

**MEETING NOTES
CV SALTS
Executive Committee Meeting
February 18, 2009**

Attendees: See attached Sign-in Sheet and List of Phone Participants

1. Welcome and Introductions

Dr. Longley called the meeting to order and welcomed meeting participants. Participants introduced themselves. Dr. Longley noted that Pamela Creedon had to leave the meeting for an important call at 2:00 p.m. and asked Pamela to indicate if there were any agenda items she would like to cover first.

2. Progress Evaluation Criteria and CVSC Funding Status

Ms. Creedon reported that the proposal to provide funding for CV SALTS from the State Cleanup and Abatement Account (CAA) is scheduled for consideration by the State Water Board at its March 17, 2009 meeting. She indicated that the proposal is for funding over three years, with \$1.2 million for the first year. The item is expected to be on the uncontested calendar but it is still important for Committee members to be there to express support.

Ron Neenan stated that the food processors have a meeting with State Water Board Chair Tam Doduc scheduled and that they will express their support for the funding to her. Support letters are also helpful, and should make clear that the commenter does not wish to have the item moved from consent.

Daniel Cozad reported on the status of compliance with the progress evaluation criteria and presented a list of accomplishments for the program so far.

3. Approval of Meeting Notes

It was moved by Rob Neenan and seconded by Nigel Quinn to approve the meeting notes from the January 13, 2009 Executive Committee meeting and the February 2, 2009 Executive Committee conference call. The motion passed.

4. Standing Rules on Committee Membership/Chairs Nominations

Dr. Longley noted that the Committee needs to establish a Nominating Committee to select Executive Committee Co-Chairs. It is important that whomever is selected has the respect of all stakeholder sectors and be willing and able to assume a leadership role.

A Nominating Committee was appointed as follows: Gary Carlton (Chair), David Cory, Mark Felton, Bobbi Larson and Rob Neenan.

Daniel provided an overview of the Standing Rules (Version 4). He also noted that he would make several clarifying changes and the revised version would be sent out with the meeting notes.

5. Discuss/Approve Committee Nominations PEOC/TAC

The following committee chairs were approved by consensus:

Public Education and Outreach: Co-Chairs Rosa Lau Staggs and Dave Minelli.
Economic and Social Impact: Co-Chairs Linda Dorn and (Vacant)
Technical Advisory: Co-Chairs Nigel Quinn and (Vacant)

6. Santa Ana Model Scope, Cost and Schedule Presentation

Andy Malone from Wildermuth Engineering provided an overview of the Task Force process used to develop the Santa Ana Basin Plan amendment. He summarized the workplan development, technical and data collection process and he development of management tools, models and studies. He indicated that the consultants reported back to the Task Force on at least a monthly basis. The cost for the technical work was between \$3.5 and \$5 million. Mr. Malone noted that the back end savings due to the consensus reached made up for the up front costs and time.

Dr. Longley commented that the Central Valley effort will be more complex and costly because of the need to amend two Basin Plans and the Bay-Delta Plan. Another difference is that the Santa Ana groundwater basin has been adjudicated, in contrast to the Central Valley. Most of the cost of the Santa Ana plan was paid for by the POTWs, which faced \$6 billion in costs to comply with the existing Basin Plan objectives. Funding the solution was cheaper than the cost of compliance. In addition, the project received federal grants which were advocated by a broad group of stakeholders.

The Committee discussed having a follow up workshop on the Santa Ana model and potentially incorporate some information from the Central Valley Drinking Water Objectives effort. It was agreed that the Committee will review the proposed workshop outline at the March meeting and plan to hold the workshop in May.

7. Workplan Outline Status

Daniel Cozad indicated that the Committee needs to reach closure on the outline, which is now Version 8, and begin scoping the elements. He requested any additional information ASAP.

8. Program Goals Discussion

The Committee conducted a brainstorming session on program goals. The following ideas were contributed by Committee members:

- Develop a Basin Plan Amendment for salinity management
- Sustainability of the Central Valley for water use
- Regulatory certainty
- Achievable solutions
- Holistic coordinated solutions
- Decisions based on best available science
- Common set of decision tools and frameworks
- Salt balance
- Identification of uses being protected
- Generate a viable engineering solution
- Address/balance competing TMDLs/beneficial uses
- Coordination with other regional efforts (e.g. Bay Delta)

9. Actions and Recommendations from the Economic and Social Impact Committee and the Technical Advisory Committee

Economic and Social Impact Committee and the Technical Advisory Committee: Chair Nigel Quinn reported that the committees received a presentation from Wildermuth Engineering regarding the technical aspects of the Santa Ana Basin Plan effort. He asked Gail Cismowski to report on a CDFA grant opportunity. Gail reported that CDFA has grants available, funded by a mill tax. Proposals are due within two weeks. Nigel noted that a representative of CDFA will be invited to attend the next TAC meeting.

Public Outreach and Education Committee:

Daniel Cozad reported on behalf of Co-Chair Rosa Lau-Staggs that the Committee is working on a Speakers Bureau. In addition, there are plans to compile a library of power point presentations on the CVSC website. Version 3 of the Fact Sheet is complete. A white paper on the impacts of salinity will be prepared once the UC Davis economic study is complete, which is expected to be March 2.

10. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be March 18 at 1:30 p.m., at a location to be determined.

11. **Additional Items**

Mark Gowdy reported that a Notice of Preparation for the State Water Board review of the Bay delta Plan has been released. It was agreed that the CVSC should prepare comments on the CV SALTS effort and request the opportunity to be an active participant in the Bay Delta Plan revision process. The Coalition should also plan to present testimony at the March 30, 2009 public workshop on development of scoping of the salt and boron objectives upstream of Vernalis.

12. **Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.