



Minutes for Poso Creek IRWM Plan Implementation Meeting

Location: Semitropic Water Storage District's Office

Meeting Date and Time: **Tuesday, March 3rd, 2015; 12 (noon) – 2 pm**

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call**
2. **Agenda Modifications** - The Regional Water Management Group (RWMG) made two modifications to the agenda at the request of Erika Boyland, NRCS, and Sam Schaefer, GEI.
3. **Public Comment** – No Public comments were received.
4. **Introductions and Recognition of Guests** – Paul Oshel led introductions of meeting attendees; several new attendees were present as noted on the Attendance Roster.
5. **Acceptance of previous meeting Minutes** – The Jan 6th Meeting Minutes were recognized and accepted.
6. **Implementation Activity and Work Group Reports** – The December Activity Report was reviewed and accepted with no additions.
 - a. Prop 84, IMP Rnd1 Closeout – North Kern and Cawelo – Ram Venkatesan, NKWSD provided the RWMG with an update regarding Project 1- CVC to Calloway Canal Intertie Project. Construction of the second and last phase of the project is complete. The Project Completion Report, (required under the DWR grant Agreement) has been prepared and will be filed with the DWR by the end of April, and the NKWSD will submit a request for retention for processing. The Grant Completion Report, for the Poso Creek IRWM Prop 84, Rnd1 Imp Grant, will be prepared and filed with the DWR to close out the grant.
 - b. Revisit the cost sharing agreement for general IRWM activities – The topic was addressed in the public meeting so that all the RWMG members and interested parties would be available to participate in the discussion. Given the effect the drought has on district's revenue and the intent of the cost sharing to be modified to an equitable sharing of the benefit of participating in the IRWM and of the distribution for the general program expenses, the RWMG discussed possible modifications to the cost sharing of annual expenses to maintain the Poso Creek IRWM planning efforts. The RWMG recognized the difficulty of DACs to pay in order to participate. In addition, Matt Hurley requested the area he is representing to the north be considered for adding into the Poso Creek IRWM Plan. Following discussion, a motion was made by Dale Brogan and second by Skye Grass to modify the cost equation for sharing of the general program expenses to represent an equal share and an equal vote for each paying participant member. The RWMG voted the cost sharing equation and MOU be modified to an equal distribution for the incorporated cities and the districts for sharing the basic core meeting expenses. A letter will be sent by the Poso Creek IRWM Chairman



informing the parties of this decision by the RWMG to modify the cost sharing agreement and MOU.

- c. **Annual activity and projected budget for 2015** – Paul Oshel revisited the discussion regarding the projected activities necessary to maintain the Poso Creek IRWM planning efforts over the next year. Given the Plan is in full compliance with Prop 84 IRWM Plan standards, the recommendation is to focus on a few items, including: 1) revising the MOU cost share equation for sharing of the costs to maintain the group planning efforts, 2) preparation of the Annual Report and Report Card for IRWM activity and accomplishments, 3) updating the Plan project list through a solicitation for new or revised projects, and 4) assisting project proponents with development of projects. Following a discussion of the RWMG, the RWMG considered and approved a general activities budget of \$30K; the RWMG also considered a general project development assistance budget of \$20K; however, the RWMG agreed that the project development funding is better suited to be funded by individual project proponents even though it is recognized a suite of projects are necessary for an IRWM proposals to be competitive. A formal budget for general activities was suggested as a not to exceed target of \$30,000. If project proponents decide to apply for grants for project funding, then a separate grant preparation budget will be established by the project proponents.
- d. **Schedule project submittals and active project updates** - Paul will send out a notice to all Poso Creek IRWM Entities for projects to be submitted with a target date of April 1st, 2015. This timeline will allow the RWMG some time to consider new and updated projects prior to the next DWR IRWM funding round.
- e. **Madera Ave Intertie** – Dana Munn and Paul Oshel reported the project is being discussed by their respective Districts. Most likely, a decision will be made in March or April regarding the future of this project.
- f. **Poso Creek IRWMP website**, <http://www.semitropic.com/AboutUsPosoCreekIRWM.html>; The RWMG was reminded to spend some time looking at the website and if they have suggestions for additional information, to pass them along to Paul or GEI. Frank Ohnesorgen and Matt Hurley recommended a link be added to new DAC led newsletter in the area regarding water and wastewater topics.
- g. **Irrigated Lands Program Update** – Dave Hampton and Skye Grass provided some informative comments as the program is a separate entity and effort from the IRWM plan.
- h. **LHUD Project Update** – Amando Garza reported through an e-mail that Paramount and Chevron are donating the funds for design and construction of the 1.6 MG storage (2@800K each). Paramount is providing the design, build, and CM services to build the tanks. They indicate it would be completed by the end of May. The design needed for the new well is being considered by DWR under the technical services contract.



- i. [NRCS Programs](#) – Erika Boyland provided a description of the funded EQUIP and BDI programs for Southern Tulare Lake Basin, Water Conservation Project of Kern County.
7. **Funding Opportunities**
 - a. State: DWR Prop 84, Rnd3, Prop 1 State Bond, and low interest loans/grants – Alex V. reported the DWR is anticipating an accelerated schedule for Prop 84, Rnd3 funding and the draft schedule of Prop 1 funding has been released. The RWMG discussed the recent changes in the SWRCB Drinking Water Revolving Fund funding and identified the September Funding Fair held by the CA Financing Coordinating Committee as the time and place where the Proposition 1 funding programs will be available.
 - b. Federal: WaterSMART, CalFED, NRCS, and other. – Notice of the CalFED, AgWUE, and draft Drought funding programs were discussed.
8. **Anticipated Action Items; additional items to be added at the meeting**
 - [Revise the MOU and cost share equation – communication letters to be sent out to the incorporated cities and districts by Paul Oshel, before the April, 2015 meeting.](#)
 - [Prop 84, Rnd1 grant close-out completed by April/May, 2015.](#)
 - [Project submittals and project updates – completion date of April, 2015.](#)
 - [Madera Ave Intertie – decision on project status by April, 2015.](#)
 - [Report Card / Annual Report preparation – completion date of May/June, 2015.](#)
9. **Suggested Date and Agenda Items for Next Regular Meeting**: [April 7th, 2015 was suggested as the next meeting date and for the focus to be on the MOU cost share equation and project submittals.](#)
10. **Adjournment**

This Agenda was posted at Wasco, California and notice was delivered in accordance with Government Code Section 54954.

This Agenda contains a brief general description of each item to be considered. Copies of reports or other written documentation relating to each item of business on the Agenda are on file with the RWMG Lead Agency and available for public inspection during normal business hours. A person who has a question concerning any of the agenda items may call the District's General Manager or Engineer at 661-758-5113.

Written materials relating to an item on this Agenda that are distributed to the RWMG within 72 hours before it is to consider the item at its regularly scheduled meeting will be made available for public inspection at the Lead Agency, during normal business hours. Such written materials will also be made



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available on the Lead Agency's website, subject to staff's ability to post the documents before the regularly scheduled meeting.

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