

CV-SALTS Executive Committee Meeting Notes

Friday, March 9, 2012 – 10:00 AM to 12:30 PM

Teleconference Only

POSTED ON 03.16.12

Attendees are listed on the Membership Roster

AGENDA

1) Welcome/Introductions – Consent Calendar

- The meeting was brought to order by Chair, Parry Klassen.
- a. Dennis Westcot moved to approve, and David Cory seconded, and by general acclamation the February 10, 2012 meeting action notes were approved.
- b. Roll call was completed.
- c. Jeanne Chilcott requested the following changes to the Workplan:
 - Page 8-add an item “D” for “Monitoring and Evaluation”
 - Page 22-remove March 2012 as completion date for MUN project
- David Cory moved to approve, and Nigel Quinn seconded, and by general acclamation the 5 Year Workplan was approved with changes as noted above.
- Debbie Webster moved to approve, and Nigel Quinn seconded, and by general acclamation the Conceptual Model was approved, with edits recommended by the Technical Advisory Committee at the March 8th meeting.
- d. Daniel Cozad reviewed the 2011 Milestones. Two items will be carried forward to the 2012 Milestones:
 1. “Develop a process for coordinating with RWMG planning and implementation projects with a nexus with salt or nutrient management, and other ongoing efforts on salinity management.”
 2. “Identify administrative and technical program needs that could be met through in-kind services rather than financial contributions.”

2) Lower San Joaquin River Committee

- Dennis Westcot reviewed the current status for committee members:
 - Richard Meyerhoff reviewed the workplan and provided the LSJR Committee with an estimate of \$900,000.00 to complete the work. The concept of a “committee manager” was also discussed, and Richard is also going to put together cost estimates for that position.
 - Per Jeanne Chilcott, since the \$900,000 exceeds the \$750,000 in available funds, Dennis, Jeanne and Jim Martin will meet next week to work on proposed cost adjustments to bring the project in line with the funds available.
 - The next meeting of the LSJR Committee will be March 22nd.

3) Mgt. Practice Subcomm – Effective Management Practice Evaluation

- Parry Klassen reviewed the recent issues discussed in the March 22nd meeting of the subcommittee:
 - Paul Martin reviewed the BMP submitted by Dairy for minimizing salt fed to dairy cattle. Paul is following up on a few questions from subcommittee members and will report back at the next subcommittee meeting.
 - Jeanne Chilcott requested the subcommittee begin to focus on the proposed future uses of the BMPs and the location and format of the toolbox. Parry indicated these will be future focus items for the subcommittee.
 - The next BMP subcommittee meeting is scheduled for March 28th at 8:45.

4) CV-SALTS Future Contracting Approach and Changes

- Daniel Cozad presented the Contracting Approach and the following actions were taken:
 - Debbie Webster moved to approve, and David Cory seconded and by general acclamation the following two items were approved:
 - Revise the TPM Scope of Work (SOW) based upon the new work plan and prepare documents to initiate a new Request for Qualifications (RFQ).
 - In order to allow for the new RFQ under the new SOW, terminate the existing TPM contract with EKI.
 - Dennis Westcot moved to approve, and Karna Harrigfeld seconded, and by general acclamation the following item was approved:
 - Authorize the SJVDA to initiate a new RFQ to fill the revised TPM role and complete identified technical work needed to support CV-SALTS.
 - Parry Klassen moved to approve, and David Cory seconded, and by general acclamation the following item was approved, with one abstention:
 - Under the existing scope of Basin Planning Support provided by CDM-Smith direct consultant to include work needed to support basin planning shown below:
 - Focused review of the LSJR work plan;
 - Focused review of the MUN Surface Water Archetype work plan;
 - Basin planning support for the Tulare Groundwater archetype
 - Basin planning support for the LSJR as requested by the LSJRC
 - Prepare scope of work for Initial Conceptual Model
 - Support for Animal Watering Study
 - Amend the existing budget to a total maximum of approximately \$85,000 for this work and work to date through Thru August 2012.
 - Parry Klassen moved to approve, and David Cory seconded, and by general acclamation, committee members approved the following two items, with one abstention:
 - Develop a Phase II basin planning support scope and budget to cover tasks between August 2012 and March 2014 for Review and approval the Executive Committee in May 2012.
 - Authorize the SJVDA to execute a contract with CDM Smith for the SSALTS/Initial Implementation Planning project. Direct consultant work only on Task 1: Preparation of SSALTS/Initial Implementation Planning scope, work plan, budget, schedule and expenditure plan for the rest of the project. Task 1 will not exceed \$25,000. The workplan and supporting documents will be approved by the Executive Committee prior to the rest of the contract beginning.
 - David Cory moved to approve, and Nigel Quinn seconded and by general acclamation the following item was approved:
 - After development of the Scope prepare a request for proposal for the Initial Conceptual Model/Technical Framework and related work. Authorize the SJVDA to request proposals from qualified firms who submitted SOQ information under the 2011 TPM RFQ. If no consultant is selected, the Committee may work with the SJVDA to request proposals from any qualified firm submitting under the new TPM RFQ.
- Dennis Westcot expressed concerns with Lower San Joaquin River Committee issues not being carried forward by the Executive Committee. After a discussion on the Lower San Joaquin River Committee issues, and needed actions, Jeanne Chilcott moved that it is appropriate for CV-SALTS to use some of the available funding to staff and support the LSJR

Committee, Karna Harrigfeld seconded, and by general acclamation the motion was passed.

5) Groundwater Quality Protection Strategy Workplan Update

- Pam Buford briefed the committee on the presentation that has been prepared for presentation to the Board in June. The slide presentation will be distributed to committee members. Anyone with feedback or comments should email them to Pam no later than April 16th.

6) Fresno Regional Board Meeting, June 12, and Groundwater Resources/CV-SALTS Co-Sponsored Conference June 13-14

- NOTE: The following information has been provided by Jeanne Chilcott:
- Fresno Central Valley Water Board Workshop (June 12th) and Groundwater Resources Association Nitrate and Salinity Conference (In Fresno on June 13th and 14th).
 - The Water Board workshop will be a half-day event starting at 1 pm at the Central Valley Water Board Fresno Office. The goals of the workshop are to provide the Board background on the CV-Salts initiative, discuss the current strategy and framework, request feedback on the updated workplan, and highlight some of the accomplishments to date and current projects. A small group of stakeholders (Jeannie, Pam, Daniel, Tim, Debbie, Parry, David and Joe) will be meeting during April to structure the workshop, draft strawman presentations, and identify topics and speakers. Please contact Jeannie if you would like to participate in the group and/or have ideas for presentations.
 - The GRA conference will last for two days and focus on actions to address nitrate and salinity issues. The conference will be at the Radisson in Fresno. The 13th will focus on nitrate and the 14th on salinity. The goal is to provide information on implementation actions that are either occurring and/or show promise. Daniel will be contacting CV-Salts stakeholders as potential speakers on selected topics. There is a charge to attend, but the fee will be waived for speakers. A copy of the draft agenda will be provided when available.

7) Subgroup Evaluating MUN Archetypes and CV Work Plan

- NOTE: The following information has been provided by Jeanne Chilcott:
- The effort has been moving forward with development of a draft monitoring plan and initial meetings/surveys with POTW and local water agency staff to develop background information. The draft monitoring plan was reviewed by the Technical Committee on March 8th. A summary of comments/recommendations follow.
 - 1) In general, approved the approach to monitoring
 - Right questions;
 - Start now so don't lose seasonal data in case needed;
 - Have reviews every 3-month to adjust based on findings, surveys, and historic data compilation;
 - More is better than less during first 3-months;
 - Spend March continuing to meet w/POTWs and districts to gather background data on area hydrology, management, and construction information and to reconn. sites.
 - 2) Approve initiating efforts on developing a "decision tree"--in part to determine if/when/what monitoring is needed
 - Concern that work developed in the Sac Valley may not reflect San Joaquin and Tulare, so need representatives of southern regions.

- 3) Recommended less focus on flow measurements
 - Cost to accurately measure "sustained yield of 200 gpd" not worth the data obtained
 - Better to utilize photo documentation, some instantaneous velocity measurements, and information on water management from districts;
 - **Direct policy issue of appropriate flow exceptions for surface water to Executive Committee
 - **Current exception guidance in Basin Plan is based on Ground water exception language and inappropriate for Surface Water
- 4) Recommend specific policy discussions to the Executive Committee
 - Definition of "sustained yield" for surface water
 - comparison of DPH recommendation vs. Drinking Water Policy
 - Determining "baseline" or "background" for highly modified systems
 - Determine how much "weight" local grower opinions should have in the decision process since they are the ones utilizing the water.
- 8) Gaining CV-SALTS input on Regional Board ongoing issues
 - Jeanne Chilcott recommended that the committee take steps to proactively coordinate the meeting activities of the Executive and Technical Advisory Committees, with priority issues scheduled to come before the Board.
Jeanne suggested establishing a small subgroup to work on linking priority actions of the various working groups.
- 9) CV-SALTS Research or Proposal Approval Process
 - This item was discussed only briefly. Daniel Cozad will develop a process for inclusion in the next Administrative agenda.
 - Parry Klassen requested a letter of support from the committee for the CARES proposal on a literature search for the best technical approach for measuring nitrates past the root zone. Debbie Webster moved to approve, and Nigel Quinn seconded, and by general acclamation the committee authorized Daniel Cozad to forward a letter of support for this proposal.
- 10) CV-SALTS Public Education & Outreach Subcommittee
 - Joe DiGiorgio was not in attendance. This item is carried forward to the April 6th call.
- 11) Nitrate Report from Harter
 - Parry Klassen has been working with agriculture developing talking points, and Daniel Cozad has similarly been preparing talking points for CV-SALTS.
 - J.P. Cativiela will provide a link for committee members to the December Harter presentation.
- 12) Set next meeting objectives and date – April 6th Admin Call, April 5th Policy Session
 - Daniel Cozad reviewed the first Draft of the 2012 Schedule of Policy Discussions. Any members with feedback should email to Daniel so the draft can be revised prior to the April 5th Policy Session.