

# Governing Board

## TULARE COUNTY

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*President*

SUPERVISOR ALLEN ISHIDA,  
*Alternate*

## FRESNO COUNTY

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*Vice President*

SUPERVISOR BRIAN PACHECO,  
*Alternate*

## MADERA COUNTY

SUPERVISOR DAVID ROGERS,  
*Director*

SUPERVISOR RICK FARINELLI,  
*Alternate*

## MERCED COUNTY

SUPERVISOR JERRY O'BANION,  
*Director*

SUPERVISOR JOHN PEDROZO,  
*Alternate*

## KINGS COUNTY

SUPERVISOR DOUG VERBOON,  
*Director*

SUPERVISOR CRAIG PEDERSEN,  
*Alternate*

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*Director*

### CITY OF ORANGE COVE

MAYOR NATHAN MAGSIG,  
*Alternate*  
CITY OF CLOVIS

## WESTERN CITIES

MAYOR PRO TEM ALVARO PRECIADO,  
*Director*

### CITY OF AVENAL

MAYOR SYLVIA CHAVEZ, *Alternate*  
CITY OF HURON

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*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

MAYOR ROBERT SILVA



## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MARIO SANTOYO  
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# SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY WATER INFRASTRUCTURE AUTHORITY REGULAR BOARD MEETING JULY 8, 2016 – 9:00 A.M. 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 on July 8, 2016, by Vice President Buddy Mendes, presiding in the absence of President Worthley.

Vice President Mendes asked the Acting Recording Secretary to call the roll of the board members. The following board members were present: Vice President Mendes, Directors Verboon, O'Banion, Rogers, Lopez, Silva, Chedester and Preciado. Staff present: Executive Director Mario Santoyo. Attached is the sign-in sheet of others present.

The board and audience members joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Vice President Mendes asked for consideration of the Minutes for the regular board meeting held on June 10, 2016. Upon motion of Director Verboon, seconded by Director Silva, it was approved by the board that the Minutes for June 10, 2016, be approved as submitted.

## 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. The total amount of time allocated for this public comment period shall be determined by the Chair and each individual will 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 was no public comment.

## FINANCIAL

Megan Marks, Fresno County Auditor-Controller's office, distributed copies of the JPA's treasurer's report for the month ended June 30, 2016 and proposed budget for fiscal year 2016-17. Upon motion of Director O'Banion, seconded by Director Silva, the board accepted the treasurer's report (*a copy of which is attached*).

Executive Director Santoyo noted that the proposed 2016-17 budget did not include a funding allocation for engineering services needed beyond what could be provided by the USBR for the application process to the California Water Commission for state bond funding under Proposition 1 for development of new surface water storage facilities (i.e., the Temperance Flat Project). He added that the Technical Advisory Committee was in the process of determining that need and would provide the Board with a recommendation at a later date. Under discussion, it was noted that outreach to other counties should be conducted and staff was directed to place this discussion as an agenda item for the August Board meeting. Upon motion of Director Verboon, seconded by Director Lopez, the board accepted the 2016-17 budget as presented. (*A copy is attached.*)

Marks also reported having spoken with Fidelity Bond and Financial Insurance agents regarding JPA coverage and would bring more information back to the Board at its next meeting.

It was pointed out that the JPA has still not received its credit card. Marks said she has been in contact with the credit card company regarding the matter. Director Silva expressed concern with the delay.

Upon motion of Director Chedester, seconded by Director Verboon, the board approved and accepted the recommendations of the Employees Benefits Sub-Committee, including pension plan costs and health, dental and vision plan costs . Vice President also recommended that the reimbursement rate for the temporary health plan coverage be established at \$620 per month (*A copy of committee recommendations is attached.*)

Santoyo reported that the JPA is now an affiliate member of the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA).

## **ORGANIZATIONAL**

The board discussed the need to revisit the selection of alternates for directors who will no longer be on their respective agency Boards at the beginning of the New Year. Mendes suggested an appropriate time might be January, when home boards are in the reorganization process.

## **TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Gary Serrato, Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) member and Fresno Irrigation District General Manager, presented an overview of benefits from surface water storage facilities, including their ability to capture high flows to help supply the valley's conjunctive water uses. He pointed to such benefits that would be created by the proposed Temperance Flat Dam and Reservoir. Serrato also discussed FID's Dry Creek Project, for which use of a flood control facility, the existing Big Dry Creek Reservoir with a capacity of 20,000 acre-feet, is being considered for additional conjunctive use storage capability. Such a project could be integrated with Temperance Flat. Project integration can make the JPA's application for state water bond money under Proposition 1 more viable with the California Water Commission. The Commission's tight time schedule makes the JPA's work on project planning and identification of funding sources critical. Temperance Flat will not end flood releases but would enhance greatly the ability to store and beneficially use high San Joaquin River flows. It would also assist in the valley's ability to achieve new state groundwater sustainability mandates and reach out to disadvantaged communities to meet their water needs.

Director Rogers said there is a need to distribute information that thoroughly explains Reclamation's "215 water," a surplus supply that develops during big water years, along with benefits of capturing high flows, storing them and making releases slowly to maximize supply benefits. He said there is a real need for the general public to understand that the amount of 215 water used during flood release times is small compared to the amount lost to the ocean. Santoyo noted he would follow up with the USBR on the historical usage of the 215 water.

Julia Berry, TAC Vice Chair, reported the committee had met and that its first actions were the selection of a committee chair (Chris White) and vice chair (Julia Berry). She also reported that the committee had received presentations by both the USBR project manager Melissa Harris and Executive Director Santoyo. Both covered the information available in the prior technical reports prepared by the USBR and the Proposition 1 application process. The Committee also formed an operations

subcommittee. Executive Director Santoyo said the most critical of the TAC will be the operations subcommittee. Project operations will now to be examined much more broadly than has been the case to date in Reclamation's feasibility study for Temperance Flat, principally because of the integration of the regional projects

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Santoyo reported AB 1649 (Salas), the Water Quality Supply and Infrastructure Improvement Act, passed the Assembly but failed in a Senate committee. The JPA submitted a letter of support and Santoyo provided testimony to the Senate Resources committee

Santoyo said the JPA is effectively using Fresno County's lobbyist for legislative support in Washington. Efforts are being made to set up a trip for meetings in Washington.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Santoyo reported that the California Water Commission staff has proposed revised draft water storage investment regulations. He reflected that at the Commission's last meeting he had noted concerns that if consultants are to be hired to do peer reviews, that there should be criteria which prohibits contractors having contracts with either project proponents or project opponents. He also said the application process schedule has been reduced by six months. The situation appears to be very political. The Governor wants something done before he leaves office. Advances are being made to provide funding for environment paperwork. He said he suggested to the Commission that tight sidebars are needed to avoid reducing available money for projects.

Santoyo reported that an invitation has been offered to California Water Commission Chairman Joe Byrnes to attend the JPA's September Board meeting.

On July 5, Director Lopez facilitated a meeting between Maria Herrera and Santoyo to discuss Temperance Flat. She will be attending the JPA August meeting.

## **JPA-RECLAMATION MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

Michelle Denning of Reclamation reported on the successful July 1 signing ceremony outside the old Millerton Courthouse in which a Memorandum of Understanding between the JPA and Reclamation was enacted. She noted Reclamation has similar agreements in Contra Costa County and with proponents of Sites Reservoir in Colusa County. She detailed the work to be done and the technical assistance to be provided. Harris stated the Upper San Joaquin River Storage Investigation final feasibility study is awaiting completion of review from the Office of Management and Budget before it is released by the administration.

## **BLM WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS PROPOSAL**

A "colleague letter" to the Secretary of the Interior is being circulated by Congressman Costa among House members from California opposing the Bureau of Land Management's wild and scenic designation for the San Joaquin River through a portion of the proposed Temperance Flat Reservoir site. State legislators have been asked to do the same. Assembly Member Gray is taking the lead.

## **FRESNO COG OUTREACH**

On June 30, a Temperance Flat Project briefing was presented by Santoyo to the Fresno Council of Governments.

## **REPORTS FROM DIRECTORS**

Directors O'Banion and Lopez extended compliments to Santoyo and Manuel Cunha, Nisei Farmers League President, for the recent signing ceremony at Millerton Lake.

Paul Boyer of Self Help Enterprises was introduced by Mendes. He has also been involved in water projects (and, to a lesser extent, wastewater projects). Mendes told Boyer Self Help is about solutions, not rhetoric.

## **NEXT MEETING**

The next regular JPA meeting will be held Friday, August 12, 2016, at 9:00 a.m. 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 by Vice President Mendes at 10:18 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



J. Randall McFarland  
Acting Recording Secretary