



Tuolumne-Stanislaus Integrated Regional Water Management Authority Watershed Advisory Committee Meeting, March 20, 2024

HOMEWORK:

1. Review materials sent in advance of the meeting and bring copies with you to the meeting.

MEETING GOALS:

1. Develop recommendations for consideration by the JPA board

****FINALIZED MATERIALS WILL BE AVAILABLE ONLINE****

<http://tstan-irwma.org/>

SUMMARY

1. Opening Remarks, Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items, and Standing Items:

Ms. Carolyn Lott opened the meeting and introductions were made.

2. Consideration of February 21, 2024, Meeting Summary

The meeting summary was accepted as the summary of record for February 21, 2024.

3. Public Comment: Ms. Lott opened the public comment period. No comments were offered. Ms. Lott closed the public comment period.

4. Standing Items:

Grant Summary: Ms. Tricia Peller presented the grant updates. The spreadsheet is available here: <https://tstan-irwma.org/projects/>

Members in Good Standing:

Ms. Lott said other than a couple of representatives who have not completed Ethics/Brown Act training, everyone is in good standing. The USFS is collaborating with staff to process a credit card payment.

YSS: Ms. Lott reported the SERAL 2.0 Draft EIS comment period closes April 1, 2024. The FS has made some changes already to address submitted comments.

Mr. Ron Ringen said fire water drafting points along the ditches should begin to be installed soon. He added there is a need to educate Cal FIRE about the drafting points.

Mr. Keith Martin stated concerns about herbicides in SERAL 2.0. Mr. Curtis Kvamme said the FS sampled and monitored herbicide use in the 80-90s. There has been no sampling from the most recent reforestation. There is no requirement to sample in SERAL, but the FS must report to the Water Board and there are standards for how close to waterways herbicides can be used.

Mr. Pete Kampa said water purveyors must do annual sampling of water for many contaminants. All water agencies are required by the state to do sampling and make the results available to the public.

Summary: T-S IRWM WAC Meeting

Mr. Sean Hembre added that the the county applied for a WaterSmart grant and if it is awarded will be monitoring impacts of SERAL.

5. Presentation of New GCSD Projects:

Mr. Kampa provided presentations on five projects for admission to the IRWMP. They included: Public Water and Wastewater Cyber Security, Advanced Metering, Irrigation Pup Station Improvements, Lift Station #2 Improvements, and Groveland & White Gulch/Big Oak Flat Water Distribution Line Improvements.

The Cyber Security Project provides multiple services and uses a lot of technology. Most of their systems were installed in the 1990s. Their technology can no longer be upgraded but rather must be replaced. They are concerned about vulnerabilities to cyber-attacks. An attack from a decade ago has still locked out old engineering files. This could have a serious impact on the public if it affected delivery of services. The project cost is \$2.8M.

Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project replaces 3,300 existing manual-reading water meters. It utilizes cellular connectivity to improve accuracy and efficiency. They also want to include remote water shutoff apps for homeowners. The project cost is \$4.3M.

Irrigation Pump Station Improvements will improve an old station. The electrical equipment is in vaults underground which can flood and fail. When the system is down, the golf course must pump out of Pine Mountain Lake for irrigation water. The cost of the project is \$900,000.

Lift Station Improvements include sixteen lift systems scattered throughout Pine Mountain Lake. They need to seal the pipes and install energy efficient pumps. The cost is \$1.5M.

Groveland & Big Oak Flat Water Distribution System Improvement Projects are needed as the infrastructure is from the 1960s and includes asbestos (AC) pipelines that are breaking. It affects fire flow at hydrants. The Groveland project cost is 3.75M and Big Oak Flat is \$2.5M.

Agencies agreed there is an issue with the county approving developments with septic and wells even though they are adjacent to public utilities.

The project worksheets will go out to the Scoring Committee today.

The presentation can be found here: <https://tstan-irwma.org/library/documents/>

6. Tuolumne River Watershed Convening:

Ms. Lott and Ms. Mattos provided information about the convening. The logistics were discussed and there was a show of hands of people who thought they would attend. An invitation with RSVP instructions has been sent to WAC members and alternates, as well as, JPA members and alternates.

The group talked about whether the T-Stan IRWMA should be a co-convenor. After much discussion, it was recommended that the T-Stan assume that role, understanding the role could be reassess after this convening.

There was a discussion about additional invitees outside the IRWMA. Recreational users of the Tuolumne River were suggested. Members can send Ms. Lott additional ideas.

Summary: T-S IRWM WAC Meeting

Agreement: There was agreement that the T-Stan IRWMA act as a co-convenor for the first convening.

11. Wrap-Up and Adjournment:

The next business meetings of the WAC and JPA are April 17, 2024.

Submitted by:
Ms. Carolyn Lott

MEETING ATTENDANCE Watershed Advisory Committee Members

| | | |
|-----------------------|--|---------|
| Ruth Brickner | Amador-Tuolumne Community Action Agency | Present |
| Joe Bors | ATCAA/Alternate | |
| Kelly Gerkenmeyer | Calaveras County Water District | |
| Brad Arnold | CCWD/Alternate | |
| Tom Parrington | Central Sierra Audubon | Present |
| Walt Kruse | CSA/Alternate | |
| John Buckley | Central Sierra Environmental Resource Center | |
| Chelsea Lewandowski | CSERC/Alternate | Present |
| Chris O'Flinn | City of Angels Camp | |
| Rebecca Callen | CAC/Alternate | |
| Andy Merrill | City of Sonora | |
| Ann Segerstrom | CS/Alternate | Present |
| Rachel Pearlman | Groveland Community Services | Present |
| Pete Kampa | GCSD/Alternate | Present |
| Rebecca Miller-Cripps | Jamestown Sanitary District | Present |
| Judy Selby | JSD/Alternate | |
| Jill McClintock | JSD/Alternate | |
| Kristina Fillmore | Murphys Sanitary District | |
| Dan Murphy | MSD/Alternate | Present |
| Clay Onstad | MSD/Alternate | |
| Brian Barclay | Pinecrest Permittees Assoc. | |
| Chris Barth | PPA/Alternate | |
| Diana Beasley | TB of Me-Wuk Indians | Present |
| Robert Wells | TBMWI/Alternate | |
| Natie Rizzi | Tuolumne County | |
| Denise Zitnik | TC/Alternate | Present |
| | Tuolumne County Resource Conservation District | |

Summary: T-S IRWM WAC Meeting

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|-----------------|--|---------|
| Kirk Ford | | |
| Tricia Pellar | TCRCD | Present |
| Keith Martin | Tuolumne Group Sierra Club | Preent |
| Ron Ringen | Tuolumne Utilities District | Present |
| Tom Trott | Twain Harte Community Services District | |
| Lewis Giambruno | THCSD/Alternate | Present |
| Chris Kvamme | U.S. Forest Service – Stanislaus National Forest | Present |
| Michael Jow | USFS/Alternate | |
| Jessica Self | Union Public Utility District | |
| Jenna Mayo | UPUD/Alternate | |
| Elaine Urruty | UPUD/Alternate | |
| Jel Metzger | Utica Water & Power Authority | |
| Emily Dondero | UWPA/Alternate | |
| Stacie Walker | UWPA/Alternate | Present |

IRWMA Staff

| Name | Organization | Attendance |
|----------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Carolyn Lott | Carlou Consulting | Present |
| Lindsay Mattos | TCRCD | Present |

Other Interested Parties Present

| Name | Organization |
|---------------|---------------------|
| Sean Hembre | Tuolumne County |
| Cindi Schlenz | TUD |