

**CONTRA COSTA WATER DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR MEETING
February 3, 2021**

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

President Borba called to order a regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Contra Costa Water District (District or CCWD) at 6:31 p.m., at 1331 Concord Avenue, Concord, the regular meeting place of the Board. The teleconference was held pursuant to Governor Newsom’s Executive Orders.

SAFETY BRIEFING

No safety briefing was provided since the small number of staff in the Board Room had already completed self-assessments before reporting to work.

ROLL CALL

Directors Present:	Lisa M. Borba, President Ernesto A. Avila, Vice President John A. Burgh Connstance Holdaway Antonio Martinez
Directors Absent:	None
General Manager:	Stephen J. Welch
Legal Counsel:	Douglas E. Coty
District Secretary	Mary A. Neher
Executive Management Analyst	Shelly Wise

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Director Martinez led the pledge of allegiance.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The Board Future Services Calendar, Agenda Item No. 1.a, was updated to include additional meetings. The Board adopted the agenda by rule.

PUBLIC COMMENT (Please observe a three-minute time limit)

President Borba asked for public comment. There were none.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Approve Directors' Services/Business and Travel Expenses
 - a. Future Services – February 2021
2. Approval of January 6, 2021 meeting minutes.
3. Approve the warrant register dated February 4, 2021.

President Borba asked if anyone wanted to remove an item from the consent calendar to be separately considered. No items were removed for separate consideration. President Borba asked for Board comments. There were none. President Borba asked for public comment. There were none.

MOTION: Burgh/Holdaway to approve the consent calendar. The motion was approved by roll-call vote (Ayes: Avila, Borba, Burgh, Holdaway, Martinez; Noes: None; Abstain: None; Absent: None).

ACTION

4. Authorize execution of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) and the Contra Costa Water District for development of Backstop Water Service during Los Vaqueros Reservoir Expansion Project construction.

Assistant General Manager – Policy and External Affairs Marguerite Patil reviewed an existing untreated water intertie that connects the Los Vaqueros Pipeline to the Mokelumne Aqueduct No. 2, which is connected to the East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) Freeport Regional Water Project. Existing intertie use agreements between EBMUD and the District were reviewed. The District could access its Central Valley Project (CVP) and Los Vaqueros water right supplies through the intertie to provide backstop water service ensuring water quality and/or emergency water supply for District customers when the Los Vaqueros Reservoir is drained for the construction of the expanded dam that is a key feature of the Phase 2 Los Vaqueros Reservoir Expansion Project.

The MOU between the two agencies allows for analysis of backstop water service scenarios. Analysis results would be incorporated into a future Backstop Water Service Agreement between the two water agencies. EBMUD is conducting the MOU work as part of their in-kind services under the existing Multi-party Agreement. The backstop water services provided during construction would be paid through the proposed Los Vaqueros Reservoir Joint Powers Authority (JPA). EBMUD and the District will work together to get the necessary permits and approvals to allow the District to take its water through the intertie.

President Borba asked for Board comments. In response to the Board's question regarding who would pay for the backstop water service, staff confirmed that it would be paid by the members of the JPA through an agreement between EBMUD and the JPA. The Board supported coordinated water service agreements between local and regional water agencies. The existing intertie agreement between EBMUD and the District allows water to flow through the intertie in either direction. A discussion ensued regarding intertie operations plans and the need to be ready for emergencies. The ability to meet potential water demands of the Local Agency Partners through use of the intertie and other District owned facilities when the Los Vaqueros Reservoir is offline for construction was discussed. Although the District can access some of its CVP water supply through existing intertie agreements, a point of diversion permit is needed to provide the District with access to its full CVP and Los Vaqueros water rights. The point of diversion permit at the intertie is part of the required items needed before the Phase 2 Los Vaqueros Reservoir Expansion Project may go to the State for its final funding award hearing that is prior to the initiation of dam construction. A discussion ensued regarding contingency planning, which

included the Backstop Water Service Agreement and other facility operation options, to ensure the District has access to sufficient water supply and quality during project construction in the case of a service outage on Mokelumne Aqueduct No. 2.

President Borba asked for public comment. Diablo Water District (DWD) Director Kovalick appreciated the information and planned to research how DWD will manage their water emergencies or drought supply while Los Vaqueros Reservoir is offline.

With respect to the Board's consideration of the proposed MOU with EBMUD, legal counsel noted for the record that Director Martinez is currently an employee of EBMUD; and, that Director Martinez's employment with EBMUD did not preclude his ability to participate in the discussion or vote on the matter.

MOTION: Avila/Martinez to authorize execution of the Memorandum of Understanding between the East Bay Municipal Utility District and the Contra Costa Water District for development of Backstop Water Service during Los Vaqueros Reservoir Expansion Project construction. The motion was approved by roll-call vote (Ayes: Avila, Borba, Burgh, Holdaway, Martinez; Noes: None; Abstain: None; Absent: None).

DISCUSSION AND INFORMATION

5. Review and comment on the Central Valley Alternatives for Long-Term Sustainability (CV-Salts) Update.

Senior Water Resources Specialist Yuan Liu reviewed the background and goals of the CV-Salts program. The District has participated in the collaborative effort since the program was initiated. The impacts to agricultural production, drinking water supplies, and Delta water quality in the Central Valley from salts and nitrates were provided. The CV-Salts program published a Salt and Nitrate Management Plan (SNMP) following 10 years of negotiations. The SNMP will be broken into three phases over a 45-year period. The CV-Salts program has proposed three Basin Plan Amendments (BPAs) to the Water Quality Control Plans, which were reviewed by the Central Valley Water Board and the State Water Board. The BPAs are interim solutions to provide flexibility for dischargers. The three BPAs and associated impacts were reviewed. The next steps include updates of discharge permits to reflect the new BPAs and start of the Phase 1 CV-Salts – Prioritization and Optimization Study. District staff will continue to monitor the CV-Salts program to ensure that Delta water quality is protected.

President Borba asked for Board comment. The Board acknowledged the work done by staff to monitor and analyze the CV-Salts program and a wide-range of issues that may impact water quality to District customers as well as the Delta and environment. California has important and complex water issues with many stakeholders requiring long-term solutions and monitoring, which includes Delta water quality.

President Borba asked for public comment. In response to DWD Director Joe Kovalick's question about the District's position on the relaxation of the salt discharge levels, Mr. Welch explained the District works with all interested stakeholders. The District has concerns about measures or actions that increase the salinity of water in the Delta and seeks good science to support these proposals and potential solutions. The first 15-year phase to analyze the potential long-term solution has just started.

The Board acknowledged the matter had been reviewed and comments were provided.

REPORTS FOR DISCUSSION

6. Committee Report(s):
 - a. Operations and Engineering Committee Post-Meeting Report (01/13/2021)

7. Schedule Future Meeting Dates and Times

There were no comments on the committee report and no meetings were added to the calendar.

REPORTS

8. General Manager

Mr. Welch did not have a report.

9. Legal Counsel

Mr. Coty did not have a report.

10. Board

Director Burgh reported that he had attended the East Bay Leadership (EBL) Series – Part 1 event on January 28.

Director Holdaway reported that she had attended a meeting with the General Manager on January 22. On January 29 she attended the Finance Committee.

Vice President Avila reported that he had a meeting with the General Manager on January 28. On January 29 he had attended the Finance Committee.

Director Martinez reported that he had a meeting with the General Manager and General Legal Counsel on January 25. He had attended the EBL Series – Part 1 event on January 28. He was contacted by a Division 1 customer, and would provide update to President Borba, Division 1 Director. He spoke with City of Antioch (Antioch) Public Works Director John Samuelson about the Antioch desalination project and other water issues.

President Borba reported that she had attended the California Special Districts Association, Contra Costa Chapter meeting on January 25. She had meetings with the General Manager on January 26 and February 2. She attended the Sites Authority Town Hall on January 27. On January 28 she attended the EBL Series – Part 1 event.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:39 p.m. President Borba adjourned the meeting. The next regular meeting of the Board of Directors will be on February 17, 2021 commencing at 6:30 p.m. and will be held by teleconference.



Lisa M. Borba, President

Attest:



Mary A. Neher, District Secretary