



**LOS VAQUEROS RESERVOIR JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY  
MINUTES**

Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors Held at:  
**ZONE 7 WATER AGENCY**  
100 North Canyons Parkway, Livermore, CA 94551  
May 3, 2024 – 9:00 a.m.

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Vice Chair Anthea Hansen called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – led by Vice Chair Anthea Hansen

General Counsel James Ciampa noted Chair Angela Ramirez Holmes would be participating remotely as indicated on the Agenda and, due to illness, Director Varela may be participating remotely pursuant to and in accordance with the requirements specified under AB 2449 for “just cause” remote participation.

**ROLL CALL OF DIRECTORS**

Angela Ramirez Holmes, Chair, Zone 7 Water Agency (participated remotely via Zoom)  
Anthea Hansen, Vice Chair, San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority  
Paul Sethy, Treasurer, Alameda County Water District  
Antonio Martinez, Director, Contra Costa Water District  
Michael Tognolini, Director, East Bay Municipal Utility District

**ALTERNATE DIRECTORS**

Jonathan Wunderlich, Alternate Director, Alameda County Water District  
Patt Young, Alternate Director, Contra Costa Water District  
\*Steve Ritchie, Alternate Director, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission  
\*Richard Santos, Alternate Director, Santa Clara Valley Water District

\*Alternate Director Ritchie participated in place of absent Director Herrera and Alternate Director Santos participated in place of absent Director Varela.

**ABSENT**

Ricardo Ortega, Secretary, Grassland Water District  
Dennis Herrera, Director, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission  
John Varela, Director, Santa Clara Valley Water District  
Doug Linney, Alternate Director, East Bay Municipal Utility District  
Ken Swanson, Alternate Director, Grassland Water District  
Jose Gutierrez, Alternate Director, San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority  
Sandy Figuers, Alternate Director, Zone 7 Water Agency

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Taryn Ravazzini, Executive Director  
James Ciampa, Lagerlof, LLP, General Counsel  
Chuck Gardner, Program Manager, Hallmark Group  
Jessica Alwan, Hallmark Group  
Maddy Benner, Hallmark Group  
Jacqueline Harris, Hallmark Group (via Zoom)  
Rosemarie Perea, Board Clerk (via Zoom)  
M. J. Brown, Assistant Board Clerk

Others were present in person, via Zoom and by telephone.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

Vice Chair Anthea Hansen called for public comments on non-agenda items. None were received.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

The Consent Calendar consisted of the following items:

**1.1 Approval of Minutes from April 10, 2024 Board of Directors Meeting**

**1.2 Treasurer’s Report Month Ended March 31, 2024**

Vice Chair Anthea Hansen called for public comments in the room, on Zoom and from the Board. None were received.

Upon motion by Director Martinez, seconded by Director Sethy, the Consent Calendar was approved by the following roll call vote:

**AYES:** Anthea Hansen, Vice Chair, San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority  
Paul Sethy, Treasurer, Alameda County Water District  
Antonio Martinez, Director, Contra Costa Water District  
Michael Tognolini, Director, East Bay Municipal Utility District  
Richard Santos, Alternate Director, Santa Clara Valley Water District  
Steve Ritchie, Alternate Director, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission  
Angela Ramirez Holmes, Chair, Zone 7 Water Agency

**NOES:** None

**ABSENT:** Ricardo Ortega, Grassland Water District

**ABSTAIN:** None

The motion passed with a 7-0 vote.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **2.1 Consideration of Adoption of Resolution No. 5-24-01 for Approval of Amendment No. 6 to Multi-Party Cost Share Agreement**

James D. Ciampa, General Counsel, advised that as discussed at the April 10, 2024 Board meeting, the Authority has worked with CCWD and the other Members to draft Amendment No. 6 to the Multi-Party Cost Share Agreement as a no-cost amendment to that agreement. The final version of Amendment No. 6, along with a redlined version of the amendment that shows the changes incorporated to address Members' comments and proposed changes, is presented for the Board's consideration and possible approval. Mr. Ciampa also stated that Exhibits B-6 and C-6 to the amendment were updated to reflect updated budget figures and those changes were distributed to the Board members on Wednesday, May 1 and have been posted to the Authority's website.

Director Martinez suggested postponing this item until the June 12, 2024 Board meeting because the Amendment has not yet been reviewed by the CCWD Board and to allow additional time for the Members to develop their respective business cases. Director Martinez stated he would be abstaining from voting on this item.

Director Tognolini noted this amendment is a no cost amendment and felt it was acceptable to proceed with the item. Treasurer Sethy stated his district does not currently have sufficient information for its business case and he did not think that information would be developed until the fall. He concurred with Director Tognolini that the item should proceed today.

Alternate Director Ritchie asked whether there was any significance to delaying action until June 12. General Counsel Ciampa responded that as long as CCWD and the Authority approve and sign the amendment prior to June 30, the amendment would take effect and be retroactive to July 1 for any other Members who approve and sign the amendment after June 30. General Counsel Ciampa stated that from a legal standpoint, the Authority Board's action could be delayed until June 12.

Executive Director Ravazzini advised that staff is continuing to work with the Members on their business cases, but key information will be derived from the Project agreements, which will not be completed by June 12.

Chair Angela Ramirez Holmes asked whether CCWD has already reviewed the amendment. General Counsel Ciampa advised Authority staff has worked with CCWD staff in developing the amendment and ensuring CCWD concurs with the changes that have been incorporated. Chair Ramirez Holmes noted that because all agencies have reviewed the Amendment, this is a no cost amendment and the Service Agreement and other Project agreements are not ready to be signed, she agrees with Directors Sethy and Tognolini that there is no reason to delay. Vice Chair Hansen concurred and noted she is not inclined to defer the approval.

Vice Chair Hansen called for public comments in the room, on Zoom and from the Board. None were received.

Upon motion by Chair Ramirez Holmes, seconded by Director Ritchie, Resolution No. 5-24-01 was adopted by the following roll call vote:

- AYES:** Anthea Hansen, Vice Chair, San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority  
Paul Sathy, Treasurer, Alameda County Water District  
Michael Tognolini, Director, East Bay Municipal Utility District  
Steve Ritchie, Alternate Director, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission  
Richard Santos, Alternate Director, Santa Clara Valley Water District  
Angela Ramirez Holmes, Chair, Zone 7 Water Agency
- NOES:** None
- ABSENT:** None
- ABSTAIN:** Antonio Martinez, Director, Contra Costa Water District

The motion passed with a 6-0-1 vote, with Director Martinez abstaining.

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **3.1 Draft Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Budget Book**

Executive Director Taryn Ravazzini provided an introduction on the current status of the Budget for the 2025 Fiscal Year. She stated the draft FY25 Budget Book was presented to the Finance Committee at its April 25, 2024 meeting. Jacqueline Harris, Program Controls Manager, then presented the draft FY25 Budget Book to the Board. Ms. Harris reviewed the Authority's accomplishments in Fiscal Year 2024 and milestones for Fiscal Year 2025. She then reviewed sources and uses of funds that total \$11,773,000. She noted the source of funds is carryover from unused FY 2024 funds and uses are divided among Authority services, CCWD Labor, CCWD Services and contingency. She further noted construction is not anticipated to start until Fiscal Year 2026. She stated the final FY 2025 Budget Book will be brought to the Board for approval on June 12.

Vice Chair Hansen called for questions from the Board and public comments in the room, on Zoom and from the Board. None were received.

### **3.2 Program Management Update**

- **Budget & Schedule**
- **Agreements**
- **Design & Permitting**

Executive Director Ravazzini provided an overview of the Authority's April accomplishments. She advised she has received confirmation from the Bureau of Reclamation that the Basis of Negotiations ("BON") has been routed to the Bureau's Denver and Washington, D.C. offices. Responding to Vice Chair Hansen's question regarding timing, Executive Director Ravazzini stated she was given an estimate of approximately six weeks before the BON will be approved. Once the BON is approved through issuance of an approval memo from the Bureau's Commissioner, negotiations with the Bureau will commence.

Chuck Gardner, Program Manager, reviewed the status of Authority contract authorizations, budget, schedule, cash flow, and status of agreements. With respect to the contract authorizations, Clean Energy Capital is now in conformance with its budgeted figures and Hallmark Group is now under budget. In response to Treasurer Sethy's question raised at the April 25 Finance Committee meeting, Mr. Gardner stated Clean Energy Capital's recent invoice included services related to the update to Pro Forma Model Version 6.0, as well as additional financial projection support to the Member agencies in connection with development of their respective business cases.

Mr. Gardner stated the projected FY 2024 savings has increased from \$4,566,000 to \$6,172,996 and the year-end cash flow is projected to be \$1,811,963. In reviewing the construction cost schedule, he stated the construction costs now include the estimated costs for the back-up power supply and water treatment plant, which are part of the CCWD Backstop Plan's required improvements. Mr. Gardner stated staff is working on a detailed cost update and CCWD is awaiting a response from its consultant on the estimated cost to develop that update.

With respect to the schedule, Mr. Gardner stated the Project agreements are adding an additional four months to the schedule. He stated the General Managers have expressed a desire to hold work on the CCWD Design and Construction Agreement until the CCWD Facilities Usage Agreement is negotiated. He stated the initial draft of the CCWD Facilities Usage Agreement is expected to be provided in the next week or two. He stated discussions are continuing on the EBMUD Facilities Usage Agreement. He stated a new source of delay is the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's ("CDFW") requirement for the Authority's Partnership Agreement with the Bureau of Reclamation to be completed before the Contract for Administration of Public Benefits ("CAPB") can be completed. That requirement has put the CAPB on the critical path and has added to the delay. Mr. Gardner stated the Authority will try to persuade CDFW to move away from that requirement.

On other updates, Mr. Gardner stated CCWD continues to work on its Backstop Plan and related agreements and has had meetings with various parties. The Authority has also received further comments and revisions from the Department of Water Resources on the Turn-In Agreement. With respect to the CCWD Facilities Usage Agreement, he reported the two main issues are maximizing Members' ability to use the CCWD facilities and the usage fees. He stated meetings are continuing with CDFW on the CAPB. He reported Authority staff has met with CCWD staff on the land acquisition issues for the Transfer-Bethany Pipeline and have discussed right-of-way and conservation easement issues. The estimated cost of the necessary land acquisitions is \$57 million, which has been included in the construction cost estimate. Mr. Gardner then reviewed next steps, including further discussions on the Transfer-Bethany Pipeline land acquisition issues, schedule management and accomplishing near-term milestones and further develop Members' business cases.

Alternate Director Ritchie stated he did think it was likely that CDFW would back away from their Bureau of Reclamation agreement requirement. He also stated that at this point, Members should be driving to obtain more specific information, instead of generalities. Lastly, he stated the Transfer-Bethany Pipeline land acquisitions may take longer than anticipated.

Director Martinez asked whether Members could use the CCWD Facilities Usage fees previously provided to develop their business cases. Mr. Gardner responded those fees need to be finalized through negotiations before they can be used for the business cases.

Director Tognolini had a comment on the “Unresolved Issues” slide: the CCWD Facilities Usage Agreement should address a minimum level of assurance of Member usage of facilities and not just maximizing usage. He also asked whether the \$33 million in additional cost for the CCWD Backstop Program were for temporary improvements or permanent system improvements and upgrades to the CCWD system that will last beyond the completion of the Project. Mr. Gardner replied those costs remain under discussion with respect to any residual benefits that may accrue to CCWD. Alternate Director Ritchie noted it is important to avoid the use of the word “guarantee” and “assurance” is a better word to use.

Vice Chair Hansen asked when the cost proposal from CCWD’s consultant is expected for the detailed cost update. Mr. Gardner advised he should have more information next month. With respect to the construction schedule summary and Transfer-Bethany Pipeline land acquisition, Vice Chair Hansen stated her concern that the delay in the land acquisition process will delay completion of the Transfer-Bethany Pipeline, which will reduce opportunities for mutually beneficial arrangements for all parties for water transfers during the reservoir draw down period. She highly encouraged getting the Transfer-Bethany Pipeline work scheduled sooner so that pipeline can be used during the drawdown. Mr. Gardner advised the Program Management team will look further into the construction schedule and he will bring this back next month.

Vice Chair Hansen called for public comments in the room, on Zoom and from the Board. None were received.

## **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

None.

## **REPORTS**

### **4.1 Directors**

The Authority’s CCWD Facilities Use Agreement Ad Hoc Committee convened on April 25, 2024 and a verbal update was provided by Committee Chair Jonathan Wunderlich. He stated further action from the Committee will be deferred until after the draft Facilities Usage Agreement is received from CCWD.

Alternate Director Ritchie advised he expects the MPA Amendment No. 6 will be taken to the SFPUC Board on May 28 for consideration. Chair Ramirez Holmes advised that due to the vacancy created by Director Eisenberg’s departure from the Board and resulting vacancy on the Finance Committee, she has appointed Director Varela to the Finance Committee.

Vice Chair Hansen announced this was Chair Ramirez Holmes’ last meeting. Vice Chair Hansen acknowledged Chair Ramirez Holmes’ passion for the Project and her strong leadership. She stated she has learned a lot from Chair Ramirez Holmes, and she hopes that Chair Ramirez Holmes will return for various ceremonies, groundbreaking and celebrations.

Vice Chair Hansen called for public comments in the room, on Zoom and from the Board. None were received.

## **4.2 Executive Director**

### **4.2.1 Federal Relations Report**

#### **4.2.2 April 2024 Engagement Activities with Reclamation**

Executive Director Ravazzini stated monthly Executive Management Team meetings continue with CCWD to coordinate work on various agreements and related matters. She stated weekly meetings with CDFW on the CAPB are scheduled and the Authority is working on responses to technical questions CDFW has raised. She hopes to receive a revised contract in the coming weeks.

She stated the draft FY 2023 audit report was brought to the Finance Committee at its April 25 meeting. Several issues were raised, and staff is working on responses and revisions. The revised audit report will be brought to the Finance Committee at its May 23 meeting and to the Board at its June 12 meeting.

She attended the recent ACWA Region 5 meeting, at which Directors Martinez and Varela were present. She will be attending the Region 5 meeting on May 8 at the ACWA Spring Conference. She distributed a copy of a letter from eight members of California's congressional delegation to the Bureau of Reclamation requesting WIIN Act funding to be included in upcoming appropriations. Lastly, she mentioned CCWD has posted the Special Projects Manager position formerly held by Maureen Martin and that posting is included in the meeting materials.

Vice Chair Hansen called for public comments in the room, on Zoom and from the Board. None were received.

## **4.3 General Counsel**

General Counsel Ciampa thanked Chair Ramirez Holmes for her service to the Authority and all of her hard work on behalf of the Authority.

Executive Director Ravazzini thanked Chair Ramirez Holmes on behalf of herself and the Authority's team for the time she has devoted to the Authority. Executive Director Ravazzini said it has been a pleasure to work with Chair Ramirez Holmes and her leadership has been greatly appreciated. Executive Director Ravazzini wished Chair Ramirez Holmes the best as she moved into this next stage of her life.

Chair Angela Ramirez Holmes said she appreciated the kind comments and that this is her last Board meeting.

## **4.4 Committee Meeting Summaries**

The Finance Committee Meeting was held on April 25, 2024 and the summary was still in development at the time of this posting. The summary will be provided in the June 2024 Board packet. Other Authority Committee meetings were canceled in the month of April.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:32 a.m.

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*Anthea G. Hansen*  
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Anthea G. Hansen, Vice Chair

**ATTEST:**

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*Taryn Ravazzini*  
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Taryn Ravazzini, Executive Director