

PROJECT AGREEMENT 23 COMMITTEE

Santa Ana River Conservation and Conjunctive Use Program (SARCCUP)

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES February 1, 2022

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Mike Gardner, Chair, Western Municipal Water District Governing Board Marco Tule, Vice Chair, Inland Empire Utilities Agency Governing Board Joe Mouawad, Eastern Municipal Water District General Manager Michael Markus, Orange County Water District General Manager Susan Lien Longville, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District Governing Board

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

None

ALTERNATE COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT [Non-Voting]

Shivaji Deshmukh, Inland Empire Utilities Agency Brenda Dennstedt, Western Municipal Water District Paul Kielhold, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District

MEMBER AGENCY STAFF PRESENT

Eastern Municipal Water District

Leighanne Kirk

San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District

Kai Palenscar Matthew Howard Shavonne Turner

Inland Empire Utilities Agency

Joshua Aguilar

Western Municipal Water District

Craig Miller Ryan Shaw Jason Piyoyaroff

Orange County Water District

Adam Hutchinson

Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority

Jeff Mosher Ian Achimore Karen Williams Dean Unger Edina Goode Sara Villa

Mark Norton Zyanya Ramirez Marie Jauregui Haley Mullay

OTHERS PRESENT

Andrew D. Turner, Lagerlof, LLP; Brian Dietrick, Woodard & Curran; Lanaya Voelz Alexander; Payton Kirk; Harvey De La Torre; Nicole Greenwood; Scott Goldman

1. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Project Agreement (PA) 23 Committee was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chair Mike Gardner. Pursuant to the provisions of AB 361, this meeting was conducted virtually. All votes taken during this meeting were conducted via oral roll call.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments; there were no public comments received via email.

3. SELECTION OF COMMITTEE VICE CHAIR

Chair Mike Gardner noted the change of representation from Inland Empire Utilities Agency, Commissioner Marco Tule is now on the Project Agreement (PA) 23 Committee. Chair Mike Gardner called for a motion to appoint Marco Tule as Vice Chair of the PA 23 Committee.

MOVED, to appoint Marco Tule as Vice Chair of the PA 23 Committee.

Result: Adopted by Roll Call Vote (Passed)

Motion/Second: Longville/Mouawad

Ayes: Gardner, Longville, Markus, Mouawad, Tule

Nays: None Abstentions: None Absent: None

4. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES: October 5, 2021

Chair Gardner called for a motion to approve the October 5, 2021; meeting minutes as posted.

MOVED, approve the October 5, 2021, meeting minutes.

Result: Adopted by Roll Call Vote (Passed)

Motion/Second: Markus/Longville

Ayes: Gardner, Longville, Markus, Mouawad, Tule

Nays: None Abstentions: None Absent: None

5. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

A. SARCCUP SCHEDULE OVERVIEW

Brian Dietrick, Woodard & Curran, reviewed the SARCCUP detailed schedule contained in the agenda packet on pages 7-14. A Kickoff meeting took place with Eastern Municipal Water District to go over the software development for the operating agreement. The overall completion of all projects has an anticipated construction deadline of September 2023. There was no discussion.

This item was for informational purposes; no action was taken on Agenda Item No. 5.A.

B. SARCCUP PROJECT UPDATES

The SARCCUP Project Updates presentation contained in the agenda packet on pages 15–35 was presented by representatives from Eastern Municipal Water District (EMWD) (Leighanne Kirk), Western Municipal Water District (WMWD) (Ryan Shaw), Orange County Water District (OCWD) (Adam Hutchinson), San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water Department (Valley District) (Kai Palenscar), and Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority (SAWPA) (Ian Achimore). EMWD's Wells 201, 202, and 203 Phase 1B Conveyance Pipelines have been completed. Wells 201, 202, 203, and 205 Equipping Facilities staff awarded the project in July for \$19.5 million. The work has commenced on the underground piping, site grading, and construction is estimated to be completed in late 2023. The Hewitt

and Evans Groundwater Treatment Facility design is complete, and it is anticipated to award the contract in late Spring early Summer of 2022.

WMWD's Sterling Pump Station's construction is complete, testing has been done, and moving water from the Chino Basin to the Sterling Pump Station's into the wholesale system has been successful. OCWD's Arundo Removal project's target has been met of 640 acres of Arundo Donax removed. There are five new production wells that are being constructed for SARCCUP, and three of the five are completed (City of Fullerton Well 7A, Vanderwerff Well, and Mesa Water Well No. 14). Valley District's Santa Ana Sucker habitat tributary restoration projects includes four habitat streams that have been broken down into two phases. Phase 1 includes Hidden Valley and Anza Creeks and will initiate this winter with project construction initiating in the March timeframe. Hidden Valley and Anza Creeks permitting is complete except for CWA Section 404 Compliance for Anza Creek. Phase 2 includes Lower Hole and Old Ranch Creeks and will be initiating this fall with construction anticipated to be complete of all four streams in the fall of 2023.

lan Achimore provided an update on the Water Use Efficiency Budget Assistance task to help up to ten retail agency partners comply with State regulation that require water agencies to adhere to agency-wide water use efficiency budgets. It provides retail agencies with mapping data to target their existing water use efficiency programs to inefficient water users. OCWD and MWDOC is the lead for retail partners in North Orange County (cities of Brea, Fountain Valley, Newport Beach, Orange, and Seal Beach). For the Upper Watershed SAWPA has recruited six partners (Chino Hills, Hemet, Monte Vista Water District, Perris, Riverside Public Utilities, and San Bernardino Municipal Water Department). There was no discussion.

This item was for informational purposes; no action was taken on Agenda Item No. 5.B.

C. SARCCUP GRANT PAYMENT UPDATES

Ian Achimore provided a presentation on the SARCCUP Grant Payment Update contained in the agenda packet on pages 37-40. As of September 30, 2021, the amount of grant invoiced is 51% of the total \$55 million. SARCCUP's schedule is about 68% complete with the project construction anticipated to be completed September 2023. There was no discussion.

This item was for informational purposes; no action was taken on Agenda Item No. 5.C.

D. <u>UPDATE ON SUB-AGREEMENT AMENDMENTS</u>

Ian Achimore provided a verbal update on the SARCCUP Sub-Agreement Amendment between SAWPA and the Member Agencies. All four of the Department of Water Resources Sub-Agreement Amendment No. 2 with the Member Agencies have been executed and approved. Committee Member Michael Markus noted that there is an additional agreement with regards to the operations of SARCCUP that the SARCCUP participants are in the process of completing. Once finalized, the agreement will be brought forward to each individual Board for approval. There was no discussion.

This item was for informational purposes; no action was taken on Agenda Item No. 5.D.

6. COMMITTEE MEMBER REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no requests for future agenda items.

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7. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business for review, Chair Mike Gardner adjourned the meeting at 9:02 a.m.

Approved at a Regular Meeting of the Project Agreement 23 Committee on Tuesday, April 5, 2022.

Mike Gardner, Chair

Attest:

Sara Villa, Clerk of the Board