

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, March 17, 2022

2:00 p.m.

(Paragraph numbers coincide with agenda item numbers)

1. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority (DCA) Board of Directors was called to order remotely - Conference Access Information: Phone Number: (916)262-7278, code: 1479274252#, <https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1479274252> at 2:01 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Board members in attendance were Richard Atwater, Martin Milobar, Tony Estremera, Gary Martin, Robert Cheng, Adnan Anabtawi, and Alternate Director John Weed sitting in for Sarah Palmer, constituting a quorum of the Board.

DCA staff members in attendance were Graham Bradner, Joshua Nelson, Damaris Villalobos-Galindo, and Katano Kasaine.

Department of Water Resources (DWR) staff members in attendance were Carrie Buckman and Janet Barbieri.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Richard Atwater convened the open session at approximately 2:01 p.m. and led all present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

President Atwater opened Public Comment, there were no public comment requests received and he proceeded to close the comment period.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: January 20, 2022 Regular Board Meeting, February 17, 2022 Special Board Meeting

Recommendation: Approve the January 20, 2022 Regular Board Meeting, February 17, 2022 Special Board Meeting

Motion to Approve Minutes from January 20, 2022 and February 17, 2022, as

Noted: Anabtawi
Second: Estremera
Yeas: Atwater, Milobar, Estremera, Martin, Cheng, Anabtawi, Weed
Nays: None

Abstains: None
 Recusals: None
 Absent: None
 Summary: 7 Yeas; 0 Nays; 0 Abstain; 0 Absent. (Motion passed as MO 22-03-01).

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

Recommendation: Approve Resolution Authorizing Virtual Board and Committee Meetings Pursuant to AB 361

Motion to Approve Resolution Authorizing Virtual Board and Committee Meetings Pursuant to AB 361, as

Noted: Martin
 Second: Milobar
 Yeas: Atwater, Milobar, Estremera, Martin, Cheng, Anabtawi, Weed
 Nays: None
 Abstains: None
 Recusals: None
 Absent: None
 Summary: 7 Yeas; 0 Nays; 0 Abstain; 0 Absent. (Motion passed as Resolution 21-08-05).

7. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

a) **March DCA Monthly Report**

Informational Item

Executive Director Graham Bradner provided an overview of the monthly board report, starting with Section 1: Worked Performed. In regard to Program Management, he informed the Board that DCA staff is continuing to put the finishing touches on the closeout for fiscal year (FY) 2021, as well as continuing the normal processes for the current fiscal year. Staff has also begun budget development for the next fiscal year, FY22/23, with plans to present a draft budget to the Board in the May 2022 meeting. Mr. Bradner provided an update on the Board room hybrid meeting progress, highlighting that a lot of progress has been made but unfortunately there are some key technology equipment shortages. Regarding the engineering progress, the engineering team continues its primary focus on supporting the Department of Water Resources (DWR) and the environmental permitting team by responding to requests for clarification on the information that has been provided. On the Field work side, the DCA is gearing up for a Spring program, projected to start in May 2022. Staff is currently working on obtaining the required permits and coordinating with landowners for site clearances.

Mr. Bradner continued to Section 3: Budget, stating that staff has been working on what the forecast for the estimate at completion (EAC) will be for the current fiscal year. He reminded the Board of the original FY21/22 budget of \$21.5M, which is now currently just under \$24.5M as the Board previously approved two (2) separate actions to roll over the underrun from last fiscal year (FY2021). Based on updated projections, the EAC is at \$22M and Mr. Bradner suspects that the budget will be similar to the original budget, as items are continually refined. The underrun will continue to be tracked and highlighted as it gets closer to the end of the fiscal year. He also went

over planned vs. actuals, noting that the difference between actuals and projected in December and January reflects the delayed start of the Geotechnical program. With the program starting later in the fiscal year, it is likely that there will be another underrun for this fiscal year.

Lastly, Mr. Bradner provided an overview of the program schedule, highlighting that the project is on schedule for this fiscal year.

No questions or comments were presented from the Board.

b) **Sr. Leadership Spotlight – Damaris Villalobos-Galindo**

Informational Item

Graham Bradner briefly introduced Damaris Villalobos-Galindo, DCA's Exploration Manager.

Mrs. Villalobos-Galindo thanked the Board for the opportunity to talk about her professional and personal background. She provided a brief description of her role with the DCA. She received a B.S. in Environmental Engineering at the University of California, San Diego, as well as a M.S. in Civil and Environmental Engineering with a focus on environmental fluid mechanics and hydrology at Stanford University. She is also a Registered Professional Civil Engineer (PE) in California, Qualified Stormwater Pollution and Prevention Plan Developer and Practitioner (QSP/D), Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM), and Project Management Professional (PMP). She is originally from Tijuana, Baja California in Mexico. The main reason she came to the US is because she wanted to become a professional classical ballet dancer. She was fortunate enough to get hired by the San Diego Ballet at the end of the 1990's, early 2000's. Unfortunately, her dancing career quickly came to an end due to an injury in 2005. This forced her to find a new career, so she made the decision to go to community college, which she is a big advocate for as it allows those who do not have the typical pathway to a four (4) year university to figure out what they want to do while working. Attending the community college allowed her to transfer to UC San Diego (UCSD). Her mentors at UCSD pushed her to obtain a graduate degree at Stanford University.

Mrs. Villalobos-Galindo is currently part-time with the DCA and spends the other half of her time working at Valley Water as the Associate Civil Engineer. Prior to Valley Water, she was the Supervisor of the Hydraulics and Operational Support Group at the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission. She also worked at San Jose Water Company as an Associate Civil Engineer and at TRC Solutions, San Diego as a Stormwater Inspector. Her role at the DCA as Exploration Manager is composed of coordinating and supporting the DCA exploration team to ensure completion of the current exploration program, scheduling and coordinating environmental, right-of-way, permitting and exploration teams, and managing geotechnical and real estate contracts. She also supports the DCA with field work communications.

Mrs. Villalobos-Galindo worked on various significant projects, including the Pipeline Risk Assessment Study for San Jose Water Company, Proactive Leak Detection Program for San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, Coyote Creek Flood Protection Project for Valley Water, and Upper Pajaro River Watershed Plan for Valley Water.

President Atwater thanked Mrs. Villalobos-Galindo for her presentation. He commended her for her diverse background and talents.

Director Anabtawi notes that Mrs. Villalobos-Galindo has an impressive background and achievements. He stated that it is amazing to see the quality of people supporting and working for DCA and DCO. He also thanked her for her time.

Director Cheng echoed previous comments from other directors and wanted to confirm that Mrs. Villalobos-Galindo is part-time with the DCA.

Mr. Bradner informed the Board that the DCA has a contract with Valley Water, allowing Mrs. Villalobos-Galindo to work part-time with the DCA while working on other projects.

Director Martin also echoed the comments made. He thanked the DCA staff for including DCA Staff Spotlights in the Board meetings as he enjoys hearing about the talented staff. He congratulated Mrs. Villalobos-Galindo for her ability and achievement on switching careers due to an unfortunate event.

Director Estremera stating how proud Valley Water is for Mrs. Villalobos-Galindo work on the Coyote Project and how exceptional she is. He reiterated that she is a great asset to the DCA.

No further questions or comments were presented from the Board.

c) **Consider Passing Resolution to Approve Amendment 6 to the Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement**

Adopt Resolution

Josh Nelson presented a Board Memo regarding this item. He informed the Board that the Amendment is an administrative update with two (2) changes. The first is to update the addresses for DWR in the document and the second is to clarify the termination date of the document during the planning phase. This amendment would clarify that it is June 30, 2025. If the project is approved for construction, then the date will go away and the existing dates within the rest of the JEPA will take effect.

No questions or comments were presented from the Board.

Recommendation: Consider Passing Resolution to Approve Amendment 6 to the Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement

Motion to Approve Passing Resolution to Approve Amendment 6 to the Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement, as

Noted:	Estremera
Second:	Martin
Yeas:	Atwater, Milobar, Estremera, Martin, Cheng, Anabtawi, Weed
Nays:	None
Abstains:	None
Recusals:	None
Absent:	None
Summary:	7 Yeas; 0 Nays; 0 Abstain; 0 Absent. (Motion passed as Resolution 22-03).

8. STAFF REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

a. General Counsel's Report

A written report was provided in the Board package. Mr. Nelson stated that the DCA will continue to monitor the Governor's Declaration of Emergency as well as applicable health and safety orders to see if the Board can continue to meet remotely. If so, then the DCA will explore the hybrid meeting program, and if not, then the Board will be subject to the existing teleconference rules.

b. Treasurer's Report

Two written reports were provided in the Board package. Ms. Katano reminded the Board that she is reporting every two (2) months. She proceeded to provide an overview of the cash balances for the month of January and February. She stated that the DCA is still running roughly \$3.3 M below budget.

c. DWR Environmental Manager's Report

A written report was provided in the Board package. Ms. Buckman highlighted that DWR is continuing the development of the draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) which is on track to release this summer.

d. DWR Communication Manager's Report

Janet Barbieri provided a verbal update to the Board. Ms. Barbieri informed the Board that the DWR communications team is working on a variety of resources in anticipation of the Draft EIR. Prior to the document coming out, DWR will be providing briefs to as many folks as they can to provide information on how to access the document and provide comments. They are also focusing on providing information about the proposed project. Lastly, Ms. Barbieri mentioned that DWR is doing a bit of work in the environmental justice and disadvantage community arena.

e. Verbal Reports

None.

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

None.

10. ADJOURNMENT:

President Atwater adjourned the meeting at 2:34 p.m., remotely - Conference Access Information:
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