

Eastern Water Alliance (EWA)

Post Office Box 5157
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An Alliance of Water Districts, Central San Joaquin Water Conservation District (CSJWCD), North San Joaquin Water Conservation District (NSJWCD), and Stockton East Water District (SEWD), located over the critically overdrafted Eastern San Joaquin County Groundwater Basin

Monday, September 11, 2017 Minutes

1. Call to Order: Director McGurk called the meeting to order at 12:11 p.m.
2. Roll Call: A quorum of Board members were present (McGurk, Sanguinetti, Thompson, Flinn, Simpson and alternate Watkins). Also present were SEWD's General Manager Moody, SEWD's District Engineer Lee, SEWD's Administrative Services Manager Carido, SEWD's Administrative Clerk Curtis, Jennifer Spaletta and Jeanne Zolezzi.
3. Public Comment: None
4. Minutes of February 3, 2017: A motion was moved by Director Thompson and seconded by Director Flinn to approve the February 3, 2017 minutes, as presented. The motion passed unanimously.
5. Demonstration Recharge Extraction and Aquifer Management (DREAM) Project: Jennifer Spaletta gave a brief reminder of how the DREAM project is to roll out. EBMUD will take 1,000 AF of Water from Camanche and release it down the Mokelumne River. NSJWCD will pick it up at a pump station and will convey it through their south system to farmers. Farmers will use the water for irrigation in lieu of pumping groundwater. Once the recharge is complete, in a subsequent winter season when groundwater levels are higher, half of what is recharged will be pumped back out through an existing groundwater well.

Alternate Director Watkins reminded the Board, the maximum amount available back to EBMUD is 50% with a loss factor of 5%.

Jennifer Spaletta reported any groundwater export is pursuant to San Joaquin County's export permit which was approved by the Board of Supervisors on April 11, 2017. The approved permit had conditions in place which mitigated any harm to the EWA.

Jennifer Spaletta reported there is now the decision of who will be responsible for operating the Project. Logically, NSJWCD is the most sensible as the water will go through their facility.

Jennifer Spaletta reported as part of Water Code Section 1220 no water can be exported from any Basin in the Central Valley unless it is subject to a vote of all the counties in the Basin. Jennifer Spaletta reported there is an exception found in subsection "d" of Water

Code 1220, which states, the law does not apply to groundwater pumping by the Eastern Water Alliance (EWA) Joint Powers Agency for export from the Eastern San Joaquin County Basin...provided that the groundwater pumping is approved by San Joaquin County pursuant to its ordinances regulating the management and export of groundwater as these ordinances are in effect at the time of permit approval by San Joaquin County.

Jennifer Spaletta reported the purpose for the current meeting of the EWA is to have the Board approve moving forward by delegating authority to North San Joaquin Water Conservation District (NSJWCD) to pump groundwater banked by the East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) in order to carry out the DREAM Project as described in the export permit application. Jennifer Spaletta reported, in return NSJWCD will indemnify the EWA, deeming them not liable to any claimed related to the DREAM Project. Director McGurk inquired if this is a permanent delegation of authority. Jennifer Spaletta replied no, it is just for the term of the Pilot Project. It starts 5-years from the date Recharge Water is first provided by EBMUD to NSJWCD.

Jennifer Spaletta reported the agreement brought before the Board describes an added level of transparency between the EWA and NSJWCD, stating NSJWCD will advise the EWA at least 30-days prior to pumping any banking water for export pursuant to the Export Permit and will provide the EWA a pumping schedule. Director Sanguinetti replied the transparency is a good addition as NSJWCD will be the responsible party. Jennifer Spaletta added the purpose of this Project is to learn along the way, the transparency will help keep the Districts informed of what happens with the Pilot Project so other agencies will know how to move forward with similar projects.

Director McGurk inquired what would happen is the NSJWCD Directors change, are they still obligated to abide by this agreement. Jennifer Spaletta replied yes, NSJWCD is contractually committing itself to complete this Project.

Jennifer Spaletta reported Resolution 17-01, brought before the Board approves the agreement with NSJWCD for operation of the DREAM Project and authorizes the EWA President to sign the agreement and District staff to effectuate the agreement.

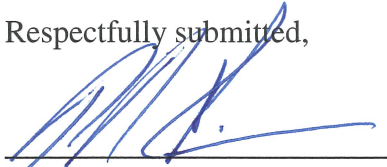
Jennifer Spaletta recommended that although the County has filed all necessary California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) documentation, that the EWA file its own Notice of Determination to remain compliant with CEQA standards.

A motion was moved by Director Sanguinetti and seconded by Director Thompson to approve Resolution 17-01, A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Eastern Water Alliance Approving Agreement with North San Joaquin Water Conservation District for Operation of the DREAM Project, as presented. The motion passed unanimously

6. Director Reports: None
7. Agenda Planning for Next Meeting: None

8. Adjournment: Director McGurk adjourned the meeting at 12:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Director Flinn
Secretary