

**Minutes**

Special GSA-GSP Meeting

Aliso Water District

Monday, March 20, 2023

**Board members present:**

President Roy Catania      Treasurer Michael Logoluso  
Director Jeremy Seibert      Director Bernard Puget (by phone)  
Director Daniel Hartwig

**Public present or by telephone:**

Joe Hopkins      Dave Holland      Matthew O'Neill      Martin Britz

**1. Call to Order:**

President Roy Catania called the meeting to order at 10:01 A.M.

**2. Establish Line of Credit with Toro Petroleum:**

President Catania informed the board that we are currently paying for fuel through the existing Rain for Rent equipment rental contract which results in a high cost due to markup and travel. The District desires to establish a fueling contract with Toro Petroleum to reduce fuel costs. A brief discussion ensued highlighting that flood event cause unpredictable issues that in some cases require immediate action of which the Board cannot provide a timely response due to the intervals of its regular meeting. Therefore, *Resolution 2023-02: Resolution Authorizing Certain Contracts and Borrowing*, was presented to authorize the Board President and Treasurer to enter contracts, obligations, short-term borrowings, or lines-of credit, for \$50,000 or less, that would expire February 29, 2024 (the end of the 2023-24 Water Year) based on the reasons noted above.

M/S Daniel Hartwig and Bernard Puget to approve resolution as presented.

Director Mike Logoluso      Aye  
Director Jeremy Seibert      Aye  
Director Roy Catania      Aye  
Director Bernard Puget      Aye  
Director Daniel Hartwig      Aye

The President then publicly announced the Board approved the motion.

**3. Temporary diversion rental cost evaluation:**

At the February 17, 2023 board meeting, the Board opted to leave the Rain for Rent rental equipment in place through March 24, 2023 and to re-evaluate whether or not to continue the rental based on the hydrologic conditions at the time. Flood releases resumed in the Chowchilla Bypass on March 9, 2023. Therefore, the Board was informed that the District will continue to rent the equipment while flood water is present. Further, the District will rent an additional 500-gallon fuel cell to add resilience and flexibility to the operations at the pump station.

**4. GSP Determination Letter**

Mr. Hopkins informed the Board that the Delta-Mendota Subbasin received a determination letter from the Department of Water Resources (DWR) stating that all six of the coordinated GSPs (Aliso WD GSP included), were deemed inadequate, and per regulation are being referred to the State Water Resources Control Board to determine if the subbasin should be placed on probation. It was discussed that this is uncharted territory for all parties, and it is not clear at this point how the SWRCB will proceed. However, if placed on probation this could result in the measurement of all groundwater extractions in the GSA and a fee \$40/AF. Mr. Hopkins updated the Board on the discussions occurring at the Delta-Mendota Coordination Committee. The Committee is trying to determine the best path forward and senses that the failure was due to not clearly conveying the complexities of the Subbasin to the State. To remedy this, the initial action of the group is to reevaluate the Sustainable Management Criteria and Water Budget to be more consistent across the Subbasin. Furthermore, the Subbasin is considering a single GSP approach as opposed to the multiple GSP approach used in an effort to simplify the discussion and avoid probation. The Board asked what a single GSP approach would look like. Mr. Hopkins explained that it would not have the specificity that exists in our current GSP, but would likely be more cost-effective. Mr. Hopkins reminded the Board that the multiple GSP approach was selected at the onset of SGMA to maintain local control, and have a voice in basinwide issues. However, with the 2022 GSP revision, and the deficiencies noted in the inadequate determination letter, local control has been diluted as the State seeks consistency across the Subbasin. Director Logoluso asked that a presentation be given to the board discussing the difference between the single and multiple GSP approach at the next meeting. Director Hartwig requested that an informational email be sent to growers noting our inadequate determination and encouraging their attendance at board meetings to stay informed of the evolving situation.

**5. Representation by Paris Kincaid Wasiewski LLP at SWRCB Hearings**

Mr. Holland requested that the District have Paris Kincaid Wasiewski LLP provide representation at SWRCB hearings. The firm currently represents the District in its CalSPA litigation. There was no opposition from the Board. Mr. Holland will inform the firm and discuss next steps.

**6. Other Business:**

Mr. Hopkins noted that many flood water diversions are occurring in the District, and that staff will request that diversions be reported to the District.

**7. Public Comment:**

No public comments were received.

**8. Next meeting scheduled for April 25, 2023.**

**9.** Meeting adjourned at 11:25 A.M.