

## COMMITTEE REPORT

**Committee:** Basin Water Management Committee

**Meeting Date:** April 14, 2021

**Present:** D. Michalko (Chair), A. Alberti, D. Arrighi, B. Bowcock, D. Colby, D. DeJesus, P. DiMaggio, C. Feilen, A. Fellow, G. Galindo, R. Gonzales, E. Hills, E. Hitchman, G. Hofer, S. Kiggins, B. Lewis, M. Litchfield, T. Love, L. Noriega, T. Robinson, R. Schoellerman, J. Taylor, A. Tesfaye, C. Venegas, P. Zampielo and M. Zvirbulis.

**Staff Present:** T. Zampielo, K. Gardner, L. Augino and J. Savron

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The meeting was called to order by Mr. David Michalko, Chair.

### I. Discussion of Preliminary OSY

Mr. Michalko introduced Mr. Anthony Zampielo, Executive Officer, to discuss recommendations for the Preliminary Operating Safe Yield (OSY) offered by Stetson Engineers. Mr. Zampielo described the dry conditions throughout the Main San Gabriel Basin (Basin) as well as the impact on various producers and the Committee of Nine. Both local and state conditions are dry, with this year being one of the lowest recorded local runoff years. Mr. Zampielo explained the shift toward the Colorado River supply expected to be utilized by the Metropolitan Water District (MWD) in order to maintain reserves on the State Water Supply system for as long as possible. Ms. Jenny Savron, Stetson Engineers, confirmed the comments made by Mr. Zampielo regarding Basin conditions. The recommendation of Stetson Engineers is to maintain an OSY of 150,000 AF for the 2021-2022 fiscal year, with a recommendation of an OSY of 130,000 AF for the subsequent 3 years. The recommendation has remained consistent for the seventh year in a row. The addition of language which explains the impact of reducing the OSY further, including the impact of reliance on cyclic storage accounts, the potential net gain of OSY reduction, and the potential increased demand on imported water, is being considered.

The Committee compared current conditions to conditions in 2015 and Mr. Zampielo explained that the Basin is in a much better position relative to groundwater levels. However, some producers may find treatment operations impacted by conditions in Azusa Canyon and the Basin overall. The potential for and complications of utilizing Colorado River water supply was also discussed.

**FOR INFORMATION ONLY – NO ACTION REQUIRED**

## **II. Discussion Regarding Golden Meters Contract Renewal**

Mr. Michalko introduced Mr. Zampielo who delivered an overview of the services provided by Golden Meters. Golden Meters has agreed to extend their contract for an additional year with no increase in price. The Committee was asked for input in order to determine if contract extension is preferred. A number of producers commented on positive professional interactions with Golden Meters staff.

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## **III. Other**

Mr. Zampielo stated that the Producer meeting for Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District (USGVMWD) was well attended with great discussion and feedback. The discussion at the meeting identified the benefit of establishing a smaller working group with a report provided to the working group prior to meeting to enable meaningful discussion. Mr. Zampielo also mentioned that assessments will be presented at the next regular meeting of the Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster and will not change. The Resource Development Assessment (RDA), however, will be increasing to \$175/AF.

Dr. Anthony Fellow, USGVMWD Representative, delivered an update regarding MWD activities. Topics suggested as future agenda items for the Basin Water Management Committee included discussion regarding local conservation efforts, an update regarding the Waters That Connect Us, an update regarding the “Carson Project”, discussion of water conservation legislation and a presentation regarding the incorporation of groundwater curriculum in local water district classrooms.

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