

Attachment A

**San Joaquin County Flood Control and Water Conservation District  
Advisory Water Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, February 19, 2025**

**I. Call to Order/Roll Call**

The Advisory Water Commission (AWC) meeting was held at the San Joaquin County Robert J. Cabral Agricultural Center in Stockton, California. At approximately 1:00 p.m., Angie Provencio of San Joaquin County Public Works conducted a roll call of members only.

Commissioners and Alternates in attendance: Dante Nomellini, Jeremy Engle, Jennifer Torres-O'Callahan, Stephanie Reyna-Heistand, Charlie Starr, Scot Moody, Sonny Dhaliwal, John Herrick, John Holbrook, Keith Bussman, Mary Elizabeth, George Hartmann, Michael Panzer, Will Price, Christopher Neudeck, and Thomas McGurk

**II. Approval of May 15, 2024, Minutes**

Motion: Christopher Neudeck

Second: George Hartmann

In favor (14): Dante Nomellini, Jeremy Engle, Jennifer Torres-O'Callahan, Stephanie Reyna-Heistand, Charlie Starr, Scot Moody, John Herrick, John Holbrook, Keith Bussman, George Hartmann, Michael Panzer, Will Price, Christopher Neudeck, Thomas McGurk

Opposed: Mary Elizabeth

Abstained: Sonny Dhaliwal

**III. Discussion/Action Items**

**A. Election of Advisory Water Commission Chair and Vice Chair**

1. Commissioner George Hartmann opens nominations for Chair; Commissioner John Herrick seconds
  - a) Chair Thomas McGurk nominates Michael Panzer; Commissioner George Hartmann seconds
  - b) Commissioner John Herrick nominates John Holbrook for Chair; Commissioner Stephanie Reyna-Hiestand seconds the nomination

- c) The vote for John Holbrook was as follows:
  - In Favor (11) - Dante Nomellini, Jeremy Engle, Jennifer Torres-O'Callahan, Stephanie Reyna-Heistand, Charlie Starr, Scot Moody, Sonny Dhaliwal, John Herrick, Keith Bussman, Michael Panzer, and Christopher Neudeck
  - Abstained (4) - John Holbrook, George Hartmann, Will Price, and Thomas McGurk
  - Opposed - Mary Elizabeth
  - John Holbrook was elected as the new Chair of the Advisory Water Commission
- 2. Commissioner George Hartmann opens nominations for Vice Chair; Commissioner Charlie Starr seconds
  - a) Commissioner George Hartmann nominated Michael Panzer for Vice Chair; Commissioner Charlie Starr seconds
    - The vote for Michael Panzer was unanimous; Michael Panzer was elected as the new Vice Chair of the Advisory Water Commission
- B. **Presentation by River Partners of Mokelumne River Floodplain Reconnection Initiatives** – Bill Eisenstein of River Partners explained that his company restores floodplain lands across the Central Valley. He then shared that they are seeking willing landowners to partner with to restore floodplain lands within the county.
- C. **Mokelumne River Integrated Conjunctive Use Program (MICUP) Update** – Bob Granberg explained that the initiative includes requesting approval from the State Water Resources Control Board of an amended water right application to directly divert up to 110,000 acre-feet per year of available water from the Mokelumne River between December 1 and June 30, to be used for groundwater recharge projects. He also explained that the application also seeks approval to store an additional 48,000 acre-feet per year of available water from the Mokelumne River in Pardee Reservoir and/or Camanche Reservoir, to be subsequently released and diverted for groundwater recharge projects. Currently, they are almost finished with the draft California Environmental Quality Act environmental impact report to release for public comment. San Joaquin County will serve as the lead agency to certify the final environmental impact report.
- D. **Flood Resilience Ordinance Update** – San Joaquin County Water Resources Manager Ashley Couch shared that the county's Flood Resilience Ordinance must be updated to remain compliant with all federal and state regulations, required for continued participation in the National Flood Insurance Program. The new ordinance is based on the state model Floodplain Management Ordinance, with a few locally appropriate modifications. During the public engagement process, county staff decided to convene a workgroup comprised of key stakeholders to focus on proposed levee regulations. Ultimately, the proposed ordinance must be approved by the California Department of Water Resources and FEMA Region 9, before being considered for adoption by the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors.

#### **IV. Staff Reports**

- A. **SJAFCA** – Darren Suen, Executive Director of SJAFCA, shared some background on his experience.
- B. **San Joaquin County** – Ashley Couch shared that Senator Ana Caballero proposed SB 72, which involves long-term water supply and requires state agencies to meet the targets set. A letter was sent requesting that the language be revised to make the bill neutral regarding the proposed Delta Conveyance Project.

#### **V. Public Comment – None**

**VI. Commissioner Comments** – Commissioner George Hartmann stressed the importance of the Advisory Water Commission and the potential of the group. He shared the desire to host more regular meetings. Chair John Holbrook commented on the need to choose a few items of public and Board of Supervisors interest, holding limited meetings for important items only.

**VII. Future Agenda Items** - Mary Elizabeth requested the Domestic Well Mitigation be brought back to agenda along with an SB552 update and the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan.

**VIII. Adjournment** – 2:38 p.m.