

# FINAL Meeting Notes

## Regional Water Management Group Regular Meeting

**Wednesday, June 27, 2018**  
**9:30 am – 12:30 pm**

**Town of Mammoth Lakes Council Chambers (Suite Z)**  
**437 Old Mammoth Road**  
**Mammoth Lakes, CA**

**Call-in option:**  
**712-770-4700**  
**passcode: 221760#**

**Please RSVP for the Inyo-Mono RWMG meeting** by emailing Lisa Cutting ([lisa@monolake.org](mailto:lisa@monolake.org))  
 by ~~Friday, June 22, 2018, 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, June 24, 2018. You must also email the address of your call-in location to Lisa ([lisa@monolake.org](mailto:lisa@monolake.org)) by 9:00 am on Sunday, June 24, 2018.**

### Call-in locations:

1. Inyo County Water Department  
 135 South Jackson St.  
 Independence, CA
- 2.

If you require special accommodations to participate in this meeting in person or by phone, please contact Lisa Cutting ([lisa@monolake.org](mailto:lisa@monolake.org)) no less than 72 hours prior to the meeting.

### RWGM 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](http://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.

**1. Welcome and Introductions (need 19 signatories to constitute quorum) (10 min)**

In person

Don Zdeba, Indian Wells Valley Water District  
Linda Monreal, Birchim CSD  
Earl Wilson, public  
Allison Dodds, IRWM staff  
Rick Kattelmann, IRWM staff, ESLT  
Rosanna Marrujo, Owens Valley Indian Water Commission  
Janice Aten, Lone Pine Paiute-Shoshone Reservation  
Mel Joseph, Lone Pine Paiute-Shoshone Reservation  
Edward Herrmann, Lone Pine Paiute-Shoshone Reservation  
Malcolm Clark, Sierra Club, Range of Light  
Jason Canger, Mono County  
Ken Reynolds, Bridgeport Public Utilities  
Irene Yamashita, Mammoth Community Water District  
Donna Thomas, Desert Mountain RC&D Council  
Alan Bacock, Big Pine Tribe, Owens Valley Committee  
Richard Shore, Team Engineering  
Glenn Inouye, Wheeler Crest Community Service District  
Steve Heimlich, Lundy Mutual Water Company  
Sam Merk, Eastern Kern County RCD  
Stan Rotoja, Eastern Kern County RCD  
Mike Powell, Rand Communities Water District  
Julie Vargo, Amargosa Conservancy  
Lisa Cutting, Mono Lake Committee  
Holly Alpert, IRWM staff  
Larry Freilich, Inyo County  
David Grah, City of Bishop  
Jennifer Nix, Sierra Watershed Progressive

By phone

Kimberly Campbell, Desert Mountain RC & DC, 1259 E. Ridgecrest Blvd, Ridgecrest, CA 93555  
Melanie Richards, Desert Mountain RC & DC, 1259 E. Ridgecrest Blvd #7, Ridgecrest, CA 93555  
Anita Johnson, Eastern Sierra CSD, 301 W. Line Street #D, Bishop, CA 93517  
Jennifer Krafcheck, Eastern Sierra CSD, 301 W. Line Street #D, Bishop, CA 93517  
Ron Stone, Eastern Sierra CSD, 301 W. Line Street #D, Bishop, CA 93517  
Pete Kampa, Eastern Sierra CSD, 301 W. Line Street #D, Bishop, CA 93517  
Shane Jeff, June Lake PUD, 2380 Hwy 158, June Lake, CA 93529  
Jessica Arm, CA Department of Water Resources, 901 P Street, Sacramento, CA. 95814

Not attending

Bruce Woodworth, WRAMP Foundation

- Introduce Allison, new DAC Coordinator!
- Congratulations to Big Pine Paiute Tribe awards
  - CRWA – best tasting water and water operator award Paul Huett (water operator)
- We need 20 signatories for a quorum
  - Two new MOU signatories: Keeler CSD and Lundy Mutual Water Company
  - Brings us up to 40 signatories
  - Indian wells cooperative management group – final meeting in August
    - Will let us know in August if still signatory

**2. Public Comment (5 min)**

- Larry Freilich announced – LONE PINE WATER TRAIL DAY –JULY 20-21 AND AUGUST 18-19
- Jason Canger asked what’s necessary to become a signatory. Holly answered that any organization is welcome or can resend at any time. Jason wondered about Sigma groups joining.

**3. Quick Decision Items (5 min)**

- **DECISION ITEM:** Approve January 24, 2018 Meeting Summary
- **Motion to approve notes – Irene moves to approve. Malcolm seconds. No opposed. Approved**

**4. ECWA/Program Office update (30 min)**

- Report on internal fundraising efforts
  - Review process
  - Review how spending has been handled
    - ECWA paid Holly for all work thru October 2017
    - Starting in November 2017, CRWA paid Holly for DACI work
    - Not getting paid for general IRWMP work October 2017 - present
  - Who has contributed and how much

Organization	Amount
Inyo County	\$5,000
Indian Wells Valley Water District	\$10,000
Eastern Sierra Community Services District	\$1,000
Eastern Kern County RCD	\$500
Birchim Community Services District	\$250
Mammoth Community Water District	\$4,000
Mono Lake Committee	\$500
WRAMP Foundation	\$200
Sierra Club	\$500
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$21,950</b>

- How far that gets us in the budget
- Other considerations

- Overspending of \$1,432.93
- Paying Lisa for 1 meeting
- Holly: unpaid 44.5 hours or \$2,225

- Suggested spending priorities
  1. Repay ECWA \$1,432.93  
Pay Lisa for 1 meeting
  2. Fully fund IRWM Plan Update @ \$10,000
  3. State-level activities (Roundtable of Regions [explain recent efforts], Sierra Water Workgroup)

2018 Budget		
General Program Operations	\$ 6,000.00	\$500/month
RWMG meetings	\$ 7,000.00	\$1750/meeting
State-level activities	\$ 5,000.00	\$416/month
IRWM Plan Update	\$ 10,000.00	
<b>Sum</b>	<b>\$ 28,000.00</b>	

- Continue internal fundraising: suggested strategies or targets?
  - RWMG meetings including DAC, tribes, economically distressed communities. Can put some money from DAC grant into meeting and general program operations
  - Cost of printing \$500/copy
    - recommend printing few copies.
    - Can consider having others print
  - Formatting – anyone good with that? (IN-KIND)
  - Come up with an In-Kind list
    - Bishop Paiute Tribe office space
  - **ACTION: Send fundraising letter back out**
    - get on phone and ask person directly
    - Forward to Mono County Again
    - Bridgeport will put on agenda
  - Jen Nicks suggested expanding beyond this group – get public involved for longer term funding
  - Holly suggested outreach events

b. Administrative Committee Composition

- **DECISION ITEM: Approve nomination of 6<sup>th</sup> member of Administrative Committee**
- **Irene Yamatashi self-nominated. Larry Frielich seconds. No further discussion. Nobody opposed**

5. **DAC Involvement Grant (DACI GRANT) (30 min) - Work since last meeting (Inyo-Mono program director, CRWA administrating of DAC for entire area)**

**Inyo-Mono**

- Starting to attend OVGA (Owens Valley Ground Water Association) meetings
- Early outreach - identifying needs (Keeler, Fort Independence)
- Identify other places for possible outreach
  - Big Pine – Conservation and Water Education – feasibility study educational event
- Ideas on prioritizing outreach?
  - DAC-TAC
- Updating Inyo-Mono documents
  - Allison working on website
  - org.chart
- Current list of DAC's – rolling definition with DWR
  - DAC mapping tool updated through 2014 – no data on tribes
  - Bridgeport was on list of DAC but not now
    - Possibly designated area not same as service area of water district
    - Bridgeport income surveys may need to be updated
    - If you prove you are DAC then funding may come back to you
    - Holly will still consider certain communities as DAC that were previously listed and work with them as DAC's
- Bridgeport PUD asked about water meters

- Irene suggests looking at legislation carefully – rule is 3000 connections
- **Action Item – Holly will look into when meters are required in Bridgeport**
- Coordinating and hiring Allison and Rick
- Sigma Groups – Ideas for DAC outreach with Sigma groups
  - Webinars
  - Jen recommends Inyo-Kern/Owens Valley strategy
  - TAC sub planning areas in IRWMP groups – based on political boundaries

### **Lahontan Funding Area**

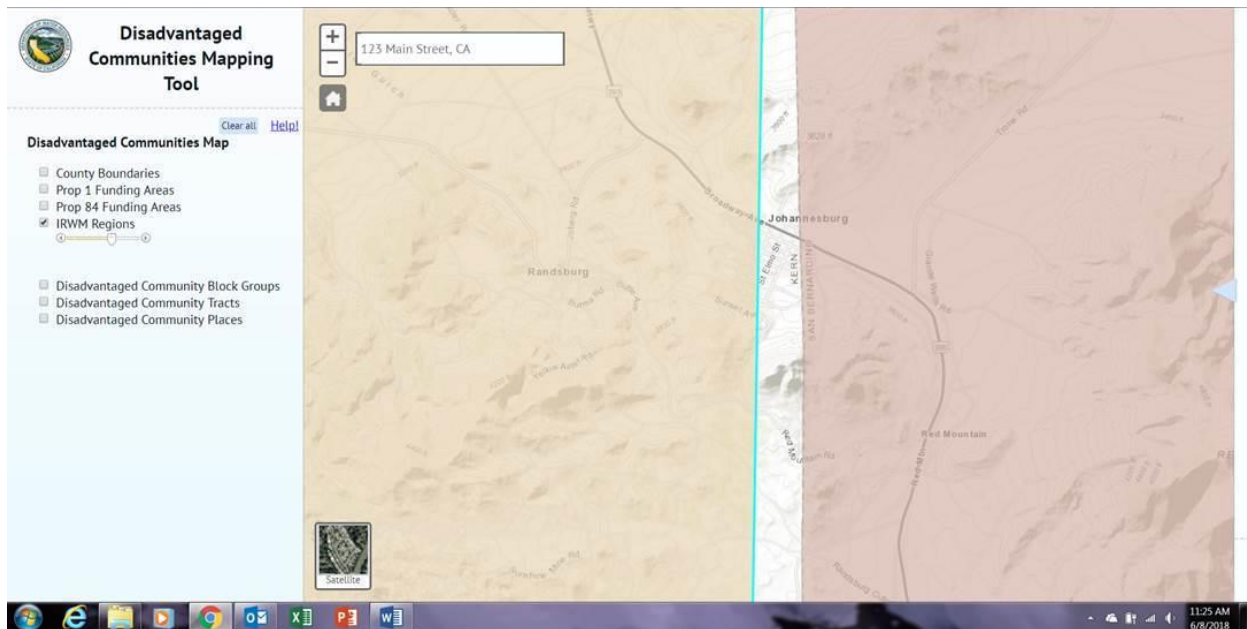
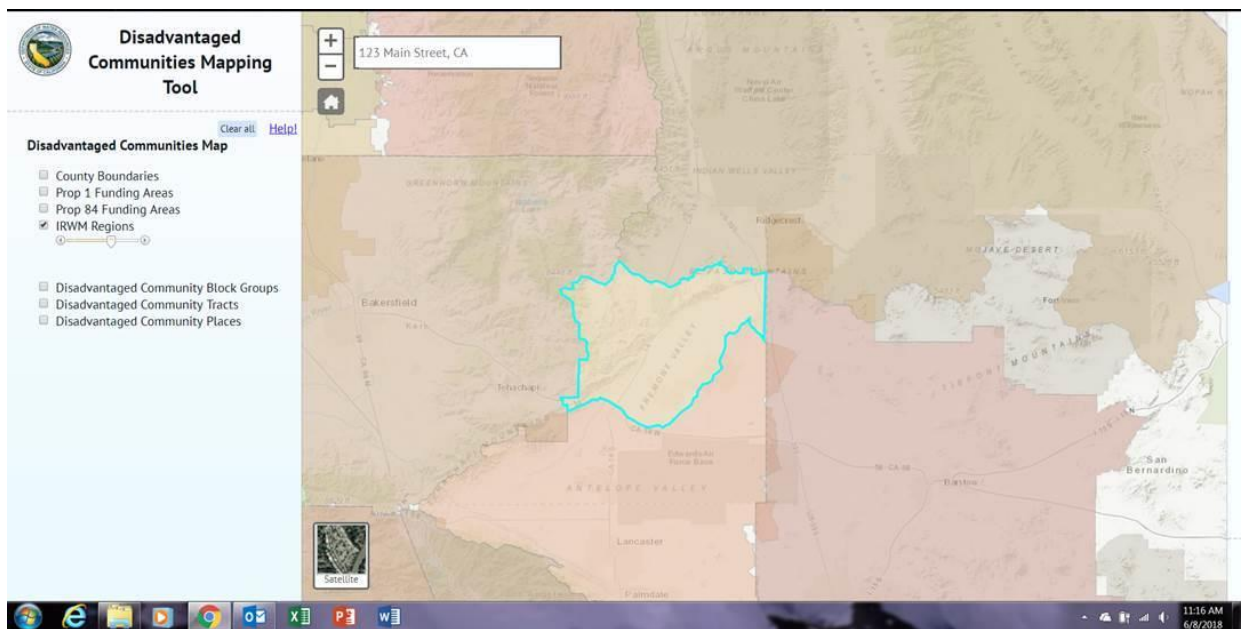
- Completing and signing grant agreement
- Revisiting budget and schedule with new information
- Subcontracts with the other IRWMP regions
- Communication and Collaboration with other IRWMP regions
  - Project Kick-Off with the other regions (April 10<sup>th</sup>)
  - Meeting with DWR (FEB 14<sup>th</sup>)
    - Walked through requirements of grant agreement
- Creating grant administration systems and processes

### **6. Project development activities selection process (information and ideas)**

- We have about \$114,000 in DAC (Task 8) to do project development activities (CEPA, NEQA, Permitting, Engineer Specs)
- Current list of DAC project needs – how do we want to prioritize those projects? Criteria we could use (Supply, Quality, Ecosystem, Formal or streamlined, never received funding from us)
  - Jen – demonstration projects that could be replicated and scaled up so next group could do same type of project (i.e. recycled water project (Inyo county))
  - Jen – look forward to implementations. Be shovel ready after planning (NEPA, CEQA). Do we know from DWP if DAC's can plan?
  - Larry – Technical assistance through CRWA – pre-engineering phase
  - Ken Reynolds– templates
  - Technical Advisory Committee

### **7. Update on Fremont Valley IRWMP region boundary modification request**

- Requesting to modify boundary which may overlap some of our region near Ridgecrest
- Johannesburg – modify Fremont valley watershed but not give up Red Mountain IRWMP - they get remainder of what nobody wanted – also gets money from Mojave IRWMP
- Mojave has service area not based on water boundaries
- Make sure there are resources available to go to this area (Lahontan)



## 8. Next Steps (priorities)

- Role of DAC-TAC?
- Gathering DAC project development needs
- Getting education off the ground
- Develop outreach plan
- Ask Sierra Water Work Group to start on Data Management Tool for Inyo-Mono region
  - They will probably want to come to next RWMG meeting
  - Interactive GIS project mapping
  - \$20,000
- Technical assistance (rural water comes and helps you fill out form)
  - Have \$120,000 in T.A. Lots of group trainings

- Send out a list of services – update (Target DAC systems)
- Bridgeport – benefitted from classes- saw 3% water increases
- Put more info on website about free trainings for water operators
- Funding fairs – simple applications online (put on website?)

~~~~~ **10 min break** ~~~~~

**9. Round 1 Prop. 84 Implementation Grant Update (Central Sierra RC&D) (5 min)**

- Update from Keith Pearce
- Change in grant managers
- Final CSA-2 report submitted spring 2017
- Have not heard on SCADA final report – have Larry check with Keith to see status

**10. 2015 Prop. 84 Implementation Grant Update (Melanie Richards, Desert Mountain RC&D)**

- DWR site visits (June 11-15)
  - Desiree Ramirez and Jessica Arm visited the region; Jessica will be our grant manager on this grant moving forward and also the DACI grant
    - Visited Armargosa hydrology monitoring project, project proponent meeting, Fort Independence, Big Pine Paiute Tribe hydrant project, Big Pine recycled water project, June Lake PUD ion exchange project, Bridgeport PUD
    - Comments from group that DWR managers were really engaged
  - Updates from Melanie
    - June lake complete – project 2 just wrote out checks for invoice 2 and getting project 7 underway. Next project to finish – probably project 2. Feasibility study doing CEQA Armargosa is going to deadline. Paperwork from Earl Wilson has report given to Inyo board of supervisors about recycled water so might be nearly finished – advanced money was spent. Everybody is on invoicing for re-imburement

**11. Prop. 1 Implementation Grant (15 min)**

- Update on DWR's application process & Inyo-Mono involvement
  - Timing of grants
  - First round of implementation is likely to be around end of year
  - Allocation of funding among rounds, including DAC-specific
    - Total Inyo-Mono allocation: \$3,694,015
    - 10% for DAC involvement; 10% for DAC Implementation
    - \$2,955,212 for general Implementation
    - Up to 10% available as planning money – are we interested? E.g., Storm water Resources Plan, Salt & Nutrient Management Plan
      - This would come out of our Implementation pot
- Application Process (in person, workshops)
  - Draft PSP and Guidelines: any time now
  - Public meeting and final PSP Guidelines: by fall 2018
    - Decide on pre-application workshop date
    - FA submits proposal summary and project info forms
    - Pre-application workshop (November – April)
    - DWR provides feedback on pre-application
    - Final application prepared and submitted
    - DWR review and draft funding recommendations
    - Final awards
    - Grant agreement execution
  - Role of funding areas: one pre-application workshop; otherwise can have separate applications
  - 50% match requirement except for DACs
- IRWM Plan Update
  - Completed a through Plan Review Process before grant agreement executed

- Pre-planning suite of projects & next steps
  - We need to update project list
  - Evaluate ranking process
  - Grantee identification
  - Sub-committee? Administrative Committee?
  - Jen commented– ECWA could be a possible grantee – Holly commented - has not administered big amounts of money – Jen retort - could build in funding to do that
  - Need to get project list updated – competition within region – collectively develop evaluation criteria – ranking process – sub-committee – to present organization to group

**12. Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Update SIGMA (15 min)**

- Owens Valley update – 4 entities elected to be GSA’s. Getting documents in place and getting consultant.
- Indian Wells update – Stetson Engineer’s developing plan – facing funding issue but contract not signed so there is a funding gap. Pumping assessment for major pumpers. Public (PAC meeting) meeting July 10<sup>th</sup>. Intent to make it convenient for well owners and discuss how fee is established. Large pumpers will have to register their wells by 2020. Asked to have any public document to be reviewed by policy PAC committee.
- Dominions users exact definition – need public aware of what DWR requirements are – fees established for administrative costs

**13. MCWD update ORMAT project (15 min)**

- Irene Yamashita presented presentation about upcoming ORMAT wells
- Requesting letter of support for more research
- Sample letter included

**14. Update on LADWP’s proposed water reduction on 6,400 acres of irrigated ranchland in Long Valley and Little Round Valley (15 min)**

- Jason Canger, Nate Reade
- Asking for letters of support of counties.
- Request to keep historical water levels until more research available

**15. Next RWMG meeting – September or October (might need earlier – project list)**

**16. Adjourn (12:30)**

- **DECISION ITEM:** Approve January 24, 2018 Meeting Summary
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- **ACTION:** Send fundraising letter back out
- **DECISION ITEM:** Approve nomination of 6<sup>th</sup> member of Administrative Committee **Irene Yamatashi self-nominated. Larry Frielich seconds. No further discussion. Nobody opposed**
- **ACTION:** Holly will look into when meters are required in Bridgeport