

**MONTEREY COUNTY WATER RESOURCES AGENCY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SALINAS RIVER BASIN MANAGEMENT PLAN (BMP) COMMITTEE**

Silvio Bernardi, Chair
Claude Hoover
Deidre Sullivan

Bob Antle, Public Member
Don Chapin, Public Member
David Bunn, Public Member

TIME: 8:30 a.m.
DATE: Wednesday, January 15, 2014
PLACE: Monterey County Water Resources Agency
Board Room
893 Blanco Circle
Salinas, CA 93901
(831) 755-4860

MINUTES

1. Call to Order @ 8:30 AM by Committee Chair Silvio Bernardi.

Members present: Director Silvio Bernardi, Director Claude Hoover, Director Deidre Sullivan (@ 8:33 AM), Bob Antle, David Bunn, Don Chapin, Ken Ekelund (ex-officio member of the Committee)

Members absent: None

A quorum was established.

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Receive the Clerk to the Board's Attestation of the Minutes of the last Basin Management Plan Committee meeting held on July 11, 2012.

Committee Action: On motion and second of Committee members Don Chapin and Claude Hoover, the Committee unanimously received the Clerk to the Board's Attestation of the Minutes of the Basin Management Plan Committee meeting held on July 11, 2012 as corrected.

4. Consider receiving a report recommending items for the Basin Management Plan Committee's consideration.

Rob Johnson, Assistant General Manager, led a discussion on possible changes in the BMP committee due to changes in composition of the Board; new issues which have arisen; and, the need to refocus on Basin planning efforts. The three topics for the day's discussion included: Committee membership; Committee purpose; and, topics for Committee involvement.

Membership:

Current Committee members voiced a general willingness to continue their service. However, they agreed upon the importance of first defining the purpose, goals and expectations of the committee before making a commitment.

Topics for Committee Involvement and BMP Purpose

Discussion of Committee involvement and BMP purpose were intermingled and resulted in the comments and/or questions listed below.

1. Committee composition should be 50% public members and 50% Directors. In that way the public has direct input into matters of importance. The Reservoir Operations Committee is a good model of an effective committee with public members and Directors. Community input is imperative prior to engaging in costly activities with which they do not agree.
2. The Planning Committee has handled many issues that should have been considered by the BMP Committee. Perhaps the two committees should be combined.
3. Water Rights Permit #11043 and the Long-Term Salinas River Management Plan are topics the BMP Committee could consider.
4. Was the Basin Management Plan developed in 1999 required by the State?
Response: BMP efforts evolved from a program in the development of the Salinas Valley Water Project.
5. Have all the segments of the BMP developed in 1999 been accomplished? **Response: Staff must perform research in order to answer this question.**
6. Is there a legal requirement for the BMP Committee to exist?
7. Are we displacing or replacing something that not currently being done well?
8. How can we be more effective in getting basin water issues resolved?
9. The EIR for the Salinas River does not provide a holistic approach to deal with the issues. It is important to ensure the EIR is permissible.
10. The BMP Committee must develop a philosophy for dealing with issues such as flood control.
11. The BMP Committee could serve as a filter and/or steering committee for issues to determine whether particular proposals/issues lie within the Agency's jurisdiction.
12. Projects should be handpicked to ensure they provide the most benefit to Monterey County, and the Ag industry should be included in those discussions.
13. The development of Committee purposes, goals and expectations is mandatory.
14. The BMP Committee is relevant to the Board of Directors, who ultimately make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors.
15. Is the Agency involved with the plans that are coming from Downtown?
Response: That is a County-wide plan and the Agency does not know the full scope of that plan. When the Committee meets next month, they may want to discuss how much they want to be involved in those plans.
16. Will the Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) continue or be folded into the BMP Committee? **Response: They are completing their goals and now would be a good time to transition into the BMP.**

Mr. Johnson then asked Committee members if they would continue meeting the second Wednesday of each month at 8:30 AM. Mr. Antle responded important developments

were expected in the next couple of weeks, and recommended waiting to hear the outcome first.

(David Bunn and Claude Hoover left the meeting @ 9:00 AM.)

Committee members proposed a Basin Management Plan Workshop in the very near future to continue the important discussions taking place during the day's meeting. They also asked about discussion topics for the next meeting. Mr. Johnson listed the following:

- Background information on Water Rights Permit #11043;
- Salinas River Channel Maintenance Program (short-term)
- Salinas River Maintenance Program (long-term)
- Refocus of BMP Committee Purpose
- BMP Committee membership
- Review of the Salinas River Basin Management Plan
- Arroyo Seco Dam Implementation Project

Committee members asked that advance reading material be provided for the workshop in order to develop relevant questions. Committee members also suggested the Salinas River EIR and financing plan be routed through the BMP Committee.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

John Baillie, Monterey County resident, stated community input is essential to the BMP Committee.

5. Set next meeting date and discuss future agenda items.

The Committee will meet in a Workshop on Tuesday, January 28, 2014 from 1:30 – 4:00 PM in the Water Resources Agency Board Room. Advance reading material will be provided.

6. Adjournment

Committee Action: On motion and second of Committee members Don Chapin and Deidre Sullivan, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 9:35 AM by those members present.

Submitted by: Wini Chambliss