



Meeting Summary

Regional Water Management Group Regular Meeting

Wednesday, July 23, 2014

1:00 – 4:00 pm

Mammoth Community Water District
1315 Meridian Blvd., Mammoth Lakes, CA

**Call-in option:
866-210-1669
passcode: 6194641#**

Please RSVP for the Inyo-Mono RWMG meeting by emailing Holly Alpert (holly@inyo-monowater.org) by **Friday, July 18, 2014, 5:00 pm.**

For this meeting only, **all RWMG Members attending the meeting must post this meeting agenda at your call-in location by 9:00 am on Sunday, July 20, 2014. You must also email the address of your call-in location to Holly (holly@inyo-monowater.org) by 9:00 am on Sunday, July 20, 2014.**

Call-in locations:

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Inyo County Water Department
135 South Jackson St.
Independence, CA | June Lake, CA |
| 2. June Lake PUD
2380 Highway 158 | 3. Big Pine Paiute Tribe
820 Watson St
Big Pine, CA |

If you require special accommodations to participate in this meeting in person or by phone, please contact Holly Alpert (holly@inyo-monowater.org) no less than 72 hours prior to the meeting.

RWMG Meeting Process

The public will be offered the opportunity to comment on each agenda item prior to any action on the item by the membership. The public will also be offered the opportunity to address the membership on any matter pertaining to IRWMP business. Agenda items indicated as "Action" require that members undertake activities subsequent to the meeting. Agenda items indicated as "Decision" are items where the membership will make a decision on the item at the meeting. This agenda can also be viewed in the Calendar section of www.inyo-monowater.org.

All decisions of the RWMG are made by consensus as defined in Article I of the Inyo-Mono Regional Water Management Group Planning and Implementation Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). After a motion is made by a Member, there is opportunity for discussion, and then RWMG Members are asked to vote. Members may approve a decision (thumbs up), vote that they can live with a decision while not completely approving of it (thumbs sideways), or disapprove of a decision which withholds consensus (thumbs down). A Member may also abstain from voting, which will be interpreted as no opposition to the action. If there are no Members voting thumbs down, the decision is passed by consensus. The decision is then recorded in the meeting notes.

AGENDA – July 23, 2014

1. Welcome and Introductions (5 minutes)
2. Public Comment (5 minutes)
3. Quick Decision Items (5 minutes)
 - a. Approve March 19, 2014, Meeting Summary
4. Program Office Report
 - a. Holly working remotely; staffing update
 - b. Tecopa project funding
 - c. CCTAG report
 - d. Future of Program Office/funding
 - e. EPA funding opportunity/letter of intent (CalTrout)
5. Governance & Organizational Structure
 - a. Review of Administrative Committee discussion on meeting participation and quorum requirements
 - b. Update from Admin. Comm. on MOU Signatory phone calls
 - c. **Decision Item:** Reduce quorum requirement from 50% to 35% in Section 2.07 of the Planning/Implementation Memorandum of Understanding (as recommended by the Admin. Comm.)
 - d. **Decision Item:** All RWMG Members (aka MOU Signatories) must re-sign the MOU by September 30, 2014, in order to be a Member in good standing (as recommended by the Admin. Comm.). Members who do not sign by that date are no longer allowed to be part of the decision-making process until they re-sign.
 - e. Admin. Committee Chair and Vice-Chair for 2nd half 2014
 - f. Move to quarterly meetings, with more if needed
 - g. Meeting conference call options
 - h. Update from Admin. Comm. on 501(c)(3)
6. Goals, Objectives, and RMS
 - a. Review process of creating new goals and changes to objectives and RMS
 - b. **DECISION ITEM:** Approve package of Phase II IRWM Plan mission and vision statements, goals, objectives, RMS, and evaluation metrics
 - c. Progress of Plan updates
 - d. Integration with County General Plans
7. Round 1 Implementation Grant
 - a. Grant administration update
 - b. Project updates
8. Future Proposition 84 Funding
 - a. Drought Implementation Round
 - b. Agreement with Lahontan IRWM regions
 - c. Round 3 Implementation
 - d. GEI/DWR project needs survey
9. DAC Grant Findings Dissemination
 - a. Report out on conference presentations
 - b. Documentary film - screening
 - c. Discussion of draft recommendations
10. Announcements, process check, meeting dates (5 minutes)

11. Review of action items, decision items, and recommendations from today's meeting (5 minutes)
12. **Next two RWMG meetings (proposed)**
 - **Wednesday, October 22, 2014**
 - **Wednesday, January 28, 2015**
13. **Get-together at Mark's house after meeting (4:30 – 7:00 pm) – bring a dish to share!**

Action/Decision Items:

- Action Item: Holly will create a list of accomplishments of the IRWMP in and out of the region.
- Action Item: Larry is asking for some information about how many IRWMP groups in the state are running out of funding and in danger of closing down after Prop. 84
- Action Item: Once the accomplishment list has been finalized, Mark will make arrangements to go to the County Boards (and others, such as Town of Mammoth Lakes) to seek funding support
- Leroy moved to approve the letter of support. Pete Bernasconi moved to second. All approved.
- Decision: letter is approved to be submitted, but this is not a precedent for decisions on future letters. For the next meeting, we will agendize a review of the letter-approval process
- Action Item: Program Office will post the support letter on website
- Action Items: Admin. Committee members to provide Holly with summary of outcomes of their phone calls
- Malcolm moves to reduce quorum from 50% to 35%. Pete seconded. All approved.
- Action Item: Holly will modify/update the MOU to reflect the new quorum requirement.
- Amended motion from Irene: All RWMG Members must sign the amended MOU in order to continue Membership in the RWMG. The effective date of the amended MOU is October 1, 2014. Pete seconded. No objections. So approved.
- Action Item: Program Office will develop a letter describing the change in the MOU and requesting the re-signing
- Action Item: Program Office will continue looking into other options to improve conference calling situation. Janet will work with agency representatives for alternative meeting options. Send ideas to Janet.
 - a. **DECISION ITEM: Approve package of Phase II IRWM Plan mission and vision statements, goals, objectives, RMS, and evaluation metrics**
- Malcolm moved to approve. Leroy seconded.
- Amended motion from Alan: **Approve package of Phase II IRWM Plan mission and vision statements, goals, objectives, RMS, and evaluation metrics with the inclusion of tribal policies in the mission statement.** Jeremiah Joseph seconded. All approved.
- Action Item: Holly will follow up with Jen Wong (DWR; and will include Valerie Klinefelter) about whether the Plan needs to be updated for the Round 1 Implementation grant
- Action Item: Mark will send Heather's matrix of lining up Objectives and RMSs
- Action Item: Program Office will distribute the Lahontan funding region funding agreement letter to RWMG
- Action Item: Put project survey on website and a link to Larry's email to encourage people to fill it out
- Action Item: PO will circulate the draft DAC grant recommendations to the RWMG for review and input. They request that any feedback be send to Holly by Friday, August 15, 2014.

1. Welcome and Introductions (5 minutes)
 - Alan Bacock, the new Chair, called the meeting called to order at 1:04 pm

Attending in person

Malcolm Clark, Sierra Club
Leroy Corlett, Indian Wells Valley Water District, Indian Wells Valley Cooperative Groundwater Management Group
Larry Freilich, Inyo County Water Department
Bruce Woodworth, Mono County RCD
Brent Calloway, Mono County
Dan Jenkins, Eastern Sierra Unified School District
Laura Beardsley, Friends of the Inyo
Irene Yamashita, Mammoth Community Water District
Greg James, Amargosa Conservancy
Harvey VanDyke, Wheeler Crest CSD
Wes Hawks, Crystal Crag W&DA*
Mark Drew, CalTrout, IRWM Program Office
Janet Hatfield, IRWM Program Office
Holly Alpert, IRWM Program Office
Andrew Skaggs, CalTrout
Earl Wilson, Lone Pine
Pete Bernasconi, Town of Mammoth Lakes
Justin Nalder, Bridgeport Indian Colony
Linda Wemberly, Bridgeport Indian Colony
Sophia, Eastern Kern County RCD

Conference call

Rich Ciauri, June Lake PUD
Alan Bacock, Big Pine Paiute Tribe, Owens Valley Committee
Gavin Feiger, Sierra Nevada Alliance
Dave Grah, City of Bishop
Jeremiah Joseph, Lone Pine Paiute Shoshone Tribe

2. Public Comment (5 minutes)
 - Mark is out of the office through August 17; call/email Holly if you need anything
 - Four RWMG Members have attended every RWMG meeting: Leroy Corlett, Malcolm Clark, Irene Yamashita, Darla Heil
3. Quick Decision Items (5 minutes)
 - a. **Approve March 19, 2014, Meeting Summary**
 - **Leroy Corlett moves to approve the meeting summary. Malcolm Clark seconded. No objections. All approved.**
4. Program Office Report
 - a. Holly working remotely; staffing update
 - Holly transitioning to Colorado as of August 1
 - Maintain status quo with respect to staffing for now
 - b. Tecopa project funding
 - In May, applied for funding through State Board to fund the water kiosk
 - Grant was approved, but there have been some permitting & regulatory hurdles
 - Inyo County is the grant recipient
 - In the interim, there will be drinking water brought to the town
 - County still working with the State to figure out how to move forward
 - c. CCTAG report
 - Holly reported on some of the work of DWR's Climate Change Technical Advisory Group
 - The CCTAG will continue its work through the end of 2014; there may be another iteration of the group starting next year
 - The Group is working on a paper presenting a set of 11 current climate models that are especially helpful for California climate change analysis

- Holly will be developing information for the paper about how these models could be applied for water planning purposes
 - d. Future of Program Office/funding
 - Mark gave an overview of where we are with the remaining grant monies: DAC grant is complete by the end of 2014, Planning Grant 2 is complete by June 30, 2015
 - Program Office created three budget scenarios for the future of the Program Office that show different levels of work
 - The scenarios range from \$78,000/year to \$220,000/year (closer to where we currently are)
 - **Action Item: Holly will create a list of accomplishments of the IRWMP in and out of the region.**
 - **Action Item: Larry is asking for some information about how many IRWMP groups in the state are running out of funding and in danger of closing down after Prop. 84**
 - Question about the commitment of Inyo and Mono Counties to supporting the IRWMP; Leroy is considering asking Kern County for support
 - **Action Item: Once the accomplishment list has been finalized, Mark will make arrangements to go to the County Boards (and others, such as Town of Mammoth Lakes) to seek funding support**
 - e. EPA funding opportunity/letter of intent (CalTrout)
 - Federal EPA program to look at regional drought issues related to climate change and develop a decision-support tool for creating climate change adaptation strategies
 - Project would be based on Inyo-Mono IRWM region - ~\$600,000
 - Mark has already reached out to Counties and MCWD to seek support for the letter, realizing that he was operating on a tight timeline and that these boards required more formal presentation & support.
 - **Leroy moved to approve the letter of support. Pete Bernasconi moved to second. All approved.**
 - Irene had a question about data availability, particularly from LADWP. Janet would be on point for accessing data
 - Bruce brought up the issue of process for approving such letters
 - **Decision: letter is approved to be submitted, but this is not a precedent for decisions on future letters. For the next meeting, we will agendize a review of the letter-approval process**
 - **Action Item: Program Office will post letter on website**
5. Governance & Organizational Structure
- a. Review of Administrative Committee discussion on meeting participation and quorum requirements
 - Mark reviewed the difficulty of obtaining a 50% quorum for each RWMG Meeting
 - Administrative Committee met to discuss this issue; two issues came up – reducing the % for quorum and reaching out to RWMG Members regarding their status with respect to the RWMG
 - b. Update from Admin. Comm. on MOU Signatory phone calls
 - Admin. Committee members were assigned RWMG Members to contact to assess their current interest in the Program
 - AC Members provided updates on their outreach
 - Some feedback: conference call options can be frustrating; limit # of meetings during field seasons; template for withdrawal from MOU; revisit process for letters of support in light of quarterly meetings
 - **Action Items: Admin. Committee members to provide Holly with summary of outcomes of their phone calls**
 - c. **Decision Item: Reduce quorum requirement from 50% to 35% in Section 2.07 of the Planning/Implementation Memorandum of Understanding (as recommended by the Admin. Comm.)**
 - **Malcolm moves to reduce quorum from 50% to 35%. Pete seconded. All approved.**
 - **Action Item: Holly will modify/update the MOU.**
 - d. **Decision Item: All RWMG Members (aka MOU Signatories) must re-sign the MOU by**

September 30, 2014, in order to be a Member in good standing (as recommended by the Admin. Comm.). Members who do not sign by that date are no longer allowed to be part of the decision-making process until they re-sign.

- Discussion of the change in quorum percentage vs. the requirement to re-sign the MOU. Some said it's a renewal of the organizations' commitments to the RWMG; others said if the quorum requirement is reduced, we shouldn't need re-commitments
 - City of Bishop: new legal counsel may allow for City to sign on now
 - Some argue that a modified MOU should be re-signed anyway.
 - Talk of allowing for other modifications in the next few months?
 - Mono County says that just a re-signing a modified MOU would allow for a consent item on the Mono County Board of Supervisors agenda.
 - **Amended motion from Irene: All RWMG Members must sign the amended MOU in order to continue Membership in the RWMG. The effective date of the amended MOU is October 1, 2014. Pete seconded. No objections. So approved.**
 - **Action Item: Program Office will develop a letter describing the change in the MOU and requesting the re-signing**
 - e. Admin. Committee Chair and Vice-Chair for 2nd half 2014
 - Alan Bacock will be Chair, and Leroy Corlett Vice-Chair, for the July 1 – December 31, 2014, period
 - f. Move to quarterly meetings, with more if needed
 - g. Meeting conference call options
 - Program Office was asked to look into conference calling options again
 - The issue remains that internet access is not available at all meeting venues, or the bandwidth is not available, to use tools such as gotomeeting
 - There are not a lot of good options
 - One set of options is to hold in-person-only or conference-call-only meetings
 - Program Office recommends staying with the status quo for now
 - Bruce suggests budgeting improved equipment and/or internet access into future grants
 - Also suggestion of using others' resources, such as using agencies' Digital 395 access
 - **Action Item: Program Office will continue looking into other options to improve conference calling situation. Janet will work with agency representatives for alternative meeting options. Send ideas to Janet.**
 - h. Update from Admin. Comm. on 501(c)(3)
 - Articles of Incorporation have been submitted to the California Secretary of State, and they expect a response back within 5-6 weeks.
6. Goals, Objectives, and RMS
- a. Review process of creating new goals and changes to objectives and RMS
 - Holly provided review of process. The RWMG revisited the objectives and associated resource management strategies at RWMG meetings. Only six objectives (out of eight) were reviewed in this way. Program Office then took suggested changes and worked them into the document. They also developed draft goals for the RWMG to consider. Irene helped the Program Office make final proposed changes, and those changes are before the RWMG today to approve.
 - There was no discussion about the document.
 - b. **DECISION ITEM: Approve package of Phase II IRWM Plan mission and vision statements, goals, objectives, RMS, and evaluation metrics**
 - **Malcolm moved to approve. Leroy seconded.**
 - Alan noted that in the mission statement, it does not explicitly include tribal policies. He amended the motion to approve the package with one change to the mission statement to include tribal policies.
 - **Amended motion from Alan: Approve package of Phase II IRWM Plan mission and vision statements, goals, objectives, RMS, and evaluation metrics with the inclusion of tribal policies in the mission statement. Jeremiah Joseph seconded. All approved.**
 - c. Progress of Plan updates
 - We are on track to have the Plan updated to 2012 Plan Standards early next summer.

- **Action Item: Holly will follow up with Jen Wong (DWR; and will include Valerie Klinefelter) about whether the Plan needs to be updated for the Round 1 Implementation grant**
- Pete B. noticed that there is no mention of importing water in the Plan, and he suggests that a project relating to potential water imports, particularly in the southern part of the region, be included in the Plan. Holly will communicate this to Rick.
- Mark reminds the Group that all of you are responsible for helping to ensure the Plan is not only updated to 2012 Standards but also that the Plan contains the most up-to-date and relevant information about the region.
 - d. Integration with County General Plans
- Inyo County and Mono County have incorporated the language of Inyo-Mono IRWM objectives and RMSs in the appropriate sections of their General Plans in an effort to have the General Plans and IRWM Plan align
- **Action Item: Mark will send Heather's matrix of lining up Objectives and RMSs**

7. Round 1 Implementation Grant

- a. Grant administration update
 - Invoice #2 has been paid out to project proponents; word is that Invoice #3 is still in review with DWR
 - Project proponents are working on submitting invoices for the second quarter of 2014 to Central Sierra
- b. Project updates
 - Inyo County projects:
 - CSA-2 project started construction this week; should last about three months
 - SCADA construction expected to start in late October
 - MCWD: no responses to RFP, but asked for proposal directly from company who does well profiling; project would be implemented this fall
 - Grant is supposed to wrap up by the end of the year; may need to extend
 - Only one final report has been completed

8. Future Proposition 84 Funding

- a. Drought Implementation Round
 - Political pressure to respond to drought to fund drought response measures
 - For us, that took the form of moving some of the Prop. 84 Implementation money to a special round of funding focused on drought projects
 - We are not submitting a drought round proposal; this is a statewide competition, and there is emphasis on the breadth of impact, within which we cannot compete
- b. Agreement with Lahontan IRWM regions
 - Mark and Holly met with the other Lahontan IRWM regions about who is going for the drought round
 - After discussion, we have reached an agreement with the other IRWM regions to split the Prop. 84 funding based on an equation
 - The formula encompasses population and equal split
 - This would guarantee Inyo-Mono IRWMP ~\$1.9 million in final round, assuming we meet minimum proposal requirements
 - All regions will limit their funding requests to the agreed-upon amount and will not ask for more
 - Letters have been drafted, signed, and submitted to DWR describing the agreement
 - **Action Item: Program Office will distribute the Lahontan funding region funding agreement letter to RWMG**
- c. Round 3 Implementation
 - Balance of Prop. 84 money available for this round
 - Funding allocation for all funding regions remains whole
 - This round is likely to be available next summer
- d. GEI/DWR project needs survey
 - Larry Rodriguez from GEI Consultants called in; contractor to DWR on an information gathering

- effort regarding regional project needs
 - This is a follow-up effort from the California Flood Futures Report
 - This time around, the focus is a bit different: identify and prioritize financial investment strategies to improve flood management and water management statewide
 - Collect information from “districts” throughout the state to then describe financing options
 - Ultimate goal: California Water Investment Strategies
 - State wants knowledge of how projects are being funded
 - They have developed a questionnaire to apply statewide, tying off of IRWMP efforts, including our IRWM Plan project list; Larry described the survey
 - Is there anyone in the Group interested in participating in this process with Larry?
 - This is a time-sensitive project: they are looking to gather the information by the end of the month, early August
 - If only have time to answer some of the questions, that’s fine
 - **Action Item: Put project survey on website and a link to Larry’s email to encourage people to fill it out**
 - Mark asks if we could get a copy of the survey results to use as the IRWMP region
9. DAC Grant Findings Dissemination
- a. Report out on conference presentations
 - Holly provided an update on three events at which we presented the work and findings of the DAC grant: Sierra Water Workgroup Summit, regional DAC/Tribal Water Conference, and the American Water Resources Association conference
 - The film was also shown at these three events
 - Mark and Holly presented to the Lahontan RWQCB after the region conference and have some champions for the Inyo-Mono Program there
 - b. Documentary film – screening
 - Did not show the film during the meeting, but we encourage everyone to watch it: <http://inyo-monowater.org/inyo-mono-irwm-plan-2/dac/findings/>
 - There will be several showings in the region. One is planned for September 19, 2014, at the Lone Pine Film Museum.
 - c. Discussion of draft recommendations
 - Program Office developed draft recommendations and submitted them to DWR on June 15, 2014
 - PO now seeking input and feedback from the RWMG
 - **Action Item: PO will circulate the draft DAC grant recommendations to the RWMG for review and input. They request that any feedback be send to Holly by Friday, August 15, 2014.**
10. Announcements, process check, meeting dates (5 minutes)
- Mojave Desert Mountain RC&D quarterly meeting on July 31, 2014, in California City
11. Review of action items, decision items, and recommendations from today’s meeting (5 minutes)
12. **Next two RWMG meetings (proposed)**
- **Wednesday, October 22, 2014**
 - **Wednesday, January 28, 2015**
13. **Get-together at Mark’s house after meeting (4:30 – 7:00 pm) – bring a dish to share!**

Meeting adjourned at 3:41 pm – early!