

Zone 7 Water Agency
Delta Committee
Summary Notes and Minutes

Meeting Date: March 31, 2011

Start Time: 4:00 p.m.

Directors Present: J. Greci
S. Palmer

Staff Present: K. Arends, J. Chahal,
J. Duerig, A. Flores,
B. Ledesma, C. Mahoney

1. Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda

Members of the public did not provide comments.

2. Water System Master Plan

Staff gave a presentation that summarized the analysis, results, and recommendations of the study. Staff also told the Committee that the name of the report would change to Water Supply Evaluation (WSE) instead of a Master Plan because it would not provide a “blue print” for purchasing or constructing major water supplies. Staff indicated that the report is a work plan that outlines steps necessary to minimize risk until more is known regarding a Delta fix.

Some of the key recommendations from the study to help minimize near term risk included working with the local water supply retailers to develop additional water conservation and recycled water programs, confirming minimum yields from Zone 7’s existing contract with BBID, reducing unaccounted-for water, and developing an enhanced in-lieu recharge program. Successfully implementing these recommendations provides Zone 7 time to complete additional work necessary to verify key assumptions made in the report.

Some of the major studies recommended included working with the Retailers to develop a water conservation tracking methodology, linking potable water demand offsets identified in the WSE to potential recycled water demands, and evaluating the potential salt implications of recycled water over the Main Basin as part of the Salt Management Plan update. The evaluation will also recommend continuing to participate in both the BDCP/DHCCP effort and the feasibility studies associated with the Bay Area Regional Desalination Project.

Staff also provided a summary of observations made regarding reliability. In particular, the analysis indicated that there was only about a 10 to 20 percent difference in total portfolio costs between a 75 and 99 percent reliability, and that other drivers (e.g., demand hardening and uncertainty) would likely drive any potential changes in policy. Consequently, staff also recommended working with the local water supply retailers to develop proposals for changing the existing reliability policy that can be brought to the Delta Committee and Board of Directors for review after completion of the report.

The Committee commented on how the WSE appears to emphasize the importance of the Chain of Lakes, complimented the detailed information provided, and concurred with all of the recommendations.

3. Verbal Reports

No verbal reports were given.

4. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.