

MEETING NOTES

PROJECT: Antelope Valley IRWM Stakeholder Meeting

MEETING DATE: 10/17/2018

LOCATION: City of Palmdale – Development Services
Conference Room
38250 Sierra Hwy, Palmdale CA 93550

ISSUED DATE: 10/18/2018

ATTENDEES: Zachary Ahinga, Kirk Allen, Tom Barnes, Monisha Brown, Richard L. Campbell, James Chaisson, Vanessa De Anda, Brian Dietrick, Jeff Hogan, Matt Knudson, Raymond Lam, Bob Large, Yvonne Malikowski, Gene Nebeker, James Riley, Mike Shahbakhti, Belal Tabannaj, Mary Wood

Stakeholder Meeting Notes

A. Welcome and Introductions

- The Antelope Valley Integrated Regional Management (AV IRWM) Stakeholder Meeting was opened and led by Kirk Allen from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, Waterworks Division.

B. 2007 MOU Amendments

- MOU status is as follows:
 - AVEK – approved
 - AV State Water Contractors Association – waiting for others to approve
 - City of Lancaster – scheduled for City Council approval in January
 - City of Palmdale – approved
 - County Sanitation District – scheduled for Board approval in January
 - LA County Waterworks District No. 40 – scheduled for approval on November 7
 - Littlerock Creek Irrigation District – scheduled for approval this week
 - Palmdale Water District – approved
 - Quartz Hill Water District – did not attend meeting, Kirk to follow up
 - Rosamond CSD – approved

C. Fremont Basin IRWM Region Boundary Modification

- The Fremont Basin IRWM Region is seeking to modify its Region boundary to encompass the entirety of the Fremont Valley Groundwater Basin (FVGB) since it is a major water supply source for the Region. The Fremont Basin RWMG sent a formal request to the AV RWMG asking the Region to consider 1) revising its boundaries to avoid an overlap between the Regions, or 2) allowing an overlap between boundaries and execute an agreement between the AV and Fremont Basin IRWM Regions to explain how projects in the overlap area will be handled.
 - Kirk consulted DWR and LA County and there are no legal issues with allowing an overlap between boundaries.
 - The Group's consensus is to execute an agreement to allow for only a Region boundary overlap. LA County DPW has offered to sign and send a letter on behalf of the AV RWMG to DWR allowing for this proposed change.

- Kirk will check with the Mojave and Kern County IRWM Regions to identify how they established a signatory for the entire IRWM Region.

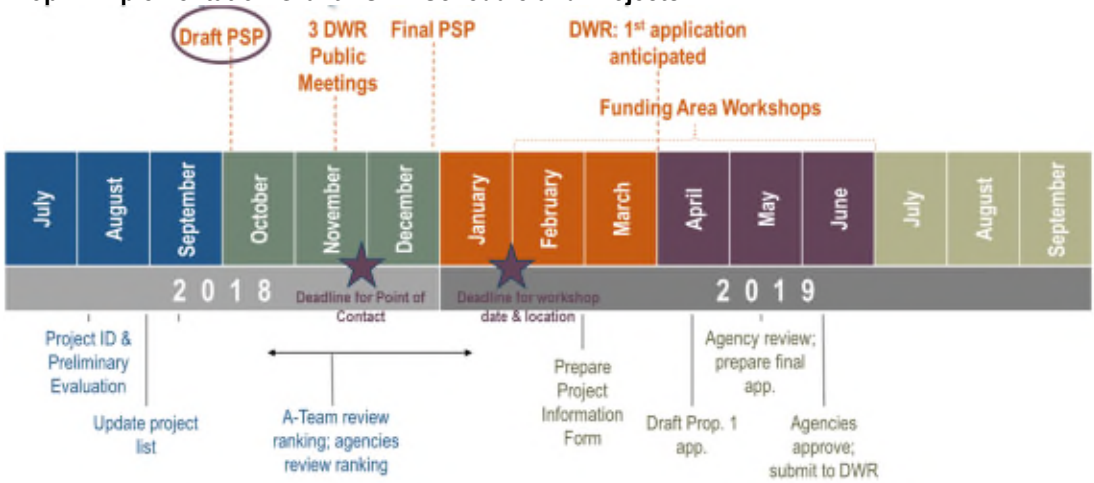
D. Basic Antelope Valley IRWM Plan Update

- Woodard & Curran finalized the basic update of AV IRWM Plan to be compliant with 2016 IRWM Plan Standards. The full AV IRWM Plan update is pending. This will include information on the adjudication and Watermaster.
 - The amended IRWM Plan does not have to be approved by the RWMG.

E. Prop. 1 Implementation Grant PSP – Funding and Guidelines

- The Draft PSP for Proposition 1 Implementation Grant Round 1 was released in early October. The Lahontan Funding Area has approximately \$18.8 million remaining for Implementation Round 1 and 2. The Funding Area can decide how to split the funding between the two rounds.
 - For proposal eligibility, the Region’s proposal must include at least one project that directly responds to climate change by mitigating the potential impacts as well as one or more projects that help improve regional water self-reliance.
 - Each project must address the “most” critical needs of IRWM region, must be consistent with Statewide Priorities, must have an expected useful life of 15 years, and have **CEQA/permits completed within 6 months of funding award or prior to agreement execution**, whichever occurs first.

F. Prop. 1 Implementation Grant PSP – Schedule and Projects



- DWR has requested a 1-day workshop with each Funding Area to provide a platform for interregional coordination and increase potential for successfully completed projects. The workshop is mandatory and will take place sometime between February and July 2019. The workshop will be led by the IRWM Region representatives and must include representatives from every IRWM RWMG, applying entities, local project sponsors, DAC, EDAs, and Tribes. DWR will review potential projects and provide feedback. The following must be completed prior to the workshop:
 - Project sponsors must update and/or submit new projects either online or to Kirk as soon as possible.
 - The Region must select projects for grant proposal. Stakeholder Meeting for project selection is tentatively scheduled for November.
 - The Region should determine if other IRWM Regions in the Funding Area will submit projects to determine the funds available for AV in round 1.

- The Region must coordinate with the Lahontan Funding Area to assign a Point of Contact (POC) for the Funding Area. Deadline for scheduling a workshop with DWR is November 20th.
- The Region must coordinate with the Lahontan Funding Area to schedule the pre-application workshop as soon as possible. Deadline for scheduling a workshop with DWR is February 1st.
- Woodard & Curran did a *preliminary* assessment of the existing Implementation Projects to identify projects ready for Prop 1 (Table 1). Eligibility can change with updated project information.

Table 1: AV IRWM Project List – Working Draft (for discussion)

Sponsor	Project Name	Prop. 1 Round 1 Eligibility
Palmdale Water District	Littlerock Dam Sediment Removal	3 - High
Willow Springs Water Bank	Antelope Valley Water Bank	3 - High
AVEK	Eastside Banking & Blending Project	2 - Med
AVEK	South Antelope Valley Intertie Project	2 - Med
AVEK	SNIP	2 - Med
City of Lancaster	Whit Carter Park Recycled Water Conversion	2 - Med
City of Palmdale	Recycled Water Pipeline at Palmdale Power Plant Project	2 - Med
City of Palmdale	Phase 2 of PRWA Pipeline	2 - Med
Palmdale Recycled Water Authority	Palmdale Recycled Water Authority – Phase 2 Distribution System	2 - Med
Antelope Valley Resource Conservation District	Antelope Valley Regional Conservation Project	1 - Low
City of Palmdale	Upper Amargosa Creek Flood Control, Recharge, and Habitat Restoration Project	0 - SWRP
AVEK	Water Supply Stabilization Project (WSSP) – Westside Expansion	0 - Status
City of Lancaster	Lancaster National Soccer Center Recycled Water Conversion	0 - Status
City of Lancaster	Pierre Bain Park Recycled Water Conversion	0 - Status
City of Lancaster	Division Street and Avenue H-8 Recycled Water Tank	0 - Status
Palmdale Water District	Palmdale Regional Groundwater Recharge Project	0 - Status
Rosamond CSD	RCSD Arsenic Consolidation Project	0 - Status

- Additional projects are expected from: AV Resource Conservation District, AVEK, Rosemond CSD, AV State Water Contractors Association, and LA County DPW.
- Projects already under construction can apply for additional funding if there is a Phase 2 with distinct project benefits.

G. Public Comments

- Gene: Seeking support to petition the Watermaster to file a motion with the Court to remove the 17-year pumping restriction and reevaluate the AV Groundwater Basin's native yield. Gene is currently working with an international group to use Landsat imagery to measure groundwater volume and availability. Due to these restrictions, 100,000 AF/year are not being used, thereby wasting approximately \$1B of value. Problems with the water restrictions include:
 - Decreased property value;
 - Increased fugitive dust, causing respiratory problems (PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀);
 - Decreased visibility due to fugitive dust, causing traffic accidents; and
 - Valley fever
- Rich: Nonnative vegetation consumes a large portion of the available water. Native vegetation is important for mitigating fugitive dust, improving water quality in the Basin, increasing water conservation, and improving public health.

- Yvonne: Small Town Rural Counsel has requested additional air quality monitoring stations for the Region since there is only one station located in Lancaster.

H. Action Items

Next meeting: To be determined.

Group	Task
AV IRWM Region	Coordinate with the Lahontan Funding Area and DWR to identify POC, schedule the pre-application workshop, identify projects eligible for Prop. 1 Round 1 funding, and determine funding available for each Region
Project Sponsors	Submit and/or update Projects either online or email as soon as possible
Kirk Allen	Follow up with Chad Reed regarding MOU
Kirk Allen	Check in with Kern County and Mojave IRWM Regions to determine Region signatory
Kirk Allen	Draft letter allowing for Region overlap with Fremont IRWM Region and distribute to RWMG for comments and approval
Kirk Allen	Email date for next Stakeholder Meeting