staff, water contractors and the State on the County's request to do collaborative planning for habitat projects in the Cache Slough area.

David and Mike Hardesty reported on the Delta Stewardship Council's Delta Plan development. One local impact of the Delta Plan may be required water conservation measures for State Water Project contractors.

AB 134 is on the Governor's desk. That bill gives Sacramento County Regional Sanitation District a right to sell its treated wastewater similar to existing law granting entities on the San Joaquin River the right to appropriate their wastewater.

Thomas Pate gave an overview of the USBR's plans to address risk of a failure of the Solano Project Terminal Reservoir. Meetings were held to develop alternative to mitigate the risk. An important local input is to minimize impacts of Solano Project water deliveries during a repair.

The area of origin lawsuit is in settlement negotiations.

5. PSC/NBA Maintenance Scheduling

No report.

6. Solano Water Authority Report

No report.

7. Water Conservation and Recycling Program

No report.

8. Legislative/Initiative/Court Decision Issues Not Discussed Above

No report.

9. Commission Vice Chair

Melissa Morton was unanimously elected Vice-Chair.

10. New Business

No new business.

11. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

The next meeting is scheduled for September 28, 2011 at the SCWA office.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 PM.