

# **SAN JUAN WATER DISTRICT**

Board of Director's Board Meeting Minutes

January 24, 2024 – 6:00 p.m.

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Manuel Zamorano	President
Ted Costa	Vice President
Ken Miller	Director
Dan Rich	Director
Pam Tobin	Director

## **SAN JUAN WATER DISTRICT MANAGEMENT AND STAFF**

Paul Helliker	General Manager
Donna Silva	Director of Finance
Tony Barela	Director of Operations
Andrew Pierson	Director of Engineering
Devon Barrett	Customer Service Manager
Adam Larsen	Field Services Manager
Greg Turner	Water Treatment Manager
Greg Zlotnick	Water Resources Manager
Teri Grant	Board Secretary/Administrative Assistant
Ryan Jones	General Counsel

## **OTHER ATTENDEES**

Attendee	
Terry Erlewine	
Mike Spencer	SJWD Employee

## **AGENDA ITEMS**

- I. Roll Call**
- II. Public Forum and Comments**
- III. Consent Calendar**
- IV. New Business**
- V. Old Business**
- VI. Information Items**
- VII. Directors' Reports**
- VIII. Committee Meetings**
- IX. Upcoming Events**
- X. Closed Session**
- XI. Open Session**
- XII. Adjourn**

President Zamorano called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

### **I. ROLL CALL**

The Board Secretary took a roll call of the Board. The following directors were present in the Boardroom: Ted Costa, Ken Miller, Dan Rich, Pam Tobin and Manuel Zamorano.

## II. PUBLIC FORUM

There were no public comments.

## III. CONSENT CALENDAR

All items under the Consent Calendar are considered to be routine and are approved by one motion. There was no separate discussion of these items unless a member of the Board, audience, or staff requested a specific item removed. Consent Calendar item documents are available for review in the Board packet.

### 1. Minutes of the Board of Directors Special Meeting, December 13, 2023 (W & R)

*Recommendation: Approve draft minutes*

### 2. Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting, December 13, 2023 (W & R)

*Recommendation: Approve draft minutes*

***Director Costa moved to approve the Consent Calendar. Director Tobin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.***

## IV. NEW BUSINESS

### 1. 2024 Board Committees (W & R)

President Zamorano opened the floor for Board discussion. Director Costa informed the Board that he and Director Tobin discussed switching committees and Director Tobin would like to be on the Finance Committee and Director Costa would like to be on the Public Information Committee. Director Tobin requested that her assignments to the ACWA Foundation and the Sacramento LAFCo be added to the committee list. President Zamorano would like any changes to be submitted to him by February 20, 2024.

### 2. ACWA DC2024 Conference Attendance (W & R)

Director Tobin informed the Board that attending the ACWA DC2024 conference is one of her requirements as Immediate Past President of ACWA. She commented that she is registered for the conference unless the Board does not approve her attendance and she reviewed the conference agenda.

Director Rich questioned the benefit to the District of Director Tobin attending the conference. Director Tobin commented that water rights is a big topic at the conference which benefits the District along with the District being represented at the conference. In response to President Zamorano's question, the Board Secretary confirmed that approximately \$3,200 was budgeted for the conference which would cover the registration, hotel, meals and transportation. Director Tobin confirmed that ACWA does not cover any of the ACWA DC2023 expenses but will cover the registration for the ACWA Spring and Fall conferences.

President Zamorano requested that Director Tobin be more accommodating with regard to ACWA appointments and Director Tobin explained that she has no jurisdiction with regard to making appointments; however, she stated that she can make recommendations.

***Director Costa moved to approve Director Tobin's out of state attendance at the ACWA DC2024 Conference. Director Tobin seconded the motion and the motion failed with 2 Aye votes and 3 No votes (Miller, Rich and Zamorano).***

Director Tobin voiced concern that the Board put forth a frivolous \$100,000 rebate while denying the expenditure of \$3,200 to represent the District in Washington, DC., and she stated that the Board is headed in the wrong direction with very limited leadership.

**3. American River Watershed Sanitary Survey Update (W)**

Mr. Barela informed the Board that the American River Watershed Sanitary Survey is completed every five years, which is an evaluation of the watershed. Mr. Greg Turner, Water Treatment Plant Manager, conducted a brief presentation which will be attached to the meeting minutes.

Mr. Turner informed the Board that the American River Watershed Sanitary Survey focused on Watershed and Water Supply Systems, American River Water Quality, Contaminating Sources, and Findings and Recommendations. He reported that the study showed that the American River continues to provide an excellent source of water, that SJWD water treatment continues to meet all drinking water standards, and that no constituents were found to require additional treatment.

**4. CCTM1 Lease Agreement Approval (W & R)**

Mr. Barela provided the Board with a staff report which was included in the Board packet and conducted a brief presentation. He explained that the lease agreement with CCTM1 (T-Mobile) ends in 2026; however, they reached out to the District to negotiate a new contract which would extend the contract 30 years (which is structured as automatic 5-year renewals) and include terms to allow them to have DISH equipment installed on their existing tower which is known as co-location. He explained that the agreement was reviewed by legal counsel and includes an increasing rate structure along with terms for co-location. He explained that the District would receive 50% of the amount of the rental fee that T-Mobile would assess DISH.

Mr. Barela informed the Board that this item was taken to the last Finance Committee meeting for review and staff recommends that the Board approve staff to execute the contract with T-Mobile. Director Costa voiced concern that the Board was not aware that staff was negotiating with T-Mobile and that T-Mobile already signed the contract, so he suggested that the Board be notified in the future on items like this and that staff discuss the process with the General Manager. The Board discussed the lease agreement and Legal Counsel Jones confirmed that he worked closely with staff regarding the contract terms and recommends Board approval.

***Director Tobin moved to approve the execution of a lease agreement with CCTM1, LLC related to the property containing CCTM1's cell tower and instrumentation. Director Costa seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.***

## V. OLD BUSINESS

### 1. **FY 2023-24 Operations Plan Report Card (W & R)**

GM Helliker reviewed the 2nd quarter progress on the FY 2023-24 Operations Plan Report Card. He informed the Board that staff is on track to meet the goals, with some projects already completed or slightly delayed.

### 2. **Strategic Plan Update (W & R)**

GM Helliker informed the Board that staff revised the Strategic Plan as discussed at a previous Board meeting. He started to review the edited plan that was included in the Board packet; however, Director Tobin voiced concern that the Board was not included in the revision of the plan. GM Helliker suggested that a workshop be conducted with the Board. The Board discussed the suggestion and agreed that they would like to hold a separate workshop in the evening to discuss the Strategic Plan.

### 3. **San Juan and the Regional Water Authority (W & R)**

Mr. Zlotnick reminded the Board that there was a desire to discuss the District's relationship with RWA and he reported that Jim Peifer, RWA Executive Director, will be at the March Board meeting. He informed the Board that it will be an opportunity for them to discuss any issues they have with RWA at that meeting. He suggested that the Board develop a list of topics to discuss which can be distributed to RWA in advance of the meeting, and that the meeting would not be limited to just those topics.

The Board discussed some topics that they would like to discuss in March which includes the benefit of the annual membership dues, grants received, development of the water bank, conjunctive use, governance, SGA membership, RWA staff salaries, annual cost per connection paid to RWA by San Juan and other agencies, return on investment over the last 5-10 years, funding for wells in the region, and the cost to terminate membership since that was mentioned in a previous meeting with RWA. The Board was informed that if they have any other topics to address, then they can send an email to GM Helliker and Mr. Zlotnick.

### 4. **Ad Hoc Health Benefits Committee Update (W & R)**

Ms. Silva reviewed the staff report which was included in the Board packet. She provided the Board members with the consultant's report and explained that even though ACWA-JPIA's premiums were less than CalPERS, ACWA-JPIA does not manage retiree medical which would require an additional staff person to manage it in-house, which would negate the premium savings. She informed the Board that the committee and staff do not recommend switching health benefit providers. The Board thanked staff and the committee for their work on this item. Ms. Silva informed the Board that staff will continue to monitor the health benefits.

### 5. **Conjunctive Use and Groundwater Banking Activities Update (W & R)**

GM Helliker reported that he and Mr. Zlotnick met with Dan York, Sacramento Suburban Water District General Manager, to discuss the groundwater bank project with RWA, and potential water transfers this year. GM Helliker reported that SSWD is interested in buying water from SJWD this year, and possibly conducting a groundwater substitution transfer. GM Helliker reported that he is completing the

banking description for SSWD and will be meeting with SSWD to discuss a potential banking partnership and taking advantage of the funding in the retail budget.

GM Helliker reported that there have been no further meetings with Fair Oaks Water District and Citrus Heights Water District; however, there was an email exchange today regarding banking partnership agreements.

**6. 2024 Hydrology and Operations Update (W & R)**

GM Helliker reviewed data which included the current reservoir storage levels across the state, data on releases, temperature and precipitation outlooks, and storage levels and projections at Folsom Reservoir.

**VI. INFORMATION ITEMS**

**1. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

**1.1 General Manager's Monthly Report (W & R)**

GM Helliker provided the Board with a written report for December which was included in the Board packet.

**1.2 Miscellaneous District Issues and Correspondence**

GM Helliker reported that the Legislative Analyst's Office released a report on the conservation regulations which confirmed the water agencies' stance on the proposed regulations. The report showed that the proposed regulations are very complex, very onerous, and not cost effective.

GM Helliker reported that comments on the voluntary agreements were due last Friday and the District participated in two sets of comments – one with Northern California Water Association and the other with RWA. He explained that if the State Water Board were to implement their proposal on the American River, it would prevent Reclamation from meeting temperature requirements under the Endangered Species Act.

**2. DIRECTOR OF FINANCE'S REPORT**

**2.1 Rates/Fees/Charges updated by 3.13% CPI or 2.55% CCI effective Jan. 1, 2024, where applicable**

Ms. Silva reported that the non-water rate and fee schedule was updated in accordance with the November CPI and CCI with an effective date of January 1, 2024.

**2.2 Miscellaneous District Issues and Correspondence**

Ms. Silva reported that a check for \$21.6 million was received this week from the State Revolving loan fund for the Hinkle Reservoir project. She explained that the funds were deposited and are in the process of being transferred to LAIF and possibly another investment pool which will earn a higher interest rate.

Director Costa requested that the issue of Director Compensation be placed on the next Board agenda for discussion.

**3. DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS' REPORT**

**3.1 Miscellaneous District Issues and Correspondence**

Mr. Barela announced that the Electrical and Instrumentation Technician position was finally filled and Mr. Jonathan Mungcal joined the District this week.

**4. DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING SERVICES' REPORT**

**4.1 Miscellaneous District Issues and Correspondence**

No report.

**5. LEGAL COUNSEL'S REPORT**

**5.1 Legal Matters**

Legal Counsel Jones reported that the litigation matters will be discussed in Closed Session. In addition, he commented that legal counsel has been reviewing the Public Records Act requests from CHWD. In response to Director Rich's question, he informed the Board that it doesn't appear that CHWD is responding to the PRA request that the District submitted to them in a timely manner.

**VII. DIRECTORS' REPORTS**

**1. SACRAMENTO GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY (SGA)**

Director Costa reported that SGA meets next month.

**2. REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY (RWA)**

No report.

**3. ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA WATER AGENCIES (ACWA)**

**3.1 ACWA - Pam Tobin**

Director Tobin reported that the State Legislative meeting was January 19, 2024, and ACWA announced the new Director of Federal Relations, Ian Lyle. She reviewed her written report which was included in the Board packet. In response to Director Miller's question, Director Tobin explained that Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) are governed by the local governments; however, ACWA is working on water budget issues and conservation regulations which effect water agencies that provide the extra water for these ADUs. Mr. Zlotnick commented that he is chair of ACWA's Local Government Committee and they will be working on this and have resources regarding this issue on their website.

**3.2 Joint Powers Insurance Authority (JPIA) - Pam Tobin**

No report.

**4. CVP WATER USERS ASSOCIATION**

Mr. Zlotnick reported that he served on the committee to hire the new Executive Director for the association. He reported that there were five applicants and one candidate is standing out but the process is not complete yet.

- 5. OTHER REPORTS, CORRESPONDENCE, COMMENTS, IDEAS AND SUGGESTIONS**  
Director Tobin reported that LAFCo meets January 31, 2024.

**VIII. COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

**1. Finance Committee – January 16, 2024**

The committee meeting minutes were included in the Board packet.

**IX. UPCOMING EVENTS**

**1. ACWA DC2024 Conference**

February 27-29, 2024  
Washington, DC

**2. 2024 ACWA Spring Conference**

May 7-9, 2024  
Sacramento, CA

At 7:50 p.m., President Zamorano announced that the Board was adjourning to Closed Session and request public comments. GM Helliker commented that agenda item X-1 will not be discussed.

**X. CLOSED SESSION**

**1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION (Section 54956.9)**

Citrus Heights Water District, et al. vs. San Juan Water District, Case Number: 23WM000080, Sacramento County Superior Court

**2. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION**

Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to California Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2)

**XI. OPEN SESSION**

There was no reportable action.

**XII. ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

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MANUEL ZAMORANO, President  
Board of Directors  
San Juan Water District

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
TERI GRANT, Board Secretary



**AMERICAN RIVER  
WATERSHED  
SANITARY SURVEY  
2023  
UPDATE  
REPORT**



- Provide a brief overview of the Survey
- Review Some of the Findings and Recommendations

# American River Watershed Sanitary Survey 2023 Update Report

December 2023



Photo: Lennar NorCal

STARR  
CONSULTING

**P** Palencia  
Consulting  
Engineers

RINCON

# OVERVIEW

- **JOINT STUDY – 12 AMERICAN RIVER WATER PURVEYORS**
- **572 PAGE REPORT**
- **PERFORMED EVERY 5 YEARS**
- **REPORT FOCUS**
  - Watershed and Water Supply Systems
  - American River Water Quality
  - Contaminating Sources
  - Provides Findings and Recommendations



# Findings...

- American River continues to provide and excellent source of water
- SJWD water treatment continues to meet all drinking water standards
- No constituents were found to require additional treatment

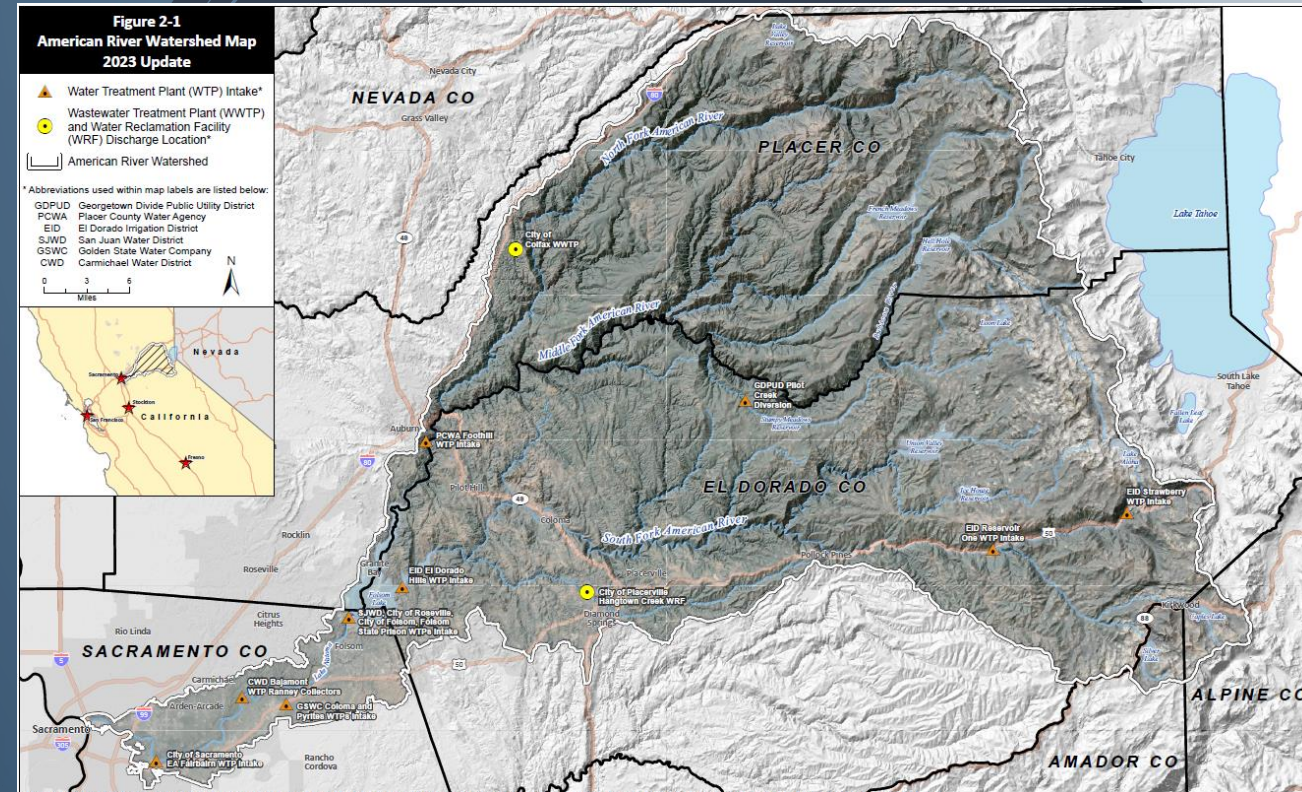
# Contamination & Concerns...

- Wildfires
  - Since last study >200,000 burned
- Watershed Spills
- Climate change
  - Drought
  - Extreme runoff events
- Folsom Lake Sediment Plan



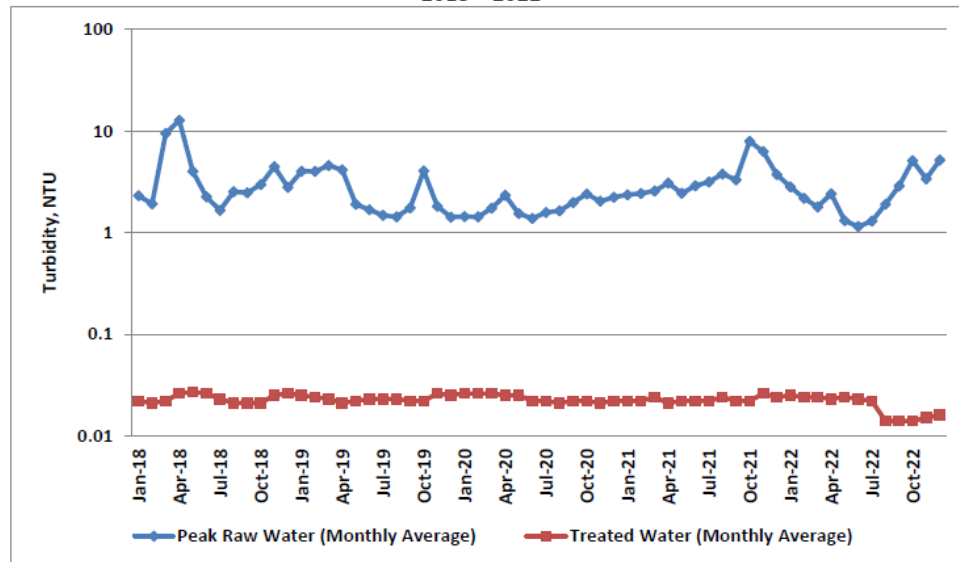
# CONCLUSIONS...

- CONTINUE TO MONITOR THE EFFECTS OF WILDFIRES & SUPPORT FOREST MANAGEMENT PROJECTS
- CONTINUE TO PARTICIPATE IN ARWTC AND VOLUNTARY SPILL NOTIFICATIONS
- COLLABORATE W/USBR ON OPS PLAN, LAKE LEVELS & SEDIMENT PLAN
- INVEST IN SOURCE WATER PROTECTION
- CONTINUE TO OPTIMIZE AND TREAT TO CONDITIONS



The average of peak daily raw water turbidity at the Peterson WTP for the period of study was 3.0 NTU, and on average the treatment process decreased this to 0.02 NTU, which equates to an average solids removal of 99.2 percent. **Figure 5-33** shows a time series plot of raw and treated turbidities. It should be noted that the raw water turbidities plotted are a monthly average of peak daily grab samples. The treated water turbidities are a monthly average of a daily average, based on all 4-hr samples in a 24 hour period. Peterson WTP meets all current treated water turbidity standards.

**Figure 5-33. San Juan Water District – Raw and Treated Water Turbidities, 2018 – 2022**



# Questions?