

# Final Meeting Notes

## Regional Water Management Group Regular Meeting

**Wednesday, May 29, 2019**

**9:30 am – 12:30 pm**

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

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

**All RWMG Members attending the meeting via conference call must post this meeting agenda at your call-in location by 9:00 am on Monday, May 20, 2019. You must also email the address of your call-in location to Allison ([allison@inyo-monowater.org](mailto:allison@inyo-monowater.org)) by 9:00 am on Monday, May 20, 2019.**

### **Call-in locations:**

Liz Fleming – CLMWC – 12061 Ski Slope Way, Truckee CA 96161

Jennifer Krafcheck – ESCSD – 301 West Line Street, Bishop CA 93514

Sonja Velarde - Bishop Paiute Tribe – 520 Brockman Lane, Bishop CA 93514

If you require special accommodations to participate in this meeting in person or by phone, please contact Allison Dodds ([allison@inyo-monowater.org](mailto:allison@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](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.

**Agenda Items**

**1. Welcome and Introductions (10 min)**

In person

Debra Lykins- Bridgeport Indian colony  
Adam Reigle – Bridgeport Indian Colony  
Don Zdeba -Indian Wells Valley Water District  
David Grah- City of Bishop  
Bartshe Miller – Mono Lake Committee  
Larry Freilich – Inyo County  
Janice Aten- Lone Pine Paiute Shoshone Reservation  
Edward Herrmann – Lone Pine Paiute Shoshone Reservation  
Irene Yamashita – Mammoth Community Water District  
Bobbi Fabian– Amargosa Opera House  
Jennifer Shedden – Town of Mammoth Lakes  
Rick Kattelmann - Eastern Sierra Land Trust  
Lynn Flanigan – Fort Independence Tribe  
Phoebe Nicolls – Fort Independence Tribe  
Shane Jeff – June Lake PUD  
Holly Alpert – IRWM Program Office staff, Amargosa Conservancy  
Dave Tanksley – Big Pine CSD  
Aaron Steinwand – Inyo County, Owens Valley Groundwater Authority  
Ian Bell - Owens Valley Indian Water Commission  
Alan Bacock - Big Pine Paiute Tribe  
Paul Huetten – Big Pine Paiute Tribe  
Donna Thomas – Desert Mtn RC&D  
Tom Browne - Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Jeff Fitzsimmons – Lahontan RWQCB  
Cindy Wise - Lahontan RWQCB  
Ed Hancock - Lahontan RWQCB  
Steve Heimlich – Lundy Mutual Water Company  
Leroy Chavez – Crowley Lake MWC  
Mike Powell - Eastern Kern County Resource Conservation Dist.

On the phone

Liz Fleming – Crowley Lake MWC  
Jennifer Krafcheck – Eastern Sierra CSD  
Sonja Velarde – Bishop Paiute Tribe

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

**3. Quick decision items (5 min)**

- a. **DECISION ITEM: Approve January 30, 2019, meeting summary**  
**Motion to approve: Don Zdeba, Irene seconds, none opposed: Approved**

#### 4. Action items report (5 min)

- From January 30, 2019, meeting:
- Completed ACTION: Contact Cathy Goss for Darwin (China garden) regarding the spring.
  - Holly talked to Cathy who doesn't think there's a problem there. She suggested asking Matt Kingsley, who is familiar with it.
- Completed ACTION: look into outreach in Inyokern
  - Held community outreach meeting in Inyokern in February
- Completed ACTION: get a survey out for trainings we offer to water systems
  - Circulated survey in March; received six responses
- Completed ACTION: create a new letter to solicit money. Ask boards to create an annual line item in budget. Don Zdeba agrees to co-sign a letter.
  - Fundraising request circulated in early March
- Completed ACTION: come to GSA meeting in Ridgecrest Feb 21
  - Presented on IRWMP at Feb. 21 IWVGA meeting
- **Action: update website with table of updates on IRWM Plan and possibly put updates on Google Docs - Updates prepared by May 1**
  - Not complete; will report on later
- Completed ACTION: Revisit criteria used in past rounds and circulate proposed criteria to group. Look at project proponents. Plan for project presentations. Holly and Aaron to get together with Alan Bacock.
  - Have not circulated proposed criteria. Project presentations happening at this meeting. Aaron and Alan talked, and radius of influence study has been withdrawn.
- **ACTION: add all projects to website – update to project list in plan**
  - Not complete yet – part of Plan update process

#### 5. Administrative Committee (10 min)

- Quickly review structure & function of Admin. Committee
- Current members: Malcolm Clark (Sierra Club), Don Zdeba (Indian Wells Valley Water District), Dave Grah (City of Bishop)
- a. Nominees: Irene Yamashita (MCWD), Pete Pumphrey (Eastern Sierra Audubon), Phoebe Nicholls (Fort Independence Tribe)
- b. **DECISION ITEM: Approve Administrative Committee nominees**
  - **Motion to Approve – Larry Freilich, Alan Bacock seconds, none opposed: APPROVED**

#### 6. DACI Grant (25 min)

- a. Overview of where we are
  - A little more than one year into a 3-year grant – ends April 2021
  - Still on target to meet all goals and deliverables
- b. Education activities
  - Blake Jones Trout Derby
- c. Outreach efforts
  - One community meeting in Inyokern in February
  - Rand CWD – Tom Browne asked if Fremont Valley has its own Groundwater Management Group - Mike Powell says not yet
  - Tri-Valley Groundwater Management District meeting – Rick and Holly attended
  - Lone Pine Paiute Shoshone Earth Day – Allison and Holly staffed a table
- d. First funding area DACI workshop
  - May 16-17 in Mammoth

- 18 people from all 6 IRWM regions, CRWA, and DWR
  - Round robin of DACI activities
  - Mind map of issues & trends affecting DAC engagement
  - Marketplace to share materials & ideas
  - Discussions of difficult situations
  - Future of IRWM & funding discussion with DWR
  - Will bring back more specifics once we've done follow-up and have all deliverables
- e. SGMA
- Holly did formal IRWMP presentation to IWVGA in February
  - Discussed potential role for IRWMP in outreach & education for IWVGA
  - We have presented a short proposal for appearing before their PAC
  - OVGA has been relatively quiet
- f. Technical assistance & project development
- Since last meeting, worked with DAC TAC and Admin. Committee to develop review & approval process for TA and project development requests
  - Reviewed process
  - Sent it to RWMG for comments and got none, so moved ahead with process
  - Solicited first applications
    1. Five applications: MHI survey, master plans, engineering review
    2. Represents about \$50,000 out of about \$150,000
  - DAC TAC was not responding, so Holly altered the process to be just Admin. Comm. & Rick
  - Approved all five applications, and requests have been moved on to CRWA
  - Discuss approval process – how could it be improved? Should there be more people? Timeline/deadline like letter of support process?
    1. Question – how do we want to move forward? Rick says applications were easy to approve because they were put together well. Don Zdeba says having more members (on Admin Committee) available makes it easy to just use Admin Committee as only review body. Include Rick on committee. Alan suggests just having one group (smaller grouping). Larry – suggest putting out info as to what possibilities are available. Don Zdeba likes appeal process of bringing back to RWMG if there is a question or concern about a particular application. Irene – Admin Committee may not see a conflict – send out applications to the RWMG (5 days to get back) so if anyone sees conflict
    2. So, to summarize: Program Office will circulate TA/project development applications to RWMG and allow 5 business days for comments; will then forward to Admin. Committee for review and approval
    3. **ACTION ITEM: Do a summary of five TA requests so far and email to group. Will also add information on services available.**
  - **Call for more TA & project development applications** – roughly \$100,000 more of TA and \$114,000 of project development
  - Trainings: put survey out to water systems in March; received six responses, but priorities were fairly clear. Sent those priorities on to CRWA and they are in the process of scheduling.
    1. Leak detection, grant funding & infrastructure planning, sampling techniques, understanding rates & rate structures, budget planning, confined space awareness, electrical fundamentals, drought preparedness

2. Offer people to provide input on desired training sessions on a handout
- g. Data management system (10 min)
  - Kate Gladstein from Sierra Water Workgroup gave a presentation on what the GIS-based data management system will look like and talk about the various possibilities we might want to have in our DMS.
  - Anyone can view and explore other DMSs created by Sierra Water Workgroup at their website: <http://www.sierrawaterworkgroup.org/>.
  - Kate suggested we form a data evaluation committee to give input on the kinds of data we want to include in the tool. Aaron Steinwand, Dave Grah, and Alan Bacock volunteered.
  - **ACTION – Allison will follow up with Kate to talk about specifics with committee**

**7. Plan Update (5 min)**

- It's coming along
- As we're going through, we realize we need to update a lot more than just complying with Plan standards
  1. We will need updates and input from the RWMG
- May have until mid-late October to submit
- July 12: target deadline for all revisions out for review
- Will try to put pieces on Google Drive
- Will give time for comments
- Will also do public notification process
- Goal of adopting late summer and submitting for DWR review soon thereafter

**8. Prop. 84 Round 1 Implementation update (Central Sierra RC&D) (5 min)**

- Holly provided some input into final project report for CSA-2 project, and Jen said in early April it was being closed out.
- Changes to post-project performance monitoring – from 10 years to only 3 years of reporting
- No word on close-out of SCADA project or final grant close-out

**9. Prop. 84 2015 Round Implementation update (Desert Mountain RC&D) (10 min)**

- Reviewed communication issue between RC&D and project proponents and steps taken to alleviate it
- Donna hoping to be caught up in 2-3 weeks
- Everyone trying to get back on track
- Last invoice paid out was invoice #8. Change in Template Invoice form so invoice #9 and #10 have not been submitted or reviewed yet by DWR. Invoice #11 will be sent out soon (for Feb/Mar/April). Will be back on track for Invoice #12
- Have a new office at fairgrounds in Ridgecrest (Mondays and Fridays best days to contact Melanie)

~~~~~ 10-minute break ~~~~~

**10. Prop. 1 Round 1 Implementation (60 min)**

- a. Review of where we are and how we got here
  - 1<sup>st</sup> round of Prop. 1 Implementation funding now available
  - We have access to up to \$965,210 through allocation agreement with other IRWM regions in our funding area
  - Will have \$2.25 million in next round

- It's "GO" time
  - Final PSP and Guidelines released April 22
  - There were two DWR webinar workshops; we participated in one
  - We solicited projects the latter half of 2018
  - Six projects were identified; one has since dropped
- b. Lahontan Funding Area coordination
- We are required to coordinate with the other five IRWM regions in our funding area, mainly on the timeline
  - We have met twice as a funding area since the final documents came out – once during DACI workshop; have also worked with DWR
  - Looking to submit pre-application materials July 12 or 15
  - Will have two workshops – one north and one south: week of July 29 and week of August 5
  - DWR will provide feedback to us within 6 weeks of pre-application submission
  - Final application likely due mid-October
  - Funding awards not until early 2020
- c. Project presentations (see attached Project List)
- We have five projects requesting funding
  - Also need to allocate funding for grant administration
  - PRESENTERS - Bobby Fabian (Amargosa Opera House), Dave Tanksley (Big Pine CSD), Alan Bacock and Paul Heuette (Big Pine Tribe)
  - Liz Fleming (Crowley Lake Mutual Water Company) and Dave Tanksley gave a brief description of the need for a generator for CLMWCD and the steps they will take to get project going.
- d. Discussion of project evaluation process
- Because we have a fixed allocation based on the projects that came forward, Holly does not see a need to rank projects
    1. Polled the Admin. Committee on this question, and they agreed
  - Rather we need a yes/no decision on whether each project moves forward into the proposal
- DECISION ITEM: Irene makes motion to move forward on Big Pine Paiute Generator, Amargosa Opera House Project, Big Pine CSD Project. Ian Bell seconds. Group will vote later on Crowley Lake and Ft. Independence projects conditional on conversations. None opposed. APPROVED

**11. Update on Bishop Creek Vision Project (10 min)**

- Cindy Wise and Ed Hancock presented
- Presentation and other information available on website:

**12. Next RWMG meeting – TBD**

**13. Adjourn**

