

**INDIAN WELLS VALLEY COOPERATIVE GROUNDWATER
MANAGEMENT WORKING GROUP
DISCUSSION NOTES**

April 15, 2009 – 1:00 p.m.

Chairman Don Zdeba called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Approval of Discussion Notes: Motion was made by Peggy Breeden and seconded by Glenn Harris to accept the March 18, 2010 Discussion Notes as presented. The Motion was carried, unanimously.

Public Comment for Items on the Agenda: None.

Integrated Regional Water Management Program: Leroy Corlett reported that the group went with the option that states the decision making starts with the Planning Committee for consensus. If a consensus cannot be reached, discussions will be moved to the Steering Committee for further work and consideration. The Steering Committee does an analysis of the issues and makes a recommendation back to the Planning Committee. The Planning Committee then decides the issue based on consensus, but if no consensus can be reached, the issue goes to a “parking lot” until such time as it can be visited. Everything’s moving slowly.

Don Zdeba asked if they were still looking for funds. Mr. Corlett stated that it was still an issue and they were still trying to get a grant from the State.

Mike Stoner inquired about Tim Lynn and whether he was still a State Representative for the Department of Water Resources (DWR). Mr. Corlett informed the group that everybody was promoted at the DWR and his replacement seemed to be well informed and very informative.

Solar Millennium Project Update: Glenn Harris reported that the 9th of April was the date of the Federal notice that established the 90-day review period ending July 8th. The document was available on the State Energy Commission website. There will be public workshops next week at City Hall on Thursday and Friday, April 22 and 23, 2010. Next week’s meetings will cover air quality, cultural resources and a range of similar issues and in two weeks the next set of hearings will cover biological resources. Peggy Breeden asked what the process was and if there was going to be public input and responses to comments. Mr. Harris stated that the Request for Comments review period will end on July 8th and at that time a final document will be generated.

Public making comment on the subject was Judie Decker who clarified that the items on the calendar for April 22 and April 23 and May 3 and May 4 are not hearings, they are workshops and the Evidentiary Hearings are the 2nd and 3rd of June.

Mr. Harris read from the news release that only written comments will be accepted regarding the draft environmental documents. Tom Mulvihill asked for clarification on verbal vs. written response and it was noted that you could make verbal comments, but Mr. Corlett stated that there would be more weight or visibility if put in writing.

2009 Water Production Data Update: No change.

2009 In-Kind Service Update: Agencies who have not reported their 2009 In-Kind Services include Kern County and Kern County Water Agency.

2010 In-Kind Service Commitment Update: Agencies who have not reported their 2010 In-Kind Service Commitments include Kern County and Kern County Water Agency.

Project Review Report: None

Technical Advisory Committee Report: The Technical Advisory Committee will meet on Tuesday, April 20th.

RAWS Update: No new update.

Watershed Coordinator Job Description Review: Not discussed.

Future Water Situation in the Valley: Glenn Harris stated that Adam Bingham and Tom Haslebacher are working on the well data update.

Compliance with Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Monitoring Program with SBX7-6: Nothing new to report. We should be ready to discuss it next month.

Review Action Register: The Action Register was reviewed and changes made. An updated version of the Action Register will be sent to the Group with the May meeting agenda.

Items for the May Agenda: Items for the May Agenda include: 1) IWVWD Water Supply Improvement Project, 2) Integrated Regional Water Management Program, 3) Solar Millennium Project Update, 4) 2009 In-Kind Service Update, 5) 2010 In-Kind Service Commitment Update, 6) Project Review Report and 7) TAC Report.

LeRoy Marquardt asked if the Navy could report on water quality at the June meeting.

The following Agency Reports were made:

U.S. Navy: Mike Stoner reported that they were in the process of producing data on water quality and noted that Well 31 was back on line and Well 24 has to be inspected by the State in order to turn it back on and replace Well 25. Tom Mulvihill and Peter Brown came to meet with Captain Dodson, CO and Cmdr Johnson, XO and spent about an hour talking about the water issues and data sharing the Navy and Water District are doing. The Seabees finished a monitoring well around section 16. It's about 2 ½ miles north of Sierra Breeze trailer court. NAWS is putting in a series of wells out in that area.

The GPS survey that the Navy has been talking about will be going out next week. Staff will go out a couple days a week and hope to record 8 to 10 wells a day.

BLM: Glenn Harris announced that American Honda test track was closing and was informed that it was already closed. The BLM is continuing to work on the renewable energy construction in Tehachapi and the power-line is almost done. They expect to have power delivered by October. They will jump in capacity from their current 700 megawatts to about 5,000 megawatts.

The BLM has been looking at some of our canyons and wants to get some stakes put in to get some volume data. Indian Wells Canyon and the canyon south of Freeman have really good flows coming out of them, but there isn't very good data on storm patterns.

Kern County: Craig Peterson announced that on Tuesday Lorelei Oviatt was named the permanent person of Planning for Kern County and Ted James was elevated up to Dave Price's old job as the head of RMA. Mr. Peterson announced his retirement and invited the group to his retirement party.

Eastern Kern County Resource Conservation District: LeRoy Marquardt had nothing new to report.

Kern County Water Agency: Terry Rogers reported that the State Water Project allocation was increased from 15% to 20%. The water pumped from the water banks is put in the Los Angeles State Water Project, and the like amount of water is diverted into St. Louis. They're basically storing water in St. Louis and right now there's 750 acre-feet stored there. The water KCWA pumps goes out to LA and in return they get some of LA's metropolitan water.

Quist Farms: Pat Quist reported that they are working on their water system and trying to get it to run. Ms. Quist offered to give the Group a tour of her pistachio farm.

Indian Wells Valley Water District: Tom Mulvihill invited the Group to the Spring Xeriscape Workshop at the USO building on May 1st at 10:00 am. The special guest speaker is R. Steve Miller who is a landscape/architect/native plant expert and master gardener. There will be a plant sale on site and you can call 760-384-5518 for reservations. Arsenic treatment facilities are still under construction and still on schedule to be completed by the end of August. The District has a raw water pipeline that will bring water from Well #11 on Mahan south of Las Flores to Well #13 out for bid. The District received the bids for permanent patching and the low bidder is Kern Asphalt so crews will be patching a lot of temporary patches around town.

Searles Valley Minerals: Don Zdeba reported that they have bids in for their water line replacement project. The two lowest bidders will be in on Monday. SVM is behind schedule a little bit. They thought they would have the line in by mid July, but that's not going to happen. SVM's arsenic treatment facility is contingent on finishing the potable water line. SVM staff has been working with the Public Health Services Department and they understand that SVM has to have a water line in before they can treat the water.

General Public Comment: Public asking questions and making comments was Judie Decker.

With no further comments or discussion to come before the Group, Motion was made by LeRoy Marquardt and seconded by Glenn Harris to adjourn the meeting at 2:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patty Montenegro".

Patty Montenegro
Recording Secretary

The next meeting is scheduled for May 20, 2010.

