

**Semitropic Water Storage District
Semitropic Groundwater Banking Project
Monitoring Committee**

Buena Vista Water Storage District
North Kern Water Storage District
Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District

Semitropic Water Storage District
Shafter-Wasco Irrigation District
Southern San Joaquin Municipal Utility District

November 20, 2014 – 10:00 a.m.
Semitropic Water Storage District Board Room

Draft Minutes

Meeting Attendance – A copy of the sign-in sheet is attached to these minutes. In particular, attendees included the following:

Paul Oshel, Semitropic WSD
Ken Schmidt, Kenneth D. Schmidt and Associates
Ron Eid, GEI Consultants, Inc.
Ram Venkatesan, North Kern WSD
Rick Iger, Provost & Pritchard

By telephone:

Sara Maatta, ACWD
Devin Mody, SCVWD
Jon Reiter, Poso Creek Water Company
Devin Aviles, Poso Creek Water Company

The meeting notes which follow are numbered to correspond with the Meeting Agenda (copy attached).

1. The meeting was called to order at 10:10 am by Paul Oshel at the offices of the Semitropic Water Storage District.
2. The Minutes for the last committee meeting on September 18, 2014 were distributed prior to the meeting via e-mail and copies were available at the meeting. No comments were noted.
- 3a. No report.
- 3b. Paul Oshel reported that the District expects to recover and return about 119,000 acre-feet for 2014. Pumping into the Aqueduct is between 350 and 400 cfs, with about 200 cfs through Turnout No. 2 and 150 cfs through Turnout No. 3. The flow through Turnout No. 3 is subject to the raw water processing facility. The arsenic concentration averages less than 10 ppb for the combined discharge of the two turnouts.

- 3c. Paul Oshel reported that the update of the groundwater flow model had been completed. Ron Eid reviewed six slides that had been prepared to illustrate evaluation of the Groundwater Rule. Prior to the update, the last modeling evaluated the Groundwater Rule for the three-year period 2008-2010, and the first slide illustrated the difference between banking and no-banking conditions for this period in the form of contours of equal difference in the simulated heads (in feet). The next three slides illustrated similar contours for three, three-year periods: 2009-2011, 2010-2012, and 2011-2013. Each of these indicated an improvement from one to the next, where improvement implies an increasing positive impact under the with-banking condition. Though the model was updated through 2013, model simulations were also prepared for 2014 and 2015 by using the 2013 input data as a surrogate for these two additional years. With this assumption, the last two slides illustrated similar contours; one for 2012-2014, and one for 2013-2015. These last two slides implied a reduction in the positive impact under the with-banking condition; however, the contours on all slides were consistent with the Groundwater Rule. Ken Schmidt suggested that it might be helpful to compare simulated Project heads to observed heads. In this regard, Ron Eid suggested that it might be useful to compare the year-to-year change in heads, as opposed to absolute heads.
- 4a. Paul Oshel reported that additional pumping equipment will be installed to increase the District's ability to move water through its system and into the Aqueduct. The improvements are expected to be complete by fall of 2015 and have been designed to provide for an additional 13,200 acre-feet of annual return capacity. The District will also be constructing a substation in the north part of the District which will alleviate electrical distribution system constraints that the District has experienced in the past (typically during the summer) in operating wells. Paul also described some changes that are being considered in the marketing of water banking services.
- 5a. With recovery pumping ongoing, no "fall" water-level measurements were taken.
- 5b. Paul Oshel reviewed updated slides showing water-level hydrographs for the District's monitor wells (hard copies were also made available). Ken Schmidt noted that static levels in the range of 350 to 400 feet below ground surface imply that they are below the E-clay.
- 5c. No report.
- 5d. In the wake of vandalism, Paul Oshel reported that the District is working on a new enclosure for the subsidence measuring and recording equipment.
6. Ken Schmidt indicated that water-level maps were complete and that water-level hydrographs (through spring 2011) were needed for Semitropic, North Kern, Rosedale-Rio Bravo, and Buena Vista. Ken noted the difference in timing of the semi-annual water-level measurements between agencies. Ideally, he suggested

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that the “fall” measurements be taken in November, and the “spring” measurements at the end of January or early February.

7. It was reported that closing out the Prop. 84 grant is in process.
8. Paul Oshel handed out invoices to the Monitoring Committee members who were present. (Later in the day, Paul sent out a copy of a Treasurer’s Report via e-mail).
9. None.
10. The next meeting of the Committee was set for April 16, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. at the offices of Semitropic Water Storage District.
11. The meeting was adjourned at about 11:30 a.m.

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