

# Governing Board

## 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*

## KINGS COUNTY

SUPERVISOR DOUG VERBOON,  
*Director*

SUPERVISOR CRAIG PEDERSEN,  
*Alternate*

## EASTERN CITIES

MAYOR VICTOR LOPEZ,  
*Director*

CITY OF ORANGE COVE  
(VACANT), *Alternate*

## WESTERN CITIES

MAYOR ALVARO PRECIADO,  
*Director*

CITY OF AVENAL  
(VACANT), *Alternate*

## 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



## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MARIO SANTOYO

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# SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY WATER INFRASTRUCTURE AUTHORITY

REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
FEBRUARY 10, 2017 – 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 at 9:00 a.m. on February 10, 2017, by President Steve Worthley.

### PRELIMINARY MATTERS

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

At the request of President Worthley, Recording Secretary J. Randall McFarland called the roll of Board members. The following Board members were present: President Worthley, Vice President Mendes, Directors Rogers, O'Banion, Verboon, Lopez, Silva, Preciado, Karst (alternate for Casas), and Pope (alternate for Chedester). Staff present: Executive Director Mario Santoyo. *(The audience roll sheet is attached.)*

Kings County Counsel Colleen Carlson was introduced.

President Worthley asked for consideration of the Minutes for the regular Board meeting held on January 13, 2017. Director Verboon moved, seconded by Director O'Banion, that the minutes be approved. The motion prevailed without objection.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

President Worthley 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

Megan Marks, Fresno County Auditor-Controller's office, presented a financial overview of where the JPA currently stands fiscally, on a cash basis as of January 31, 2017. The JPA has collected \$45,577 in contributions this fiscal year. It has expended \$141,278 during the current fiscal year. The JPA has \$70,000 in cash budgeted for the remainder of the fiscal year. A \$21,000 invoice has been received for engineering services. *(A copy of the financial report is attached.)*

Ms. Marks said a budget for the new fiscal year will be brought before the Board in March or April.

## **ORGANIZATIONAL**

President Worthley noted there had been no change in the Board of Directors composition in the wake of the November 2016 election. He called for designation of any change in a member's alternate director Mayor Ray Leon of Huron was designated as alternate for Avenal Mayor Alfredo Preciado. On motion of Director Preciado, seconded by Director Verboon and carried unanimously, Alternate Director Leon was confirmed.

Executive Director Santoyo introduced the matter of possibly adding a seat on the Board of Directors. The San Luis and Delta-Mendota Water Authority is interested in full JPA membership and is currently in the process of making a \$20,000 donation to the Authority for participation on the Technical Advisory Committee. The Joint Powers Agreement under which the JPA is organized would of necessity be revisited to make such a change.

## **TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Chris White, Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Chairman, reported on TAC activities. Mr. White said the committee along with representatives from Friant Water Authority, San Luis Delta Mendota Water Authority, San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Authority and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation have made good progress in formulating a new operations plan for Temperance Flat Dam and Reservoir. All interested parties are engaged and the goal is to reach agreement on a plan that "excites" all interests. The Temperance Flat Feasibility Study's original alternatives are being re-examined and a Friant-only alternative is being scoped for use as a new baseline. How Calfed Bay-Delta Program projects fit into the process is being examined in a study commissioned by the Association of California Water Agencies. Numerous discussions have been conducted with Reclamation which is committed to finding money for these study activities.

Bill Swanson of MWH Global explained the methods being considered for the Feasibility Study's Alternative 5-starting approach baseline study. Preliminary work in considering maximization of water use by Friant as a baseline along with Water Commission requirements to consider climate change conditions and their impacts in 2030 and 2070 shows precipitation amounts remaining about the same. However, warmer temperatures would result in peak runoff moving from June to May by 2030 and from May to April by 2070, with more precipitation occurring as rain than snow. Assuming demands would not change, greater amounts of Friant spill are anticipated with reductions in Friant Division water supplies. President Worthley said these findings make the Temperance Flat Project even more important, especially considering the fact that additional surface water captured, stored and delivered from high-flow events is vital to making groundwater sustainable under SGMA. Mr. Swanson stated these results indicate Temperance Flat benefits would increase over time. A number of operational schemes are being discussed, including coordination between the Central Valley Project's Friant Division and San Luis Unit, east-west water exchanges, minimizing spillage from Friant and Temperance Flat dams, management of dry year contingency supplies, improved management of Tulare Lake Basin East Side rivers and streams, and exchanges in storage capacities. Other benefits are expected to include refuge deliveries, emergency response water supplies, reduced Exchange Contractor calls on Friant water and others. Public benefits for ecosystems include more water for the San Joaquin River and additional Delta flows. Mr. Worthley stressed the need to consider economics for the benefit of those interests putting up money for the local share of the project. Mr. Swanson said analysis is focusing on technical issues, then economics and finances.

## RECESS

President Worthley called a recess at 10:08 a.m. The meeting reconvened at 10:17 a.m.

## TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CONTINUED)

Gary Serrato, Fresno Irrigation District General Manager and Chairman of the sub-group investigating groundwater, provided an update. He said the sub-group hopes to have a project list ready for Board consideration in March. Small projects selected will be considered for integration with the largest project, Temperance Flat.

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Santoyo said the California Water Commission is to meet February 15 at which time a response is expected from the Office of Administrative Law on the commission's proposed regulations for Proposition 1-Chapter 8 applications. The commission is also to elect a new chair and vice chair. Mr. Santoyo requested at least two JPA directors accompany him to the meeting.

A conference call was held with Acting Commissioner of Reclamation David Murillo. Real interest was expressed by the commissioner in trying to help the Temperance Flat Project while providing financial assistance to the JPA. Subsequent discussions have been held with Reclamation officials who said they are attempting to get funding for the current study effort. Along with Reclamation involvement, key water agencies are involved fully and are interested in making the project happen. Acting Commissioner Murillo plans to make a visit to the Temperance Flat Dam site and hold meetings at Friant Dam. A Temperance Flat tour for Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon is being proposed. President Worthley expressed concern that Temperance Flat was not included by Governor Brown's office on a list of major infrastructure projects submitted recently to the new Trump administration.

A letter has been crafted at the Board's direction on legislation proposed by Congressman David Valadao, H.R. 23, the Guiding Responsibility on Water Act (GROW Act), a bill that could move the Temperance Flat project forward.

Mr. Santoyo said that with the Trump administration taking the reins of government, a trip to Washington for meetings with administration, Congressional and agency officials is now appropriate to consider.

## OUTREACH

New billboards, to be sponsored by the California Latino Water Coalition will be located along key freeways with messages and images promoting Temperance Flat. A photographer will take pictures of JPA directors following the meeting. Those images will be included on the billboards.

Mr. Santoyo said a meeting was held with California State University, Fresno, KMJ Radio, Univision, KMPH and others interested in helping sponsor and arrange the proposed California Water Summit at Fresno State's sports arena, the Save Mart Center.

Mr. Santoyo said a presentation is scheduled on Temperance Flat for May 25 before the American Council of Engineering Companies. The organization is interested in providing a support letter and possibly helping with legislation.

A request has been made to California Citrus Mutual for an appearance before the organization's board on Temperance Flat.

## **REPORTS FROM DIRECTORS**

Director Silva said he plans to attend a February 25 Water Education for Latino Leaders conference in Fresno. Director Lopez stated the conference has great value for those attending.

Director Verboon noted that subsidence problems in the Corcoran area are concerning California High Speed Rail Authority designers. Subsidence is one of the problems to be addressed in SGMA compliance, with adequate surface water needed to ultimately achieve a sustainable supply of groundwater. Vice President Mendes noted a recent NASA study focused on worsening subsidence problems in three valley areas.

Director Lopez asked if a meeting is planned with the Trump administration. President Worthley said such a meeting awaits confirmation of the new Interior secretary.

Director Preciado requested that Assemblyman Rudy Salas' office be placed on the JPA e-mail list.

President Worthley said the California Association of Counties conference March 9 in Bakersfield will include a water panel.

## **NEXT MEETING**

The JPA's next board meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. Friday, March 10, 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 President Worthley at 10:54 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Randall McFarland". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

J. Randall McFarland  
Recording Secretary