

#### **PROJECT AGREEMENT 23 COMMITTEE**

Santa Ana River Conservation and Conjunctive Use Program (SARCCUP)

# REGULAR MEETING MINUTES August 7, 2018

### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT**

Thomas P. Evans, Chair, Western Municipal Water District Board Vice President Jasmin A. Hall, Vice Chair, Inland Empire Utilities Agency Board Secretary/Treasurer (8:34 a.m.) Susan Lien Longville, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District Board President Paul D. Jones, Eastern Municipal Water District General Manager Michael Markus, Orange County Water District General Manager

## **ALTERNATE COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT [Non-Voting]**

None.

#### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT**

None.

#### MEMBER AGENCY STAFF PRESENT

**Eastern Municipal Water District** 

Kelley Gage Brian Powell

**Inland Empire Utilities Agency** 

Jason Pivovaroff Joshua Aguilar San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District

Heather Dyer

**Western Municipal Water District** 

Craig Miller Ryan Shaw

**Orange County Water District** 

None

**Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority** 

Karen Williams Larry McKenney Dean Unger Ian Achimore Kelly Berry

#### **OTHERS PRESENT**

Woodard & Curran: Brian Dietrick | Scott Goldman

## 1. <u>CALL TO ORDER</u> (Thomas P. Evans, Chair)

The regular meeting of the PA 23 Committee was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chair Evans at the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, 11615 Sterling Avenue, Riverside, California.

### 2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

### 3. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES: June 5, 2018

**MOVED**, approve the June 5, 2018 meeting minutes.

Result:

Adopted (Unanimously)

Motion/Second:

Longville/Jones

Ayes

Evans, Jones, Longville, Markus

Nays:

None

Abstentions:

None

Absent:

Hall

### 4. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

#### A. SARCCUP PROJECT SCHEDULE

Brian Dietrick, Woodard & Curran, provided a PowerPoint presentation with the updated SARCCUP Project Schedule.

Committee Member Jasmin Hall arrived at 8:34 a.m., during the presentation of Agenda Item No. 4.A.

Brian Powell, EMWD, provided project specific information on the Mountain Avenue West Recharge Facility and site percolation testing and borings results. This effort confirmed there are no anticipated recharge problems.

lan Achimore, SAWPA, provided project specific information on the Arundo Removal Study on behalf of Adam Hutchinson, OCWD. Achimore also provided information on the Smartscape Program and field outreach efforts by project sponsor Inland Empire Waterkeeper as well as project monitoring plans to track grant deliverables.

Committee Member Evans voiced concern of a possible critical path delay that might impact the project as a whole, such as an agreement with Chino Basin Watermaster. Jason Pivovaroff, IEUA, advised that while they continue to work with Chino Basin Watermaster, the proposal will not require a storage agreement between IEUA and Watermaster parties. They are able to offer the performance under SARCCUP with their local agencies directly, which already have the means and methods to accomplish the put and take transfers. Committee Member Marcus noted originally the Chino Basin was to have had a greater role in storing a larger volume of water. However, the program was revised and Orange County will now provide storage, which dramatically reduced storage needs in the Chino Basin.

Heather Dyer, SBVMWD, provided an oral update on the Santa Ana Sucker Habitat portion of SARCCUP. More than 30% has been designed; staff will be touring sites with regulators and other interested parties on August 29 to seek design input. The next step will be the construction phase. Staff is actively engaged with members of the Morongo Band of Mission Indians to address tribal concerns regarding future work. The draft EIR is expected to be released in November 2018, with anticipated certification in early 2019. Dyer confirmed the requirement to obtain a biological opinion from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife; staff has been engaged in advance planning, primarily regarding Verio.

This item was for informational and discussion purposes; no action was taken on Agenda Item No. 4.A.

## B. SARCCUP CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA) COMPLIANCE STATUS

Joshua Aguilar, IEUA; provided an oral report on the three-agency EIR (IEUA, OCWD, WMWD) for Water Banking and Arundo Donax Removal. The final EIR is expected by the end of December and will be considered by the IEUA Board in January 2019.

Kelley Gage, EMWD, provided the PowerPoint contained in the agenda packet (pages 23-34) with an overview of the San Jacinto Valley Water Banking – Enhanced Recharge and Recovery Program (ERRP) and Phase 1 Project/SARCCUP: Final Program and Project Environmental Impact Report. Gage advised the EIR is complete and was certified in June 2018. Eastern's ERRP is a groundwater banking project with a total storage capacity of up to 90,000 acre feet; SARCCUP is the first phase of that program with a water bank capacity of 19,500 acre feet. Committee Member Jones noted EMWD continues to work closely with municipal and community representatives, in particular relating to aesthetics of the 39-acre recharge pond. Three wells will be constructed which will be 1,000 to 1,200 feet in depth; construction will commence November 2018 and should be completed in June 2021.

This item was for informational and discussion purposes; no action was taken on Agenda Item No. 4.B.

## C. <u>SARCCUP PROPOSITION 84 GRANT AGREEMENT AMENDMENT AND SUBAGREEMENTS STATUS</u>

lan Achimore provided an oral update. WMWD will consider its sub-agreement on August 24. SAWPA already has a sub-agreement with SBVMWD and EMWD, which will be amended when the grant agreement with DWR is amended (anticipated to occur in October). OCWD and IEUA will wait on signing their agreement until after the joint CEQA process is completed; they want to bring that as a companion document to their board along with the sub-agreement, which should occur in the January/February 2019 timeframe.

This item was for informational and discussion purposes; no action was taken on Agenda Item No. 4.C.

## D. <u>AMERICAN WATER WORKS ASSOCIATION (AWWA) CONFERENCE PRESENTATION</u> ON SARCCUP

lan Achimore and Ryan Shaw provided an oral report on the AWWA presentation. Ryan Shaw noted positive comments were received.

This item was for informational and discussion purposes; no action was taken on Agenda Item No. 4.F.

## 5. COMMITTEE MEMBER REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no requests for future agenda items.

## 6. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business for review, Chair Evans adjourned the meeting at 9:12 a.m.

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Approved at a Regular Meeting of the Project Agreement 23 Committee on Tuesday, December 4, 2018.

Thomas P. Evals, Chair

Attest:

Kelly Berry, CMC

Clerk of the Board