



Contra Costa County Special District Association Meeting Minutes

11.21.2022	Meeting Time: 10:00 a.m.	In order to comply with State and County Health Orders, this meeting was held via teleconference.
Call to Order / Breakout Session	<p>At 9:30 a.m., a Meet and Greet session was held via Zoom for an open discussion among Association Members.</p> <p>At 10:02 a.m., the meeting was called to order.</p>	
Minutes	Cecilia Goff, District Secretary, Ironhouse Sanitary District	
Link to Zoom Recording	11.21.2022 CCSDA Meeting Recording Link	
Attendees	Attendees signed-in via Zoom	

Welcome

Mr. Chad Davisson, CCSDA President, called the meeting to order and welcomed members.

The Association approved the September 19, 2022 CCSDA meeting minutes.

Guest Speaker – Presentation by Osha R. Meserve, Soluri Meserve Law Corporation) and Ryan Hernandez (Contra Costa County): Stop the Delta Tunnel/Delta Conveyance Project

Mr. Davisson introduced Ms. Osha R. Meserve, Soluri Meserve, A Law Corporation and Mr. Ryan Hernandez, Contra Costa County Water Agency. Ms. Meserve and Mr. Hernandez presented an update on the Stop the Delta Tunnel / Delta Conveyance Project.

Mr. Hernandez provided a historical and geographical overview the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. He explained that the Delta is California’s most crucial water and ecological resource. It the largest freshwater titled estuary of its kind on the west coast and provides important habitat for wildlife and fish. The Delta provides drinking water for the Bay Area down to Southern California. In 2019, Congress designated the Delta as a National Heritage Area.

Mr. Hernandez explained that the Delta Tunnel Project is a new isolated conveyance that diverts freshwater around the delta before it allows the water to freshen up by traveling through the Delta and is the latest version of the massive State water infrastructure

project to redirect Delta flows. It would take at least 3,000 cubic feet per second of water from the Sacramento River at Hood and Courtland and divert it through a forty-foot in pipeline running approximately 45 miles long, terminating at the Bethany Reservoir. Project impacts include thirteen years of around the clock construction, approximately 200,000+ heavy truck trips on I-5 and local roads and adds 6,000 cubic feet of export capacity at the Bethany Reservoir. Mr. Hernandez explained that there are no local benefits as the conveyance will take water around the Delta. The anticipated cost for this project was \$16B, not including inflation. An overview of the previously proposed Delta Conveyance projects was provided.

Ms. Meserve provided an overview of river flows and water quality for the Delta. She explained that the proposed tunnel is threat to the existing ecosystem because it will decrease freshwater flows and water quality throughout the Delta at the expense of Delta residents and farmers and it provides no incentive to protect and improve Delta water quality.

Ms. Meserve explained that management of approximately 14.4M cubic yards of excess material and excavated slurry is not accounted for within the CEQA Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR). The groundwater chapter of the DEIR does not analyze whether the different activities under the project will interfere with Groundwater Sustainability Plans, local wells, GDEs and ISWs. She also explained that the DEIR does not consider historical delta communities, recreational and waterway impacts, the impacts of a massive water infrastructure being installed in a rural area and the National Heritage Area designation.

Ms. Meserve presented the Freshwater Pathway as a viable solution to the tunnel project and explained that the program plans to meet future risks by mitigating flood and earthquake risks and rising sea level. Freshwater Pathways has focused on preparing for pre-events, such as levee improvements, material stockpiles and local and State integrated plans as well as post events, levee repairs, closing of side channels and recovery. An overview of the Delta Tunnel timeline was provided. The DEIR public comment deadline is extended to December 16, 2022. She explained that it is important for DWR to hear concerns and comments. A Draft EIR public comment meeting hosted by the Delta Legislative Caucus and Delta Counties Coalition will be held on December 6, 2023 at 4 p.m. in Hood where public comment will be recorded for submission. The DCC website <https://savethedelta.saccounty.gov/> was provided.

After the presentation, a question and answer session was held. Mr. Davisson thanked Ms. Meserve and Mr. Hernandez for their presentation.

CCSDA 30th Anniversary Ad-Hoc Committee Update – Chad Davisson

Mr. Davisson explained that the CCSDA 30th anniversary will be held on April 27, 2023 at the Pleasant Hill Recreation Center. The committee met in November to coordinate videos including a special district overview and district highlights. Sponsorship development and requests are in progress. The committee solicited input on who should be targeted for invites. Questions were solicited and answered.

Update on Ad-Hoc Committee for CCSDA Website Revision

Mr. Davisson explained that preliminary website revisions were made. Mr. Davisson requested that agencies review their information for accuracy. Updates will be provided to the Association.

3rd Quarter Finance Report – Bert Michalczyk

Mr. Bert Michalczyk, CCSDA Treasurer, provided the 3rd quarter Finance Report to the Association and explained that the Association finances are in good condition. All membership dues are paid with the exception of two agencies. In addition, two district's elected not to renew membership.

Update on adding a new membership category

Mr. Davisson explained that the Association does not provide an option for retired members with institutional knowledge to still have an active role, in a non-voting, informational or advisory capacity. The target date for formal action is January 16, 2023.

Update on the Bay Area Chapter President's Roundtable – Chad Davisson

Mr. Davisson explained that the Bay Area President's recently held their annual roundtable chapter meeting. A regional meeting is being considered to include support for surrounding chapters outside of the Bay Area.

LAFCo Update – Patricia Bristow/Michael McGill

Ms. Lou Ann Texeira, LAFCo Executive Officer, explained that in January a farewell will be bid to two Commissioners, Martinez Mayor Rob Schroder and Richmond Mayor Tom Butt. Two new Commissioners will be welcomed, El Cerrito Mayor Gabriel Quinto and San Ramon Councilmember Scott Perkins. LAFCo Executive Assistant Sherrie Weis is retiring and a recruitment was opened to fill a full-time clerk analyst position. The recruitment details are posted on the LAFCo website and the application deadline is December 12, 2022. Mr. Mc Gill was reelected to the CALAFCo Board at the annual conference held in October. The third round wastewater MSR is in progress and includes thirteen districts and seven cities. Local agencies have been very helpful.

Contra Costa Treasury Oversight Committee Special District Representative Appointment

Mr. Davisson explained that CCSDA solicited interest for an alternate special district representative for the Contra Costa Treasury Oversight Committee. Ironhouse Sanitary District Vice President Dawn Morrow expressed interest in serving as the alternate special district representative and has graciously accepted the appointment to the Committee. The association thanked Ms. Morrow.

CSDA Update and Legislation in Progress – Dane Wadle/Colleen Hayley

Ms. Colleen Hayley, California Special Districts Association (CSDA), was not able to attend the meeting.

Announcements and Member Comments

The Association discussed having hybrid and in-person meetings beginning in January 2023. The Contra Costa Mosquito and Vector Control District has tentatively offered to host in-person and hybrid meetings pending the State of Emergency being terminated. Mr. Igor Skaredoff suggested holding meetings at Industrious, located in Concord, as it has in-person and hybrid capabilities and is a central location. Mr. Davisson will request that a CSDA representative provide an overview on the State of Emergency ending as it relates to the Brown Act. The regularly scheduled meeting on January 16, 2023 will be moved to January 23, 2023 due to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday. Mr. Larry Nagel, explained that on October 20, 2022, the Kensington Fire Protection District broke ground on the seismic renovations for Station 65. This has been in-progress for five years and construction is expected be completed in one and a half to two years.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 11:47 a.m. The next meeting will be held on January 23, 2023 due to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday.