

# North Delta Water Agency Board of Directors Meeting

14120 Grand Ave, Walnut Grove, CA 95690  
Wednesday, December 8, 2010 at 9:30 a.m.

## Minutes

### Call to Order

Chair Henry Kuechler called the regularly scheduled meeting to order at 9:32 a.m. on Wednesday, December 8, 2010. A quorum was determined at that time. Those present:

#### Directors

Neil Hamilton, Division 5  
Henry Kuechler, Division 3  
Steve Mello, Division 1  
Carel van Loben Sels, Division 2  
Ken Ruzich, Division 4

#### Staff

Gary Kienlen, MBK Engineers  
Sara Harper, MBK Engineers  
Margaret Sorensen  
Melinda Terry

#### Others

Bob Webber, RD 999  
Mike Hardesty, RD 2068

### Approval of Minutes

**Motion and second to approve the minutes of the November 3 and 23 meetings with corrections, Motion unanimously approved. (Directors who were not present at the meetings abstained.)**

### Finances

**Motion and second to approve the financial reports. Motion unanimously approved.**

### BDCP

Melinda Terry reported on her frustration with the November 18th BDCP Steering Committee meeting and release of a status report on the draft plan. The Steering Committee was unable to call it a draft plan, because it is incomplete, with many voids including who will pay how much to implement the Plan. The Steering Committee did not get the opportunity to analyze and prioritize the heart of the Plan, the conservation measures (chapter 3), because the effects analysis is not completed, so Chapter 3 currently contains the preferred conservation of the water exporters. The heavy lifting, in terms of grappling and deciding the tough issues, has not yet been attempted. So the November 18<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee meeting focused on how the draft would be portrayed when it is released to the public. It was important to Melinda and some of the other Steering Committee members that the Plan was not portrayed as finished or even close to being finished. The working draft is posted on the internet for public review, but does not include many of the important details needed to constitute a draft plan. NDWA still has not received the modeling information necessary to verify the modeling analyses. Two members of the BDCP Steering Committee recently announced their withdrawal from the process - Westlands Water District and San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority. The Steering Committee has no future meetings scheduled at this time.

NDWA Board members reiterated that the future Delta Water Charge used to set the agency's annual contract price should not include any charges for additional water conveyance facilities. Mike Hardesty suggested the agency audit the current delta water charge and offered to give the Board some more information to pursue such an audit.

### **Report on Delta Activities**

The Delta Conservancy has changed its meetings to the third Wednesday of the month to avoid further conflict with NDWA board meetings.

The Delta Protection Commission is still focusing on three major projects - determining any changes to the primary zone; creating an economic stability plan; and working on the National Heritage Area designation.

While at the ACWA conference, Melinda met with Gloria Grey from the Delta Stewardship Council. Gloria wants to have a tour of the North Delta and to meet with NDWA representatives, maybe even attend a NDWA Board meeting. On behalf of the West Basin Water District board of directors, Ms. Grey also invited Melinda to give a presentation at one of its Board meetings.

### **Legal Report**

The agency is part of a coalition working on the SWRCB Delta Flow proceedings. Kevin O'Brien will give an update on those proceedings at a future meeting. The Board will then consider its continued participation in the coalition.

### **Engineer's Report**

Gary Kienlen distributed water quality charts and reported that water quality is currently within the contract's criteria.

### **Prop 218**

A public hearing will be held on December 16 to approve the assessment roll and set the minimum and maximum rates. Staff analyzed and considered qualifications of three consulting firms to hire to conduct the assessment ballot voting process.

**Motion and second to authorize staff to hire Kim Floyd Communications, at a cost not to exceed \$100,000 without further approval of the Board, to develop necessary communication documents and conduct the ballot process for a vote to increase the Agency's assessment rate. Motion unanimously approved.**

### **Public Comment**

None

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m. on Wednesday, December 8, 2010.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Margaret Sorensen, Administrative Assistant