

**SF Bay Area IRWMP Coordinating Committee Meeting Summary
June 27, 2022
Conference Call Dial-in Only**

1. Roll Call – Appointed Functional Area Representatives Present

Steve Ritchie, SFPUC, Chair

Water Supply-Water Quality	Wastewater-Recycled Water	Flood Protection-Stormwater	Watershed	Communities/Tribes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Florence Wedington, EBMUD representing BACWA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mark Boucher, CCCFCWCD • Brian Mendenhall, Valley Water • Elke Rank, Zone 7 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Josh Bradt, SFEP • Andy Rodgers, NBWA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adam French, Amah Mutsun Tribal Band • Terrie Green, Marin City Climate Resilience and Health Justice • Keta Price, ISPS • LaDonna Williams, All Positives Possible

Others Present:

Vishakha Atre, SCVURPPP
 Devon Becker, ACWD
 Marco Berger, Multicultural Center of Marin
 Maddie Duda, Lotus Water
 Natasha Dunn, SFEP
 Nicholle Fratus, Contra Costa Water District
 Robin Freeman, ISPS
 Andrew Hall, San Mateo RCD
 Ryan Hirano, Woodard Curran
 Joan Hultberg, Sonoma Water
 Jennifer Krebs, Consultant
 James Muller, SFEP
 Kevin Padway, Zone 7
 Leslie Perry, SFEP
 Charles Polc, DWR
 Chelsea Spier, DWR

John Steere, UC Berkeley
Alex Tavizon, CIEA
Jing Wu, Valley Water

2. Status of Prop 1 Implementation Funding

James Muller reported that five of the six non-placeholder projects' funding agreements have been executed for Prop 1 Round 1. The funding agreement for final non-placeholder project (Project 2) is almost executed. SFEP is preparing for a grant agreement amendment in September that will remove project 8 (SFPUC Zoo Project) as a placeholder and add it as a full project. Once that is complete SFEP will execute a funding agreement with SFPUC. SFEP is still uncertain whether Project 7 (San Francisquito Creek) will meet the deadline. If the project doesn't meet the contract deadline, those funds will roll over to Round 2.

On the Prop 1 Round 2 solicitation, Brian Mendenhall reported that he is meeting with Devon Becker and James Muller to discuss the solicitation and lay out a schedule working backward from the February 2023 application date agreed upon at last CC meeting. They want to give an extended solicitation period for this round. The current plan is to start the solicitation in early August to and pull together an initial workshop to answer questions for potential applicants.

Taylor Nokhoudian noted she is keeping track of projects asking about the process for proposals and she asked the group to let her know if anyone receives project ideas.

Mr. Mendenhall noted that they will be using Google Docs for their document sharing process for the Project Scoring Committee (PSC). There will be a meeting tutorial to train the PSC on how to use Google Docs and how to complete the scoring. People should let Mr. Mendenhall or Mr. Becker know if they anticipate problems using Google Docs.

Mr. Mendenhall reported that four people have expressed interest in participating in the PSC. They would like to have participation by 10-12 people, and they are trying to get someone from each county. They would like to finalize participants by next month. Ms. Nokhoudian volunteered as a participant and noted she could represent the West Subregion. Andy Rodgers offered to work on getting some North Bay representatives. Leslie Perry also offered to participate. Mr. Mendenhall noted he already has representatives from Zone 7 and Valley Water.

Mr. Mendenhall was asked about the time commitment to participate in the PSC, and he noted that it is a significant time burden, approximately 40 hours (1 week) of work. He was asked whether participation is compensated and Mr. Muller responded that DACTIP Partners can use their contract to be funded to participate.

Mr. Mendenhall then asked the group who the applicant for the Bay Area application should be, and SFEP/ABAG/MTC was raised as a potential. Mr. Muller noted that he would prefer that applications from large agencies that are recommended for grant funding provide the money to

the applicant to pull together the application. Mr. Ritchie asked Ms. Nokhoudian to agendize an action for the next CC meeting to request SFEP/ABAG/MTC be the applicant subject to the conditions Mr. Muller outlined.

Action Items:

- Group to let Taylor Nokhoudian know of any project ideas for Round 2 so she can add them to her list.
- Potential PSC members let Mr. Mendenhall or Mr. Becker know if they anticipate problems using Google Docs.
- Andy Rodgers to work on getting some North Bay representatives to participate in the PSC.
- Ms. Nokhoudian to agendize an action for the next CC meeting to request SFEP/ABAG/MTC be the applicant subject to the conditions Mr. Muller outlined.

3. Equity in IRWM

Steve Ritchie noted that we brought forward a formal racial equity policy at the last meeting and asked whether there were any further comments. He noted that the 4-party Funds are no longer available and we will not be able to use them to fund further participation by Disadvantaged Communities and Tribes. Though organizations still under contract SFEP can be paid for their participation, that funding will run out at the end of the contract period. He asked what possible options may exist to fund further participation at that time.

LaDonna Williams noted concerns about the Black Cherokee Freedman issue. She asked whether there was an opportunity to engage on this issue and agreed to draft a couple paragraphs outlining the Black Cherokee Freedman issue so the CC can consider and potentially address.

Mr. Ritchie then noted that a document outlining the State's efforts to improve equity was included in the CC packet. Chelsea Spier commented that the document only covers DWR. DWR also just released their racial equity action plan. Ms. Spier participated in C-CORE, which provided trainings over a year and a half to DWR staff, and resulted in the organization's Racial Equity Action Plan. DWR also released a racial equity statement and made updates to its recruiting process to encourage diverse panel representatives. They also hired a new Deputy Director, Bianca Sievers. Additionally, they passed a human right to water policy about one year ago. They are working on a white paper on nomenclature for DACs with varieties of definitions. In last year's drought funding there was a set-aside for DACs and URCs in the Urban and Multi-benefit grant rounds. Another \$100 million in grants for drought relief in small communities is expected once the state budget passes. The California Water Plan also identified equity as a major theme. There is a workshop on July 21st about equity in CA Water Plan, with more

information at: <https://water.ca.gov/News/Events/2022/Water-Plan-Update-2023---Equity-in-Water-Management-Workshop>.

Ms. Nokhoudian reported that Michelle Novotny had sent out an email asking for a meeting with Disadvantaged Communities and Tribes to discuss the State's document and also to solicit comment on what further actions the CC could take to support racial equity.

Action Item:

- LaDonna to draft a couple paragraphs outlining the Black Cherokee Freedman issue

4. Status of Prop 1 IRWM DACTIP

James Muller reported that DWR has approved a grant agreement amendment to extend the grant to March 2023. Mr. Muller noted they plan to extend contracts for DACTIP grantees that want to participate on the Project Scoring Committee.

Mr. Muller reported that over 700 kits have been ordered through the tap water quality testing program and all final orders have been placed. This program is following industry standards for tap water testing. Tests are due in the mail by the end of the month. He also reported that Ms. Terrie's group in Marin City met with Congressman Huffman, MMWD, the Department of Public Works, and other agencies to discuss tap water quality and this program.

Ms. Terrie commented that Congressman Huffman stated that there is federal and state money forthcoming to help Marin City, but that's not the case. The community would like an independent party for water quality testing for transparency's sake. Ms. Terrie is looking for someone from the EPA to look at their lab results and interpret. The community felt like they had to seek support from the Congressman, Senator and Governor.

LaDonna commented that All Positives Possible did a small tap water testing project in 2017-2018, and she realizes that the agency reactions are still the same. She recommended early on that the communities be able to get an understanding of the tests and procedures before bringing in the agencies. The end goal is to work together with the agencies, but it's been a battle because it's difficult to trust the agencies to read the reports and interpret them.

Maddie Duda then gave an update on the Regional Needs Assessment. The document is going through the final round of edits with the Project Partners. They are aiming for mid- to late august to publish the report publicly.

Ryan Hirano gave a capacity building update. He is planning to offer grant writing support for Round 2 and other grant opportunities.

Alex Tavizon gave a Tribal update, noting they are finalizing their tap water testing program. The tribes reached their goal of over 100 samples across the Bay Area. The City of San Jose and

the Mowekma tribe are developing a project to potentially submit for grant funding, and they will be scheduling a site visit.

5. Future of IRWM

Mr. Ritchie noted that when there's money available there's a lot of focused interest in IRWM. He posed the question: when money is not available, what should the future of the Coordinating Committee be? There has been a desire in the past to stay coordinated regionally. He proposed dedicating a future CC meeting to spend time as a workshop on how we might proceed as a group moving forward, potentially in the September/October timeframe.

Brian Mendenhall and Mr. Muller supported the idea of the workshop. Mr. Mendenhall suggested we get updates from the Functional Area groups (BAFPAA, BACWA, BAWN,) some of which originated out of IRWM. Mr. Muller said that if we don't have upcoming grants, it may be good to have presentations on other regional efforts that pertain to IRWM.

Action Items:

- Ms. Nokhoudian to schedule the workshop; group to send ideas for the workshop to Taylor

6. Status of Prop 84 Rounds 2 & 4

Round 2 Project 10 deliverables should be complete at the end of July. In Round 4, the retention invoice has been sent for Palo Alto, and Project 3 will receive its retention soon. ABAG is in contract with 2 of the 3 State Coastal Conservancy projects.

Jennifer Krebs provided an AQPI update. They are up to speed with billing and invoicing. Scripps is still working on hiring new staff to assist with the operations plan. NOAA and CIRA staff are visiting to look at radar sites in the North Bay. Management of the hardware/software system shifted from NOAA HQ to CIRA. The Local Agency Committee will be meeting July 26. Later this summer, two radars will be installed: one in Santa Cruz and one on Rocky Ridge.