

## **MINUTES (Approved)**

Chairperson: Thomas Burhenn  
Vice Chairperson: Jim Guthrie  
Secretary: Brendan Clark

The following action minutes are listed as they were acted upon by the Water Resources Advisory Committee (WRAC) as listed on the Special Meeting agenda for **June 25, 2024** together with staff reports and related documents attached thereto and incorporated therein by reference.

The video recording of the meeting and materials submitted to the WRAC are available online: [https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Public-Works/Committees-Programs/Water-Resources-Advisory-Committee-\(WRAC\).aspx](https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Public-Works/Committees-Programs/Water-Resources-Advisory-Committee-(WRAC).aspx)

Call to order at 11:00 AM

### **1) Determination of a Quorum and Introductions**

The number of voting Members present is 23. Quorum met.

### **2) Receive Update from County Staff regarding Proposed 2024 State Water Transfer and Consider Actions**

[\*Click here to view a recording of this item \(start time ~ 00:02:24\)\*](#)

T. Burhenn introduces the item and W. Thomson, County of SLO Supervising Water Utilities Engineer, presents on the proposed 2024 State Water Transfer and the District's policy direction to staff.

T. Burhenn asks for questions or comments from the Committee.

E. Greening asks where does CCWA fit in with this? Would it lead to less water being moved through the Coastal Branch? Does it affect fixed costs for the operation of the Coastal Branch? W. Thompson responds.

G. Grewal asks how the money will benefit County taxpayers for the unsubscribed portion being sold.

C. Mulholland asks if the District sells surplus State Water, will the money go back to the taxpayers, and if not, where will those funds go. W. Thompson responds.

P. Brown comments on the direct benefits to the water utilities (subcontractors) to sell unused allocations and use the funds for CIPs, rate offsets, etc.

C. Mulholland asks if subsidizing water to the west side districts will result in the most beneficial use of the water. What will the water be used for? D. Chisam responds.

S. Carter asks how the price per AF is determined? W. Thompson and P. Brown respond.

P. Brown asks for clarification about when payment would be made. W. Thompson responds.

S. Carter comments that the District wouldn't be subsidizing water to the west side districts, clarifying that this would be a sale of available water to a willing buyer on the market. W. Thompson responds.

E. Greening asks about the validation of the CEQA exemption and asks if this will lead to more diversion to the west side as opposed to the side the salmon are migrating on. W. Thompson responds.

J. Guthrie asks as a one-time sale, would you have to go back to the Board for future occurrence? W. Thompson responds.

J. Guthrie comments on the Master Plan and asks for clarification on the policy of excess use allocation? W. Thompson responds.

E. Eby asks for clarification on where the money from the sale will go? W. Thompson and K. Franco respond.

C. Mulholland asks if excess water could be stored in Nacimiento Reservoir. Members of the audience respond.

S. Carter motions to endorse staff's recommendation to the Board of Supervisors to approve a one-time sale and transfer of surplus State Water.

R. Shady seconds the motion.

Motion carries 21-1-1.

### **3) Public Comment for Items not on Agenda**

*Item starts - [00:45:55](#)*

G. Grewal comments on Nacimiento Pipeline repairs and disruption in water deliveries/use.