

AB 3030 TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP  
MINUTES OF JANUARY 8, 2001

Present: Roger Sherrill, Jim Lowden, Serge Birk, Steve Kimbrough, Gary Antone, William Richardson, Tom Heffernan and Robert Steinacher. Also present: Ernie Ohlin, Water Resources Manager, Delrae Voiletti, Engineer Technician, Kelly Staton, and Toccoy Dudley of DWR, Pat McGuire of El Camino Irrigation District and Mark Meeks of DWR.

1. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 1:38 P.M.
2. APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 2000 MINUTES: Motion by Steve Kimbrough and second by Bill Richardson to approve the minutes. Carried by all present 8-0.
3. PUBLIC COMMENT: Bill Richardson discussed the Prop 13 funding workshop to be held in Chico on January 26<sup>th</sup>.
4. CALFED UPDATE: Presentation on Program Financing from Mark Meeks of DWR; distributed information regarding the conjunctive use programming and funding available through DWR. Mr. Meeks is the process manager for AB303 and co-process manager of Prop 13 with respect to Chapter 8 and 9, but special manager for the conjunctive water management program of the Integrated Storage Investigations Program (ISI).

Mr. Meeks stated that as a result of the Record of Decision (ROD), there is a large desire to help meet the state=s present and future water supply needs. AB303 is legislation that recently passed. The \$5 million will soon be available and a good portion will be spent in the central valley, particularly in the Sacramento Valley, to help local agencies with data collection efforts. This grant money is to assist local agencies with their groundwater management programs, to put together their AB3030 or other appropriate programs.

Under Prop 13, groundwater alone has \$203 million available over the next seven years. This fiscal year there will be \$18.5 million available for groundwater banking or conjunctive water management.

Mr. Meeks discussed the purpose of these programs is to assist local agencies managing their groundwater, that is actively manage the groundwater resources in conjunction with their surface water resources to do a conjunctive water management program. There is a surface and groundwater component to the overall water resource management program. With respect to conjunctive water management and groundwater specifically even the perception of harm is harm. Until you get to the point where you have stakeholder involvement, not just interested parties and until there is a level of understanding and agreement, anything else such as the technical aspects of a project is meaningless. We want to provide technical, financial assistance, whatever we can do. I am looking for good projects this year to support. My focus is conjunctive water management and my charter is to the extent possible, to assist local agencies throughout the State of California with developing comprehensive conjunctive water management programs.

Mr. Meeks encouraged applications be submitted for all grants and to attend the workshop on the 26th. Our desire is to fund pilot programs, feasibility studies and/or data information gathering. There is \$18.5 million

available. If there is a construction project that needs to be funded, the department will do it. The maximum cap under Chapter 9 is \$50 million and no cap under Chapter 8, but there is only \$30 million available for Chapter 8.

Steve Kimbrough questioned the shortage of matching monies. This committee made a good start in setting up the AB3030 process, but due to staff shortages, there are problems continuing the momentum.

Serge Birk questioned the overall science program. The concern is that this will be a review of state-wide needs, especially from the groundwater approach and that what we collect here in Tehama County should be something that is suitable for managers to use to standardize their approach. Mr. Birk also felt this would be useful for Mr. Meeks to apply this in his criteria when evaluating the proposals.

Ernie Ohlin informed Mr. Meeks of our adopted AB3030 Plan already in effect. AB303 possibly meets our needs. When questioned on time-frame, Mr. Meeks said February 20<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for applications. Roger Sherrill thanked Mr. Meeks for attending the AB3030 meeting and informed the members this then would be agendaized again.

5. TAC 2001 AGENDA ANNUAL REPORT: Roger Sherrill discussed again the TAC goals to be accomplished. The annual report is due for presentation in March. Information was requested from the members regarding this issue.

Serge Birk suggested e-mailing information especially any documents needing revision. A new list of members was distributed.

Gary Antone reviewed the purpose of the AB3030 with the committee and the importance of incorporating the information from the Groundwater Management Plan MOU into the annual report. The information would show the Board the accomplishments and goals of the committee. Also discussed was the staff shortage and fund shortage for accomplishing goals.

6. STAFF REPORT: Ernie Ohlin distributed information to the committee regarding funding. Staff requested any input from the committee before the next meeting.

Regarding the Sites Reservoir, Ernie discussed information presented to the Board of Supervisors. County Counsel has reviewed the MOU and expressed his concerns with regard to: (1) Who is empowered to provide water and; 2). Agencies that people should be signatory if they are empowered to be regulatory. This will be agendaized again at the Board of Supervisors.

7. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT: None
8. MEETING SCHEDULE: Next meeting date February 21, 2001
9. With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:06 P.M.