

**TULARE COUNTY WATER COMMISSION**  
**3:00 p.m. on Monday, June 8, 2020**  
**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS CONFERENCE ROOMS A&B**  
**2800 W. BURREL AVE.**  
**VISALIA, CALIFORNIA 93291**

**NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC**  
**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

At this time, members of the public may comment on any item not appearing on the agenda. Under state law, matters presented under this item cannot be discussed or acted upon by the Water Commission at this time. For items appearing on the agenda, the public is invited to make comments at the time the item comes up for the Water Commission's consideration. Any person addressing the Water Commission will be limited to a maximum of three (3) minutes so that all interested parties have an opportunity to speak. At all times, please use the microphone and state your name and address for the record.

**AGENDA**

1. Call to Order
2. Public Comment Period
3. Approve May 11, 2020 Minutes (Action Item)
4. Update on Yettem-Seville CSD, Denise England (Discussion, Possible Action)
5. CV SALTS in the Kaweah Basin, Sarah Rutherford, Provost & Pritchard (Discussion, Possible Action)
6. Water Project Funding for DACs (Discussion, Possible Action)
  - a. SB 200 Expenditure Plan
7. Legislative Update (Discussion, Possible Action)
  - a. SB 974 (Hurtado; Support)
  - b. SB 45 (Allen; Support)
  - c. SB 559 (Hurtado; Support)
8. Staff Reports (Discussion, Possible Action)
  - a. Tulare-Kern DACII Program
  - b. SGMA Implementation
  - c. Administrative Reminders
9. Commissioners' Comments
10. Future Agenda Topics
11. Next meeting – Monday, July 13, 2020

12. Adjourn

Tulare County Water Commission Contact: Denise England, staff (559) 636-5000

Tulare County Water Commission website: <https://tularecounty.ca.gov/board/index.cfm/committees-commissions/water-commission>

Documents related to the items on this Agenda, submitted to the Board after distribution of the Agenda packet, are available for public inspection in the Board of Supervisors Office, 2800 W. Burrel Avenue, Visalia, CA during normal business hours. Such documents are also available online, subject to staff's ability to post the documents before the meeting, at the following website: <https://tularecounty.ca.gov/board/index.cfm/committees-commissions/water-commission>

**As a courtesy to those in attendance, please turn off or place in alert mode all cell phones and pagers.**

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Clerk of the Board's Office at (559) 636-5000

**TULARE COUNTY WATER COMMISSION**  
**3:00 p.m. on Monday, May 11, 2020**  
**MEETING NOTES**

**Members Present:**

Pete Vander Poel, Board Representative and Chairman  
Dennis Townsend, Board Alternate  
Tamara Kelly, District 3 Appointee  
Steve Etchegaray, District 5 Appointee  
Martha Flores, TCAG Representative  
Paul Boyer, At-Large Appointee  
Michael Lane, At-Large Appointee

**Members Absent:**

Eric Quinley, District 2 Appointee  
Zack Stuller, District 1 Appointee  
Chad Wegley, District 4 Appointee  
VACANT, At-Large Appointee

**Staff Present:**

Denise England, Tulare County Administration Office  
Marit Erickson, Tulare County Counsel  
Mike Hickey, TCiCT  
Ross Miller, RMA

**Members of the Public Present:**

Vincent Salinas  
Richard Garcia  
Johny Gailey

1. Call to Order  
Chairman Vander Poel called the meeting to order at 3:10pm.
2. Public Comment Period  
There was no public comment.
3. Approve February 10, 2020 minutes  
On a motion made by Commissioner Lane and seconded Commissioner Kelly, the minutes were approved unanimously.
4. Re-organization of the Tulare County Water Commission
  - a. Appoint Vice Chair  
On a motion made by Commissioner Lane and seconded by Commissioner Kelly, the Commission unanimously approved Commissioner Townsend to be Vice Chair.
  - b. Appoint Secretary  
On a motion made by Commissioner Lane and seconded by Commissioner Flores, the Commission unanimously approved Commissioner Quinley to be Secretary.
5. Update on Yettem-Seville CSD  
Ross Miller, RMA Staff, provided an update on the Yettem-Seville CSD project. Mr. Miller described the project that consolidated the Yettem Zone of Benefit water system and the community of Seville. As part of the project, Seville received a new water distribution system. The system has been receiving potable water for quite some time, but some administrative tasks needed to be complete before the boil water order can be lifted for the Seville system. Those tasks are complete and the Seville boil water notice is expected to be lifted by the end of May.

Mr. Miller went on to provide an update on the MOU that will facilitate the transfer of the water systems to the newly formed Yettem-Seville CSD. Staff will bring the MOU before the Board in June for approval. The MOU lays out the transfer of the water system to the new CSD. LAFCo will also need to approve the MOU to ensure all conditions of the LAFCo formation resolution be satisfied.

Commissioner Lane asked what the source of funding was for this project. Mr. Miller responded all funding was received through grants from the State of California.

Chairman Vander Poel commented regarding the consolidation as a framework to provide safe drinking water to DACs.

6. SB 200 Safe and Affordable Fund for Equity and Resiliency (SAFER) Drinking Water Program  
Ms. England provided the Commissioners with the updated SAFER draft policy for developing the fund expenditure plan. She reminded the Commission that the Act has a June 30, 2020 deadline to develop the plan. She went on to say the updated document contains a lot more information about spending the money and includes more detail on operations and maintenance funding.

Commissioner Boyer agreed that it has more information, but it is still lacking. He went on to say there is some progress, but wishes it was faster and especially subsidies for high rates specifically for treatment costs.

Commissioner Lane requested more information on funding sources for water systems.

Ms. England stated funding sources change frequently, but indicated she could work with others to summarize the various sources at a future Water Commission meeting.

#### 7. Legislative Updates

##### a. SB 974

Ms. England described the challenge of completing CEQA for small water system projects.

Ms. England provided a resolution of support adopted by the Board of Supervisors for the Bill.

Commissioner Boyer underscored the common-sense approach to not requiring CEQA for small projects. Commissioners Kelly and Lane echoed their support. On a motion by Commissioner Lane to support SB 974 and seconded by Commissioner Kelly the Commission passed unanimously.

##### b. SB 45

Ms. England reported that the Resiliency Bond slated to be on the November ballot most likely would not make it due to COVID 19 recovery efforts.

#### 8. Staff Reports

##### a. Tulare-Kern DACII Program

Ms. England reported executed an amendment to the DWR funding agreement to include additional Project Development activities such as system improvements, equipment purchases, and land acquisition. She went on to report the Program is on schedule, despite COVID 19 challenges.

##### b. SGMA Implementation

Commissioner Lane reported the Mid Kaweah GSA submitted their first annual report and it is available on their website. He also reported the GSA hired a new consultant to assist them with implementing their GSP.

##### c. Administrative Reminders

Ms. England reminded the Commissioners to file their Form 700s and complete AB 1234 Ethics Training, as necessary.

#### 9. Commissioners Comments

Commissioner Kelly reported that CalWarn.org has masks available for water utilities and reported CalWater, Visalia is a distribution center for those masks during the pandemic.

#### 10. Future Agenda Topics-

Commissioner Lane restated his request for an overview of funding sources for small water systems.

#### 11. Next meeting – Monday, June 8, 2020 3:00 PM

#### 12. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 3:49 pm.

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## State Water Resources Control Board

### NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

#### DRAFT FUND EXPENDITURE PLAN FOR THE SAFE AND AFFORDABLE DRINKING WATER FUND

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) will receive public comments on the draft Fund Expenditure Plan for the Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund (Plan), dated May 2020. Written comments must be received by **12:00 noon on Tuesday, June 16, 2020**, see additional details regarding comments submission below.

#### BACKGROUND

The Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund (the Fund) was established through Senate Bill 200 (SB 200) in July 2019. The Fund will provide up to \$130 million per year that will be used to develop and implement solutions for water systems that are not sustainable or have violations of drinking water standards. The Fund will help water systems provide an adequate and affordable supply of safe drinking water in both the near and long terms. Types of projects include, but are not limited to, consolidation with a larger system, extension of service, provision of interim replacement water, planning assistance, reducing and supporting operations and maintenance costs, and providing administrators. Projects generally must benefit a disadvantaged community or low-income households or communities.

The State Water Board adopted the Policy for Developing the Fund Expenditure Plan (Policy) for the Fund on May 5, 2020. The Policy established and documented the State Water Board's direction on how the Fund Expenditure Plan (Plan) will be developed. The Policy identified and defined key terms and metrics; described how proposed remedies will be identified, evaluated, prioritized, and included in the Plan; established a petition process for consideration of consolidation orders for disadvantaged communities; and included a public hearing requirement.

The State Water Board is developing the Fund Expenditure Plan, which is an annual document required by Health and Safety Code section 116768.5, and documents past and planned expenditures and prioritize projects for funding. The Plan will be based on a drinking water needs assessment, developed in consultation with the Department of Finance and other stakeholders. The purposes of the Plan are to: (1) identify public water systems (PWS), community water systems (CWS), state small water systems and regions where domestic wells consistently fail or are at risk of failing to provide adequate safe drinking water, the causes of failure, and appropriate remedies;

E. JOAQUIN ESQUIVEL, CHAIR | EILEEN SOBECK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

(2) determine the amounts and sources of funding needed to provide safe drinking water or eliminate the risk of failure to provide safe drinking water; and (3) identify gaps in supplying safe drinking water, and determine the amounts and sources of funding to eliminate those gaps.

Expenditures from the Fund on or after July 1, 2020 must be consistent with the FY 20-21 Fund Expenditure Plan. The Plan for FY 20-21 will be considered for adoption by the State Water Board on **July 7, 2020**. A new Fund Expenditure Plan will be developed and approved by the State Water Board annually.

#### **DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY**

The draft Plan is available for review online at:

[https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/grants\\_loans/sustainable\\_water\\_solutions/](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/sustainable_water_solutions/)

You may also request a copy of the draft Plan by contacting Mr. Harish Bagha at (916) 341-5716 or [Harish.Bagha@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Harish.Bagha@waterboards.ca.gov).

After reviewing public comments, an updated version of the draft Plan will be posted for public comment prior to the Board Meeting. This will occur as part of the regular State Water Board Meeting Agenda process, at:

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board\\_info/calendar](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/calendar).

#### **SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN COMMENTS**

The State Water Board will accept written comments on the draft Plan. To submit written comments, please use the subject line: “**Comment Letter – Draft Fund Expenditure Plan for the Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund**”. Written comments must be received by **12:00 noon on Tuesday, June 16, 2020** and should be submitted to the attention of:

Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board  
State Water Resources Control Board  
1001 I Street, 24th Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Comment letters may be submitted to the Clerk to the Board via email (if less than 15 megabytes) at [commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov). If the electronic comment letter is greater than 15 megabytes, it may be submitted by fax at (916) 341-5620. Couriers delivering hard copies of comment letters must check in with lobby security personnel, who can contact Ms. Townsend at (916) 341-5600.

#### **FUTURE NOTICES**

Any change in the date, time, the public comment period, or to the intended date of State Water Board consideration of the adoption draft Plan will be provided via the State Water Board email distribution list. Any person desiring to receive future notices concerning the Plan must subscribe to the State Water Board’s email distribution list.

The subscription form is located at:

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email\\_subscriptions/swrcb\\_subscribe.html](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/swrcb_subscribe.html).

To subscribe, select the "General Interests" category, then check the box for "Board Meetings", and provide the required information.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Please direct all questions regarding this notice to Mr. Harish Bagha at (916) 341-5716 or [Harish.Bagha@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Harish.Bagha@waterboards.ca.gov).

May 27, 2020

Date



Jeanine Townsend  
Clerk to the Board