



## Meeting of the Board of Directors

---

Friday, June 19, 2015, 10am-3pm

Hanford Civic Auditorium  
400 N. Douty Street  
Hanford, CA 93230

### I. Convene Meeting – Introductory Remarks

---

The meeting of the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley (Partnership) was called to order by Co-Deputy Chair Luisa Medina at 10am on Friday, June 19, 2015. A portion of the board meeting and water forum was recorded by The Chronicle Group, led by Jim Thebaut, for its upcoming documentary which will advocate for all people to have access to safe, affordable and sustainable drinking water and adequate sanitation.

### II. Recognition of Sponsors and Dignitaries

---

Ms. Medina thanked sponsors Adventist Health – Central Valley Network for their contribution to lunch and refreshments, City of Hanford Parks and Recreation for the venue, Self-Help Enterprises for their contribution towards the Audio-Visual at the meeting and West Hills Community College for the June 18 water tour lunch.

Legislators recognized at the meeting were Shelly Abajian from the Office of Senator Diane Feinstein, Erica Mello from the Office of Congressman David Valadao, Edward Neal from Lemoore City Council, Allen Ishida of Tulare County Board of Supervisors, Craig Pedersen of Kings County Board of Supervisors and Francisco Ramirez of Hanford City Council.

Introductions were made around the board table. Board members in attendance were James Aleru, Lynne Ashbeck, Steve Bestolarides, Vito Chiesa, Elaine Craig, DeeDee D'Adamo, Amarpreet Dhaliwal, Randy Dodd, Lee Ann Eager, Bryn Forhan, Frank Gallegos, Carole Goldsmith, Pat Gordon, Genoveva Islas, Carlton Jones, Dan Leavitt, Luisa Medina, Andrew Mendoza, David Nelson, Suzi Picaso, Luis Santana, Gary Serrato and James Tague. Also in attendance was Board Advisory member Robert Tse and Board deputies Jenny Moffitt, Albert Rivas and Jim Suennen.

### III. Oath of Office

---

Supervisor Vito Chiesa administered the oath of office to reappointed board member Carole Goldsmith and new board members Andrew Mendoza and Luis Santana.

### IV. Public and Board Comment

---

Board member James Tague remarked positively on the vendors and their displays being present at the meeting.

DeeDee D'Adamo discussed the prior day's water tour and thanked her staff and those involved with the planning and execution. The tour participants traveled from downtown Hanford first to a facility in Lemoore to see Point of Entry (POE) treatment to remove arsenic from the water. The group next travelled to East Porterville which is a community largely disadvantaged and served by individual private wells. Many of the wells are dry and people are using bottled water and community shower facilities. Tour participants could see the household tank program at this stop. The tour also traveled to a community in the foothills outside Porterville to see the Triple R Mutual Water Company and the Ion Exchange treatment for removal of nitrate.

There was no public comment.

#### **V. Consent Calendar**

---

Bryn Forhan moved to approve the consent calendar as published. The motion was seconded by Genoveva Islas.

#### **VI. Safe Drinking Water**

---

Board member DeeDee D'Adamo and Cindy Forbes representing the State Water Resources Control board introduced the topic of Safe Drinking Water: Challenges and Opportunities. [View presentation.](#)

#### **VII. San Joaquin Valley Impacted Communities**

---

Presentations were given by Paul Boyer of Self Help Enterprises ([view presentation](#)) and Community Water Center representatives Ryan Jensen ([view presentation](#)) and Kristin Dobbins ([view presentation](#)).

#### **VIII. Funding Opportunities**

---

Darrin Polhemus, of the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), led a discussion about funding opportunities and introduced Bill Croyle, Deputy Director of the California Department of Water Resources. Mr. Croyle reported on efforts being made to coordinate with SWRCB and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to address funding gaps. Emergency funding is also being put in place with a portion being dedicated to disadvantaged communities. [View Mr. Polhemus' presentation.](#)

Janice Waddell, USDA Acting State Director, made a presentation on water and environmental programs. View presentation. [View presentation.](#)

Sarah Reyes from The California Endowment spoke to the board about the health issues surrounding the lack of water due to the drought. Water quality, even in good times with much rain and ground water presents water quality issues. Now this problem is drastic, dramatic and ever increasing in the state of California. We have one of the largest economies in the world and it has communities within that lack access to safe drinking water.

#### **IX. Introduction to Vendors**

---

Technology vendors Carollo Engineers, Ionex SG Limited, and AdEdge, set up exhibits for board members and meeting guests.

#### **X. Lunch**

---

#### **XI. Technology Options**

---

Eugene Leung, SWRCB, introduced the following water technology vendors/presentations: [View presentation.](#)

- Penny Carlo, Carollo Engineers/Biological nitrate treatment program for the City of Delano. [View presentation.](#)
- Phil Chandler, Ionex SG. RRR-Optimized Ion Exchange technology. [View presentation.](#)
- Yoram Cohen, UCLA Arrow Project. Potable water treatment for remote communities. [View presentation.](#)
- Doug Craver, AdEdge Water Technologies. Arsenic absorptive media point of use technology. Arsenic is a colorless and odorless contaminate that can have very serious effects on our health. [View presentation.](#)

## **XII. Regional Solutions**

---

David Orth, General Manager of the Kings River Conservation District, and Kristin Dobbin of the Community Water Center, discussed regional drinking water solutions. [View presentation.](#)

## **XIII. Affordable Safe Drinking Water Proposal**

---

Board member DeeDee D'Adamo and Liz Haven, both representing the State Water Resources Control Board, discussed potential solutions with a safe drinking water proposal. [View presentation.](#)

The Brown Administration has the issue of safe, affordable drinking water as a top priority with a team which has been working to solve the problem to provide an integrated structure for California water systems.

## **XIV. Discussion**

---

Luisa Medina introduced time for discussion; Gita Kapahi, SWRCB, manned the microphone to reach all board members and guests throughout the room with their questions and comments on the day's topics.

Supervisor Chiesa was struck by how much money is available for solutions. Stanislaus County has domestic wells which have gone dry; and it has spurred much thought for him.

Lee Ann Eager discussed her trip to Washington, D.C., and her discovery that people consider the drought and water problems to be a California issue and they don't know how to help us. She believes that we need to reach across the country and let them know what we're doing here in the San Joaquin Valley.

DeeDee D'Adamo replied that the drought isn't just in California but is a western states challenge and a climate change issue. Lynne Ashbeck agreed with DeeDee and believes that we need to communicate our story more effectively with a communications strategy. Ms. Eager said that she spoke directly with Senator Feinstein who said she would have folks come to the Central Valley and see it first-hand.

Board Advisory member Robert Tse of USDA CA Rural Development told the board that most of the officials aren't aware of what's happening in California.

Genoveva Islas spoke briefly about greywater recycling, which is the re-use of water from sinks, showers, baths, clothes washing machines or dish washers.

Tom Esqueda, City of Fresno's Director of Public Utilities, discussed groundwater contamination and a new State funded treatment plant.

DeeDee D'Adamo addressed the issue of feeling frustration in Washington, D.C., noting that our drinking water issue isn't getting the attention that it should. She stated that there is unprecedented cooperation on this issue in California and everyone is sharing information and trying to make the most out of the system. Water re-use, integrated management and funding are all keys to a possible solution.

Bill Croyle stated that he travels around the state and hears a lot of conversations about their one water source; but what he has learned through Australia's drought is that we must have redundant sources.

The open discussion was brought to a close to save time for Supervisor Chiesa and Sarge Green from the California Water Institute, staff to the Partnership on the work group, to give a brief introduction to the groundwater act.

## **XV. California Water Commission Prop 1 Water Quality, Supply and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014**

---

David Orth presented an overview of the water storage investment program. [View presentation.](#)

**XVI. Public Comment**

---

No public comment.

**XVII. Adjournment**

---

Luisa Medina thanked all board members for their attendance and active participation in the day's discussions. In the absence of any further public or Board comments the meeting was adjourned at 2:37pm.