



Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority

UMRWA Regular Governing Board Meeting

Agenda

Friday, October 2, 2015 – 10:00 a.m.
McLean Hall, Pardee Center, Valley Springs, CA 95252

ROLL CALL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC COMMENT: When responding to items not listed on the agenda, Board members are limited by state law to providing a brief response, asking clarifying questions, and referring a matter to staff.

AUTHORITY BUSINESS:

	<u>Recommended Action</u>
1. Minutes from July 24, 2015 Board Workshop	Approve by Motion
2. Regular Meeting Minutes of July 24, 2015	Approve by Motion
3. Butte Fire: Scope and Aftermath	Discussion/Possible Action
4. AB 142 – Mokelumne Wild & Scenic	Discussion/Possible Action
5. USFS and BLM Partnership Agreements	Discussion/Possible Action

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

6. Board Member Comments

EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT:

7. Executive Officer's Oral Report

ADJOURNMENT:

- Next Regular Board Meeting: January 22, 2016 at 1:30 p.m. (McLean Hall, Pardee Center)
- Next Board Advisory Committee Conference Call Meeting: December 8 at 9:00 a.m.

Requests for disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, may be made to Lisa Stuart at 209.772.8261 or lstuart@ebmud.com no later than 24 hours before the meeting.



Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority

Agenda No: **1**

Meeting Date: October 2, 2015

Title:

Minutes of July 24, 2015 Board Workshop

Recommended Action:

Approve the Workshop minutes of July 24, 2015.

Summary:

The summary minutes of the July 24, 2015 Board Workshop meeting are attached for Board review and approval.

Friday, July 24, 2015 – 1:30 p.m.
Governing Board Workshop
Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority
McLean Hall – Pardee Center – Valley Springs, CA

Summary Minutes

ROLL CALL

Vice-Chair Terry Woodrow, Directors Bill Patterson, Richard Farrington, Chris Wright, and Hank Willy were present. Also present were Executive Officer (EO) Rob Alcott, Authority Counsel Gregory Gillott, Authority Secretary Lisa Stuart, and 14 visitors.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

AUTHORITY BUSINESS

1. Amador Calaveras Consensus Group (AACG) Presentation

Jan Bray gave a presentation introducing the Board to the AACG organization, its mission, goals, and a brief overview of the USFS Cornerstone project. Pat McGreevy provided an introduction to a non-profit organization, CHIPS, is working to create a biomass plant in Wilseyville that will generate electricity for approximately 3,000 homes and create more than 20 jobs. He went on to discuss meadow restoration and forest restoration needs and goals.

2. US Forest Service (USFS) Presentation

Scott Tangeberg gave a presentation on the USFS's Cornerstone Project, one of 10 Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration projects in the US. This project includes many treatments; some in progress already, some that have been completed, and others that are just in the planning stages. He discussed funding sources and anticipated spending by hiring as many local contractors as possible to accomplish project work. He also described master versus sponsorship and other types of agreements that might be suitable to a partnership between the USFS and UMRWA.

3. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Presentation

Bill Hague gave a presentation on BLM responsibilities within the Mokelumne Watershed and BLM's collaboration with ACCG. His presentation focused on federal forested lands at elevations in Amador and Calaveras Counties lower than USFS lands and generally at the urban interface. Citing examples of Community Forest partnerships elsewhere in California he stressed the advantages of local partnerships for securing funding to complete projects as well as creating partnerships with private landowners and other agencies to complete community-supported watershed projects.

4. Board Consideration of Next Steps

The Board's consensus was for the EO to continue to explore details of possible partnership agreements with the USFS and BLM and report to the Board at the October 2 Board meeting.



Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority

Agenda No: **2**

Meeting Date: October 2, 2015

Title:

Regular Meeting Minutes of July 24, 2015

Recommended Action:

Approve the regular meeting minutes of July 24, 2015.

Summary:

The summary minutes of the July 24, 2015 regular Governing Board meeting are attached for Board review and approval.

Summary Minutes

ROLL CALL

Vice-Chair Terry Woodrow, Directors Richard Farrington, Chris Wright, Terry Strange, Bill Patterson, and Hank Willy were present. Also present were Executive Officer (EO) Rob Alcott, Authority Counsel Gregory Gillott, Authority Secretary Lisa Stuart, and 7 visitors.

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

AUTHORITY BUSINESS

1. Meeting Minutes of April 24, 2015

Motion 12-15 to approve the minutes of the regular April 24, 2015 Governing Board meeting was made by Director Willy, seconded by Director Strange, and carried by voice vote: Yea 5 – Nay – 0 Abstain – 0.

2. MokeWISE Program Completion

The EO presented two related Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) actions to the Board. First was the adoption of the MokeWISE Program, including the Board's expressed support for the MokeWISE projects and policies. The second was for the Board's approval of the updated MAC Plan Project List as an addendum, and approval of the MokeWISE IRWM Integration Memorandum as an appendix, to the MAC Plan.

Motion 13-15 was made to:

- 1) Adopt Resolution No. 2015 – 2 approving the MokeWISE Program and expressing support for MokeWISE projects and policies.
- 2) Adopt Resolution No. 2015 – 3 adopting the updated MAC Plan Project List as an addendum, and approving the MokeWISE IRWM Integration Memorandum as an appendix, to the MAC Plan.
- 3) Authorize staff to prepare a MOU with the San Joaquin Groundwater Banking Authority (GBA) that describes mutually acceptable MokeWISE implementation tasks.

Motion made by Director Patterson, seconded by Director Willy, and carried by voice vote: Yea 5 – Nay 0 – Abstain – 0.

3. Update on DWR Implementation Grants - Funded and Proposed

The EO presented a summary of the 2015 Round 3 UMRWA Implementation Grant proposal and gave brief updates on three previous UMRWA Proposition 84 Implementation Grants awarded by the Department of Water Resources (DWR). The three previously awarded grants are the 2014 Drought Grant (April 2015), the Round 2 Implementation Grant (September 2014) and the Round 1 Implementation Grant (April 2012).

4. Fiscal Year 2016 UMRWA Budget

On April 24, the Board authorized transmittal of the proposed FY 2016 budget to Member Agencies for review and comment. A memorandum presenting the proposed FY 2016 budget and Member Agency assessment amounts was sent to each member's chief executive with copies to the agency UMRWA Board director. The EO presented the recommended FY 2016 budget to the Board.

Motion 14-15 to approve the FY 2016 UMRWA budget and authorize the EO to transmit invoices to Member Agencies requesting payment of FY 2016 assessments by no later than October 31, 2015 was made by Director Willy, seconded by Director Farrington, and carried by voice vote: Yea 5 – Nay 0 – Abstain – 0.

5. Consultant Services Agreement – UMRWA Contract Associate

As presented and discussed at the April Board meeting, there is a growing need to diversify the labor resources available to carry out the Authority's work. To that end, a consultant services agreement with Karen Quidachay was presented for the Board's consideration.

Motion 15-15 to approve a consultant services agreement with Karen Quidachay for the 13-month period beginning on September 1, 2015 in an amount not to exceed \$20,000, and authorize the Executive Officer to sign the agreement upon concurrence by Authority Counsel was made by Director Farrington, seconded by Director Willy, and carried by voice vote: Yea 4 – Nay – 1 (Director Strange) Abstain – 0.

6. Status update on AB 142 – Mokelumne Wild & Scenic

Assembly Bill 142 was passed July 14 from the Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee to the Senate Appropriations Committee on a 9-0 vote. The July 10 Committee Staff Report indicates there are more than 45 supporters of the bill and no opponents. The EO presented several relevant excerpts from the Staff Report.

7. Executive Officer Grant Funded Work Quarterly Report

The Executive Officer's work agreement with UMRWA segregates the work into two categories: tasks related to UMRWA business and funded by Member Agency contributions, and grant-related work paid by grant funds. The work agreement specifies the EO is to report to the Board the grant-related work performed and billed on a quarterly basis. The quarterly report the EO presented covered invoices submitted for two active grant funded projects.

8. Third Quarter Treasurer's Report (through June 30, 2015)

EO reviewed the Third Quarter Treasurer's Report with the Board.

Motion 16-15 to approve the Treasurer's Report for filing was made by Director Patterson, seconded by Director Willy, and carried by voice vote: Yea – 5 Nay – 0 Abstain – 0.

Board Member Comments – Amador Water Agency was thanked for allowing other agency representatives to accompany them to AB 142 legislative hearings; Director Patterson expressed

his appreciation for the interesting morning Workshop presentations; Director Farrington offered thanks for Workshop presentations and noted that AWA is pushing hard to address revenue shortfalls resulting from customer water use reductions. Director Willy gave a brief update of JVID water supply and use and said they had great Lake Amador recreational visitation over 4th of July due to 80% reservoir levels.

Executive Officer Comments - None

ADJOURNMENT: Vice-Chair Woodrow adjourned the meeting at 2:12 p.m. The next meeting will be October 2, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. at Pardee Center.

SUBMITTED BY:

Lisa Stuart, Authority Secretary

John Coleman, Chair of the Board

APPROVED: October 2, 2015



Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority

Agenda No: **3**

Meeting Date: October 2, 2015

Title:

Butte Fire

Recommended Action:

- A. Authorize the EO to receive a check from EBMUD for an as yet unspecified amount and to use those funds towards post-fire community restoration via a local organization to better enable the local region to return to routine business thus enabling UMRWA to more readily implement its water quality protection, stewardship, and water supply projects.
- B. Authorize the formation of an UMRWA agency staff task force to assist in post-fire mitigation measures in the Mokelumne Watershed, and direct the EO to provide assistance to the task force as needed.

Summary:

The Butte Fire raged across a significant portion of Amador and Calaveras Counties, burning approximately 71,000 acres. The fire threatened approximately 6,400 structures, destroying 545 residences, 356 non-residences and damaging another 42 structures. As of September 22, the fire was 82% contained. Firefighters continue mop-up operations to increase containment lines. Smoke was continuing to impact the affected fire areas and surrounding communities. Damage Assessment teams were continuing to collect information in the affected fire areas and report their findings. Cal Fire anticipates it will have achieved 100% containment on or about October 1, 2015.

The fire's scale and its aftermath have significant ramifications for the region's water resources. It is critical that actions start immediately to address erosion and sediment control within burned areas to minimize to the degree possible negative impacts on water quality and environmental degradation of the watershed.

EBMUD intends to donate money to UMRWA for their use toward community recovery efforts which will help UMRWA more readily implement its projects and programs.

UMRWA may also be an important force in post-fire recovery efforts to protect soil, prevent erosion, and minimize water quality and sedimentation impacts in creeks, streams, and the Mokelumne River.



Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority

Agenda No: **4**

Meeting Date: October 2, 2015

Title:

Status of AB 142 – Mokelumne Wild & Scenic

Recommended Action:

- A. Status Update – No Action
- B. Support AB 142 as amended and approved by the State Senate on September 9, 2015.
- C. Direct the EO to send out a request to member agencies for verification of willingness to cost share for a study proposed by AB 142 for a cost share up to \$125,000 split based on UMRWA expenditure allocations and return this item for a future agenda item to discuss terms for a cost sharing agreement with the Natural Resource Agency.

Summary:

The Senate on September 9 approved an amended AB 142 (copy enclosed) by a vote of 38 to 0. The Assembly subsequently approved the amended bill on September 10 by a vote of 66 to 1. The bill is now before the Governor for signature.

The bill would require the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency to submit a report pursuant to the Legislature and Governor no later than December 31, 2017, and would require the report to include a clear recommendation on the suitability or nonsuitability for addition to the system of each of the designated segments of the Mokelumne River. The bill would require the Secretary to enter into a cost-sharing agreement with the Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority that would require the state and the authority to each pay a specified portion of the cost of the report.

The cost-sharing provision in the bill specifies that the state pay not more than 50 percent of the cost of the study and report, with the remaining cost to be paid by the Authority. The payment by the Authority may consist of appropriated funds or a contribution of services.

At its April 24, 2015 meeting, the UMRWA Board unanimously approved Motion 09-15, which states:

Approve a conditional commitment of up to \$100,000 to support the study required by AB142 based on individual agency approval with the goal of having the state fund the entire amount.

UMRWA Members that subsequently pledged their pro-rated financial contribution to the study were AWA, CCWD, CPUD, JVID and EBMUD. The sum of those pledges totals approximately \$100,000.



Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority

Agenda No: **5**

Meeting Date: October 2, 2015

Title:

USFS and BLM Partnership Agreements

Recommended Action:

Request EO to present a report and proposed next steps at the January 22, 2016 Board meeting.

Summary:

Following the July 24 Board workshop on potential partnership agreements between UMRWA and the USFS and the BLM, respectively, Authority staff (the EO and Contract Associate Karen Quidachay) had several discussions and one meeting (on September 10) with federal agency officials to further evaluate the roles and responsibilities of the involved agencies, the most suitable agreement options, funding issues and opportunities, and potential institutional arrangements. Due to limited USFS staff availability during the Western U.S. fire season, followed by the demands of the Butte Fire, limited progress has been made on those evaluations.

Over the next several months, staff will be working with federal officials to develop the evaluations and recommended next steps for the Board's consideration at the January 22, 2016 meeting. That meeting will focus on practical and basic program information that will provide the Board with what 'on the ground' projects might be accomplished, what those project costs are estimated to be, and the potential sources of funding that UMRWA would potentially target to fund its cost share. Information to be presented to the Board is expected to include the following.

- A list of projects that the USFS and BLM anticipate being most ready for implementation in the next 2 to 3 years
- For each of the listed projects: a bullet list of key project tasks, an estimated federal agency and UMRWA cost share, and list of key project tasks to be fulfilled by the federal agencies vs. UMRWA
- A draft 'statement of mutual benefits interests' (this is required for any form of Federal agreement)
- Best option(s) for a USFS and BLM agreements based on the types of projects contained on the project list
- Current and anticipated sources of funding potentially available to UMRWA to fund its project-related costs
- Some form of UMRWA staff/resources plan needed to fulfill UMRWA's partnership tasks/activities
- Schedule of key next steps

An update on the status of this work will be presented during the December 8 Board Advisory Committee conference call meeting.