



REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
2:00 pm Tuesday, March 5, 2024

In Person:

380 East Vanderbilt Way
San Bernardino, CA 92408

Online via Zoom:

<https://sbvmwd.zoom.us/j/684456030>

Meeting ID: 684 456 030

PASSCODE: 3802020

By Telephone:

Dial-in Info: (877) 853 5247 US Toll-free

Meeting ID: 684 456 030

PASSCODE: 3802020

If you are unable to participate online or by telephone, you may also submit your comments and questions in writing for the District's consideration by sending them to comments@sbvmwd.com with the subject line "Public Comment Item #" (insert the agenda item number relevant to your comment) or "Public Comment Non-Agenda Item". Submit your written comments by **6:00 p.m. on Monday, March 4, 2024**. All public comments will be provided to the Board President and may be read into the record or compiled as part of the record.

IMPORTANT PRIVACY NOTE: Online participants **MUST** log in with a Zoom account. The Zoom app is a free download. Please keep in mind: (1) This is a public meeting; as such, the virtual meeting information is published on the World Wide Web and available to everyone. (2) Should you participate remotely via telephone, your telephone number will be your "identifier" during the meeting and available to all meeting participants; there is no way to protect your privacy if you elect to call in to the meeting.



SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
380 E. Vanderbilt Way, San Bernardino, CA 92408

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
2:00 PM Tuesday, March 5, 2024

CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/ROLL CALL

1) PUBLIC COMMENT

Members of the public may address the Board regarding any item within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board; however, no action may be taken on off-agenda items except as authorized by law. Each speaker is limited to a maximum of three (3) minutes.

2) CONSENT CALENDAR

- 2.1 Approve Minutes of the Joint Board of Directors' Meeting - San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District and San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency - February 13, 2024 (2 min) - Page 3
[Staff Recommendation - Approve Minutes of the Joint Board of Directors' Meeting - San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District and San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency - 021324](#)
- 2.2 Approve Minutes of the Regular Board of Directors' Meeting - February 20, 2024 (2 min) - Page 13
[Staff Recommendation - Approve Minutes of the Regular Board of Directors' Meeting - 022024](#)

3) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS

- 3.1 CSUSB Fellows Introduction (20 min) - Page 22
[Staff Memo - CSUSB Fellowship Introduction](#)
- 3.2 2024 Comprehensive Media Program Overview (20 min) - Page 24
[Staff Memo - 2024 Comprehensive Media Program Overview Draft 2024 Comprehensive Media Program Overview](#)
- 3.3 Consider Financial Statement Auditing Services for Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2024 and 2025 (20 min) - Page 32
[Staff Memo - Consider Financial Statement Auditing Services for Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2024 and 2025](#)
[Contract proposal from Rogers, Anderson, Malody & Scott for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024 and 2025](#)

4) REPORTS (Discussion and Possible Action)

- 4.1 State Water Project Report (10 min) - Page 37
[State Water Project Report](#)
[Estimated diversions in 2024 through Delta Conveyance if it were in place](#)
[Excerpt from Delta Conveyance February 2024 Monthly Report](#)
[Press release: New Analysis Finds Sites Reservoir Would Be 80 Percent Full After Recent Storms](#)
[Excerpt from Sites Reservoir Project Status Report for February 2024](#)

4.2 Directors' Report of Activities and Travel Requests in accordance with Resolution 1100

4.3 General Counsel Report

4.4 Ad-Hoc and Standing Committee Reports

4.5 SAWPA Meeting Report

5) FUTURE BUSINESS

6) ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 6.1 List of Announcements (2 min) - Page 49
[List of Announcements 030524](#)

7) CLOSED SESSION

- 7.1 Conference with Real Property Negotiators Property: Southern California Edison East End Hydroelectric Generation Plants Agency negotiator: Heather Dyer, Wen Huang Negotiating parties: Southern California Edison Company Under negotiation: Price and terms of payment

8) ADJOURNMENT

**MINUTES
OF
THE
JOINT BOARD MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT AND
SAN GORGONIO PASS WATER AGENCY**

February 13, 2024

Directors Present:

San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District: Gil J. Botello, T. Milford Harrison, June Hayes, Paul R. Kielhold, and Susan Longville

San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency: Dr. Blair M. Ball, Ron Duncan, Chander Letulle, Larry Smith, Mickey Valdivia, Kevin Walton, Robert Ybarra

Directors Absent: None

SBVMWD Staff Present:

Heather Dyer, MS, MBA – Chief Executive Officer/General Manager
 Joanna Gibson, MS – Executive Director Upper SAR Habitat Conservation Program
 Wen B. Huang, PE, MS – Assistant General Manager/Chief Operating Officer
 Jose Macedo, ML, CPT-P (USA Retired) – Chief of Staff/Clerk of the Board
 Michael Plinski, PE – Chief of Water Resources
 Cindy Saks, CPA – Chief Financial Officer/Deputy General Manager
 Bob Tincher, PE, MS – Chief of Statewide Water Initiatives/Deputy General Manager
 Melissa Zoba, MBA, MPA – Chief Information Officer

Leo Ferrando, PE – Assistant Chief Engineer
 Anthony Flordelis – Business Systems Analyst
 Kelly Malloy, MPA – Strategic Communications Manager
 Adekunle Ojo, MPA – Water Resources Manager
 Matthew Olivo – Senior Accountant
 Sayer Pinto, MBA – Principal Water Resources Analyst
 Karen Resendez, MAOL – Human Resources & Risk Manager
 Andreea Tanase, MPA – Administrative Analyst I
 Shavonne Turner, MPA – Engagement & Conservation Program Manager

San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency Staff Present:

Lance Eckhart, General Manager
 Emmett Campbell, Senior Water Resources Planner
 Matt Howard, Operations Manager
 Tom Todd, Chief Financial Officer
 Jeffry Ferre, District Legal Counsel

Members of the Public in Attendance:

Wade Crowfoot, California Natural Resources Agency
 Chandra Chilmakuri, State Water Contractors
 Melody McDonald, San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District
 John Longville, San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District
 Joyce McIntire, Yucaipa Valley Water District
 Brett Granlund, Yucaipa Valley Water District
 Mike Kostelecky, Yucaipa Valley Water District
 Dan Jagers, Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District
 Daniel Slawson, Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District
 Kenneth Coate, Inland Action
 Missy Hanover, Bogh Engineering
 Nisha Ajmani, CV Strategies
 Oscar Ramos, Fontana Water Company
 Rebecca Nicholas, FHA
 Cheryl Branch, Los Angeles Metropolitan Churches
 Emmaline Nguyen
 Janet Barbieri
 Graham Bradner
 Kenneth Carter
 Kyle Griffith
 Marci Stanage
 Claudia Rodriguez
 Patricia Clark
 Tara Bravo Mulally, CV Strategies

The Joint Meeting of the Boards of Directors of San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District (SBV) and San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency (SGPWA, or “Pass Agency”) was called to order by SBV President Paul Kielhold and SGPWA President Mickey Valdivia at 2:02 p.m. President Valdivia led the Pledge of Allegiance. A quorum was noted present.

Agenda Item 1. Public Comment. Presidents Kielhold and President Valdivia invited public comment. There was none. Introduction of directors and staff were made.

Agenda Item 2. Discussion Items.

2.1) Consider the Next Phase of the Delta Conveyance Project. SGPWA General Manager Lance Eckhart provided some background and introduced the discussion. SBV CEO/General Manager Heather Dyer welcomed the attendees and commented on the partnership with SGPWA on State Water Project initiatives and the next phase of the Delta Conveyance.

SBV Chief of Statewide Water Initiatives/Deputy General Manager Bob Tincher presented current information on the Delta Conveyance Project (DCP). His presentation highlighted the following:

- The Unimpaired Flow option proposed by State staff would have devastating impacts to State Water Project (SWP) supply. SBV favors the Healthy Rivers and Landscapes alternative developed by California Fish and Wildlife.
- There is a need for a more resilient State Water Project based on the lack of precipitation west of the Mississippi, and south of Oregon and northern California. The current drought began in 1998. The solution to these dry conditions is supplemental water. Both the SGPWA and SBV are highly reliant on SWP supply.
- Planned stormwater capture is uncertain as it is based on unreliable rainfall. Recycled water is constrained by a judgment requiring much of it to go downstream, along with the needs of an endangered fish.
- SWP supply is economical and provides the best value statewide. However, the return on the collective investment in the SWP has declined over time due to environmental regulation.
- Investment in two important projects for the viability of the SWP, Sites Reservoir and the DCP, will restore some of the lost SWP supply.
- If the Unimpaired Flow alternative is selected, the project would be challenged in Court. This is the reason for producing the voluntary arrangement known as the Healthy Rivers and Landscapes alternative.
- The objectives of the DCP include:
 - Climate resiliency
 - Seismic resiliency
 - Water supply reliability
 - Operational flexibility
- Calculations show that had the DCP been operational during the rain events in 2023 and 2024, more than 200,000 acre-feet (af) of SWP supply (a 6 percent increase in allocation) would have been added to storage.
- Over the years, the project has changed, as has its public support, Mr. Tincher explained. Currently, the support is favorable, as people are concerned with water infrastructure in the state. In addition, the number of lawsuits have been cut in half compared to the California Water Fix.
- The DCP is supported by almost all State Water Contractors (SWC) south of the Delta, save a few smaller contractors that have decided not to invest but will still receive their water through the existing south intake.

Mr. Tincher reviewed the history of the Delta idea and discussed complications and environmental factors. He noted in 2019, the project was right-sized to a single tunnel, and named the Delta Conveyance Project, and the Environmental Impact Report was recently approved.

The time to approve the project is now, Mr. Tincher posited. It is time to modernize the system to restore and protect the viability of the SWP, minimize any disruptions due to climate change, seismic, or any other factors, and protect water supply reliability by restoring some of the lost water supply. It is expected that operational flexibility will also provide more regulatory certainty, he noted.

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) established the Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority (DCA) which includes a team of consultants to design and build the project. The public water agency investors are represented on the joint powers authority which streamlines the process, Mr. Tincher explained.

Mr. Tincher detailed the 45-mile tunnel project design. The total project cost of \$16 billion plus 20 percent inflation is estimated to result in \$400 million in costs to SGPWA (11,000 af per year/unit cost of \$730), and \$561 million for SBV (15,000 af per year/unit cost of \$750). It is a very affordable new water supply, and the DCA is currently under budget. An updated cost analysis and 30 percent design development will be available later this year, he advised.

The DCP is superior to the California Water Fix, Mr. Tincher continued. It is a true second independent intake and will use state of the art fish screens. Project impacts have been reduced: Power lines will be buried, there are fewer tunnel launch shafts, the alignment has shifted to the east toward Interstate 5, and a community benefits program has been established.

Mr. Tincher discussed planning milestones and noted a water rights hearing is slated for mid-year for a new intake. He provided the timeline for financing and noted there will be an option to be reimbursed through the bond proceeds for some of the planning funds. He described work being done up front but potential permitting risk, and the quest for the middle ground for all involved. The numbers may change, but they will not go any higher, he noted. The total project ask for the next phase is up to \$410 million.

There are no other plans that could provide the supply of water for the area, Mr. Tincher advised. This is the best available option, and it is a great project. This phase of the project will require political help, as there will be negative publicity and opposition, he warned. He described the activities of California Water for All and suggested action to support the project, including budgeting for the next phase of funding.

Ms. Dyer pointed out that 68 percent of Californians' economy is reliant on a reliable water supply supported by the SWP. Northern and southern California are tied together by the economics of the state, she noted. Every water project has impacts, she explained. The goal of any project should be to reduce as many of those as possible, resulting in a project that has balanced those impacts in a fair and reasonable way. Mr. Eckhart agreed, noting

the SWP is why much of the area exists, although SGPWA joined the SWP just a decade or so ago. By the time the project got to the Pass area, it provided much less than what had been signed up for in 1961. The DCP restores the investment and the commitment that the SGPWA made to its citizens and what they had envisioned for the region.

The SGPWA area, as one of the fastest growing in the state, had some water challenges. Mr. Eckhart described efforts to procure other sources. Although the water portfolio is in good shape now, it gets a little more tenuous each year. The DCP and Sites Reservoir are probably some of the most important actions in the next few years, he said.

Mr. Eckhart advised the cost could be up to, but will likely be less than, the current estimate when DWR does the final number crunching, which is expected in late spring/early summer. But the SWC are looking for someone to make the first gesture of support. This is the opportunity for SGPWA and SBV to do that, recognizing that an agreement and approvals will come back to the Boards in the near future, Mr. Eckhart explained. The motion today is to formally support the next phase of the DCP and the amounts up to each agency's funding share, he explained.

SBV Director Harrison suggested a letter to the SWC would demonstrate formal support. SBV President Kielhold concurred, stating if it is not in writing, it doesn't exist. Ms. Dyer reiterated the request for a motion to formally support the next phase of the DCP through the submittal of letters from each agency to the DCA.

SBV Director Longville noted if a formal letter of support is provided now, the Board will still, over the next two years, be taking a number of actions which subsequently codify this as the various steps occur. She said she had never seen the project look more promising. Mr. Tincher confirmed if things change, or there are unanticipated costs, those would be considered by the Board along the way.

Mr. Tincher advised DWR is working on a more detailed funding agreement and scope of work that will come back to the Board for consideration.

SGPWA President Valdivia invited public comment.

Cheryl Branch with Los Angeles Metropolitan Churches spoke in favor of the project and urged the agencies to support it. She said it aligns with the organization's belief that one of the biggest threats facing disadvantaged communities is water access and affordability. Assuring the SWP continues to operate despite climate change is crucial to protecting affordable water rates for as many as possible. With the cost of living continuing to skyrocket, decision-makers must be mindful of impacts to lower-income residents.

Kyle Griffith of Californians for Water Security explained the organization is a statewide coalition advocating in support of the DCP. He thanked both boards for considering supporting the DCP. Polling done by the organization showed overwhelming support across party lines for improving the state's mainline water distribution infrastructure. The coalition has a DCP support letter signed by close to 40 organizations and will continue to work with other public water agencies as they discuss this project.

Mr. Kenneth Coate of the Inland Action Environmental Committee discussed water use and capture of high flows into the ocean. There is no impact to taking the water when the water is high, he stated. He noted the work done on the DCP to accommodate many people and said this is its moment. There is money and time, and all of the impacts have been carefully considered. The people of northern California need to understand these are good stewards of water.

California Secretary for Natural Resources Wade Crowfoot thanked the Boards for their work to ensure water for the communities and for the consideration of the next phase of funding for the DCP. Governor Gavin Newsom is prioritizing advancing this project, he said.

The California water situation continues to change, Mr. Crowfoot continued. The State is experiencing more weather whiplash: big winter storms providing a larger portion of the water supply and longer more punishing droughts. There is talk in Sacramento about the need to partner with local agencies and modernize and update water management and infrastructure. That means supporting local agencies to diversify water sources, utilize and recharge groundwater basins when storms come, reduce efficiency loss, improve conservation, and capture stormwater in urban areas, Mr. Crowfoot stated.

It also includes protection of the backbone of water infrastructure, the SWP, which provides water to upwards of 27 million Californians, Mr. Crowfoot stated. The system including the DCP is critical to current and future water supplies, even as local sources are diversified, he explained. Governor Newsom concluded that modernizing the Delta Conveyance is absolutely essential due to the threat of earthquakes along with weather whiplash.

Over time, more precipitation will come as rain, not snow, Mr. Crowfoot advised. The infrastructure must be able to capture the big storms for water supply for dry periods. The DCP does so but does not replace the current system of moving water through the central delta, it provides the opportunity to take big storm surges and move them through the tunnel to augment the amount of supply into storage. It is also the failsafe if there is disruption to the levee system.

Mr. Crowfoot stated the goal is to be as expeditious as possible with the state and federal permitting processes. He said he looked forward to working together on important infrastructure.

The SBV Board approved the next phase of funding for the Delta Conveyance Project by the following roll-call vote:

MOVED: Harrison	SECONDED: Botello	APPROVED: 5-0
AYES:	Botello, Harrison, Hayes, Kielhold, Longville	
NOES:	None	
ABSTAIN:	None	
ABSENT:	None	

SGPWA Director Dr. Blair Ball concurred with the presentation, thanked SBV, and commented on the reduction of the number of lawsuits from 18 to 9 with the single tunnel.

Director Ball asked about the use of ad valorem funds for the DCP costs. Mr. Eckhart noted that in previous planning the use of restricted funds has been an option for the Delta Conveyance.

SGPWA Director Larry Smith thanked SBV for hosting the meeting. He noted government works best working together and advocated partnering in the future. Looking back at the 1960s, they must have realized they were spending future taxpayer dollars and were obligating taxpayers to the next generation, he pointed out. Here it is 40 years later, doing it again.

Director Smith reiterated the risk-reward factors: investing heavily and early can expedite the project, but construction will take 20 years. Now is the time to act, he stated. This is an opportunity to send a signal statewide that these agencies support this project as necessary. Delaying today is to delay the future.

SGPWA President Mickey Valdivia noted it is comforting to be able to rely on partnerships and this potential action will send a strong message. SGPWA is accustomed to being bold, as it is the last agency to receive the SWP benefit; this is an opportunity to be first. The Board must be prudent with its fiduciary responsibilities and the time will present itself in the coming months and years as the specifics are prepared. However, this call for action is warranted, he stated.

The SGPWA Board approved formal support of the next phase of the Delta Conveyance Project up to the amount estimated for the SGPWA subject to staff bringing before the Board documents and approvals for implementation by the following roll-call vote:

MOVED: Ybarra	SECONDED: Smith	APPROVED: 7-0
AYES:	Ball, Duncan, Letulle, Smith, Valdivia, Walton, Ybarra	
NOES:	None	
ABSTAIN:	None	
ABSENT:	None	

Director Harrison thanked Mr. Tincher for the comprehensive, clear, and well-planned presentation, and his lead on the projects. He also acknowledged Secretary Crowfoot for his advocacy and thanked him for his attendance.

Per request of SBV Vice President Hayes, Ms. Dyer discussed SB 366, the California Water for All bill. The amount of water needed to sustain California agriculture, industry, urban and rural areas, and all uses in the future must be understood. California Water for All is advocating the State Legislature set a target and direct DWR to write a California Water Plan with a goal, milestones, and economic analysis, and to work toward that target. Three universities are working on studies regarding how much water is needed, and the economic cost of doing nothing. The group is seeking letters of support, Ms. Dyer explained.

2.2) Collaborations of San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency and San Bernardino Valley. Heather Dyer and Lance Eckhart highlighted collaborative efforts of the two agencies over the decades-long timeframe, including:

- 1963 – Foothill pipeline
- 1970 – Joint Facilities Agreement
- 1983 – Groundwater Storage in the San Bernardino and SGPWA basins
- 1985 – Further work on the pipeline with Desert Water Agency and Coachella Valley Water Agency
- 1995 – SWP East Branch Extension (EBX) to the Valley and Pass areas
- 2003 – EBX operated jointly by DWR, SGPWA, and SBV
- 2015 – Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for water banking at the Bunker Hill Basin Conjunctive Use Project
- 2017 – Two Groundwater Sustainability agencies/planning areas in the region
- 2018 – Participation in an analysis for Sites Reservoir
- 2023 – MOU for the County Line Recharge Basin project

In addition, Mr. Eckhart and Ms. Dyer further detailed efforts on:

- Use of Earthtec to treat algal issues in recharge ponds
- Collaboration on the Yucaipa Basin under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) process
- County Line Turnout and Recharge Basin in cooperation with the South Mesa Water Company
- Santa Ana River and Bunker Hill Conjunctive Use programs to maximize wet years, the first step in developing a regional storage / water banking program
- Intertie connecting the Central Feeder pipeline to the EBX (95 percent complete)
- Foothill Pipeline Crossing under City Creek: replacement of the pipeline, tunneling under the Creek

Mr. Kenneth Coate suggested that in advocating for SB 366, it is important to connect with northern California legislators. He asked if there were any projects slated for northern

California. Ms. Dyer emphasized the setting of a goal/target resulting in potentially a series of many projects across the State. The bill is aimed at providing one clear direction with a plan that would include accountability beyond any given administration.

Mr. Coate pointed to problems in the Central Valley and asked if the plan would include a way to look at that also. Ms. Dyer reiterated that everyone in California needs a reliable water supply going into the future, and the entire state needs to plan for abundance, taking advantage of wet years to use in dry years.

Mr. Coate noted the potential push toward desalination. Ms. Dyer responded those details may not be worked out as part of SB 366, which would direct DWR to rewrite the California Water Plan to be a meaningful planning document. The details will then be part of a framework to be developed.

SBV Director Longville acknowledged the several partnerships between the agencies and asked about the capacity of the East Branch Extension intertie. Ms. Dyer explained the intertie is not as complicated or expensive in comparison to large recharge basins but is a key piece of the puzzle providing flexibility and adaptability to the system. Assistant General Manager/Chief Operating Officer Wen Huang added the capacity is 50 to 60 cubic feet per second (cfs) and it was designed to be bi-directional: It can send groundwater from the Redlands pump station into Citrus Reservoir, and to the SGPWA and Yucaipa, and SWP water can be received in the reverse direction.

SBV Director Botello emphasized that community benefits should be included in the letter of support. The community engagement timeline ends in 2024 but the community should always be included, he noted.

SGPWA Director Walton thanked staff and noted the presentations were memorable and remarkable. This action will set an example for the water world of California, he noted.

SGPWA Director Duncan acknowledged the work of staff and said the progress of the last three to four years has been refreshing. People are becoming more and more conscious of what is going on in the environment, but most have no idea about the decisions made here that will influence generations. He suggested area news releases, and Mr. Eckhart assured that was in progress.

SGPWA President Valdivia acknowledged the recognition of the staff by the elected directors.

Agenda Item 3. Adjournment.

The SGPWA meeting was adjourned by President Valdivia at 3:56 p.m.
The SBV meeting was adjourned by President Kielhold at 3:56 p.m.

<p>APPROVAL CERTIFICATION</p> <p>I hereby certify to approval of the foregoing Minutes of San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District.</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Secretary</p> <p>Date _____</p>
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Respectfully submitted,

Lynda J. Kerney
Contract Assistant

**MINUTES
OF
THE
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT**

February 20, 2024

Directors Present: Gil J. Botello (2:04 pm), T. Milford Harrison, June Hayes, Paul R. Kielhold, and Susan Longville.

Directors Absent: None

Staff Present:

Heather Dyer, MS, MBA – Chief Executive Officer/General Manager
 Joanna Gibson, MS – Executive Director Upper SAR Habitat Conservation Program
 Wen B. Huang, PE, MS – Assistant General Manager/Chief Operating Officer
 Jose Macedo, ML, CPT-P (USA Retired) – Chief of Staff/Clerk of the Board
 Michael Plinski, PE – Chief of Water Resources
 Cindy Saks, CPA – Chief Financial Officer/Deputy General Manager
 Bob Tincher, PE, MS – Chief of Statewide Water Initiatives/Deputy General Manager
 Greg Woodside, PG, C.Hg. – Chief of Planning and Watershed Resilience
 Melissa Zoba, MBA, MPA – Chief Information Officer

Leo Ferrando, PE – Assistant Chief Engineer
 Anthony Flordelis – Business Systems Analyst
 Kelly Malloy, MPA – Strategic Communications Manager
 Adekunle Ojo, MPA – Water Resources Manager
 Matthew Olivo – Senior Accountant
 Sayer Pinto, MBA - Principal Water Resources Analyst
 Karen Resendez, MAOL – Human Resources & Risk Manager
 Andreea Tanase, MPA – Administrative Analyst I
 Shavonne Turner, MPA – Engagement & Conservation Program Manager

Brad Neufeld, Varner & Brandt, District Legal Counsel

Members of the Public in Attendance:

Jennifer Ares, Yucaipa Valley Water District
 Melody McDonald, San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District
 John Longville, San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District
 Ben Kelly, Western Heights Mutual Water Company
 James Morales, East Valley Water District
 Valerie Clarke, SWA Group
 Kat Rippy, Energize Leadership, LLC
 Larry Smith, San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order by President Kielhold at 2:00 p.m. Director Longville led the Pledge of Allegiance. A quorum was noted present by roll call.

2:04 p.m. – Director Botello arrived.

Agenda Item 1. Public Comment

President Kielhold stated that any member of the public wishing to make any comments to the Board regarding non-agenda items may do so. There were none.

Agenda Item 2. Consent Calendar.

2.1) Approve Minutes of the Board of Directors Workshop - Policy/Administration – February 1, 2024

2.2) Approve Minutes of the Regular Board of Directors Meeting – February 6, 2024

The Board of Directors approved the items on the Consent Calendar by the following roll-call vote:

MOVED: Harrison	SECONDED: Botello	APPROVED: 5-0
AYES:	Botello, Hayes, Harrison, Longville, Kielhold	
NOES:	None	
ABSTAIN:	None	
ABSENT:	None	

Agenda Item 3. Discussion and Possible Action Items.

3.1) Project Status Update for the Sunrise Ranch Master Plan. General Manager/ Chief Executive Officer Heather Dyer reminded about the purchase of the 1,600-acre Sunrise Ranch land and the public workshops held to develop the Master Plan for the property. The Plan is meant to be a guiding document, and feedback is being sought from the Board and the public.

Assistant Chief Engineer Leo Ferrando reviewed the project engagement timeline. He noted staff are preparing for the third Public Workshop on March 6, 2024, at the Ayers Hotel in Rialto. A fourth workshop will be held in June.

Mr. Ferrando reviewed the public outreach completed, including the Trails Day held last year. He advised people seem happy with the plans and the intentions of the District. Public input on the Plan for the site has included comments on habitat, water supply, education on water and the watershed, water supply infrastructure, public trails and amenities, demonstration gardens, and non-motorized water recreation. Public

comments also emphasized connection to the Santa Ana River Trail and education on tribal culture.

Mr. Ferrando reviewed the Master Plan content. He detailed the potential for water supply infrastructure, including reservoirs and piping. The water storage potential of up to 3,400 acre-feet could supply reliability and redundancy in in operations, especially during short-term interruptions to the State Water Project (SWP) or in emergencies such as earthquakes. Depending on the size of the reservoir, supply could last from a couple of days to a couple of weeks in an emergency.

A comprehensive layout shows the largest reservoir that could be built on site, Mr. Ferrando continued. He explained there are options for piping, each of which will have to be evaluated in the future along with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) considerations, then it will be determined which option is best along with costs, and potential layout. Reservoirs would be able to be recharged from existing facilities, mostly SWP or future hydropower facilities, he explained.

Reservoirs have been laid out as two lakes per the California Division of Safety of Dams, Mr. Ferrando continued. Reservoirs will be considered depending on environmental restrictions and to avoid the jurisdiction of the State, he explained. The property is huge, but the northeast side is steep and impractical for grading and construction.

Executive Director Upper SAR Habitat Conservation Program Joanna Gibson reiterated the Master Plan will lay out the groundwork of possibility, then project-specific designs will take CEQA and financial implications into consideration. She pointed out the need for placement of fill on the site and associated impact. The implementation plan will discuss the trade-off with the opportunities.

Consultants have visited the site and determined there is potential for species and waters mitigation, Ms. Gibson continued. She presented a table of the potential mitigation opportunities for species, plants, and waters, and the availability of other mitigation banks.

CEO / General Manager Heather Dyer explained if habitat can be created where it does not exist, there can be creation credit. Mitigation banking is a market-based business, there is a lot of demand for mitigation, and with some activities, credit increases exponentially, she explained. There is not much available supply of mitigation credits, which makes this highly valuable to SB Valley for revenue-generating opportunities.

Ms. Gibson described the opportunity for connectivity credit, stating this property is ideally suited. Consultants have identified the habitat of best quality for mitigation credit value.

Mr. Ferrando discussed the site experience, land program, trails, and access, symbolic of the agency's role in water and the environment. He reviewed some design concepts and detailed elements to be evaluated in the plan, including trail concepts and roads.

Ms. Gibson described opportunities for habitat restoration adjacent to the reservoirs. She detailed potential placement of fill and replanting of native species. A community resources center is envisioned, she noted.

Two potential building layouts were developed, and options are being explored, Mr. Ferrando advised. The first campus layout locates all facilities near the reservoir waterfront. The headquarters concept includes administrative and operational staff together. The educational center's potential location is near the lake with an outreach center and offers potential partnerships with other agencies/organizations. A fire facility or potential fire training facility with CalFire or County Fire. The County Fire Chief attended the last workshop and staff have had conversations for the inclusion of fire facilities.

The advantages of the first layout are fewer improvements needing construction, and shorter run for utilities. There is also a safety factor that all are nearby with uniformed officials onsite. Disadvantages include use of the education center, less privacy, and more congestion.

Option two is much more spread out, Mr. Ferrando continued. The advantages are that every building will have a great view, with less congestion and more privacy. The disadvantages are the need for more roads and infrastructure, greater impact to some habitat, and more construction spread throughout the property.

Mr. Ferrando described the headquarters design option with demonstration gardens, auditorium, Board room, and workspace for staff. Ms. Dyer emphasized that for purposes of team, culture, and effective operations, the desire is to build a headquarters where all staff could be present and have workspace in one location. Planning for staffing over time, and flexibility for changing needs to be SB Valley's forever home will be considered, integrating and connecting all parts of staff.

Mr. Ferrando explained the self-sustainable building concept. Research has shown there are wells on the property: one active (the Tres Lagos facility) and others that have been abandoned or unused for a long time. One well will need to be rehabilitated or restored to provide a water supply for the buildings. Depending on demand, there is also opportunity to install treatment for up to 8,000 gallons per day of wastewater, with the effluent meeting state standards and tied into irrigation.

In response to Vice President Hayes, Mr. Ferrando said building occupancy could be 10 years, or could be between two and five years depending on factors such as grant funding, permits, design, and construction.

Director Longville acknowledged there had been a great deal of input and collaboration, and said the Plan appeared to be headed in the right direction. She suggested the June workshop be scheduled for two to three hours during the day on a Saturday, in a large meeting room close to Tres Lagos, to share and celebrate the Plan. Director Harrison posited that most seem to be requesting meetings at night so they can attend. Many organizations have changed to evenings to accommodate more people, he noted. A

daytime meeting would be an opportunity to really share the concept with the public, Director Longville suggested. This would still not be the final Plan, Director Harrison added. Mr. Fernando said there would not be a draft final Plan available at that time; feedback would still be welcomed.

Director Botello noted the Master Plan has evolved, and so should the presentation. Ms. Dyer assured that each workshop incorporates the further work that has been done, and the June workshop would be a robust presentation. Director Botello suggested inviting previous workshop attendees.

Director Botello noted the San Bernardino County Fire Chief indicated specifications for a training center. He noted the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians offer to support a training center.

Director Botello asked about limitations on the reservoirs and the value of the mitigation bank. Ms. Gibson noted some impacts and tradeoffs. It will not be an overwhelming task to obtain CEQA permits for this facility, she noted. The mitigation bank value is market-driven, she said, and she reviewed the Habitat and Mitigation Table. The goal would be to have the mitigation bank approved by all agencies for purchase of mitigation credits.

In response to Director Botello, Ms. Gibson pointed out the existing excavation area on the property and explained the reservoir has been sited within and on the edge of the area, and most fill will be placed there. The wells on site can be used for the facility's supply, and the facilities on site could provide an emergency source of water, Botello noted. Mr. Ferrando noted there are no records on the wells and they will have to be evaluated. If in good condition, the wells could be rehabbed and become functional.

Director Botello recalled that there is a point at which a reservoir is not cost-effective. Assistant General Manager/Chief Operating Officer Wen Huang explained the consultant performed a detailed evaluation of cut and fill, and what is presented is the maximum size to have the project penciled out.

Director Longville noted that previously, the expectation was to tie into Redlands for services, but the concept of being self-sustainable is a blue-ribbon project.

Director Harrison asked about the connection to the SWP. Mr. Huang explained there is potential for using SWP and Santa Ana River water to fill the reservoir; however existing wells would be considered for on-site domestic needs. If using SWP, a package treatment plant would be needed.

Director Longville pointed out that the reservoir could serve firefighting helicopters in the event of nearby fires. Director Botello noted this is why the reservoir must be at a certain depth, per his conversation with the Fire Chief.

Ms. Dyer reiterated the strategic reasons for SB Valley's purchase of the property: water supply infrastructure, and habitat needs for mitigation for projects all over the watershed.

There is much value to this agency for many decades to come plus the opportunity to educate.

President Kielhold emphasized partnerships, particularly between those entities which have personnel, training, money, or land. He requested consideration of reordering the Plan sections to put implementation before the detailed plan.

Vice President Hayes pointed out this project is primarily a habitat conservation plan which enhances SB Valley's ability to do water and also provides engagement with the partnerships to do the education portion. President Kielhold pointed out this is part of 100 water projects.

Director Botello complimented the Board adhering to the SB Valley values through finding innovative methods to conduct business.

3.2) Review and Discuss Mid-Year General Fund Budget to Actual Comparisons for Fiscal Year 2023-2024. Chief Executive Officer/General Manager Heather Dyer reported that at mid-year, the District is at about 50 percent of expected revenue. She described income over several cycles of property taxes and water sales.

Ms. Dyer detailed some expenditures:

- Purchase of heavy equipment: 28 percent of the Board-authorized funds have been spent. Four pieces of equipment are expected to be delivered in the next month or two.
- Escrow is expected to close within the next month on purchase of mitigation land in the Lytle Creek area, which is very important to the Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) and conservation strategy.
- The Enhanced Recharge Project is 64 percent spent to date and includes two proactive change orders. The project is about 65 percent complete and is moving faster than expected.
- The Regional Recycled Water System is close to completion of SB Valley's part. About \$6 million is left out of the \$62 million and final payments will be made to wrap up the project.
- Sponsorships have been provided to several organizations as approved. Remaining sponsorships will go to the Building Industry Association Water Conference, the Association of California Water Agencies conference, and the second half of the Inland Solar Challenge.
- Full use of the \$1.5 million incentive program for 15,000 acre-feet of demand management is expected. A program year of March to March is being considered to better facilitate program administration.

Vice President Hayes asked if the demand management program should be revised if all funds were expended. Ms. Dyer explained that due to the WIFIA loan, SB Valley must try to stay as close to budget as possible. She recommended no change to the program until the end of the year.

Director Longville noted that pass-through payments from successor agencies are more than 50 percent at mid-year and asked about the remainder of the year. Chief Financial Officer/Deputy General Manager Cindy Saks noted the payments via the County are unclear and she expected the revenue to be within the budget estimate.

Agenda Item 4. Reports (Discussion and Possible Action Items).

4.1) CEO/General Manager's Report. CEO / General Manager Heather Dyer highlighted the following:

- Attended infrastructure forum with Senator Rosilicie Ochoa-Bogh
- Held a luncheon with the California State University, San Bernardino Water Fellows
- Santa Ana River Enhanced Recharge Project is on track to be complete by December
- Weaver Basin Recharge activities are being refined
- With Strategic Communications Manager Kelly Malloy, met with 10 northern California water agencies as part of the California Water for All Road Show
- Santa Ana River Science and Conservation Symposium had approximately 220 attendees and presentations were wonderful
- A \$10.2 million check was presented from the State Water Resources Control Board for the Joint County Line Road Recharge Project
- SB Valley's 70th Anniversary commemorative dinner will be held Thursday

4.2) Directors' Report of Activities and Travel Requests in accordance with Resolution 1100.

Director Harrison reported that he attended:

- February 7 – Loma Linda Chamber of Commerce
- February 9 – California Special Districts Association (CSDA) Legislative Committee

Director Longville reported that she attended:

- February 7 – Strengthening the Grid for the Future webinar
- February 15 – League of Women Voters of California Water Committee
- February 15 – Santa Ana River Science and Conservation Symposium

Director Botello reported that he attended:

- February 10 – Thriving Gardening Basics at Sterling Natural Resources Center
- February 15 – Santa Ana River Science and Conservation Symposium

Director Hayes reported that she attended:

- February 13 – Phone Interview with consultant Kat Rippey
- February 14 – San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District meeting
- February 15 – Santa Ana River Science and Conservation Symposium

Director Kielhold reported that he attended:

- February 13 – Joint Board meeting with San Geronimo Pass Water Agency
- February 14 – San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District meeting
- February 15 – Santa Ana River Science and Conservation Symposium
- February 16 – South Mesa Water Company project groundbreaking

4.3) General Counsel Report. No report.

4.4) SAWPA Meeting Report. Director Harrison gave the report.

- Directed the General Manager to issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) for Microsoft Dynamics Great Plains Support, Maintenance, and a Financial System Replacement Study.
- Authorized the General Manager to award a contract for public works construction to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder, FS Contractors, Inc., for the Irrigation Replacement and Landscape Refresh Project (Project), in an amount not to exceed \$189,734.75; and
- Approved \$240,000 from the Building Reserve Fund for construction and inspection support for the Project.
- Received the following Informational Report:
 - Santa Ana River Watershed Weather Modification Pilot Program Update.

4.5) Water Delivery Report. Chief of Water Resources Michael Plinski reported that orders for approximately 72,000 to 75,000 acre-feet (af) of supply have been received for 2024, and there is approximately 51,300 af carryover from 2023. He discussed the water portfolio and plans for 2024. In January, 2024, 5,665 acre-feet of imported water was delivered to SB Valley.

4.6) Treasurer's Report. Director Harrison presented the report.

The Board approved the following expenses for the month of January 2024: State Water Contract Fund \$8,875,031.00 and General Fund \$7,574,787.79 by the following roll-call vote:

MOVED: Harrison	SECONDED: Botello	APPROVED: 5-0
AYES:	Botello, Harrison, Hayes, Longville, Kielhold	
NOES:	None	
ABSTAIN:	None	
ABSENT:	None	

Agenda Item 5. Future Business. None.

Agenda Item 6. Announcements.

6.1) List of Announcements. Chief of Staff/Clerk of the Board Jose Macedo pointed out the list of announcements.

Agenda Item 7. Closed Session. District Counsel Brad Neufeld introduced the Closed Session items. President Kielhold adjourned the meeting to Closed Session at 2:53 p.m.

7.1) Public Employee Performance Evaluation
 Pursuant to Government Code section 54957
 Title: CEO/General Manager

7.2) Conference with Labor Negotiator
 Pursuant to Government Code section 54957.6
 District designated representative: Brad Neufeld of Varner & Brandt
 Unrepresented employee: CEO/General Manager

President Kielhold returned the meeting to Open Session at 3:49 p.m. District Counsel Brad Neufeld stated there was no reportable action taken in the closed session.

Agenda Item 8. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned by President Kielhold at 4:31 p.m.

<p>APPROVAL CERTIFICATION</p> <p>I hereby certify to approval of the foregoing Minutes of San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District.</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Secretary</p> <p>Date _____</p>
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Respectfully submitted,

Lynda J. Kerney
 Contract Assistant

DATE: March 5, 2024

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Kelly Malloy, Strategic Communications Manager
Karen Resendez, Human Resources/Risk Manager

SUBJECT: CSUSB Fellowship Introduction

Staff Recommendation

Receive and file.

Summary

San Bernardino Valley has embraced the importance of supporting top talent in our industry through the sponsorship of five Fellows as part of California State University, San Bernardino's San Bernardino Valley Regional Water Fellowship Program (Fellowship Program). In its inaugural year, the Fellowship Program continues to provide a unique opportunity for local students to serve the community, receive real world experience, and foster professional relationships. This academic year five Fellows have been conducting field research, earning valuable certifications, and partnering with San Bernardino Environmental staff. Most recently, the Fellows prepared and presented an informational poster at the 2024 Santa Ana River Science and Conservation Symposium. The Fellows will be in attendance to provide an update on their experience.

Background

The San Bernardino Valley Regional Water Fellowship is administered by the CSUSB Institute for Watershed Resiliency. Fellows participate in diverse activities that collectively prepare participants to enter the workforce in a water related career setting including scientific studies, regulatory compliance, communication and marketing to public audiences, data analysis, public education and project management.

The San Bernardino Valley Regional Water Fellowship aims to engage and prepare participants to connect knowledge gained in the classroom with real world applications through San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District's goals and objectives for the communities they serve.

This year, San Bernardino Valley sponsored five Fellow positions that include students in both undergraduate and graduate phases of their education. The program is a paid Fellowship that takes place over the Fall, Winter, and Spring semesters which includes costs for professional development, field equipment, and other job related supplies.

District Strategic Plan Application

The CSUSB San Bernardino Valley Fellowship program aligns with the District's mission of *working collaboratively to provide a reliable and sustainable water supply to support the changing needs of our region's people and environment*. By sponsoring Fellows in the program it helps the Agency achieve its goal to *Attract and support top talent and promote a rewarding culture of growth and opportunity*.

Fiscal Impact

There is no fiscal impact related to this update.

DATE: March 5, 2024
TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Kelly Malloy, Strategic Communications Manager
SUBJECT: 2024 Comprehensive Media Program Overview

Staff Recommendation

Consider approving the 2024 Comprehensive Media Program and authorize the CEO/ General Manager to execute an agreement with We Market for Humans in the amount of \$117,600.

Summary

As a regional and industry leader, San Bernardino Valley has set out disseminate information in a clear and consistent manner. The Board of Directors has identified Community Relations as a key component of our agency's strategic goals and objectives. We have made tremendous progress over the last several years in engagement with our stakeholders and the greater community we serve.

Given the broad audience and opportunities for community engagement, maximizing the use of digital resources can share key messages of the Agency in a relatable and understandable way. Recently, the Agency has seen great success in the use of videos to highlight projects and programs including our Strategic Plan video ([View Video](#)) and our recent 70th anniversary video ([View Video](#)). Maintaining this momentum, staff is recommending that the Agency consider contracting with the video firm that has produced our previous videos, We Market for Humans, to develop a Comprehensive Media Program to include the production of five additional videos and regular social media content generation. This firm is very familiar with our work, our values, and has the unique ability to maintain consistency with strategic messaging and tone while achieving fast-paced production timelines. Beyond this experience We Market for Humans maximizes the use of archived video footage allowing for efficient on-site filming to focus on specific project areas and recording on-camera interviews.

Background

San Bernardino Valley has identified the importance of effective communication and engagement. As the Agency looks ahead at key messages identified in the Strategic Plan along with upcoming opportunities for presentations, the benefits of an informational series of videos were identified as a key tool. The agency regularly provides presentations to industry organizations, community-based organizations, and peer agencies to highlight the on-going efforts of San Bernardino Valley. Production of multiple videos with shared filming and context will create opportunities for interesting and relevant videos of varied length to include in PowerPoint presentations, share on social media, highlight on the Agency's website, and distribute individually.

We Market for Humans specializes in producing world-class video presentation tools and maximizing engagement success. With historical knowledge of San Bernardino Valley, We Market for Humans has the ability to maximize new and archived video footage to highlight the Agency's Strategic Plan in action. Looking ahead at 2024 and 2025, a collection of strategically produced media can communicate our commitment to the long-term resiliency to the region's water supply to our partners and the communities we serve. By looking ahead at the upcoming needs for videos there are significant cost savings compared to on-site filming and editing each video individually. Additionally, We Market for Humans can prepare the videos in a manner that reflect the 70th Anniversary and a second version of the same video without references to the anniversary to help it remain relevant after 2024.

In addition to pre-planning a series of video production, the program also identifies the implementation of an ongoing social media program. This program would feature monthly releases of professionally curated videos using archive video footage and posts to amplify San Bernardino Valley's mission, vision, and values throughout 2024 to ensure consistent information on social media to allow for 24/7 information availability.

District Strategic Plan Application

The Draft 2024 Comprehensive Media Program is consistent with the Agency's Strategy 5 *Build trust by being a collaborative and resourceful partner through effective communication and engagement*, specifically Goal 4 *Build trust by being a collaborative and resourceful partner through effective communication and engagement*. This program will maximize the ability to produce digital educational material for distribution through both professional speaking engagements and social media in a strategic and consistent manner.

Fiscal Impact

The fiscal impact for this effort would total \$117,600 for both the video and social media components. There are adequate funds identified within the Consultant line item of the FY 2023-24 Budget.

Attachments

1. Draft 2024 Comprehensive Media Program Overview

MEDIA PROPOSAL

SBV 2024 COMPREHENSIVE VIDEO PROJECT OVERVIEW

To strategically film, produce, and deliver an entire year's worth of video content that San Bernardino Valley (SBV) will use on an ongoing basis throughout 2024 and 2025.

This collection of strategically produced media will not only communicate its commitment to the long-term resiliency to the region's water supply to its partners and the communities they serve, it will demonstrate SBV's commitment to leading the industry as a whole.

In order to make the most of SBV's investment, all videos produced will be rendered as 2 versions: one with a "70th Anniversary" treatment ("skin") and a second, "evergreen" version that can be used beyond 2024.

Additionally, included in this package is implementation of an ongoing social media program. This program will feature monthly releases of curated videos and posts to amplify SBV's mission and engagement throughout 2024 and beyond maximizing SBV's Strategic Plan and We Market for Humans unique agency knowledge and communications experience.

DELIVERABLES (official titles TBD):

- (Video A) A 3-5 minute presentation video: "About Us – The evolution of our purpose"
- (Video B) A 3-5 minute presentation video: "All Our Projects – How it all fits together"
- (Video C) A 3-5 minute presentation video: "SBV and our Partnerships: Our individual responsibilities/missions and how we compliment each other."
- (Video D) A 5-7 minute presentation video on "SBV's Anticipated Special Project"
- (On-Location Filming)
 - Video Shoot "A": 5 consecutive days of "on-location" filming (interviews, b-roll, etc) to be used in videos A-C.
 - Video Shoot "B": 3 consecutive days of "on-location" filming (interviews, b-roll, etc) to be used for Video D.
- (Ongoing Social Media Video Content Production & Delivery): 12 months of four (4) 30-60 second videos / per month for use in social media and professional presentations.
- Comprehensive ongoing Social Media Program: 12 months of 8-10 posts / month, including strategy, copywriting, media curation/creation, SBV approval, and deployment to multiple platforms.
- "70th Anniversary" & "Evergreen" versions (skins) for ALL VIDEOS ABOVE.
- 1 physical hard drive with all footage, interviews, b-roll, etc. from the aforementioned 8 days of "on-location" filming.
- Up to 4 remote video call strategy/planning meetings - 1 for each video (1-2 hr. / each).

ON LOCATION FILMING : **PROPOSED COST BREAKDOWN** | \$50,000

- VIDEO SHOOT "A" 5 consecutive full days video shoot (HD video & drone), including exterior shots in several desirable locations (tbd by preliminary meetings), interviews, etc. [Director & Producer on-set] | \$27,500 (\$5,500/day)
- Travel | \$3,500

NOTE: THIS EXTENDED VIDEO SHOOT WILL COVER VIDEOS A-C OUTLINED IN THIS PROPOSAL

- VIDEO SHOOT "B" 3 consecutive full days video shoot (HD video & drone), including exterior shots in several desirable locations (tbd by preliminary meetings), interviews, etc. [Director & Producer on-set] | \$16,500 (\$5,500/day)
- Travel | \$2,500

NOTE: THIS EXTENDED VIDEO SHOOT WILL COVER "Anticipated Special Project" Video D OUTLINED IN THIS PROPOSAL

VIDEO A: **PROPOSED COST BREAKDOWN** | \$15,500

- Music search/review/approval/purchase/license | \$600 (up to 2 selections)
- Scripting | \$2,500
- Edit of 1 fully-produced 3-5 minute presentation video | \$12,000
- VO for 3-5 minute presentation video | \$400
- 2 revisions (per video) | No Charge
- Social Media Version of approved presentation video | No Charge

VIDEO B: **PROPOSED COST BREAKDOWN** | \$15,500

- Music search/review/approval/purchase/license | \$600 (up to 2 selections)
- Scripting | \$2,500
- Edit of 1 fully-produced 3-5 minute presentation video | \$12,000
- VO for 3-5 minute presentation video | \$400
- 2 revisions (per video) | No Charge
- Social Media Version of approved presentation video | No Charge

VIDEO C: **PROPOSED COST BREAKDOWN** | \$15,500

- Music search/review/approval/purchase/license | \$600 (up to 2 selections)
- Scripting | \$2,500
- Edit of 1 fully-produced 3-5 minute presentation video | \$12,000
- VO for 3-5 minute presentation video | \$400
- 2 revisions (per video) | No Charge
- Social Media Version of approved presentation video | No Charge

VIDEO D (Anticipated Special Project): **PROPOSED COST BREAKDOWN** | \$21,100

- Music search/review/approval/purchase/license | \$600 (up to 2 selections)
- Scripting | \$3,000
- Edit of 1 fully-produced 5-7 minute presentation video | \$17,000
- VO for 5-7 minute presentation video | \$500
- 2 revisions (per video) | No Charge
- Social Media Version of approved presentation video | No Charge

Ongoing Social Media Video Production and Delivery:

PROPOSED COST BREAKDOWN | \$4,000/month for 12 months (\$48,000 total - first payment due month prior to first deliverables delivered)

- Edit of 4 fully-produced 30-60 second videos | (included)
- Music search/review/approval/purchase/license | (included)
- Scripting | (included)
- 2 revisions (per video) | (included)

ONGOING SOCIAL MEDIA STRATEGY AND CONTENT CREATION:

PROPOSED COST BREAKDOWN \$3,000/month for 12 months (\$36,000 total - first payment due month prior to first deliverables delivered)

Intention:
To maintain an ongoing and consistent presence, generate and maintain Agency organization/ project awareness, and create conversation with the community, stakeholders, and professional organizations. The aim is to highlight the human connection with San Bernardino Valley, as well as narrate a broader story of how SBV's projects interconnect and benefit the community, contributing to SBV's mission

statement of creating a reliable and sustainable water supply for generations to come.

Comprehensive Strategy, Content Creation, Copywriting, and Organic Content Deployment:

- Platforms: A consistent and ongoing social media presence on any of the major social media platforms where SBV maintains a presence, including but not limited to LinkedIn, Instagram, Facebook, etc.
- Content Creation: Utilizing the 4 custom videos from section E above, WFMH will curate 4-6 additional pieces of media (videos, images, etc.), write copy, provide content for review, and post 8-10 organic content posts per month based on existing video footage and photography.
- Approval Process: All posts will maintain SBV's public-facing "voice" and will always be approved by a designated SBV representative prior to going public.
- Community Interaction: SBV will be responsible for any conversations/comments that arise from the content.
- Advertising: This proposal does not include placing ads. SBV would be responsible for the additional costs of promoting various social media posts.
- A 48-hour notice is required to be able to post anything directly requested from SBV.

Physical Hard Drive: **PROPOSED COST BREAKDOWN** | ~~\$22,000~~ - No Charge- **INCLUDED AS PART OF BUNDLE PACKAGE**

- 1 physical hard drive with all interviews, b-roll, etc –FROM BOTH VIDEO SHOOTS OUTLINED ABOVE

ADDITIONAL COST BREAKDOWN (if ordered by SBV)

- Additional 1 day video shoot (HD video & drone) | \$5,500 (+pass through travel expenses) [Director & Producer on-set]
- Each additional 30 seconds of produced video (beyond scope) | \$1,000
- Additional revisions (beyond 2) | \$300 / Hour (billed in 1/2 Hour increments)
- Additional pass through travel expenses
- Additional Voice Over (V/O) Talent search / VO production / talent fee | \$125/produced minute

BILLING/PAYMENT SCHEDULE AS FOLLOWS:

Due Upon Signing

(\$58,800) equal to 50% of the total fees (\$117,600) for VIDEO SHOOT "A", VIDEO SHOOT "B", and VIDEO PRODUCTION A,B,C, & D.

(\$4,000) for first month of ONGOING SOCIAL MEDIA STRATEGY AND CONTENT CREATION.

(\$3,000) for first month of Ongoing Social Media Video Production and Delivery.

Other Billing Schedules

(\$14,700) equal to 50% (\$58,800) of total video fees to be invoiced as 4 equal payments of \$14,700 with one payment due upon delivery of each of the 4 videos (A,B, C and D).

(\$4,000/month) ONGOING SOCIAL MEDIA VIDEO PRODUCTION AND DELIVERY.

(\$3,000/month) ONGOING SOCIAL MEDIA STRATEGY AND CONTENT CREATION.

First payment due upon signing.

WMFH will have 30 days from first payment to get the following month's 4 videos and 10 posts produced, approved, and ready for deployment during the following month.

50% Deposit and First Months of Social Media Video
Production/Delivery and Ongoing Social Media Strategy &
Content Creation) Due Upon Signing:

\$65,800

DATE: March 5, 2024

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Matthew Olivo, Senior Accountant
Cindy Saks, CFO / Deputy General Manager

SUBJECT: Consider Financial Statement Auditing Services for Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2024 and 2025

Staff Recommendation

Authorize the General Manager to sign an engagement letter to exercise the two-year option with Rogers, Anderson, Malody & Scott, for auditing services for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024 and fiscal year ending June 30, 2025 with fees not to exceed \$31,330 and \$31,800, respectively. Single Audits, if needed, would incur a cost of \$3,650 for fiscal year 2024 and \$3,700 for fiscal year 2025.

Background

In April 2021, Staff was given direction to negotiate a new agreement for auditing services with Rogers, Anderson, Malody & Scott (RAMS) for a three-year period of time with the option to extend an additional two years. At the May 4, 2021 San Bernardino Valley Board meeting, the Board of Directors approved an engagement letter for fiscal years ending June 30, 2021, 2022, and 2023 with the option to extend an additional two years at future board action (fiscal years 2024 and 2025).

San Bernardino Valley is required to have an independent audit of its financial records each year. RAMS was selected due in part to being a local San Bernardino based CPA firm with experience in providing audit services to State Water Contractors. RAMS assigns an experienced audit team to San Bernardino Valley each year and has maintained a continuity of staff. Beginning with the 2021 fiscal year, San Bernardino Valley requested a change in the RAMS partner and senior staff member assigned to our contract. The fees for the fiscal years 2021, 2022, 2023 were \$29,950, \$30,400 and \$30,860 respectively. Also, as San Bernardino Valley has had specific audit or accounting questions throughout the years, RAMS has been very responsive. RAMS has been providing the annual audits for San Bernardino Valley for the past 18 years.

Staff is satisfied with the service RAMS has provided San Bernardino Valley. Staff requests that the Board exercise the option to extend the contract for an additional two years.

Fiscal Impact

The fees for auditing services with Rogers, Anderson, Malody & Scott for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024 and 2025 is an amount not to exceed \$30,850 and \$31,310, respectively. The cost to perform the Agreed Upon Procedures of Appropriation Limit Calculation would be \$480 for fiscal year 2024, and \$490 for fiscal year 2025. Single Audits, if needed, would incur a cost of \$3,650 for fiscal year 2024 and \$3,700 for fiscal year 2025.

Funds to cover the auditing services fees will be budgeted in General Fund under account 6380 – District Audit in each of the corresponding fiscal years.

Attachment

Contract proposal from Rogers, Anderson, Malody & Scott for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024 and 2025.



735 E. Carnegie Dr. Suite 100
San Bernardino, CA 92408
909 889 0871 T
909 889 5361 F
ramscpa.net

February 9, 2024

PARTNERS

Terry P. Shea, CPA
Scott W. Manno, CPA, CGMA
Leena Shanbhag, CPA, MST, CGMA
Bradferd A. Welebir, CPA, MBA, CGMA
Jenny W. Liu, CPA, MST
Gardenya Duran, CPA, CGMA
Brianna Schultz, CPA, CGMA
Brenda L. Odle, CPA, MST (Partner Emeritus)

MANAGERS / STAFF

Seong-Hyea Lee, CPA, MBA
Evelyn Morentin-Barcena, CPA
Veronica Hernandez, CPA
Laura Arvizu, CPA
John Maldonado, CPA, MSA
Julia Rodriguez Fuentes, CPA, MSA
Demi Hite, CPA
Jeffrey McKennan, CPA

MEMBERS

American Institute of
Certified Public Accountants

*PCPS The AICPA Alliance
for CPA Firms*

*Governmental Audit
Quality Center*

California Society of
Certified Public Accountants

San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District
San Bernardino, California

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you and your staff for the confidence and support you have provided to us over the past few years.

As you are aware, our current contract with the District expired with the audit of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023. We are proud of the excellent service our firm has provided the District. In addition to the audit, we have been flexible in our audit schedules to accommodate any requests of the District and we have made ourselves available (*at no extra charge*) throughout the years to answer questions raised by finance staff.

We have made it an absolute priority to provide the District with the best service possible and we would like to continue providing those services. The District has the option to exercise a two-year extension, as allowed for in the initial request for proposal. This will allow us to provide continuous and uninterrupted auditing services to the District. As has been the case during our prior contract period, we will continue to provide continuity of staffing, and be available to work with the finance staff in areas of technical accounting pronouncements as well as compliance and internal control issues. We are available for telephone consultation on various financial matters throughout the year. All professional consultations throughout the year have been included in our proposed fixed fee.

Please see the attached fee schedules for our proposed fees for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024 and 2025 as listed in our original proposal. If the options are exercised, we will provide management with a standard engagement letter for the 2024 financial statement audit in May 2024.



We value the District as an important client and look forward to continuing our services for the next several years. Please do not hesitate to contact us at (909) 889-0871 for further clarification. We look forward to continuing our professional relationship with the District

Very truly yours,

ROGERS, ANDERSON, MALODY & SCOTT, LLP



Brad Welebir, CPA, CGMA, MBA
Partner

RESPONSE:

Acknowledged and agreed on behalf of the San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District:

Name: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

**San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District
Rogers Anderson Malody & Scott, LLP
Proposed fees**

	Not to exceed amounts for the year ended June 30	
Description of services	2024	2025
Total Cost for Financial Statement Audit based on staff hours and rates	\$ 30,850	\$ 31,310
Total Maximum Price Bid for District Audit	\$ 30,850	\$ 31,310
Other Items Asked to be Priced by the District:		
Single Audit and Related Reports*, if applicable in any year	\$ 3,650	\$ 3,700
Preparation of Annual State Controller's Report	730	740
Agreed Upon Procedures of Appropriation Limit Calculation	480	490
Total Other Items	\$ 4,860	\$ 4,930
All-Inclusive Maximum Maximum Price Bid for District Audit with Other Items	\$ 35,710	\$ 36,240

* = for the first major program, each additional major program \$3,450 for 2024.

DATE: March 5, 2024
TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Bob Tincher, Chief of State Water Initiatives/Deputy General Manager
SUBJECT: State Water Project Report

Staff Recommendation

Receive and file

Summary

This report provides an update on the State Water Project and related topics.

Background

1. State Water Project
 - a. Conditions are extremely wet in the Delta with around 100,000 cubic feet per second flowing to the ocean. Despite the extremely wet conditions, the State Water Project pumps in the south Delta are limited to about 2,500 cubic feet per second by environmental regulations intended to protect fish. The Department of Water Resources (DWR) just recently increased the allocation for 2024 to 15%.
2. Delta Conveyance
 - a. If the Delta Conveyance Project (DCP) were in place, this year, we would have been able to capture almost 500,000 acre-feet since the DCP bypasses the south Delta pumps (see attached).
 - b. DWR submitted the Change in Point of Diversion Petition for DCP. If granted, DWR would be allowed to use DCP, once constructed. This petition does not seek any new water right only a new place to divert the water.
 - c. DWR has appealed the Superior Court ruling denying DWR's request for an order validating bond resolutions to finance the Delta Conveyance Project. DWR adopted the bond resolutions in 2020 while it was still evaluating a broad range of alternatives and had not yet selected a preferred alternative for DCP. The Superior Court concluded that the resolutions were too broad and denied validation on that basis.

- d. An excerpt from the latest monthly status report is attached for your information.
3. Sites Reservoir
 - a. If Sites Reservoir was in place, it is estimated that it would have captured 1.2 million acre-feet (MAF) of water in 2023 and 2024, to date. See attached press release. San Bernardino Valley's portion of the 1.2 MAF (12.8%) would have been about 154,000 AF.
 - b. An excerpt from the latest status report for the project is attached for your information.

District Strategic Plan Application

Supplemental water from the State Water Project helps San Bernardino Valley achieve its mission to work collaboratively to provide a reliable and sustainable water supply to support the changing needs of our region's people and environment.

Fiscal Impact

None

Attachments

1. Estimated diversions in 2024 through Delta Conveyance if it were in place
2. Excerpt from Delta Conveyance February 2024 Monthly Report
3. Press release: New Analysis Finds Sites Reservoir Would Be 80 Percent Full After Recent Storms If It Were Operational Today
4. Sites Reservoir Project Monthly Status Report for February 2024



Adapting to Climate Change: Catching and Moving Water from Big Storms

Climate change models indicate that precipitation will fall more as rain and less as snow. This creates more runoff and river flows in the winter. The Delta Conveyance Project—a water infrastructure modernization project—will help capture and move excess water and still meet fishery and water quality protections.

The chart below shows diversions made by the Central Valley

Project and the State Water Project (SWP) from the Delta in the 2024 water year, beginning in October 2023. It also shows the theoretical diversions that could have been made to capture excess water by the Delta Conveyance Project. Notably, the Delta Conveyance Project would not have operated until January 1, 2024 to meet fishery and water quality protections.*

Diversions for Water Year 2024 (Estimates through February 22, 2024)

Month	State Water Project Exports* (Acre-Feet)	Central Valley Project Exports ¹ (Acre-Feet)	Theoretical Additional DCP Diversion ² (Acre-Feet)	South Delta Export Limiting Factors (days in month)
October	99,000	138,000	0*	WQ (Fall X2) (1-31)
November	154,000	131,000	0*	NDOI (1-30)
December	196,000	183,000	0*	NDOI (1-14) WQ (15-31)
January	115,000	200,000	220,000	OMRI-5k (1-13), OMRI-5K_SR-3.5K (14-22) IEWPP (23-31)
February (1-22)	108,000	171,000	261,000	IEWPP (1-5) OMRI-5K(6) OMRI-3.5K(7-16) OMRI-2.5K(17-22)
March				
April				
May				
June				
July				
August				
September				
Total	672,000	823,000	481,000	

-Based on the 6,000 cfs diversion capacity of the approved project.
 -Estimate based on available water above D-1641 requirements and allowable DCP diversion under the proposed bypass criteria
 -Estimates are preliminary and subject to change
¹Diversions from the south Delta ²Additional DCP Diversions for SWP Participants

Limiting Factors Key

WQ: Water Quality (D-1641)
E/I: Export to Inflow Ratio (D-1641)
OMRI-5k: Old and Middle River Index of -5,000 cfs (BiOps and ITP)
IEWPP: Integrated Early Winter Pulse Protection (BiOps and ITP) - "First Flush"
OMRI-2k: Old and Middle River Index of -2,000 cfs (BiOps and ITP)
Capacity: Available Facility Capacity
WQ (Fall X2): Summer-Fall Action (BiOps and ITP)
NDOI: Net Delta Outflow Index (D1641)
OMRI-5k_SR-3.5K: Old and Middle River Index of -5,000 cfs (BiOps) with SWP Exports Restricted to OMRI of -3,500 cfs (ITP)
OMRI-3.5K: Old and Middle River Index of -3,500 cfs (ITP)
OMRI-2.5K: Old and Middle River Index of -2,500 cfs

Definitions

BiOps: Biological Opinions issued in 2019 by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service/National Marine Fisheries Service
ITP: Incidental Take Permit issued in 2020 by California Department of Fish and Wildlife
D-1641: State Water Board Delta flow and water quality requirements

MISSED OPPORTUNITY

If the DCP was operational during the rain events January 1 - February 22, 2024, we could have moved **481,000 acre-feet of water** into the San Luis Reservoir

481,000 acre-feet of water = enough water to supply:



or



Section 1 | Work Performed (January 2024 Activities)

Program Management. The team continued program-wide support activities and implementation of the Program Management Information System.

- Continued processing invoices for FY23/24
- Support vendors with invoice submission and contract amendment requests
- Support contract managers with financial forecasting and cashflow projections
- Continue development of master programmatic schedule
- Continue implementation and training of SOPs/Management Plans
- Continued Rate Review approach for tracking consultant rates in e-Builder
- Conducted mid-year budget review with contract managers
- Kicked off FY24/25 Procurement Strategy development

Administration. The Administrative team continued to support functions including IT support, in-person and virtual meetings and social media content/updates

- Supported DCA Board of Directors and coordination of DCA events including preparation for remote Director participation for Board meetings per Brown Act requirements.
- DCA Website review and updates, pushed DCA updates via social media outlets, created reminders about resource materials
- Coordination of DCA Change Board meetings/actions
- Activities supporting the development, coordination and

live support for Program Management Plans Phase 2 project

- Continue FY23/24 contract management activities
- Planning for Spring 2024 DCA alignment tours
- Execution and support of upcoming meetings and conferences
- Project Management activities to onboard the DCA Learning Management System



Engineering. The engineering team primarily focused on supporting the Department of Water Resources (DWR) Delta Conveyance Office (DCO) permitting efforts while also continuing to develop and progress engineering studies.

- Continued responding to requests for information (RFIs) from the DCO environmental team regarding permit applications
- Started preparing the Administrative Record for the Central and Eastern (C-E) and Bethany Reservoir Alternative Engineering Project Reports (EPRs)

- Continued to support communications and outreach efforts, including developing new and updated graphics and updating tour visualizations
- Continued evaluation of total program costs associated with the Bethany Reservoir Alternative, including evaluation of potential innovations that could reduce impacts, cost, schedule, or improve constructability
- Continued review of existing Delta-wide subsurface information
- Continued providing support for a potential community benefits program, including engineering, cost estimating, and participating in meeting with community representatives.
- Continued to support DCA programmatic planning activities

Field Work. The field work team continued efforts to collect data to support evaluation of Delta-wide subsurface conditions and validation of parameters assumed during development of conceptual designs.

- Continued consideration of potential priority future geotechnical investigations to support continued evaluation of potential design and construction refinements.
- Continued analysis of data gathered during 2023 investigation programs.
- Began onboarding new Temporary Entrance Permit (TEP) Coordinator to support future investigation programs.

Section 1 | One Month Look-Ahead (February 2024 Activities)

Program Management

- Continue processing invoices for FY23/24
- Continue development and processing of Task Orders, Task Order Amendments and Purchase Orders for FY23/24
- Support vendors with invoice submission and contract amendment requests
- Continue implementation and training of SOPs/Management Plans
- Kick-off Phase 2 of the Programmatic Management Plans
- Support contract managers with financial forecasting and cashflow projections
- Continue development of master programmatic schedule
- Complete roll out of Rate Review of new process
- Continue FY24/25 Procurement Strategy development

Administration

- Continue support to DCA office including all Administrative, Facility and IT functions
- Continue support for DCA Board of Directors meetings and monthly report generation
- Continue coordination of DCA Change Control Board meetings/actions
- Continue support for stakeholder engagement and outreach efforts
- Continue to manage and coordinate content for Social Media outlets
- Continued support for the Organization Growth Implementation Plan
- Ongoing FY23/24 contract management activities
- Planning for 2024 DCA alignment tours
- Project Management and go-live of DCA Learning Management System including course creation

Engineering

- Continue to respond to requests for clarification on conceptual designs, GIS features and/or quantities from DWR environmental team
- Continue engineering support of permit activities as requested by DWR environmental team
- Continue developing updated total program costs associated with the Bethany Reservoir Alternative
- Continue performing engineering studies to evaluate conceptual design assumptions and consider refinements that could reduce construction effects
- Continue supporting DCA programmatic activities
- Continue supporting DCO potential community benefits projects
- Continue review of existing Delta-wide subsurface information
- Provide engineering support to the planning of future Geotechnical Investigation Programs

Field Work

- Continue consideration of potential priority future geotechnical investigations to support continued evaluation of potential design and construction refinements
- Continue analysis of data gathered during 2023 investigation programs
- Send out Temporary Entry Permit letters for potential future investigation program.



Section 2 | Community Engagement

Community Engagement Highlights

- Completed a “Closer Look” video detailing the impacts of pile driving on local communities and a fact sheet on construction of the Delta Conveyance tunnel
- Completed the Member Agency Fact Sheet for Valley Water and Alameda Water Districts and provided the agencies with graphics to share through their social media channels
- DCA Executive Director Graham Bradner presented a project update to the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency and Antelope Valley/East Kern Water District
- Continued to update DCA website and materials with new information after the release of the final environmental impact report

We’re Connecting Everywhere!

SOCIAL MEDIA:

Total impressions: 235,680

Video Plays: 104,024

WEBSITE VIEWS:

Overview Page: 1,715

Document Library: 583



VALLEY WATER

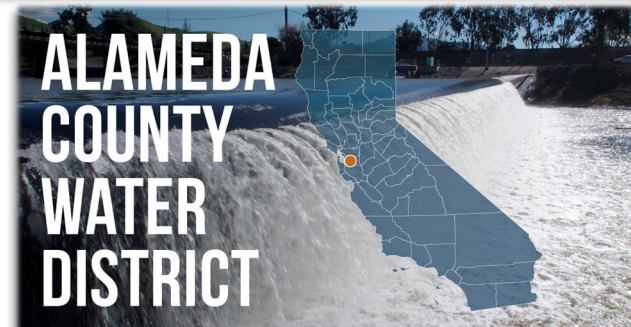


“Santa Clara County relies on water imported through the Delta’s aging infrastructure. We could lose this water supply because of sea level rise or levee failures due to earthquakes or flooding. The Delta Conveyance Project will protect and maintain these imported water supplies that are vital to Silicon Valley’s economy and will create 5,000 jobs for our region.”

David Bini, Executive Director,
Santa Clara & San Benito Counties Building and Construction Trades Council



DCA | DCA MEMBER AGENCY



ALAMEDA COUNTY WATER DISTRICT



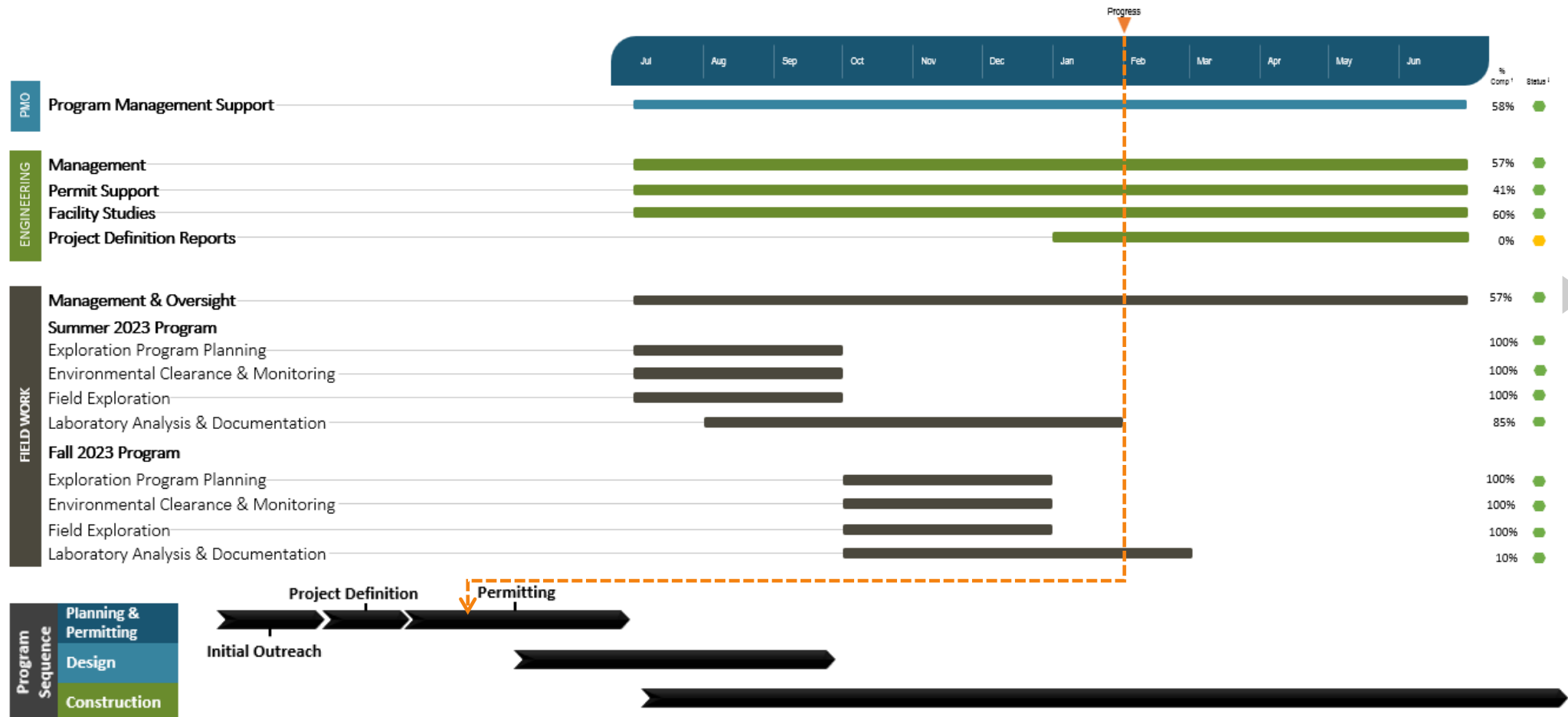
“Long-term water supply planning is crucial for sustainable water management in California. The state’s water supply is vulnerable to climate change, drought, sea level rise and seismic events. Imported supplies from the State Water Project and enhanced reliability that will come with the Delta Conveyance Project help safeguard the state’s water, assisting agencies in meeting our customers’ demands.”

Laura Hidas, Director of Water Resources



Section 5 | Program Schedule

Schedule. The Program Management Office (PMO) continues to work on program support activities as planned. The Engineering team continued progressing supplemental concept validation studies, as well as supporting DCA programmatic activities including risk management, cost estimating, scheduling and outreach. The Fieldwork team continued evaluation of collected subsurface information and planning for potential future investigation programs.





For Immediate Release:

February 15, 2024

Contact: Ann Newton

(310) 774-7639

**New Analysis Finds Sites Reservoir Would Be 80 Percent Full After Recent Storms
If It Were Operational Today**

2023 and 2024 storms combined would have yielded 1.2 million acre-feet of water

Sacramento, CA—The Sites Project Authority (Authority) announced that with the recent storms, Sites Reservoir could have diverted and captured 1.2 million acre-feet of water in 2023 and 2024 to date. Based on 2023 flows and significant storms this January and February, it is estimated that Sites Reservoir would be 80 percent full today following the critically dry prior years when Sites water would have been depleted.

“These latest storms show the need for Sites Reservoir to capitalize on California’s rainy season and store excess stormwater for the betterment of communities, farms, and the environment,” said **Fritz Durst, Chairman of the Sites Project Authority Board of Directors**. “While the exact amount of water will vary from year to year, we need to be prepared to capture water from major storms when they happen and save it for the next inevitable dry period. With hotter and drier weather threatening California’s water supply, we have no time to waste.”

Sites Reservoir is specifically designed to capture and store water generated by extreme storm events, like the atmospheric rivers that seasonally make landfall in California, to increase water flexibility, reliability, and resiliency in drier years.

The analysis found Sites Reservoir could have safely diverted a relatively small part of Delta outflow, leaving a significant natural flow in the Sacramento River and the Delta for ecosystem needs. Estimates show that during these most recent two months of 2024 storms and projecting diversions through mid-March, approximately 450 thousand acre-feet (TAF) could have been stored so far in 2024. There are still about two months of wet season remaining with the potential to raise water levels even more. A single acre-foot of water is enough to exceed the average annual indoor and outdoor water use of one to two California households, according to the Water Education Foundation.

This latest study shows that during major storms, and after all other needs being met, Sites Reservoir would be able to store excess water while meeting the project’s protective diversion criteria. This real time observation is consistent with the Authority’s robust [water availability analyses](#), as presented in the Sites water right application currently being considered by the State Water Resources Control Board, where multiple analytical methods used predicted there is enough water for Sites, the environment, and existing senior water right holders in the Delta Watershed under a variety of water supply scenarios, now and in the future.

“The entire Sites team is invested in ensuring there will be water for Sites Reservoir while not harming the environment, which is why we conducted the most extensive water availability analysis in California history for this project,” said **Jerry Brown, Executive Director of the Sites Project Authority**. “The real-time data matches what the models are saying and demonstrates Sites can viably capture and store water for drier periods. We are confident in our analysis and are asking the State Water Resources Control Board to expeditiously come to the same conclusion and issue our water right permit, so we can get busy building this new, badly needed facility to provide more water certainty for all of California.”

Sites Reservoir is an off-stream reservoir that will capture and store a portion of stormwater from the Sacramento River—after all other water rights and regulatory requirements are met—and release water to California communities, farms, business, and wildlife during drier years. Sites Reservoir has broad statewide support from cities, counties, water agencies, and irrigation districts throughout the Sacramento Valley, San Joaquin Valley, Bay Area, and Southern California which are working together to advance the project. The Sites Reservoir Project is locally led by the Sites Project Authority, which is made up Sacramento Valley water districts, cities, and counties.

Sites is an off-stream reservoir proposed north of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, where it would provide unique water supply and environmental benefits during dry periods, especially during extended drought. Additional information can be found at www.sitesproject.org or on Facebook and Twitter at @SitesProject.

Sites Reservoir Project Monthly Status Report (January)

Monthly Status Summary:

The development of the Sites Project continues to make progress in the critical areas, including the following activities:

Engineering:

- Signed Non-Disclosure Agreement with Western Area Power Administration.
- Continued Division of Safety of Dams coordination. Discussions involve permitting timing and scope of coverage in addition to the technical aspects of geotechnical analysis.
- Continued preliminary engineering design and analysis: dams, I/O, roads, conveyance, and system hydraulics.
- Completed coordination and execution of geotechnical investigation Work Package 3 field and office activities.

Coordination with Reclamation:

- Meetings with Reclamation and DWR individually to discuss technical aspects of coordinating operations. The joint discussions around the Operations Coordination Agreement were activated again as Reclamation has determined that the agreement can be finalized without a Basis of Negotiation as long as no commitment of resources are made by Reclamation. The parties are forming a drafting committee to review comments and prepare final draft for legal review.
- The State Water Contractors are providing comments on the Operations Coordination Agreement through DWR.
- Technical discussions with Reclamation involving the development of the Partnership Agreement (which is the Federal equivalent to the B&O) continued in December.
- Ongoing coordination with Reclamation on scope and schedule for the ROD.

Environmental Planning and Permitting:

- CEQA litigation support, as needed.
- Continued to perform seasonal surveys required by the Project's Aquatic Study Plan.
- Continued development of the draft Reservoir Management Plan and permitting approach, strategy, and timeline for 2024/2025 activities.
- Continued meetings with CDFW staff on responding to additional information requests for the Project's Operations ITP application. Provided substantial information to CDFW

Preparer:	JB, KS, AF, CH, HL, JS, LWH, JR	Authority Agent:	AF, KS, JR	Approver:	Brown	Page:	1	of	2
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Monthly Status Report Continued

to address their requests.

- Continued coordination with CDFW on the Revised Construction ITP and Master Streambed Alteration Agreement.
- Continued discussions with several parties protesting the Project's water right application and continued preparation for the administrative hearing.

Operations:

- Continued effort to transition Sites into the CalSim 3 model platform. Preparing summary of results for presentation to the Board at the March meeting.

Partner Engagement, Public Outreach & Real Estate:

- Finalized and distributed the Sites Virtual Tour video.
- Finalized updates to the project's message platform and informational materials to reflect the current status of the project and began development of new project collateral materials.
- Continued develop of the 2023 Annual Report.
- Planning for a Virtual Town Hall in early 2024 and 2024 Local Community Working Group meetings.
- Continued ongoing coordination with landowners who are part of the Early Acquisition Program.
- Ongoing coordination with landowners to discuss TROE for geotechnical, biological, environmental, and cultural field activities and other real estate actions.

Program Management & Administration:

- Continued coordination with Participants and Authority Board members to develop the Benefits & Obligations Contract with Participants and Joint Powers Agreement and Bylaws amendments.



Sites Reservoir Project

Work Plan Progress Reporting

#	Activity Name	Date	2024												2025												2026												2027											
			J	F	M	A	M	J	Jul	A	S	Oct	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	Jul	A	S	Oct	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	Jul	A	S	Oct	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	Jul	A	S	Oct	N	D
1	What do we get?																																																	
2	Final EIR / EIS - Complete	02-Nov-23 A	EIR / EIS - Complete																																															
3	CWA 404 / 401 - Submit Final Permit Applications	16-Feb-24	◆ CWA 404 / 401 - Submit Final Permit Applications																																															
4	Participant Specific Model Completed	21-Feb-24	◆ Participant Specific Model Completed																																															
5	Sites Reservoir Operations Plan, Version 2 Completed	27-Jun-24	◆ Sites Reservoir Operations Plan, Version 2 Completed																																															
6	B&O Contract Ready to Execute (Contract, Bylaws, JPA)	28-Jun-24	◆ B&O Contract Ready to Execute (Contract, Bylaws, JPA)																																															
7	Receive CESA ITP - Operations	15-Jul-24	◆ Receive CESA ITP - Operations																																															
8	Receive CESA ITP - Construction	15-Jul-24	◆ Receive CESA ITP - Construction																																															
9	Federal ESA - Receive Project Construction & Program Operations BiOps	19-Jul-24	◆ Federal ESA - Receive Project Construction & Program Operations BiOps																																															
10	ROD Signed	30-Jul-24	◆ ROD Signed																																															
11	Execute TCCA & GCID Facilities Use Agreements	30-Jul-24	◆ Execute TCCA & GCID Facilities Use Agreements																																															
12	Final Operating Agreement - Sites/DWR/Reclamation Completed	31-Jul-24	◆ Final Operating Agreement - Sites/DWR/Reclamation Completed																																															
13	DSOD Confirmation of Dam Design Criteria	30-Dec-24	◆ DSOD Confirmation of Dam Design Criteria																																															
14	Water Right Permit Issued by SWRCB	07-Feb-25*	◆ Water Right Permit Issued by SWRCB																																															
15	Federal ESA - Receive Project Operations BiOps	14-May-25	◆ Federal ESA - Receive Project Operations BiOps																																															
16	What does it cost?																																																	
17	30% Project Plans Complete	25-Mar-24	◆ 30% Project Plans Complete																																															
18	Class 3 Estimate Complete	05-Jul-24	◆ Class 3 Estimate Complete																																															
19	Project Unit Cost Update Complete (Class 3 Estimate & Plan of Finance)	30-Jul-24	◆ Project Unit Cost Update Complete (Class 3 Estimate & Plan of Finance)																																															
20	How do we pay?																																																	
21	WIFIA Loan Ready to Close	22-Nov-24*	◆ WIFIA Loan Ready to Close																																															
22	Partnership Agreement with Reclamation	24-Mar-25	◆ Partnership Agreement with Reclamation																																															
23	Prop 1 Final WSIP Award - Request Submitted	14-May-25	◆ Prop 1 Final WSIP Award - Request Submitted																																															
24	Prop 1 Final WSIP Award from CWC	18-Jul-25	◆ Prop 1 Final WSIP Award from CWC																																															
25	Final WIIN Act Appropriation Received	22-Dec-25	◆ Final WIIN Act Appropriation Received																																															
26	Close USDA Loan	03-Apr-26*	◆ Close USDA Loan																																															
27	Resolution to Offer Capacity & Service																																																	
28	Resolution to Offer Capacity & Service	21-Mar-25	◆ Resolution to Offer Capacity & Service																																															
29	Close of Investor Commitment Escrow	19-Sep-25	◆ Close of Investor Commitment Escrow																																															
30	Golden Gate Dam																																																	
31	Golden Gate Dam Property Acquisition Complete	19-Apr-24*	◆ Golden Gate Dam Property Acquisition Complete																																															
32	GG Dam Axis - Value Engineering Data	31-May-24	◆ GG Dam Axis - Value Engineering Data																																															
33	Geotech Available for GG Dam Foundation Design	21-Mar-25	◆ Geotech Available for GG Dam Foundation Design																																															
34	Complete Golden Gate Dam Foundation Design	20-Feb-26	◆ Complete Golden Gate Dam Foundation Design																																															
35	Excavation of Golden Gate Dam Foundation	07-Dec-26	◆ Excavation of Golden Gate Dam Foundation																																															
36	Construction																																																	
37	Construction Groundbreaking	16-Feb-26	★ Construction Groundbreaking																																															

DATE: March 5, 2024

TO: Board of Directors

SUBJECT: List of Announcements

- A. March 6, 2024, 8:30 a.m. – Upper SAR WIFA by Teleconference (Cancelled)
- B. March 6, 2024, 5:30 p.m. – Sunrise Ranch Community Masterplan Workshop #3
(Ayres Hotel Rialto/Fontana - 1495 W Renaissance Pkwy, Rialto, CA 92376)
- C. March 7, 2024, 2 p.m. – Board Workshop – Policy/Administration by
Teleconference or In-Person
- D. March 12, 2024, 2 p.m. – Board Workshop – Resources/Engineering by
Teleconference or In-Person
- E. March 13, 2024, 8:30 a.m. – Upper SAR WIFA Technical Advisory Committee by
Teleconference (Cancelled)
- F. March 13, 2024, 1:30 p.m. – SBVW Conservation District Board Meeting
- G. March 18, 2024, 6 p.m. – ASBCSD dinner (Location TBD)
- H. March 19, 2024, 9:30 a.m. – SAWPA Commission Meeting by Teleconference or
In-Person
- I. March 19, 2024, 2 p.m. – Regular Board Meeting by Teleconference or In-Person
- J. March 20, 2024, 8:30 a.m. – Upper SAR WIFA by Teleconference (Cancelled)
- K. March 27, 2024, 8:30 a.m. – Upper SAR WIFA Technical Advisory Committee by
Teleconference (Cancelled)