

## **Governing Board**

**Tulare County**  
**Steve Worthley, President**  
Allen Ishida, Alternate

**Fresno County**  
**Buddy Mendes, Vice President**  
Brian Pacheco, Alternate

**Madera County**  
David Rogers, Director  
Rick Farinelli, Alternate

**Merced County**  
Jerry O'Banion, Director  
John Pedrozo, Alternate

**Kings County**  
Doug Verboon, Director  
Craig Pedersen, Alternate

**Eastern Cities**  
Mayor Victor Lopez,  
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

**Western Water Agency**  
Steve Chedester, Director  
San Joaquin River Exchange  
Contractors Water Authority  
Dan Pope, Alternate  
Westlands Water District

**Tribal Representative**  
Dan Casas, Director  
Angela Karst, Alternate  
Table Mountain Rancheria

**At Large**  
Mayor Robert Silva, Director  
City of Mendota

**Executive Director**  
Mario Santoyo  
559-779-7595

## **SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY WATER INFRASTRUCTURE AUTHORITY REGULAR BOARD MEETING APRIL 8, 2016 9:00 A.M. FRESNO IRRIGATION DISTRICT OFFICE 2907 S. Maple Avenue, Fresno MINUTES**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The regular monthly meeting for the San Joaquin Valley Water Infrastructure Authority (JPA) was called to order on April 8, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. by President Steve Worthley.

President Worthley asked for the roll call of the board members. The following board members were present: President Worthley, Vice President Mendes, Directors Rogers, O'Banion, Verboon, Mayor Lopez, Mayor Pro Tem Preciado, Mayor Silva, Chedester, and Karst. Staff present: Interim Executive Director Mario Santoyo. Attached is the sign in sheet of others present.

President Worthley asked for approval of the Minutes for the regular board meeting held on March 11, 2016. Upon motion of Director Lopez, seconded by Director Mendes and approved by the board that the Minutes for March 11, 016 be approved as submitted.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

At this time, members of the public may speak about any subject of concern not appearing on the Agenda, provided it is within the jurisdiction of the SJVWIA. The total amount of time allocated for this Public Comment Period shall be determined by the Authority President and each individual will be limited to 3 minutes. Note: The matters presented during this Public Comment Period may not be discussed or acted upon by the Board at this time. (Note: There was no Public Comment.)

### **ORGANIZATIONAL**

#### **City Member – Western Portion - Alternate**

Upon motion of Director Lopez, seconded by Director Mendes and approved by the Board that Mayor Sylvia Chavez from the City of Huron be appointed to fill the City Member, Western Portion Alternate seat as recommended by the Western City representative from the City of Avenal Director Preciado.

#### **Water Agency Member Western Portion Alternate**

Upon motion of Director O'Banion, seconded by Director Verboon and approved by the Board that Dan Pope, Resources Deputy Manager with Westlands Water District be appointed as the Water Agency Member Western Portion Alternate as recommended by the West Water Agency Director Chedester.

#### **Water Agency Member Eastern Portion – Update**

Tulare Irrigation District is under consideration to fill the Water Agency Member Eastern Portion seat. They are in the process of gathering additional information and will be reporting to President Worthley or Interim Executive Director Santoyo in the near future.

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Visalia, CA 93291

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### **Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)**

President Worthley asked each of the Directors to submit their selection for the Technical Advisory Committee.

O'Banion	Lacey Kiriakou, Water Resources Coordinator, Merced County
Chedester	Chris White, General Manager, Central California Irrigation District
Karst	Dan Ray, Director of Facilities, Table Mountain
Verboon	Rick Hoelzel, Kings River Conservation District
Worthley	Hold until May
Mendes	Gary Serrato, General Manager, Fresno Irrigation District
Rogers	Kole Upton, Farmer and Irrigation District Board Member
Lopez	Sam Escobar, City Manager, City of Orange Cove
Silva	Vince Di Maggio, City Manager, City of Mendota
Preciado	Hold until May

Santoyo will contact the recommendations made by the Directors and set a date for a future meeting. Santoyo asked the Board if they would prefer to appoint a Chairman of the TAC, or if they would like the TAC to elect their own Chairman. The Board chose to have the TAC elect their own Chairman. Santoyo asked the Board members to send contact information for their recommendations to him.

### **FINANCIAL**

A financial status report was given by Alan Cade, Fresno County Deputy Auditor-Controller and the following items were discussed:

#### **Account Balance**

The balance in the JPA account is \$195,734

#### **Accounting Policies**

Megan Marks reviewed the accounting policies. (Copy Attached). Discussion occurred about corporate credit cards. The Board did not see a need for the Directors to have credit cards at this time. Directors have been submitting travel expenses to their own agency, rather than to bill the JPA.

Upon motion by Director Lopez, seconded by Director Rogers and approved by the Board that the accounting report be approved as presented and that a credit card be issued to the Executive Director.

#### **Service Agreement**

The Service Agreement between the County of Fresno and the JPA will be for services rendered by the County of Fresno for managing the financial records for the JPA. Upon motion of Director Lopez, seconded by Director Verboon and approved by the Board that the Service Agreement be approved. It is estimated that it will not exceed \$25,000 annually. (Agreement Attached)

The Service Agreement between the County of Tulare and the JPA for legal services was deferred to the May meeting.

### **Fiscal Year 2015-16 Budget**

The Budget for Fiscal Year 2015-16 was approved by the Board upon motion of Director Rogers and seconded by Director Silva. (Copy Attached)

### **Fidelity Bond & Liability Insurance**

Santoyo reported that Tulare County had previously presented a number of opinions and has asked the Fresno County Counsel's office to review the Fidelity Bond and the Liability Insurance policies. It was decided that Fresno County Counsel will also review.

### **Approval of Executive Director Working Directly for JPA**

President Worthley introduced the suggestion by several of the Board members that the JPA hire the Executive Director directly and not through a County service agreement. He noted that Tulare County was in preparation of such a service agreement but ran into a few challenges with existing County policies including restrictions on employee retro-pay. He stated that Mr. Santoyo had not yet been paid any monies by Tulare County for his services as interim executive since January of this year and suggested that it would be best to hire Mr. Santoyo directly given that the JPA does not have any of the same restrictions. He reflected that the salary had already been agreed upon and the only other issue to be resolved would be the benefits package and suggested that a subcommittee be formed to prepare a recommendation back to the Board.

After additional discussion, a motion was made by Director Lopez, and seconded by Director Verboon that Mr. Santoyo work directly for the JPA and that the "Interim" be dropped from his position title to just Executive Director. The motion also included the formation of a subcommittee to develop a recommendation for the benefits package.

Alan Cade stated Mr. Santoyo would be paid as an independent contractor back to January 8<sup>th</sup> 2016 and as an employee starting April 8, 2016. President Worthley said that it would not be necessary for Mr. Santoyo to establish his own consulting business to receive the back pay. Mr. Santoyo agreed to be paid on a monthly basis. The Board also directed Cade to reimburse Mr. Santoyo for his travel and mileage expenses to date.

President Worthley asked for volunteers for the benefits subcommittee and Director's Mendes, Lopez and Chedester volunteered.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

#### **Letter of Support – Congressman Valadao H. R. 2898**

Upon motion of Director Lopez, seconded by Director Verboon and approved by the board that a letter of support be sent to Congressman Valadao in regard to HR 2898, the "Western Water and American Food security Act of 2015." (Attached)

### **Support Letter AB 1586 – Assembly Natural Resources**

Santoyo reported that AB 1586, supported by the board by letter in March to the Assembly Natural Resources Committee is being amended to include Sites Reservoir. Santoyo will continue to monitor and report to the board.

### **Support Letter – U S Senator Feinstein Legislation**

Santoyo reported that a letter was sent to Senator Feinstein in support of the legislation “California Long-Term Provisions for Water Supply and Short-Term Provisions for Emergency Drought Relief Act.” (Letter attached)

### **AB 1649 Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act 2014**

Santoyo reported on AB 1649 “Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act 2014: Surface Storage Projects: Joint Powers Authority Funding.” (Attached) Santoyo reported that there is broad support for this legislation, as it includes Temperance and Sites Reservoirs. It is currently being amended. Santoyo will continue to monitor. President Worthley suggested that Santoyo be authorized to send a support letter from the JPA if he sees the timing is right.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT**

### **Concept Paper to California Water Commission**

Santoyo reported that the Temperance Flat Project Concept Paper has been submitted to the California Water Commission. (See Attachment). The document is the first step in the application process in the Chapter 8 funding.

### **California Water Commission Workshop**

The California Water Commission will hold a Workshop on April 11, 2016 in Sacramento on Water Storage Investment Program Quantification Regulations. Santoyo plans to attend. The Workshop will review the rules and how to apply for funding.

### **Meeting with Bureau of Reclamation**

President Worthley reported on the meeting that Vice President Mendes, Directors Lopez, Silva, Alvaro and Executive Director Santoyo had in Sacramento with the Bureau of Reclamation. Worthley reported that it was a well-received meeting. The staff was very helpful and supportive of the JPA’s efforts. Michelle Denning of the Bureau of Reclamation is in attendance today and will be providing some introductory comments.

### **Letter to Bureau of Land Management**

President Worthley reported on the Bureau of Land Management’s proposal to designate the San Joaquin River “National Wild and Scenic.” This classification would have a negative impact on the opportunity to build Temperance Flat. Worthley would like to send a letter of concern to the Secretary of Interior from the JPA. In addition, he would like to see individual agencies send similar letters. Santoyo will send a template letter. Agencies should send their letters to U S Senators Feinstein and Boxer. In addition to the letter writing, this issue will be discussed on the “One Voice” trip to Washington, D. C. the third week in April.

Upon motion of Director Verboon, seconded by Director Mendes and approved by the board that a letter be sent to Bureau of Land Management in regard to JPA's concerns to the San Joaquin River being designated as "National Wild and Scenic."

### **Cost Share Memorandum of Understanding**

Santoyo reported that he and Vice President Mendes met with the USBR. Their conclusion was that a "Cost Share Memorandum of Understanding" be prepared.

Upon motion of Director O'Banion, seconded by Director Verboon and approved by the board that a Cost Share Memorandum between the JPA and the USBR be prepared for board consideration.

### **Michelle Denning, USBR Division of Planning**

Michelle Denning, USBR Division of Planning commented on the value of the JPA's broad group of interested parties that included counties, cities, water districts, tribes and others. She noted that the Regional Director David Murillo has agreed to provide technical assistance and that the JPA contribution could be in-kind services. Denning reported on the status of Temperance Flat Final Feasibility Report and the steps that will still need to be taken for public release. Once the Final Feasibility Study is complete; it will go to the Secretary of Interior for her consideration to advance to Congress. At the same time, the Interior Secretary may receive from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the designation of "Wild and Scenic." At that time, the Interior Secretary will decide which of the 2 proposals will be advanced.

Denning commented that the letter to the Secretary of Interior being written by the JPA also include a courtesy copy to the Bureau of Land Management and the Bureau of Reclamation.

## **OUTREACH – LEGISLATIVE AND GENERAL**

### **Vice President Mendes Report**

Vice President Mendes reported on the following meetings that were held in Sacramento on March 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. Others in attendance included President Worthley, Directors Siva, Lopez, Preciado and Executive Director Santoyo.

1. Met with representatives from the Sites JPA
2. Met with Senate Minority Leader Caucus Chief of Staff Julie Saul's
3. Met with Former Senator Coghill, currently California Building Industry Association
4. Met with Senator Jim Nielsen

Mendes also reported on the One Voice Trip to Washington, D.C. coming up April 16<sup>th</sup> to April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2016. Participants will include: Vice President Mendes, Director Lopez and Executive Director Santoyo. Set of priorities include: Water, JPA (Federal assistance will be needed), meetings with US Senators Feinstein and Boxer and Congressional members. Mendes stressed the goal to have one comprehensive bill from Valadao and Feinstein's legislation. The water policy paper that will be distributed will be sent to the directors by Santoyo.

### **President Worthley Report**

President Worthley reported on the meeting with the San Joaquin Valley Caucus Chairman Assemblyman Adam Grey and other legislators. He noted the meeting went very well and that the legislators committed their support to the JPA.

### **California Water Commission Vice President Joe Del Bosque**

Joe Del Bosque, Vice President of the California Water Commission (CWC) gave a presentation. His comments included how projects will be selected by the CWC. Public Benefits will need to include water reliability, eco system protections, flood protection, recreation, and emergency preparedness. Working with lots of partners and diverse interests is a plus. His comments were well received. Del Bosque commented that the formation of the JPA was much needed and was impressed with the diversity of the make-up of the Board.

### **GENERAL**

#### **Sacramento Bee Op Ed by President Worthley**

There was an Opinion Editorial in the Sacramento Bee by President Worthley included in the board packet. (Copy Attached)

#### **Report on Meeting with Association of California Water Agencies**

Santoyo met with Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) staff on March 15, 2016. He encouraged staff to attend a future JPA board meeting. The JPA may want to consider joining ACWA.

### **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

None.

### **NEXT MEETING**

Next meeting will be held on May 13, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. at the Fresno Irrigation District, 2907 S. Maple Avenue, Fresno, California.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Lehn