

# GOVERNING BOARD



2800 Burrel Avenue, Visalia, California 93291  
[www.tularecounty.ca.gov](http://www.tularecounty.ca.gov)

## TULARE COUNTY

SUPERVISOR STEVE WORTHLEY,  
*President*  
SUPERVISOR KUYLER CROCKER,  
*Alternate*

## FRESNO COUNTY

SUPERVISOR BUDDY MENDES,  
*Vice President*  
SUPERVISOR BRIAN PACHECO,  
*Alternate*

## MADERA COUNTY

SUPERVISOR DAVID ROGERS,  
*Director*  
SUPERVISOR BRETT FRAZIER,  
*Alternate*

## MERCED COUNTY

SUPERVISOR JERRY O'BANION,  
*Director*  
SUPERVISOR LLOYD PAREIRA,  
*Alternate*

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SUPERVISOR DOUG VERBOON,  
*Director*  
SUPERVISOR CRAIG PEDERSEN,  
*Alternate*

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*Director*

### CITY OF ORANGE COVE

COUNCILMAN JOSE FLORES,  
*Alternate*  
CITY OF CLOVIS

## WESTERN CITIES

MAYOR ALVARO PRECIADO, *Director*  
CITY OF AVENAL

MAYOR RAY LEON, *Alternate*  
CITY OF HURON

## WESTERN WATER AGENCIES

STEVE CHEDESTER,  
*Director*

SAN JOAQUIN RIVER EXCHANGE  
CONTRACTORS WATER AUTHORITY

DAN POPE, *Alternate*  
WESTLANDS WATER DISTRICT

## TRIBAL MEMBERS

DAN CASAS,  
*Director*

ANGELA KARST, *Alternate*  
TABLE MOUNTAIN RANCHERIA

## MEMBER AT LARGE

COUNCILMAN ROBERT SILVA  
*Director*



## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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## REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS JULY 14, 2017

FRESNO IRRIGATION DISTRICT OFFICE  
2907 South Maple Avenue, Fresno

## MINUTES

### CALL TO ORDER

The regular monthly meeting of the San Joaquin Valley Water Infrastructure Authority (JPA) was called to order at 9:00 a.m. on July 14, 2017, by the Vice President, Buddy Mendes, presiding in the absence of President Steve Worthley.

### PRELIMINARY MATTERS

At the request of Vice President Mendes, Recording Secretary J. Randall McFarland called the roll of Board members. The following directors were present: Vice President Mendes, Directors Silva, O'Banion, Lopez, Chedester, Valle (*alternate for Verboon*), Crocker (*alternate for Worthley*) and Preciado (*arrived 9:04 a.m.*). Staff present: Executive Director Mario Santoyo. Others present (*from roll signatures*): Recording Secretary J. Randall McFarland; Megan Marks and Pao Xiong, office of the Fresno County Auditor-Controller; Jeff Aiello, 18Thirty Entertainment; Manuel Cunha Jr., Nisei Farmers League; Jeff Payne, Friant Water Authority; Sarge Green, California Water Institute (*CSU Fresno*); Jodi Raley, CCGGA-WAPA; Masood Mesbah, AECOM; Chris White, Central California Irrigation District (*Chairman, SJVWIA Technical Advisory Committee*); Nicholas Sinclair, Assembly Member Jim Patterson's staff; Stephen Spencer, AECOM; Fattaneh Behdani, AECOM; Lacey Kiriakou, Merced County; Sandra Garcia, Representative Jim Costa's staff; and Gloria Preciado..

The board and audience members joined in the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Vice President Mendes.

Vice President Mendes asked for consideration of the Minutes for the regular Board meeting held on June 9, 2017. The Minutes were corrected to note the attendance of Director Silva. Alternate Director Crocker moved, seconded by Director Silva, that the minutes be approved as corrected. The motion carried unanimously.



## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Vice President Mendes stated that at this time, members of the public could speak about any item of concern not appearing on the agenda, provided it was within the jurisdiction of the JPA. He said the total amount of time allocated for this public comment period would be determined by the Chair and each individual would be limited to three minutes. It was noted that matters presented during this public comment period may not be discussed or acted upon by the board at this time. There were no public comments.

## **FINANCIAL**

The Executive Director, Mario Santoyo, reported invoices should have received all member agencies, adding that receipts of payments from agencies were expected to begin arriving within 30 days.

Pao Xiong, office of the Fresno County Auditor-Controller which serves as the JPA Treasurer, reported the 2016-17 fiscal year ended a little under budget with figures due to be refined in the coming weeks. About \$74,000 in funding availability remains with total cash on hand as of June 30, 2017, after subtraction of \$36,906 in appropriations remaining as of June 30.

The matter of the Fresno Council of Governments' collection of shares of assessments from cities for the seat represented by the City of Orange Cove was discussed. The CIG has been billing and collecting directly from the other cities. Director Lopez said the system would be more efficient if the county would bill and collect directly. Vice President Mendes said he would ask the County Administrative Officer to contact the COG regarding the matter. Alternate Director Crocker said he would look into fiscal arrangements for cities in Tulare and Kings counties regarding the West Side cities seat represented by the City of Avenal.

The matter of Invoice No. 1222999 from Stantec for engineering services in the amount of \$84,179.25 was discussed. Upon motion of Director Chedester, seconded by Director O'Banion and carried unanimously, payment of the Stantec invoice was approved.

## **ORGANIZATIONAL**

Executive Director Santoyo reported on developments concerning the JPA's invitation to the Friant Water Authority (FWA) to become a JPA member, noting that a board seat has been reserved for the FWA since the JPA was organized. Over time, the FWA has been integrated into the JPA's Temperance Flat bond funding application process now under way with the California Water Commission. The FWA has been represented on the JPA's Technical Advisory Committee and also entered into a four-party agreement with the JPA, San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Water Authority and San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority in connection with the Temperance Flat process. A board-level meeting between representatives of the JPA and FWA was conducted recently and went well. In the wake of that meeting, the FWA Board of Directors assembled in special session and approved a resolution of interest in JPA board membership. That resolution was included upon the current JPA agenda as an action item. At 9 o'clock last night (July 13, 2017), additional stipulations and conditions for JPA membership were received from the FWA. (*Copies of the FWA's "Resolution No. 2017-05" and "Consideration of Membership in the San Joaquin Valley Water Infrastructure Authority" minute action are on file.*) Mr. Santoyo noted that the FWA conditioned its acceptance of the JPA invitation on reduction of FWA's initial membership contribution being reduced to \$20,000 "plus in-kind staff participation." Further conditions were that FWA would prepare a news release upon joining, and that all parties would be expected to concur that a



new joint powers authority or other entity would be formed by project investors to implement the project. Mr. Santoyo said these conditions were submitted too late to be addressed or included on the current JPA agenda but cautioned the FWA position appears to raise questions of equity and fairness for JPA members as well as questions related to credit for an agency's in-kind services. He suggested the burden of forming a new joint powers agency should be on the Temperance Flat Project investors.

Jeff Payne represented the FWA. He agreed the joint JPA-FWA session had been a good meeting and expressed hope a path forward could be found. Mr. Payne stated the FWA's intent had been to join its list of conditions to the resolution. Vice President Mendes suggested that the JPA board accept the resolution only on a provisional basis and that a joint JPA-FWA committee be assigned to resolve remaining issues. Director Chedester noted the importance of having the three major Central Valley Project joint powers authorities within the San Joaquin Valley represented on the bond funding application. He added, however, that several existing JPA member agencies had contributed considerable in-kind services without thought of reimbursement being requested. Director O'Banion agreed with the committee approach. Director Lopez said the issue is about fairness. Director Silva expressed discomfort with the "11<sup>th</sup> hour" submittal of conditions. Alternate Director Valle said the FWA should be at the table to work out a solution. Executive Director Santoyo noted the joint powers agreement stipulates a \$50,000 new member assessment. There was consensus the \$50,000 requirement would be retained.

Upon motion of Director O'Banion, seconded by Director Lopez and carried unanimously, the board gave acceptance to terms of FWA Resolution No. 2017-05, provided a JPA committee to be appointed by President Worthley can resolve outstanding issues with the FWA.

Regarding the invitation extended to the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority (SLDMWA) to become a JPA member, no action was deemed necessary at today's meeting. The SLDMWA is very interested and would like to meet to discuss details. Chris White, Chairman of the JPA Technical Advisory Committee and General Manager of the Central California Irrigation District, noted that the SLDMRA has contributed \$20,000 toward the Temperance Flat technical study and planning effort and has participated in the Technical Advisory Committee. Its support for the Water Storage Investment Program application as a member would be welcomed.

A letter from Table Mountain Rancheria regarding its JPA membership was presented by Executive Director Santoyo. In its letter, Table Mountain gave intent to withdraw from membership, stressing it has been very pleased with the JPA and had looked upon its payment of the \$50,000 assessment as a contribution to the community. Mr. Santoyo recommended no action be taken in order to permit a meeting to take place between JPA and Table Mountain representatives. Upon motion of Director O'Banion, seconded by Director Lopez and carried unanimously, action on the Table Mountain matter was deferred until the August board meeting.

Mr. Santoyo introduced Resolution No. 2017-1, authorizing JPA filing of an application for Proposition 1-state water bond funding under the Water Storage Investment Program of the State of California. Such a resolution is a requirement for the application to be filed with the California Water Commission. The staff recommendation was for approval of the resolution with authorization to edit the adopted resolution to reflect any changes in JPA membership that may occur prior to the August 14, 2017, filing deadline. Upon motion of Director Preciado, seconded by Director Lopez and carried unanimously, Resolution No. 2017-1 was adopted with authorization for the Executive Director to edit the resolution's text to reflect any changes in San Joaquin Valley Water Infrastructure Authority membership prior to the filing of an application for Water Storage Investment Program funding with the California Water Commission on or before August 14, 2017.



## **TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

JPA Technical Advisory Committee Chairman Chris White reported that the technical team, including the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, has moved ahead with the Water Storage Investment Program application preparations. Funding has been received from Reclamation to complete the application as well as revising the federal feasibility study into Temperance Flat to reflect new findings and the operations plan, the latter information being needed in seeking federal funding. Stantec has a group working full time on modeling and analysis, along with all other application details needed. The TAC has stepped up its meeting with Stantec to one-half day a week and sometimes twice weekly.

Bill Swanson of Stantec reported by telephone that Reclamation worked with fantastic speed to complete work on an agreement and make funding available. The application process is now fully funded and extends through December 2018. Details are now being added to the application website. The application's core values include the reservoir, temperature analysis and fisheries analysis. An environmental team is working on a science-based environmental analysis for fishery agencies consideration while an economic analysis of the economic value of improvements in 2030 and 2070, as required by the California Water Commission, is also being undertaken. Information is being compiled and technical descriptions are being written. Attempts are being made whenever possible to use templates of previous relevant work. Coordination is necessarily being undertaken on refuge water supplies as well as with the CVP operations staff and San Joaquin River Restoration Program personnel. Every bit of available time will be required to complete the application. Mr. White added that the joint effort has many moving parts but is constantly moving forward.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Santoyo said the California Water Commission has adopted *ex parte* rules that after August 14 will make communications between applicants and the CWC much more structured and formal. The Water Commission will not meet in July. Its next meeting is August 16.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

The proposed Washington, D.C. trip is on hold. It has proven to be extremely difficult to gain an appointment with the Secretary of the Interior. The JPA is working with Kyle Lombardi of House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy's office.

Directors Lopez and Silva reported in Sacramento legislative meetings in which they participated June 21-22. Mr. Santoyo stated it was a "brown bag briefing" that Assembly Member Arambula coordinated. Other extremely positive legislative meetings followed. Assembly Speaker Rendon is to meet with the JPA and member agencies August 22. Senate President Pro Temp DeLeon is tentatively scheduled to visit the area, including a luncheon in Orange Cove, August 25.

Mr. Santoyo was unable to attend a recent event for Senator Harris but Ryan Jacobsen and Brian Pacheco did attend and brought up Temperance Flat with her. Mr. Santoyo said an attempt will be made to schedule a meeting directly with the Senator. The JPA, thanks to the recently-adopted project operations plan, is now ready to provide Senator Feinstein with a project briefing.

## **OUTREACH AND PUBLIC RELATIONS**

Mr. Santoyo stated that since the last meeting Jeff and Jill Aiella have been providing information services and participating in outreach projects. Mr. Aiella told the board a public relations video targeting Temperance Flat Project investors is nearly complete. A second video, detailing the project's public benefits, is



being prepared for the California Water Commission. A trifold pamphlet is nearly completed. A Facebook page has been launched and had 200 followers in the first 24 hours. Website design has been roughed out and is progressing. Director Silva noted that Sites Reservoir proponents have been extremely active with their campaign. Vice President Mendes local reporters continue to “need help” to achieve accuracy in their accounts.

An op-ed page column, composed to attract the attention of the Water Commission, Governor Brown and the Legislature, is being prepared by Assembly Member Arambula with the JPA’s assistance. Other such op-ed pieces are to be developed to target California’s larger markets.

Temperance Flat letters of support for Temperance Flat to the California Water Commission continue to be sought. Many have been provided to the JPA. All are candidates for inclusion on the new website. Mr. Santoyo asked that individual counties send letters of support with a copy sent to the JPA.

Mr. Santoyo reported on what had been learned regarding county display cases in the State Capitol. He said it would be useful if each of the JPA’s five member counties made their display cases available for Temperance Flat displays. The county representatives were asked to check on their display cases’ availability and display funding needs.

The California Farm Bureau Federation *Ag Alert* series on Temperance Flat and the other two major storage project proposals has been published. The paper circulates through all legislative offices.

Mr. Santoyo proposed a major press conference to mark submission of the JPA’s application for state water bond funding on August 14.

Nisei Farmers League President Manuel Cunha reported on the November 11 plans for another “Fight for Water” featuring boxer Jose Ramirez. It will be held in Fresno and televised nationally by ESPN.

## **REPORTS FROM DIRECTORS**

There were no reports.

## **NEXT MEETING**

The JPA’s next board meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. Friday, August 11, 2017, at the board chambers of the Fresno Irrigation District, 2907 South Maple Avenue, Fresno, California.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the meeting, the same was adjourned at 10:52 a.m. on motion of Director Silva, seconded by Director Lopez and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "J. Randall McFarland".

J. Randall McFarland  
Recording Secretary