



*California Water Service Company / Dublin San Ramon Services District
City of Livermore / Zone 7 Water Agency / City of Pleasanton
City of San Ramon / City of Dublin*

**TRI-VALLEY WATER LIAISON MEETING
January 23, 2019
MINUTES**

On Wednesday, January 23, 2019, The Tri-Valley Water Liaison Committee met from 4:00 p.m. to 5:20 p.m. at Zone 7 Water Agency, located at 100 N. Canyons Pkwy., Livermore, CA.

Agencies represented included the Cities of Dublin, Livermore, Pleasanton, and San Ramon; Zone 7 Water Agency; Dublin San Ramon Services District (DSRSD); and the California Water Service Company.

Elected Officials Present

Shawn Kumagai, Council Member, Dublin
Maddi Misheloff, Board President, DSRSD
Richard Halket, Director, DSRSD
Bob Woerner, Council Member, Livermore
Karla Brown, Vice Mayor, Pleasanton
Kathy Narum, Council Member, Pleasanton
Sabina Zafar, Council Member, San Ramon
Angela Ramirez Holmes, Board President, Zone 7
Dennis Gambs, Director, Zone 7
Olivia Sanwong, Director, Zone 7

Staff Present

Michael Hurley, Water Resource Manager, Cal Water
Dan McIntyre, General Manager, DSRSD
Marc Roberts, City Manager, Livermore
Darren Greenwood, Public Works Director, Livermore
Nelson Fialho, City Manager, Pleasanton
Brian Bornstein, City Engineer, San Ramon
Valerie Pryor, General Manager, Zone 7
Dr. Amparo Flores, Principal Engineer, Integrated Planning, Zone 7

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Zone 7 Board President Angela Ramirez Holmes welcomed everyone to the meeting. The members introduced themselves.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS/CITIZEN'S FORUM

There were no public comments.

3. APPROVE MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 1, 2018

Pleasanton Council Member Kathy Narum moved that the minutes of March 1, 2018, be approved as submitted, and Pleasanton Vice Mayor Karla Brown seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by a voice vote of 10-0.

4. AGENCY REPORTS ON A REGIONAL POTABLE REUSE PROJECT

The elected officials and staff gave their agency's reactions to the Joint Potable Reuse Technical Feasibility Study.

DSRSD Director Richard Halket stated that DSRSD wants to keep as many projects as possible in order to have more options to address future water supply issues. They enthusiastically support keeping potable reuse on the list.

Pleasanton Councilmember Kathy Narum expressed Pleasanton's strong support for diversification and moving all the projects forward. Pleasanton Vice Mayor Karla Brown added that there was a 5-0 vote from Pleasanton Council to move forward. However, 72% of the public had voted no to injection of purified wastewater into the groundwater in the 2000 advisory ballot Measure J. Three council members want an advisory vote to go back on the ballot to see if attitudes have changed.

Zone 7 Board President Angela Ramirez Holmes stated that Zone 7 is in support of continuing to investigate potable reuse. They have directed staff to develop next steps and cost sharing, and recently completed a water supply and demand study.

Livermore Councilmember Bob Woerner said that a public survey taken after the drought showed less support but also less reluctance to consider potable reuse. The main issue was the cost, but the council voted 4-1 to continue to participate in the studies.

Cal Water's Water Resource Manager Michael Hurley stated that they are supportive of continuing all options; however, price is a concern.

San Ramon Councilmember Sabina Zafar and City Engineer Brian Bornstein said that the item went before the city council in July and they are generally supportive of moving forward. They are also concerned about outreach to make sure that the public understand the process.

Dublin Council Member Shawn Kumagai explained that while Dublin has not looked at the study and has no formal opinion, they have not taken a stance against DSRSD's opinion. He felt the project promotes Dublin's vision of positively impacting the environment and maintaining local control of resources.

Zone 7 Board President Angela Ramirez Holmes asked for questions from the public.

Laurene Green, a Pleasanton resident and water resources civil engineer, referring to a letter she had sent to the committee, stated that she had looked at the feasibility study and she felt that the study doesn't fully demonstrate to her that it tests for all possible contaminants, removes or destroys all of the contaminants, does this regularly and reliably for decades, does this at a cost that rate payers are willing to pay, and doesn't negatively impact the aquifer. She expressed concern about contaminants such as CECs (Contaminants of Emerging Concern), which are not fully addressed. She felt that the mechanisms for cleaning the aquifer need to be described and understood, especially if we're counting on biodegradation to destroy these contaminants. She did not see these questions answered or demonstrated in the feasibility study. Furthermore, she would like to see a risk assessment that analyzes the risk to the consumer.

5. PROGRAM UPDATE ON TRI-VALLEY WATER SUPPLY PLANNING

Dr. Amparo Flores gave an overview of the updated preliminary water demand forecast and the findings and next steps from the 2019 Water Supply Evaluation (WSE) Update.

Zone 7 Board President Angela Ramirez Holmes clarified that Los Vaqueros Reservoir is for storage and Sites Reservoir is for new supply and storage and those are two separate goals of the Zone 7 Board.

Pleasanton Vice Mayor Karla Brown asked how about funding for the projects and if grant funding was available. Dr. Flores replied that Sites Reservoir's total capital cost is around \$5 billion and it will be receiving about \$1 billion from Prop 1. State

funding is being rolled into the estimates and the cost estimates for participants will reflect Prop 1 funding. Los Vaqueros is receiving around \$400 million from Prop 1. Zone 7 General Manager Valerie Pryor stated that cost projections are preliminary at this time. There is not enough information at this time to do an apples to apples comparison for the various projects. The Zone 7 Board approved funding for one more year for both the Sites and Los Vaqueros projects.

DSRSD Director Richard Halket asked what happens if none of these projects are built. He asked for a no-project modeling scenario so that the public understands the impacts of not investing in new water supply projects. Zone 7 General Manager Valerie Pryor replied that this information will be updated with the 2020 Urban Water Management Plan. She explained that conservation regulations are not fully out yet for the State Water Resources Control Board mandate so we're trying to estimate without knowing exactly what the rules are.

Livermore Councilmember Bob Woerner suggested prioritizing the projects by risks or costs.

California Water's Water Resource Manager Michael Hurley commended Zone 7 staff on the process. He said they had a great tool to evaluate and vet the projects. He said Cal Water is comfortable with the way Zone 7 staff looks at projects and costs. He recommended looking again at the reliability policy and the costs associated with the different levels of reliability goals.

There was no public comment.

6. DISCUSSION ON COLLABORATIVE TRI-VALLEY NEXT STEPS ON WATER SUPPLY AND A REGIONAL POTABLE REUSE PROJECT

DSRSD General Manager Dan McIntyre presented the item. He stated that staff is looking for agreement from the committee to continue the recommended studies.

Zone 7 President Angela Ramirez Holmes stated that Zone 7 agrees. She pointed out the studies that Zone 7 has already done, has started, and has planned. She asked Pleasanton at what stage would they want an advisory ballot initiative on potable reuse. Pleasanton Vice Mayor Karla Brown replied that the potential projects need to be ranked and a vote needs to happen before any capital expenditures occur, but she is supportive of continued studies.

Zone 7 General Manager Valerie Pryor went over the various studies. She explained that none of the studies are specific to potable reuse but they all support potable reuse. Livermore Councilmember Bob Woerner asked what the contaminant mobilization study does. Ms. Pryor replied that it is a geochemical analysis of soil samples and computer modeling. Dr. Flores added that the study would look at how injection of purified wastewater could potentially affect contaminants in the groundwater basin. Councilmember Bob Woerner expressed concern about the cost of the study and felt that perhaps the contaminant mobilization study could be deferred until other studies and public outreach are completed. Zone 7 Board President Angela Ramirez Holmes disagreed and felt that the studies to ensure public safety are needed to give the data required to make the decision to move forward. Councilmember Bob Woerner replied that he wasn't suggesting not doing it. He was just questioning the timing.

DSRSD Director Richard Halket commented that several projects might create water that could be stored in the basin so any increased understanding of the groundwater basin would be useful.

Pleasanton Vice Mayor Karla Brown stated that she would like to see the questions raised by Laurene Green's letter be addressed in layperson's language. Zone 7 Board President Angela Ramirez Holmes replied that some of the continued studies will answer the questions raised in that letter. DSRSD General Manager Dan McIntyre added that some of the questions may have been addressed in the Carollo study.

Pleasanton City Manager Nelson Fialho stated that Mr. McIntyre's recommendation to proceed towards the master planning sets the stage for a CEQA report, which becomes the basis for more public discussion and approval by the governing bodies. Mr. McIntyre agreed.

Livermore Councilmember Bob Woerner again questioned the timing of the contaminant mobilization study. Zone 7 Board President Angela Ramirez Holmes replied that if we don't have additional studies and move forward, we're just delaying the decisions that need to be made.

Zone 7 Director Dennis Gambs expressed concern about public acceptance. Zone 7 Board President Angela Ramirez Holmes agreed that public outreach is important but she felt that the outreach needs to be based in science and facts to back it up. Director Gambs agreed and said he would like to see more of a strategy to address public outreach in follow-up discussions. Zone 7 Director Olivia Sanwong added that there is the opportunity for public outreach with the current feasibility study by making it more public friendly and that would help explain the need for follow-up studies to the public.

San Ramon Councilmember Sabina Zafar asked if we have looked at other agencies that have done this. Zone 7 Board President Angela Ramirez Holmes replied yes.

Livermore Councilmember Bob Woerner asked at what point this becomes economically viable. What year does this pencil out? Zone 7 Board President Angela Ramirez Holmes replied that a pencil out date hasn't been decided at this point. Councilmember Bob Woerner added that if the date to fund the studies is 10 years out, he is not compelled to fund it today.

DSRSD Director Richard Halket expressed concerns about learning from the 2014 drought. He stressed the importance of uninterrupted water that we control and having multiple sources of water. He supported keeping the project moving forward to ensure that we are ready for the next drought.

Zone 7 Board President Angela Ramirez Holmes suggested two avenues to move forward: 1) Getting more information on next steps at the next meeting, as well as the consultant's answers on the questions raised in the letter, and taking a deeper look at the Water Supply Evaluation to get more specific answers to the questions raised by the committee; or 2) Put together reciprocal agreements that would go to all bodies to move forward with the cost sharing for the studies.

DSRSD Director Richard Halket replied that he would like to see the cost sharing agreements prepared.

Livermore Councilmember Bob Woerner stated that there are three tracks: 1) emotional, 2) technical, and 3) financial. He wants to make sure that all three are accounted for in the decision to move forward with the studies. He wants to look at what impact new conservation regulations will have on water supplies; and he wants to rank the order of the projects as well as make sure it pencils out.

California Water's Water Resource Manager Michael Hurley stated that they are comfortable moving forward now as opposed to at the next meeting.

Pleasanton Councilmember Kathy Narum agreed to move forward now but she wants more information about what would happen if we do nothing.

Pleasanton Vice Mayor Karla Brown stated that she continues to support all options but she wants water from snowmelt sources such as Sites and Las Vaqueros Reservoirs. There is still an ick factor the public has in drinking potable reuse that can't be ignored.

DSRSD Director Richard Halket suggested one more meeting to get everyone more comfortable.

Zone 7 Board President Angela Ramirez Holmes suggested the following: 1) Refine the studies and cost so that we can get closer to a reciprocal agreement if we choose to have one; 2) Get more information on the next steps studies and outreach; 3) Get answers to the questions asked today; and 4) Explain what a do nothing scenario means.

The committee agreed to those suggestions.

The next meeting will be held on April 24, 2019, in Pleasanton.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.