

North Tulare County Regional Water Alliance Working Working Group Meeting Notes

Cutler-Orosi School District – Room 400

12623 Avenue 416 Orosi, CA 93647

Thursday, June 16, 2016

5:30 – 8:30 PM

Welcome and Updates:

Approval of meeting notes from: May 21, 2016 meeting notes approved.

Public Input: None

Leadership: Governance

County Counsel prepared 1st legal review of JPA:

The group asked questions before we began the review:

Why are we getting the JPA today without having time to review?

Why are the attorneys not here/ have you not met with them yet?

One of the answers: The working group needs to review with county counsel and provide feedback to then take to the lawyers' meeting.

Review:

- **Official name: North Tulare County Regional Water Alliance** (change website and postcards to North not Northern)
- Systems' attorneys to review with their clients and provide further feedback
- The Working Group will work on it after this round of reviews by the individual systems

Recitals to include:

- Our goal is a shared regional drinking water solution
- We are systems that deliver safe and quality drinking
- We would like to use the word sustainable
- We need to take out the word grant and replace with funding

Definitions:

- Get rid of "initial project" leave project
- Should we define super majority?

Article 2—Purpose of the Agreement:

- Add the word "drinking" to "water"

- Get rid of grants terminology

Article 6-Board of Directors:

- County would like 2 board members—to have an odd number would need to get rid of at large members. According to the county, this is not a deal breaker. Attorneys can review with systems and come back with feedback.
- Working group left agreeing to a 9 member board:
 - Cutler: 2
 - Orosi: 2
 - East Orosi: 1
 - At large from Seville/Yettem: 1
 - Sultana/Monson: 1
 - County: 1
 - At large from whole region: 1
- Maybe add language that once a party no longer provides domestic drinking water, the party needs to step off the board.
- Voting protocols: Big decisions should be majority of whole board, smaller ones, a simple majority of the quorum. County will check back for language in older draft.
- Add definition of super majority
- The new JPA board could appoint an at large Yettem and Seville member rather than the county to avoid a conflict of interest.

Article 8:

- Should we address compensation? Who pays for it? Directors' fees should be put in the budget. It can go into JPA or can be covered later. Fees if at all should be minimum to keep costs down. Boards can decide their own compensation and any non-board members can be paid by this JPA. Can be decided at a later date.
- "Decisions about compensation will be at the discretion of the board"—final decision.

Article 12:

- Change good accounting to generally accepted accounting principles

Article 15:

- Change agency to alliance
- Open to suggestions and feedback on allocation of costs.

Article 16:

- Non-payment/default/withdrawal—where does this fit in and what do we want? Need something about enforcement—state will look for this
- Authorizing representative to bind boards or must go back to board for approval for a project over a certain amount

Article 18:

- Change bylaw amendments to be done by super majority

Article 20:

- Signatory governing bodies must all agree to change the JPA

Article 21:

- Limit it to Alta Irrigation District boundaries and board can analyze on a case by case basis
- Financial implications etc. can be determined by the board later

Next steps:

- County counsel will take and update this draft and will present to and meet with the individual systems' attorneys
- The Working Group members have the month of July to address concerns and meet with the attorneys and have a final draft for the meeting on August 13, 2016

Community Outreach Efforts:

CWC and facilitators will come up with polling questions and accompanying fact sheet and will present it on the June 28th meeting

July 28th proposed agenda:

Present information to the public in a PowerPoint format

Entire working group will sit in a panel at the front and help RCAC and CWC present and provide their personal experiences.

Working group will meet a little early to approve polling info

Next Meetings

7/9/16 – meeting cancelled to allow for a concentration of the JPA negotiations, the individual boards to have their discussions and to meet with their counsel and one another.

8/13/16 – Review of JPA with all Working Group members and their attorneys.

Website:

<http://www.rcac.org/environmental/regionalization/ntc-water-alliance/>

List of Participants in this session:

1. Alex Marroquín, Orosi PUD
2. Anthony Rubalcaba, Orosi PUD
3. Argelia Flores, Seville
4. Armando Porrás, Cutler
5. Chad Widman, Orosi

6. David Gonzales, East Orosi
7. Fernie Rubalcaba, Cutler PUD
8. Javier Hernandez, Cutler PUD
9. Jesus Quevedo, Cutler
10. Jonny Sandoval, Orosi PUD
11. Jose Guerrero, Cutler PUD
12. Katie Icho, East Orosi CSD
13. Maria Magaña, Seville
14. Michael Prado Sr., Sultana CSD
15. Robert Rodriguez, Cutler PUD
16. Ronnie Castillo, Orosi PUD
17. Rubén Becerra, Seville
18. Servando Quintanilla, Monson/Cutler

From Agencies:

Denise England , Tulare County

Steve Worthly, Tulare County

Lorri Silva, SWRCB DFA

County Legal Counsel: Marit Erickson

Facilitators:

Blanca Surgeon, RCAC

Sarah Buck, RCAC

Ryan Jensen, Community Water Center

David Okita, Community Water Center

Erasto Tehran, Community Water Center