



Mariposa County Department of Public Works

Airport – Cemeteries – Engineering – Facilities
Fleet Maintenance – Parks & Rec – Plant Operations
Roads – Solid Waste – Surveyor – Transportation

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MARIPOSA COUNTY WATER AGENCY ADVISORY BOARD

MINUTES

September 9, 2021

Members Present: Michael Martin, John McCamman, Robert Keller,
Art Baggett

Members Absent: Brenda Ostrum, Daniel Hankemeier, Sonny Palmer

MPUD Ex Officio: Susan Wages

BOS Liaison Present: None

County Staff Present: Steve Dahlem, Jean Dordan, Dallin Kimble

Guests: Mike Henderson

1. **Call to order:** 3:05 pm.
2. **Public Comment:** None
3. **Approve minutes:** May 27, 2021 (M) Art Baggett (S) Mike Martin
6. **Discussion and Action Items:**

John McCamman talked about two members of the committee who have not attended a meeting since 2019. Brenda Ostrum from District IV and Daniel Hankemeier from District II are removed from the committee as stated in the resolutions establishing the Water Agency Advisory Board, which vacates a position if the incumbent misses three meetings. Vacancies will be posted.

At the August 10, 2022 Board of Supervisors meeting, it was voted to develop an RFP or RFQ to do a feasibility study of implementation of the MID Settlement. The overall budget for implementation is \$250,000, but it is not anticipated that the entire

amount will be spent on the feasibility portion of the project. The RFP language should involve Public Works, Planning, and the Water Agency Advisory Board to put together items that should be included in the process and start a subcommittee that Mike Martin will participate in.

Dallin Kimble agrees with an audit of MID Settlement funds, which are based on a portion of net power revenues from MID. Also, the amount contributed to the settlement escrow account is based on these calculations. As such, an evaluation of the proceeds of MID's power operations is in order, and will take specialized audit expertise.

Currently there is \$166,000 in the Water Agency fund available for projects within the context of the Water Agency's authority. MID Settlement funds are in the general fund, not the Water Agency fund.

Mike Martin and Susan Wages will work with Jean Dordan to add studies and other documents to the Water Agency portal page on the County website.

Continued discussion of the RFP/RFQ identified potential water demands and the beneficial use, and both practical and useful. A bottled water plant has been mentioned and whether it would be allowed distribution outside of the County. Mike Martin speaks of a conservation fish hatchery for Steelhead Trout which would be used to reintroduce them back in the Merced River. The project must be in Mariposa County. Discussion was of diversion of water out of McClure to sell that water. Water must be taken out of Lake McClure. A trout hatchery is not a money maker but would be beneficial to the County and there would be a byproduct of water that is not potable but could be used for other applications.

RFP should include language of what type of projects would benefit the County. Suggested projects included should be ones that would generate revenue. Conservation language should be included with irrigation, storage, and municipal use. Art Baggett suggested whether there any funding sources available for any projects. Research should include any grants or outside funds to utilize with it. Range of cost for projects to maximize the use of the water for future economic development.

John McCamman mentioned attending the ACWA (Association of California Water Agencies) conference this year and suggests that the Water Agency should see what other counties are doing. The ACWA Conference would be a good place to contact other counties.

8. Set next meeting Date and Time: 11/18/21at 1:00 pm (Every 3 months)

9. Adjourn: Meeting Adjourned at 4:18 PM