

**MINUTES OF THE SAN JOAQUIN RIVER EXCHANGE CONTRACTORS  
WATER AUTHORITY WATER TRANSFER COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 2023**

The Water Transfer Committee met on Thursday, March 2, 2023 in the Board Room of the *San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Water Authority (Exchange Contractors)*, 541 “H” Street, City of Los Banos, County of Merced, State of California.

**WATER TRANSFER COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT**

Kimberly Brown, Chair; Kirk Jensen, Dan McCurdy, Jarrett Martin, Jeff Bryant, and Randy Houk

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Chris White, Executive Director; Steve Chedester, Director of Policy & Programs; Joann White, Director of Finance & Administration; Adam Hoffman, Water Resources Specialist; and, Tom Berliner, Legal Counsel (via teleconference)

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chair Kimberly Brown opened the meeting at 2:00 p.m. and asked Jarrett Martin to lead the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**AGENDA**

There were no changes to the Agenda.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There was no public participation.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MAY 12, 2022  
WATER TRANSFER COMMITTEE MEETING**

Upon presentation of the May 12, 2022 minutes, a motion was made by Randy Houk and seconded by Dan McCurdy to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was unanimously carried.

**REVIEW OF 2022 WATER TRANSFER PROGRAM**

Chris White presented a matrix outlining the maximum quantity for the various programs, noting that the Exchange Contractors has been currently declared non-critical, therefore, the Board took action to approve the transfer of 80,000 Acre Feet (AF) under the Water Transfer Agreement

with U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) and San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority (SLDMWA). He then moved to the next column of the matrix where it outlined the proposed 2023 transfer numbers based on the proposals being reviewed today. In conclusion, Manager Bryant stated that FCWD may bring a couple of conserved water transfers under the drainage program if the year type remains non-critical, in addition to well exchange proposals.

### **CURRENT WATER SUPPLY UPDATE**

A review of the current water supply and operations was provided, noting that they are looking at a much different year than last with flood flows starting up again for the second time this year.

### **PROPOSED 2023 WATER TRANSFERS**

**SLCC:** The Executive Director presented the information pertaining to the four SLCC transfer proposals received. He referred to the matrix summarizing the two landfallowing transfer proposals with the first one SLCC-2023-1 consisting of 21 landowners to Del Puerto, Triangle T and Westlands Water Districts. The second land fallowing proposal (SLCC 2023-2) is landowner to landowner transfer proposal for two of their landowners. Mr. White said that the technical information had been received for these transfer proposals, reviewed by staff and in compliance with the requirements. The next proposal, SLCC 2023-3, is a Groundwater Exchange Transfer. It was confirmed that the required documentation was received and reviewed. The last request (2023-4) involves approval of 5,000 AF of water to Panoche Water District under the Eastside Conveyance Project. In conclusion, the Executive Director stated that staff recommends approval of the four transfer proposals as presented.

A motion followed by Dan McCurdy and seconded by Randy Houk to recommend approval of the four proposed transfers from San Luis Canal Company. The motion was unanimously carried.

**FCWD:** The Executive Director next presented the three landfallowing transfer proposals from FCWD. He said that two of the proposals are landowner to self, with the third proposal is a transfer to Westlands, San Luis, and Panoche Water Districts. Mr. White reported that all of the appropriate documentation had been received and calculations had been reviewed.

A motion was made by Dan McCurdy and seconded by Kirk Jensen to recommend approval of FCWD proposals 2023-02 and 2023-03. The motion was unanimously carried.

A separate motion was then made by Dan McCurdy and seconded by Randy Houk to recommend approval of FCWD proposal 2023-01. The motion was carried by a 5-0 vote, with Chair Kimberly Brown recusing herself from the vote.

**Request for Recommendation of Annual Approval of Long-Term Water Acquisition Agreement – Firebaugh Canal Water District/Central California Irrigation District and Panoche Water District – 3,000 AF:** The Executive Director stated that this is a long-term agreement with Panoche Water District to assist in funding the drainage program. It is brought to the Committee and Board for annual approval.

A motion was made by Jarrett Martin and seconded by Dan McCurdy to recommend approval of the 2023 transfer of up to 3,000 AF to Panoche Water District under the Long-Term Water Acquisition Agreement with FCWD/CCID. The motion was unanimously carried.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

With no further business coming before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned to Closed Session at 2:30 p.m.

Chair Brown returned the meeting to Open Session at 2:43 p.m. and announced that the Committee took action directing staff to recommend to the Board to transfer the remainder 20,000 AF of conserved water in 2023 at the matrix pricing.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:44 p.m.

---

KIMBERLY BROWN, CHAIR

---

KIRK JENSEN

---

DAN McCURDY

---

JARRETT MARTIN

---

JEFF BRYANT

---

RANDY HOUK