

**Minutes of Wednesday, October 5, 2016**  
**North Delta Water Agency Board of Directors Meeting**  
14120 Grand Ave. (Walnut Grove Community Church), Walnut Grove

**Call to Order**

Chairman Mello called the board of directors meeting to order at 9:33 a.m. on Wednesday, October 5, 2016. A quorum was determined at that time. Those present:

Directors

Steve Mello, Division 1  
Topper van Loben Sels, Division 2  
Jack Kuechler, Division 3  
Tom Hester, Division 5

Staff

Melinda Terry, Manager  
Cindy Tiffany, Assistant Manager  
Kevin O'Brien, Downey Brand  
Gary Kienlen, MBK Engineers

Others

See attached sign-in sheet.

Absent

Kenric Jameson, Division 4

**Drought Emergency Special Claims Process**

DWR declined request to attend NDWA meeting, so Melinda Terry provided an update on status of drought claims based on information provided by DWR staff. A total of eight drought claims were submitted to DWR. To date, DWR has sent decision letters on two claims, which included additional paperwork the landowners must submit to DWR in order to be issued payment. DWR is hoping to complete paperwork and issue payments for all eight claims by the end of the year.

**Approval of the Minutes**

A correction to the August 3, 2016 Board Meeting Minutes was requested. In the discussion of a Sacramento groundwater basin meeting at the bottom of page 3, change West Sacramento to Courtland.

**MOTION by Director Hester to approve the August 3, 2016 minutes with amendment changing West Sacramento to Courtland at the bottom of page 3. Seconded by Director van Loben Sels, and unanimously approved by a voice vote. (AYES: Mello, van Loben Sels, Kuechler, and Hester. ABSENT: Jameson)**

No corrections or additions were made to the August 31, 2016 Special Board Meeting Minutes.

**MOTION by Director Mello to approve the August 31, 2016 minutes as presented. Seconded by Director Kuechler, and unanimously approved by a voice vote. (AYES: Mello, Kuechler, and Hester. ABSTAIN: van Loben Sels. ABSENT: Jameson)**

**Financial Report**

Cindy Tiffany presented the Quarterly 2016-17 Financial Reports. She reported that Solano County notified agency that the next payment to NDWA for property assessments would be reduced by \$13,000. This reduction is for overpayment to NDWA on parcels which the county does not collect assessments (federal and state properties). To avoid this situation in the future, NDWA will purchase the assessment rolls for each county on a regular basis so parcel and ownership information can be updated. In response to question on the amount identified under "insurance" budget item, Cindy speculated that it appears that the budget numbers for workers compensation and general liability insurance are switched. She will correct the error.

**MOTION by Director Kuechler to accept the Financial Reports for QTR 2016-17 with correction to amounts budgeted under insurance in the FY 2016-17 Budget. Seconded by Director van Loben Sels, and unanimously approved by a voice vote. (AYES: Mello, van Loben Sels, Kuechler, and Hester. ABSENT: Jameson)**

### **Engineering Report**

Gary Kienlen distributed water quality graphs, noting salinity levels are currently within the Contract criteria at all NDWA monitoring locations, but EC levels have been rising over the past couple of weeks at Emmaton, noting EC levels reached 1.2 at Emmaton on October 3, 2016. However, SWP has been reducing exports and will be gradually increasing reservoir releases to reduce storage levels by November 1st in accordance with flood control rules. DWR is also trying to store as much water as possible into San Luis reservoir from Shasta & Oroville releases. In contrast, CVP has reduced releases from Folsom reservoir to avoid reaching dead pool.

Delta Watermaster, Michael George, reported that the drought action team continues to meet every other week to discuss real-time operations of SWP/CVP. The projects are scheduled to brief the SWRCB on October 18<sup>th</sup> about their preparation for complying with flood control rules governing reservoir storage. He also provided an update on the consumptive use studies and upcoming deadlines for complying with the new water diversion measuring requirements, and answered questions about State's methodology for determining Delta outflow.

### **Manager Report**

Melinda reported that after conferring with Gary Kienlen, she is close to rendering a decision on Sacramento-Yolo Port assessment reclassification request. The only administrative matter was agreement to have the December Board meeting a week earlier on Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup>.

### **Delta Activities Report**

Melinda will submit written comments on EIR for Prospect Island tidal habitat project proposed by DWR. She reviewed GSA governance document from the Solano groundwater basin, which requests specific feedback from NDWA. Solano is proposing a 16-member GSA board, with one seat designated for Delta representation. Both NDWA and Erik Ringelberg are listed for the Delta position. The board directed Melinda to recommend that NDWA be representative since North Delta GSA has not yet been formed. Sacramento County staff and Director van Loben Sels reported on discussions of how to include Delta representation in that basin's GSA.

### **Legal Report**

Kevin O'Brien reported that NDWA submitted its case in chief for WaterFix protest and will be probably be presenting witnesses in late October. He distributed handout with legal costs to date for petition hearing with estimate of future costs.

### **Closed Session**

The board adjourned into closed session to confer with legal counsel on the NDWA protest of CA WaterFix project. The board reconvened in open session at 11:45 a.m. and Chairman Mello announced there were no reportable actions taken during close session.

### **Adjournment**

Chairman Mello adjourned the meeting at 11:47 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Cindy Tiffany, Assistant Manager