

Minutes of Wednesday, January 10, 2024
North Delta Water Agency Special Board of Directors Meeting
3050 Beacon Blvd., Ste 203, West Sacramento

Call to Order

Chairman Mello called the special board of directors meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. on Wednesday, January 10, 2024. Pursuant to Government Code section 54953(b)(3), Directors Jack Kuechler, Justin van Loben Sels, and Mark van Loben Sels attended remotely via identified teleconference locations. A quorum was determined at that time. Those present and on the call:

Directors

Steve Mello, Division 1
Justin van Loben Sels, Division 2
Jack Kuechler, Division 3
Mark van Loben Sels, Division 4
Tom Slater, Division 5

Staff

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

Others

Bruce Blodgett
Maurice Washington

Closed Session

The board adjourned into closed session at 9:02 a.m. to conference with legal counsel on the following three items:

- i. Existing Litigation regarding DWR Environmental Impact Cases (Sacramento Superior Court, Case No. JCCP 4942) pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9 (One Case):
- ii. Initiation of litigation pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9 (Two Potential Cases).

Closed Session Report

The Board reconvened in open session at 11:05 a.m. and Chairman Mello announced that the board voted to initiate CEQA litigation against the Delta Conveyance Project EIR.

Managers' Report

Melinda reported that the comments on the Sacramento River SED, Bay Delta Plan are due on January 19, 2024. The primary items the letter will cover are concerns with inflow/outflow numbers, modifying salinity objectives such as extending salinity criteria beyond August 15th, concerns regarding VA and habitat impacts on water levels and quality, and contract concerns including the renewal of MOU with DWR regarding Article 2 obligations. Another big issue is that the SED does not address climate change. Austin will work with Anne and Melinda to finalize comments to be submitted next week.

Announcements

February 7th -NDWA Board Mtg., 3050 Beacon Blvd., Ste 203, West Sacramento, 9:30 a.m.

Public Comment

Bruce Blodgett of the Delta Protection Commission announced that the Delta Leadership program begins this week.

Adjournment

Chairman Mello adjourned the meeting at 11:18 a.m.
Respectfully submitted by Cindy Tiffany, Assistant Manager