



**SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL
AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
ZONE 3 ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Final MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY September 17, 2020**

- I. **Call to Order and Roll Call** -- The Zone 3 Advisory Committee Meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM via GoTo Meeting due to the Covid-19 pandemic by Chair person, Karen Bright.

County Public Works Utilities Division Senior Engineer and Secretary to the Advisory Committee, Jill Ogren, called roll. Quorum was present. Members in attendance were:

- Kristen Barneich, City of Arroyo Grande
- Karen Bright, City of Grover Beach
- Marcia Guthrie, City of Pismo Beach
- Shirley Gibson, Oceano CSD
- Brad Hagemann, County Services Area 12
- Brian Talley, Agriculture Member

- II. **Public Comment** – No public comment was given.

III. **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

A. July 16, 2020 Regular Meeting and Special Meeting August 27th – Member Talley motioned approval of the minutes and Member Gibson seconded. Member Bright requested roll call for approval. ***Motion passed.***

IV. **Operations Report**

A. Water Plant Operations, Reservoir Storage, Downstream Releases – Jenny Williamson, Administrative Assistant at the Lopez Water Treatment Plant, indicated: Lopez Lake elevation was 484.84 feet; storage was 22,150 acre-feet (AF), which is 45% capacity; rainfall to date, since July 1, 2020, was 0.06 inches; plant production was 4.85 million gallons per day (MGD); downstream release was 2.2 MGD; and State Water was 0.70 MGD.

B. Projected Reservoir Levels – Review of the Lopez Reservoir Projections Chart (Attachment 2 of the Agenda Packet). The yellow line shows anticipated storage if no further rain is received. Long-range predictions show rain is expected in the coming months.

C. July and August Monthly Operations Report – Review of the monthly operations reports with the committee (Attachment 3 of the Agenda Packet).

No public comment was given.

V. **Information Items**

A. Cloudseeding Final Report – The District’s Cloud seeding consultant, Garrett Cammans of North American Weather Consultants, presented a PowerPoint presentation on the 19/20 cloud seeding season.

No public comment was given.

B. 4th Quarter Budget Status – County Public Works Zone 3 Accountant, Kristi Smith, provided an update on the 4th Quarter Budget Status (Attachment 4 of the Agenda Packet). The \$5.8M budget was broken into three categories: Routine Operations & Maintenance, Non-Routine Operations & Maintenance, and Capital Outlay. At the end of the fiscal year, 70% of the total annual budget had been expended.

Total Budget	Expenses through Q4	Balance Available	% of Budget Expended
\$ 5,798,347.00	\$ 4,044,998.00	\$ 1,753,349.00	70%

Routine O&M had a budget of \$3.9M. At the end of the fiscal year, expenses were 96% of the annual budget, resulting in a savings of \$163,909.

Total Budget	Expenses through Q4	Balance Available	% of Budget Expended
\$ 3,894,400.00	\$ 3,736,634.00	\$ 163,909.00	96%

Non-Routine O&M had a budget of \$872,073. At the end of the fiscal year, expenses were 30% off the annual budget. The remaining budget is comprised of approximately \$597,000 that will be carried forward into FY 2020-21 for continued work and a savings of approximately \$10,000 that will be credited back to the agencies during the 2019-20 true-up. The bulk of the budget being carried forward is for the Lopez Water Rights/Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) efforts and the Cloud Seeding Program.

Total Budget	Expenses through Q4	Balance Available	% of Budget Expended
\$ 872,073.00	\$ 264,681.00	\$ 607,392.00	30%
Estimated Carryforward:		\$ 597,376.00	
Estimated Savings:		\$ 10,016.00	

Capital Outlay had a budget of just over \$1M. At the end of the fiscal year, expenses were 4% of the annual budget. Most of the unspent budget will be carried forward into FY 2020-21 to continue the projects through to completion. Approximately \$69,000 in unspent budget will be credited back to the agencies.

Total Budget	Expenses through Q4	Balance Available	% of Budget Expended
\$ 1,031,874.00	\$ 43,683.00	\$ 988,191.00	4%
Estimated Carryforward:		\$ 918,849.00	
Estimated Savings:		\$ 69,342.00	

All agencies are current on their payments. The estimated credits for FY 2019-20 total \$243,267, which will be allocated to the agencies and mailed along with the 2nd installment of the FY 2020-21 billings that are due January 1, 2021.

No public comment was given.

VI. Capital Projects Update

B. Bi-Monthly Update – Updates provided on capital projects (Attachment 5 of the Agenda Packet), there were no notable changes since July’s Advisory Committee meeting.

No Public comment was given.

VII. Action Items (No Subsequent Board of Supervisors Action Required)

No Action Items discussed.

VIII. Action Items (Board of Supervisors Action is Subsequently Required)

A. Water Supply Contract Changes – CEQA – Dan Heimel presented a PowerPoint presentation on the water supply contract changes (Attachment 6 of the Agenda Packet). Since July, Zone 3 TAC subcommittee had reviewed the draft amended and restated contract which includes the needed changes to incorporate storage provisions for the individual contractors as well as reviewing and commenting on the proposed CEQA Project Description. Legal Counsels from several of the Zone 3 Contractors have also reviewed the draft amended and restated contract.

The specific contract language edits were provided to the Zone 3 TAC and District Legal Counsel and Environmental for review. Based on the proposed contract changes, the County Environmental team prepared a draft Project Description (Attachment 2 of the Agenda Packet) for the contract changes for the purposes of initiating the CEQA process. It is requested that the Committee recommend to formally initiate the CEQA process based on the project description, which will include District Environmental Staff publicly releasing the Notice of Preparation and Project Description to local, regional and statewide stakeholders and regulatory agencies and preparing the appropriate CEQA Document.

It is anticipated that the resource agencies and/or regulatory agencies may comment on the CEQA analysis for the contract change initiative regarding the status of the Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) and other ongoing regulatory compliance initiatives currently underway for the Lopez Project. The proposed strategy to addressing comments from these agencies is to outline the current status and workplan for the HCP.

If the Committee approves moving forward with the CEQA process, the anticipated next steps for Zone 3 are as follows:

CEQA Process:

1. Outreach to NMFS regarding the upcoming CEQA evaluation for the Contract Changes.
2. Release of the Notice of Preparation and Project Description.
3. Receive response/comments on Notice of Preparation.
4. Prepare and release draft Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND).
5. Respond to comments on Draft MND.
6. District Board of Supervisors certifies the MND.

Legal Review Process:

1. District legal counsel completes review of proposed specific contract language edits.
2. Zone 3 agency legal counsel reviews of proposed specific contract language edits.
3. Finalize language edits between District and Zone 3 Agencies.
4. Zone 3 contractor's Governing Boards approve the amended and restated Zone 3 Contracts.
5. District Board of Supervisors approve the amended and restate Sone 3 Contracts at same meeting that MND is certified.

IX. Future Agenda Items

A. Terminal Dam De-Commissioning

X. Committee Member Comments

Meeting Adjourned at 8:30 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Jenny Williamson
County of San Luis Obispo Public Works Department