

FINAL Meeting Summary

Inyo – Mono Regional Water Management Administrative Committee Meeting
January 14, 2014 (10:00am-12:00pm)

Action Items

- Mark requests that Admin. Committee members encourage their representative organizations to respond to Mark's Drought email.
- The Program Office requests that any drought related information be forwarded to Holly to include on the drought resources webpage. <http://inyo-monowater.org/climate-and-weather/>
- The Program Staff will create a decision item to vote on the new Admin. Committee members at next week's RWMG meeting.
- Reports from Round 1 Project Proponents on Invoice #3 are due on January 21 for the Oct.1 – Dec.31, 2013 reporting period to Central Sierra.
- Mark will follow up to get an update on the Round Valley School project before the meeting next week.
- Janet will email the final agenda to the RWMG and SEP funds information today.
- The Admin. Committee is requesting Inyo and Mono Counties respond to Leroy Corlett (corlettc@mchsi.com) on behalf of the Indian Wells Valley Water District regarding Salt and Nutrient Management Planning. Leroy would like an integrated regional Salt and Nutrient Management plan where IWV is Phase I, Inyo Co. Phase II and Mono Co. phase III. Mark reminds the Admin. Committee that if the Counties do not respond to Salt and Nutrient Management Planning regulations that they will be required to answer to the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board regarding their decision of no action.

Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Public Comment Period
3. 2014 Administrative Committee appointments
 - a. Rotation of members
 - Term ending in 2013
 - Mammoth Community Water District
 - Indian Wells Valley Water District
 - Bridgeport Indian Colony
 - One year left in term
 - Sierra Club
 - Big Pine Paiute Tribe
 - Mono County
 - b. Chair and Vice-Chair nominations

4. Round 1 Implementation Grant
 - a. Invoicing update from Central Sierra RC&D
 - b. Project updates
5. Round 2 Implementation Grant
 - a. Final DWR awards, if available
6. January 22 RWMG meeting agenda review
7. Updates and announcements
8. Review of action items and recommendations from the meeting
9. Next Admin. Committee meeting

Meeting Summary

Leroy Corlett called the meeting to order at 10:01 am.

1. Welcome and Introductions

Attending Via Phone

- Leroy Corlett, Indian Wells Valley Water district
- Heather deBethizy, Mono County
- Justin Nalder, Bridgeport Indian Colony
- Alan Bacock, Big Pine Paiute Tribe

Attending in Person

- Mark Drew, California Trout
- Holly Alpert, Inyo-Mono IRWMP Staff
- Janet Hatfield, Inyo-Mono IRWMP Staff
- Irene Yamashita, Mammoth Community Water District
- Bruce Woodworth, Mono County RCD

2. Public Comment Period (drought conversation)

- Mark mentions the importance of making drought a priority conversation in the coming meetings.
- Holly has created a web page for drought related resources and will be updating it as new information is available. (<http://inyo-monowater.org/climate-and-weather/>)
- Mark has emailed some regional water stakeholders (both Counties as well as large water users MCWD, IWVWD, MMSA) regarding beginning a coordinated drought related effort in the region. He inquires what organizations may be doing to address drought in their communities. He emphasizes the importance of responding to his email to help begin the conversation on this critical topic.
- **Mark requests that Admin. Committee members encourage their representative organizations to respond to Mark's Drought email.**
- Leroy Corlett responds that the Indian Wells Valley Water District is following ACWA policy and is asking all households to reduce consumption by 20 gallons per day.
- Irene Yamashita stated that the MCWD remains cautiously optimistic and will wait to implement use restrictions until spring weather patterns are observed.
- Heather deBethizy adds that Mono County is beginning to think about what their strategy will be. The initial thoughts are to convene a meeting with small water

- systems to discuss drought impacts and talk about what systems can do to prepare.
- Irene mentions that the Mono Co. Admin. Office may also consider applying for emergency funds to help small systems with drought impacts throughout the County.
- Mark includes that talks are underway for integration amongst the Counties with respect to Planning efforts and states that including drought in this conversation is a great opportunity for the IRWMP.
- Bruce Woodworth reminds Program Staff to include the Mono Co. RCD on drought conversations for areas of the region that are agriculture based and may not have official water systems in place but consist mainly of private well users.
- Alan Bacock informs the Committee that the Big Pine Tribe has a drought contingency plan in place and that they will not receive any agricultural irrigation water until Big Pine Creek reaches 9 CFS.
- All agree that including LADWP in the drought conversation is imperative to constructive conversations regarding responding to drought
- Irene mentions that CRWA has drought management handbook that is excellent.
- **The Program Office requests that any drought related information be sent to Holly to include on the drought resources webpage.**
- There is an inquiry about the outcome of the visioning survey. Holly replies that we will be covering that topic next week at the RWMG meeting.
- Irene comments that she heard positive feedback about Mark's Rotary talk about the Tecopa water system.
- It is agreed to continue talks with other clubs and service organizations in the area to continue to build support for IRWMP efforts.

3. 2014 Administrative Committee appointments

a. Rotation of members

Term ending in 2013

- Mammoth Community Water District
- Indian Wells Valley Water District
- Bridgeport Indian Colony

One year left in term (2012-2014)

- Sierra Club
- Big Pine Paiute Tribe
- Mono County

b. Chair and Vice-Chair nominations

- Program Staff recaps terms and conditions of the Admin. Committee per the MOU. This includes two year terms that allow for rotation of members through the AC. Member terms are staggered so that three new Admin. Committee memberships renew annually. Currently the Admin. Committee composition is as shown above.
- Members agree that new membership is desirable although it is recognized that engagement is more important than new membership given the fundamental role of the Admin. Committee.
- The Program Staff has invited new interested parties to serve but has not received any indications of interest. Additionally Program Staff has spoken with current members with expiring memberships to ascertain if they are willing to continue for another term.
- There is a discussion and all agree to open the invitation to the RWMG at the meeting to solicit new membership. Otherwise if the RWMG is content with the current members, they will need to vote for 3 of the following 4 positions.

2014-2015 Two-Year Term (Select 3 of the 4)

- Indian Wells Valley Water District – Leroy Corlett
- Mono County RCD - Bruce Woodworth
- Mammoth Community Water District - Irene Yamashita

- Bridgeport Indian Colony - Justin Nalder
 - Bruce announced that he has resigned from Central Sierra RC&D and is now solely representing Mono County RCD and would like to participate on the Admin. Committee again if no other new interest is expressed.
 - Irene and Justin Nalder are willing to step aside if needed for new membership
 - **The Program Staff will create a decision item to vote on the new Admin. Committee members at next week's RWMG meeting.**
4. Round 1 Implementation Grant
- a. Invoicing update from Central Sierra RC&D
 - Holly reports that progress has been made with regard to the invoicing process from Central Sierra. We believe that Invoice #1 which covers through Dec. 2012 is ready for payment and reimbursement is imminent. Invoice #2 is not yet finalized but Valerie is increasing pressure on DWR to ensure progress continues.
 - **Reports from Project Proponents on Invoice #3 are due on January 21 for the Oct.1 – Dec.31, 2013 reporting period to Central Sierra.**
 - b. Project updates
 - Irene reports on the MCWD project. One well is ready to go and the other is pending some water quality results that have recently changed due to some necessary blasting for access to the well. This may provide the opportunity to change to another well for profiling if lab results come back with favorable water quality data.
 - Holly reports that the electrical design for the Inyo County SCADA project has begun and field work is expected to begin Summer 2014.
 - Inyo County's CSA2 project plans await approval from the Inyo Board of Supervisors. The project has already received approval from USFS and DFG. Permitting costs on the project are significantly less than expected and Keith is looking to see if these funds can be reallocated to serve other components of the project.
 - Coleville School project is done other than some final invoicing paperwork.
 - Tecopa project is in the public dissemination phase.
 - There is no update from the Round Valley School project. **Mark will follow up to get an update before next week's meeting.**
 - Janet Hatfield reports that it appears that the Hilltop project field work is close to being finished.
5. Round 2 Implementation Grant
- a. Final DWR awards, if available
 - Mark expects to hear final recommendations from DWR in the near future. The final recommendation has been sent to the executive level for final approval. There is no indication if the decision has changed with regards to the Inyo-Mono region.
6. January 22 RWMG meeting agenda review
- **Janet will email the final agenda to the RWMG and SEP funds information today.**
 - Mark asks for comments on the agenda. There are no comments.
 - Holly is looking for more participation for members to lead plan Objectives discussion at upcoming meetings.
 - Bruce volunteers to cover Objective #1 at next week's meeting.
7. Updates and announcements

- SEP (Special Environmental Projects) information was brought to our attention by Pete Pumphrey of the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board. This funding is generated by environmental fines that can be channeled to fund IRWMP Projects. They are looking for grantee/fiscal agent organizations to administer these funds in the Inyo-Mono region. They are experimenting with a group in Tahoe currently to see how this works, and the Inyo-Mono region is next in line for these funds. One benefit of these funds is that the grant administration is much less burdensome than DWR funding. Mark includes that although not a consistent funding source, it is an additional potential funding source for Inyo-Mono IRWMP projects.
- Mark reports that there in a Water Bond committee meeting this week in Sacramento.
- Irene updates that ORMAT geothermal plant wants to double production capacity at the Casa Diablo plant. The MCWD appeal was denied by USFS and BLM. Great Basin Air Pollution Control District is the EIR lead agency and has yet to approve the environmental documents. The data are currently proprietary, and the MCWD does not have access to the data to evaluate impacts to groundwater the Mammoth area. The district remains very concerned about the project and they are trying to work with ORMAT on the monitoring program but little progress is taking place. The district has seen ORMAT build one of these plants in less than nine months and any legal actions to prevent adverse effects may take much longer to implement than that.
- Holly has been asked by DWR to look out how IRMWP regions are using the Climate Change Handbook and provide feedback to the Department.
- **The Admin. Committee is requesting Inyo and Mono Counties to respond to Leroy on behalf of the Indian Wells Valley Water District regarding Salt and Nutrient Management Planning. Leroy would like an integrated regional plan where IWV is Phase I, Inyo Co. Phase II and Mono Co. phase III.** Mark reminds the Admin. Committee that if the Counties do not respond to Salt and Nutrient Management requirements that they will be required to answer to the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board regarding the decision of no action.

8. Review of action items and recommendations from the meeting

- Janet review action items from today's meeting.

9. Next Admin. Committee meeting

- TBD sometime in March.

- Leroy adjourns the meeting at 11:08 am