

Bay-Delta Public Advisory Committee
Joint Meeting of the Environmental Justice and Drinking Water Subcommittees
Minutes
Meeting of September 23, 2005

A meeting of the Drinking Water Subcommittee was held July 23 from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm at 650 Capitol Mall in Sacramento, CA. DWS chair Greg Gartrell was unable to attend so Kevin Wattier chaired the meeting kicking it off with introductions. A list from the voluntary sign-in sheet follows the meeting summary. Unless otherwise noted, all PowerPoint presentations are available on the CBDA Water Quality Program web site.

Meeting Summary

DHS Proposition 50 Grants

Leah Walker gave a report on the status of the various Proposition 50 grant programs that DHS is administering. Personnel changes have slowed the schedule for most of these programs. Leah distributed a written summary of numbers of projects and dollars for each of the 9 grant programs where they have developed draft priority lists. Leah also distributed their proposed Prop 50 grant program schedule.

There was a question and some discussion about what these project lists will mean for CALFED Drinking Water Quality Program implementation. Leah indicated that some programs are more likely to fund projects that apply to the CALFED DWQ goals and objectives. Chapter 3 and the Small Community grants are first out the door but probably will not have a lot of CALFED benefits. Other chapters like the disinfection byproduct treatment and source protection programs are more likely to be CALFED connected. DHS and CALFED staff are putting together a page of questions for the full application to determine CALFED DWQ benefits.

Multiyear Program Plan and Regional ELPH Planning

Lisa opened the discussion on this topic. The CBDA staff report on the Program Plans recommends that the Water Quality Program Plan not be approved. This is primarily because of the lack of any funding in the plan for key program activities most notably ELPH planning. The implementing agencies are recommending that we evaluate the pilot regional ELPH plans developed to date and refine our regional planning approach before we expend any additional funds.

At least one subcommittee member felt that disapproval of the WQ program plan was a positive thing as it makes a clear statement the Water Quality Program is under funded. No one indicated that it was worth the effort to revise the WQ program plan in an attempt to gain approval at the November Authority meeting.

There was lengthy discussion on the multiyear program plan which merged into a discussion of regional ELPH planning. Here are some of the key comments:

- Several reasons were given for the lack of regional ELPH planning proposals submitted in the recent Prop 50 IRWM planning grant solicitation. Lack of awareness, poor timing with respect to the availability of implementation funds, and the perception that Prop 50 IRWM grants are primarily for water supply and watershed projects were given as possible reasons.

- The participating agencies in the Southern California regional ELPH planning effort are just about ready to propose a complete ELPH plan with an integrated and prioritized set of projects. They will probably not wait for additional grant funding to complete this work.
- The \$3.4M of Prop 50 funding should be reserved for regional ELPH planning if possible. This amount would have little impact if spent on non-point source implementation but could be an important addition to regional planning.
- There were several representatives of the regional ELPH planning efforts present at the meeting. Most indicated that it was a positive experience and valuable work. All were involved in follow-up activities either additional planning or implementation.

The DWQP is planning to establish a workgroup to evaluate the existing pilot ELPH plans and develop guidelines for future ELPH planning. Anyone interested in participating in this group was asked to contact Lisa Holm.

Update on Performance Measures

Donna Podger from the CBDA Science Program gave a PowerPoint presentation on their proposed approach to developing performance measures. Lisa gave an initial example of how this approach would be applied for the Drinking Water Quality Program. Lisa would like to reestablish the performance measurement workgroup using this approach and will notify the Subcommittee and interested parties when this work starts.

Richard Denton of Contra Costa Water District gave a brief presentation of their data showing degradation of Delta water quality in the Delta since 1993.

Next Meeting

Drinking Water Subcommittee - January 27, 2005 – Main topics to be regional plans and Prop grant program awards.

Public Comments

None

Printed Materials distributed at the meeting

- *DWS Meeting Notice and Agenda, September 23, 2005*
- *Drinking Water Subcommittee Draft Minutes, Meeting of July 22, 2005*
- *DHS Prop 50 Summary dated 9/22/05 and Prop 50 Schedule dated 9/9/05*
- *Handouts of Performance Measures PowerPoint slides, Donna Podger*
- *Ideas for Framing the 9/23 Discussion on Regional ELPH Plans*

Partial List of Attendees for the EJ/DWS Meeting 9-23-05

The following attended the meeting:

1. Jennifer Clary
2. Vicki Fry
3. Robert Neufeld
4. Pankaj Parekh
5. Tim Quinn
6. David Tompkins
7. Kevin Wattier
8. Leah Wills
9. Sam Harader
10. Lisa Holm
11. Karen Larsen
12. Karen Schwinn
13. Lynda Smith
14. Dave Spath
15. Barbara Evoy
16. Dave Forkel
17. Paul Gilbert-Snyder
18. Bill Crooks
19. Douglas Chun
20. Gene Lee
21. Michelle Matthes
22. Richard Denton
- 23.
- 24.