



Regional Advisory Committee

Meeting #28 Notes

September 8, 2010, 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

San Diego County Water Authority

4677 Overland Avenue, San Diego, CA 92123

Attendance –

RAC Members

Kathleen Flannery, County of San Diego (chair)
Albert Lau, Padre Dam Municipal Water District
Anne Bamford, Industrial Environmental Association
Eric Larson, Farm Bureau San Diego County
Iovanka Todt, Floodplain Management Association
Gabriel Solmer, San Diego CoastKeeper
Mark Stadler for Ken Weinberg, San Diego County Water Authority
Michael Bardin, Santa Fe Irrigation District
Kirk Ammerman, City of Chula Vista
Linda Flournoy, Planning and Engineering for Sustainability
Rob Roy, La Jolla Band of Indians
Maggie Houlihan, San Elijo Joint Powers Authority
Mark Weston, Helix Water District
Cathy Pieroni for Marsi Steirer, City of San Diego
Rob Hutsel, San Diego River Park Foundation

Non-Voting Members

Laurie Walsh, San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board

RWMG Staff

Loisa Burton, San Diego County Water Authority
Sheri McPherson, County of San Diego

Introductions

Ms. Kathleen Flannery (chair), County of San Diego, welcomed everyone to the meeting. Introductions were made around the room.

San Diego IRWM Updates

Proposition 50 Grant Administration

Ms. Loisa Burton, San Diego County Water Authority, announced that the first Proposition 50 grant contract amendment has been signed by SDCWA and is undergoing review by DWR. Approximately \$1.5 million has been invoiced to date and approximately \$1.3 million in total reimbursements have been received to date. The next round of invoices and progress reports are due on October 15, 2010.

Proposition 84 Grant Opportunities

Ms. Rosalyn Stewart, RMC Water and Environment, explained DWR's proposed schedule for the Proposition 84 grant cycles. According to this schedule, Planning Grant applications are due on September 28, 2010 and Implementation Grant applications are due on January 7, 2011.

Ms. Stewart went on to summarize the projects submitted for consideration of Round 1 funding. There was a high level of integration that occurred after the Integration Workshop (70 projects were consolidated into 54 projects). Tier 1 projects total \$34 million in grant funds requested and \$141-190 million in total project costs.

Planning Grant Work Plan

Ms. Rosalyn Stewart provided an overview of the Planning Grant Work Plan developed for the San Diego IRWM program. She summarized DWR's IRWM Plan standards, including the allowance for focused planning efforts such as salinity and nutrient management. The Planning Grant proposal will include six attachments, as directed by DWR. The Work Plan attachment will contain a background and history of IRWM planning in the region, as well as a detailed scope of work. Task 1 will contain a variety of outreach and communication activities, continued from the current program. Task 2 will contain four special planning studies: coordination with the Regional Board, salinity and nutrient management planning, floodplain management planning, and coordination with land use planning. Task 3 will focus on activities for the IRWM Plan Update, scheduled for late 2013.

RAC questions and suggestions included:

Task 1

- Will there be coordination with watershed groups? Public input (not just outreach) is necessary for a robust IRWM program. We need to establish a framework for greater involvement.
- Task 1-3 – Are 10 workshops enough for the IRWM Plan Update (\$80K of \$1M grant request)?
- Task 1-4 – Outreach targeted for DACs and Tribes has a separate budget (\$50K each).
- Task 1-7 – Suggestion to add a blog/discussion forum option to the website. Create a FaceBook page? Add a webinar option for RAC meetings? Add auto-signup to the website?
- Need to provide follow-up to LPS on the project database, especially for DACs. Provide planning/engineering support to DACs too?
- Need to also follow-up with tribal reps about the questions they asked about the project submittal process. Provide technical support with access to computers in Round 2?
- Threshold for watershed groups to participate is too high. Labor compliance/cash flow present barriers for small groups/projects.

Task 2

- Task 2-1 – “Regulatory certainty” will need other resource agencies, not only RWQCB guidance on obstacles to implementation of permits (who/where to coordinate).

- Task 2-3 – Need to strengthen linkages between Tasks 2-3 and 2-4. Clarify how development of performance-based guidelines for land use can impact watershed health.

Task 3

- Task 3-2 – Emphasis on identifying long-term financing mechanism for the ongoing IRWM program (beyond RWMG agencies).

**** RAC motion, second, and approval of draft Planning Grant Work Plan with suggested changes and additions.**

Feedback on Database + Workshops

Ms. Rosalyn Stewart provided an overview of the online project database developed to facilitate project entry, revision, and submittal. Project Workshops were then held in Encinitas (June 14th) and Chula Vista (June 15th) to encourage project submittal. An Integration Workshop was later held in San Diego (August 4th) to discuss integration opportunities.

Prop 84 Project Selection Criteria

Ms. Rosalyn Stewart provided an overview of the proposed Prop 84 Project Selection Workgroup Ground Rules:

- Workgroup will be comprised of 9 members: 3 RWMG, 1 water retailer, 1 water quality, 2 natural resources/watersheds, and 2 at-large
- Workgroup may communicate with external parties for information related to the process between meetings. Workgroup will report on any external communication, which will be posted to the www.sdirwmp.org website.
- If at least all present Workgroup members except one vote to add project to funding application, that project will be added.
- Project scores developed as part of IRWM Plan prioritization will not be considered in funding application development.
- Contingent on the permission of the project proponents of the affected project(s), the Workgroup will have the discretion to:
 - bundle or combine projects, include only a portion of a proposed project in the funding application,
 - reduce the amount of funding requested by a particular project, and/or
 - recommend other modifications to projects.
- Workgroup is expected to come to agreement on funding application package consistent with criteria established by RAC.
- The RAC will be asked to recommend a funding application package by the end of the October 6, 2010 meeting.

**** RAC motion, second, and approval of draft Workgroup Ground Rules.**

Finally, Ms. Stewart explained the proposed Project Selection Criteria to be used by the Workgroup in their deliberation:

- Project–Level criteria applied to individual projects will include: contribution to IRWM goals and objectives; scientific and technical merit; budget; readiness to proceed; contribution to measurable targets; cost-effectiveness; and program preferences (incl. statewide priorities).
- Proposal–Level criteria applied to complete package: linkages to other projects; funding match; schedule; economic analysis – water supply, water quality and other expected benefits, and flood damage reduction; program preferences; geographic parity; regional objectives; degree of negative impact; and amount leveraged.

**** RAC motion, second, and approval of draft Workgroup Selection Criteria.**

Next RAC Meeting

The next RAC meeting will be held on Wednesday October 6, 2010 from 9:00am to 11:30am at SDCWA's Board Room.

Public Comments

No additional comments.