

Meeting Minutes

April 03, 2014

Regional Water Management Group (A-team)
MINUTES - Thursday, April 03, 2014

USDA Service Center
170 Russell Avenue, Suite C
Susanville CA 96130
4:00 pm - 5:30 pm

1. Meeting Opening:

Dyer Engineering Consultants, Inc. (DEC) called the meeting to order at 4:10pm.

2. Meeting Members:

Interim Board Members: Aaron Brazzanovich, Dan Newton, Tim Keeseey, Joe Egan
IRWMP Advisement Members: Scott Phillips, Ramesy Wood, Jared Hancock, Matt May, Jack Hanson, Shane Dyer and Ian Sims

3. Memorandum of Understanding:

Background: Lassen County did not approve the proposed MOU at their March 11th Board of Supervisors Meeting. With this news, the March 20th RWMG meeting was cancelled until definitive MOU progression could be made. At the April 3 meeting the RWMG discussed a new MOU that had been drafted by the County's legal counsel and is set to go in front of the board at their April 8th meeting.

The group decided that the newly drafted MOU was not fitting to the needs of the RWMG or the Lahontan Basins IRWMP. This decision was made as a result of paragraph 4 stating;

"... The IRWMP shall when a draft plan has been agreed to by at least (3) members of the RWMG, be presented to each of the parties to this MOU for their consideration in adopting same as the policy document that governs the water management issues as set out in the IRWMP. The IRWMP plan and polices set forth shall not be effective within the jurisdiction of any of the local entities unless and until the IRWMP is formally adopted by the respective local agency."

This paragraph lead the RWMG to assume that 1) the County understands the IRWMP to be a policy document and 2) if the County does not approve the IRWMP then any areas within County jurisdiction will be in a position where the IRWMP cannot be of value.

The RWMG concluded that 1) the IRWMP is not a policy document but simply an assessment of local water needs which identifies potential projects/grants otherwise not available in standard circumstances and 2) The approval process for the IRWM is within the power of the RWMG.

The RWMG decided that the new MOU was not acceptable. The standing MOU is currently scheduled to be signed at the next RWMG meeting. The RWMG stressed the fact that the County can participate, submit projects for funding, and be a part of the final MOU for the governance of the IRWMP once the document is created.

4. Progress Report:

Dyer Engineering Consultants (DEC) presented the IRWMP progress report to update the RWMG of the plan status. DEC detailed the following:

- IRWMP Website Update: New layout design, added drop down tabs, Meetings(times, locations, agendas, minutes), Additional GIS Maps and supporting materials
- IRWMP Section Updates: Data Management and Finance have been added to the IRWMP draft sections pending approval. Region Description is at 90% draft completion pending rural waste water information from the Lahontan Water Control Board.
- Technical Studies Initiated:
 - Climate Change Analysis: Work initiated February 2014, Forsgren Associates, Inc. to present outline and initial findings at the RWMG meeting in May
 - Salt and Nutrient Management Plan (SNMP): Work Initiated January 2014, Assembling Existing Data, Completed Draft outline, currently applying for a mandatory two year extension in May through the Lahontan Water Control Board
 - DAC Water Supply, Quality and Flooding Evaluation: Initiated in Coordination with IRWM Planning Process, collecting existing data creating GIS maps
 - Integrated Flood Management: Compiling existing flood management plans
- IRWMP Public Outreach: Two Public Outreach Workshops were hosted in the Lahontan Basins
 - March 12, 2014 a IRWM Public Workshop took place at the Susanville Fire Hall
 - March 13, 2014 a Stakeholder Outreach meeting was conducted in coordination with Herlong Public Utilities District (PUD)
 - March 25, 2014 a Disadvantaged Community (DAC) Public Workshop took place at the Susanville Indian Rancheria
- IRWMP Meetings: Stakeholder meetings were conducted with Lassen Irrigation Company (LIC) on March 13th and an Inter-Agency Drought Forum on March 10th.

5. TAC Committee

The RWMG came up with the following individuals as potential Technical Advisory Committee members. These individual will be contacted to see if they would like to participate in the creation of the document:

Pat Williams - Herlong Public Utilities District
David Lile - University of California Davis
John Ranlett - Ducks Unlimited
Dan Newton - City of Susanville
Scott Phillips - NRCS
Landon G. - ?
John Richards - Lassen Irrigation Company
Tim Keesey - Honey Lake Valley RCD
Meredith Gosejohan - Susanville Indian Rancheria
Gaylon Norwood - Lassen County

6. Wrap Up/Discussion:

A discussion was initiated to when the next RWMG meeting would be held. It was decided that the RWMG will hold off on scheduling the next RWMG meeting until known status of Lassen County's approval of the MOU which is slated for the morning of April 8th, 2014 at the Board of Supervisors meeting.

DEC reminded RWMG members that IRWMP project applications are due April 14, 2014 for plan inclusion.

Project sponsors will present their project details at the May RWMG meeting.

IRWMP Technical Advisory Committee will host their first meeting after the next RWMG meeting.

MEETING HANDOUTS:

- Agenda
- Sign In Sheet
- IRWMP Progress Report
- IRWMP MOU

Lahontan Basins IRWMP contact:
Dyer Engineering Consultants
5401 Longley Lane #9
Reno, Nevada 89511
Email: isims@dyerengineering.com
Phone: 775-852-1440