

CV-SALTS Executive Committee Meeting Notes

Friday, March 8, 2013 – 10:00 to 11:30 AM

TELECONFERENCE ONLY

Attendees are listed on the Membership Roster

AGENDA

- 1) Welcome/Introductions – Consent Calendar
 - The meeting was brought to order by chair Parry Klassen.
 - a) Roll call was completed.
 - b) Debbie Webster moved to approve, and David Cory seconded, and by general acclamation the February 8th meeting action notes were approved.
- 2) Nomination and Election of Chair and Vice Chair
 - Mike Nordstrom moved, and Karna Harrigfeld and by general acclamation Parry Klassen and Jeff Willett were nominated and approved as Committee Chair, and Vice Chair, for a term of two years.
- 3) Tulare Lake Bed Project Charter
 - Jeanne Chilcott provided the committee with background and status on the Tulare Lake Bed Project Charter.
 - After discussion David Cory moved, and Roger Reynolds seconded and by general acclamation the committee approved the Charter, with Mike Nordstrom and Jeanne Chilcott abstaining.
- 4) MUN POTW Archetype
 - Jeanne Chilcott presented the committee with an updated draft work plan.
 - The proposed update to the work plan would require an estimated \$100,000 in additional funding for a second phase of spot checks for the template in the San Joaquin and Tulare basins. This would bring the total estimated cost for the Task 7 environmental review to \$300,000. The phase 2 check was developed in response to concern from government and regulatory agencies regarding the applicability of a Sacramento Valley only archetype/template for the San Joaquin River or Tulare Lake Basins.
 - A lengthy discussion was held regarding the need to develop an archetype for an equitable cost-sharing process.
 - Parry Klassen requested Daniel Cozad develop a summary sheet of issues and costs for the proposed cost sharing for committee members to share with the various stakeholder boards.
 - Daniel Cozad will set up a series of conference calls to discuss the specific MUN POTW funding approach, and the development of the cost-sharing archetype. Both items will be returned to the committee for discussion/approval on the April 5th Admin call.
- 5) LSJR Committee Manager and Technical Consulting Services
 - Jeanne Chilcott briefed the committee on the status of the LSJR contracting activities.
 - After discussion Jeff Willett moved, and Ernie Taylor seconded, and by general acclamation the committee approved the Lower San Joaquin River Selection committee recommendation to enter into a contract with Michael Johnson to serve as Long-Term Committee Manager in an amount not to exceed \$278,700.
 - The LSJR Committee has received proposals from CDM-Smith and Larry Walker Associates for the technical consulting services contract. The Selection Committee

has tentatively set up interviews on March 18th, with a final decision anticipated by March 22nd.

6) Agricultural Zone Mapping Phase 2 Scope Funding and Status

- Daniel Cozad updated the committee on the status of the two-phase funding for the project. The first phase is proceeding as planned and no additional funds are needed for that phase.
 - Richard Meyerhoff and John Dickey are in the process of drafting additional clarification for the phase 2 approach to be reviewed at the next TAC meeting. This item will also be reviewed again by the Executive Committee on the April 5th call.
- Jeanne Chilcott stressed how critical it was to ensure adequate funding was set aside for environmental review.
 - Further discussion was held regarding CEQA scheduling and funding of all CV-SALTS projects, and the most cost effective way to move forward. Richard Meyerhoff is reviewing the scheduling of all projects and will provide that information to the committee.

7) CV-SALTS Website Feature Review

- Daniel Cozad provided the committee with an overview of the new features in the newly designed www.cvsalinity.org website. Committee members were asked to forward any thoughts, comments or suggestions on the new site to Daniel.

8) Other CV-SALTS Project/Contract Updates

- Daniel Cozad provided the update on items a) through d). It was requested that the Word version of the update be included in the notes. See below

**Executive Committee Talking Points, Agenda Item #8
(presented by Daniel Cozad)**

1. ICM Project

- Task 8 Report -
 - Project team continues efforts to prepare Task 8 Report (water/salt/nitrate balances by IAZ, and project report).
 - Following resolution of methodology regarding interaction between CVHM and WARMF Models (through so-called Task 5 Report Addendum; PC interaction – as was discussed last month), project team has identified some new post-processing/data analysis issues needing resolution that are causing the team to again pause in their report development efforts.
 - Considering convening another “Modelers Meeting” (with Nigel Quinn, Thomas Harter and Randy Hanson) as was done early in the project to discuss highly technical modeling issues.
 - If this meeting is called (team still deciding), then we may need to again delay report preparation/distribution to Project Committee (PC) to allow time to incorporate modeler recommendations. Current plan is to have draft to PC by April 1; but this may need reevaluation. Goal is to ensure that any technical issues are addressed before draft hits the streets.
- Task 7 Report
 - In the last few weeks LWA Team initiated work on Task 7 – detailed analysis of two subareas (Kings River and Merced/Stanislaus).

- Workplan included scope to use other models to support ICM analysis for these areas:
 - Merced/Stanislaus – Regional USGS Model
 - Kings River – Kings River Conservation District’s Integrated Surface Groundwater Model
- Efforts to obtain both models have run into roadblocks that may require additional funds to resolve. The extent of issue is still under investigation. We are waiting on email from Karen Ashby to describe specific problems, e.g., who is asking for money, why they need the money, and how much. My current understanding is that we may be looking at \$10-\$15K total to resolve. If we deem it appropriate to proceed down this path and expend the resources, I will probably propose the funds be drawn from the Phase 2 budget as the prototype work has always been more what was envisioned for Phase 2. Since additional funds request will require Exec. Comm. action waiting until April for authorization may become an issue from schedule standpoint.

2. GIS Services

- Task 3

- Jeanne reviewed the “final” Task 3 Report and identified some questions regarding how Basin Plan beneficial uses were being portrayed in the updated GIS for select waterbody listings, primarily in the Tulare Lake Basin Plan (e.g., eastside streams).
- Team had a conference call with Jeanne to resolve questions; will result in updated GIS layers and revised Task 3 Report to reflect the decisions made.
- Jeanne set up teleconference with her team, LWA Team, and State Board staff working on an initiative to develop statewide GIS layers for beneficial uses, WQOs, etc. (very similar to what is being done per CV-SALTS). Overlap in efforts identified, but schedules for completion differ. Also state’s effort is far more complex given variation in Basin Plans across regions. However, Likely State Board efforts will provide mechanism for long term maintenance of GIS layers for Central Valley that suit the purposes of CV-SALTS. Coordination will continue.

- Task 4 - Development of additional GIS layers is ongoing; one final data request still outstanding – obtaining access to secure GAMA municipal well database. Jeanne is assisting with this data request.

3. Ag Zone Workplan

- Phase 1 is contracted and being initiated by LWA Team.
- Efforts to find funding for Phase 2 continue.

4. Aquatic Life Study

- Dr. David Buchwalter presented draft findings from directed literature review (Task 1) to TAC on February 22. Very good discussion occurred.
- TAC recommended that typical salinity profile of some Central Valley waters be developed to help put eventual study findings into context (since the effects of specific ions can be important). Michael Johnson and Nigel Quinn are assisting with this.

- Meanwhile Dr. Buchwalter is moving ahead with next steps of the study (e.g., review other published literature sources, international standards, etc.)
5. Stock Watering
 - Final review of final report almost complete by Meyerhoff. He will have final report for distribution at next TAC meeting (March 27).
 6. Tulare Lake MUN
 - TLDD continues to work with Ken Schmidt on draft report of technical findings – expected the week of March 18.
 - Schmidt’s findings will be presented at the March 27 TAC face to face meeting (this will be at SAC Regional if anyone asks). Ken Schmidt, Mike Nordstrom and TLDD will be coming to Sacramento to present their findings.
 - LWA Team, selected to lead the CEQA elements of the Workplan, has submitted final scope, budget, schedule for review (budget is 100K).
- e) SSALTS – Roger Reynolds updated the committee. CDM-Smith is moving forward with characterization of the 10 different study areas, with a conference call this week to review. Roger is reviewing 2 draft study areas and providing comments. A DRAFT TECH MEMO will be sent to the TAC prior to the March 27th meeting.
- 9) Set next meeting objectives and date – March 28th Policy Session, April 5th Admin Call

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