

**North Delta Water Agency
Board of Directors Meeting**

Courtland Auditorium, 146 Primasing Ave, Courtland CA 95615
Wednesday, April 9, 2014 at 9:30 a.m.

Minutes

Call to Order

Chair Henry Kuechler called the meeting to order at 9:38 a.m. on Wednesday, April 9, 2014. A quorum was determined at that time. Those present:

Directors

Henry Kuechler, Division 3
Steve Mello, Division 1
Topper van Loben Sels, Division 2

Absent

Neil Hamilton, Division 5
Ken Ruzich, Division 4

Staff

Melinda Terry
Gary Kienlen, MBK Engineers
Gilbert Cosio, MBK Engineers
Steve Saxton, Downey Brand
Margaret Sorensen

Others

Please see sign in sheet

Approval of Minutes

Motion and second to approve the minutes of the March 5, 2014 Board meeting and the March 24th Special Closed Session meeting. Motion approved. (Yes - Kuechler, Mello, van Loben Sels)

Financial Report

Motion and second to accept the financial reports as presented. Motion approved. (Yes - Kuechler, Mello, van Loben Sels)

Manager's Report

Manager Melinda Terry said that NDWA and the California Central Valley Flood Control Association (CCVFCA) share office and staff and both agencies have been interviewing for a replacement for the administrative assistant who is retiring May 8th. A final decision has not been made, but Melinda is very close to making an offer to a specific candidate. The Board discussed the need for a May meeting

and directed staff to arrange for one if necessary. On April 1st, new D1461 standards took effect. In March, the temporary emergency change petition was in effect, but rains allowed the State to be able to meet water quality standards. Because the standards were met, the State continued operating the pumps. No new temporary change permits were requested to modify April's standards.

The deadline for public comments on the BDCP is June 14. If the principal agencies cannot release an implementing agreement by Monday, April 14, that deadline will need to be extended again.

The Board encouraged attendees to consider filing a subcontract on properties within the Agency.

Drought Update

Melinda read the action taken at the March 24th closed session of the Board and Attorney Steve Saxton gave a presentation regarding the drought barriers that DWR is proposing to install. DWR has proposed to install drought barriers in order to keep water quality and levels in the interior delta acceptable. The barriers within NDWA are currently being planned for Steamboat and Sutter Sloughs and if installed, would be installed no earlier than May 20 and taken out in November 2014. NDWA staff are negotiating an MOU with DWR to best protect landowners from any negative effects from the barriers. Staff have submitted a draft MOU to DWR and are waiting for a response. Steve went through the basics of what the MOU covers including operating guidelines for the barriers, all costs to be covered by DWR, additional monitoring stations, procedures for reporting operating problems, and a claims procedure for impacts that cannot be resolved. Attendees shared concerns about impacts and suggestions for additional monitoring locations.

Closed Session

The Board met in closed session.

Motion and second to continue negotiations with DWR in good faith. If DWR installs drought barriers without completing an MOU with NDWA, the Agency will take legal measures to protect the contract. The motion was approved. (Yes - Kuechler, Mello, van Loben Sels)

Engineer's Report

Gary Kienlen distributed current water quality charts and noted that water quality was within the contract's criteria.

Public Comment

None

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:08 p.m. on Wednesday, April 9, 2014.

Respectfully Submitted,
Margaret Sorensen, Administrative Assistant