

Minutes of the Special Meeting  
COLORADO RIVER BOARD OF CALIFORNIA  
Wednesday, March 18, 2019

A meeting of the Special Colorado River Board of California (Board) was held on Monday, March 18, 2019.

Board Members and Alternates Present at the meeting location:

Peter Nelson, Chairman (CVWD)	Jack Seiler (PVID Alternate)
Hank Kuiper (Public Member)	David Vigil (DFW Alternate)
Glen D. Peterson (MWD)	Doug Wilson (SDCWA)
David R. Pettijohn (LADWP)	

Board Members and Alternates participating telephonically:

David DeJesus (MWD Alternate)	Nicole Neeman-Brady (Public Member)
James Hanks (IID)	Mark Watton (SDCWA Alternate)
Jeanine Jones (DWR Designee)	

Board Members and Alternates Absent:

Dana B. Fisher, Jr. (PVID)	John Powell, Jr. (CVWD Alternate)
Christopher Hayes (DFW Designee)	Norma Sierra Galindo (IID Alternate)
Evelyn Cortez-Davis (LADWP Alternate)	

Others Present:

Steve Abbott	Ned Hyduke
Brian Alvarez	Eric Katz
Alan L. Boyce	Jessica Neuwerth
Robert Cheng	Kelly Rodgers
Christopher Harris	Alina Tishchenko
Bill Hasencamp	

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Peter Nelson announced the presence of a quorum and called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

Chairman Nelson asked for a motion to approve the findings of fact that a Special Board meeting was warranted. Board member Mr. Doug Wilson made the motion, which was seconded by Board member Mr. Jack Seiler.

A roll-call vote was held: Mr. Kuiper-yes, Mr. Wilson-yes, Mr. Peterson-yes, Mr. Pettijohn-yes, Mr. Seiler-yes, Mr. Vigil-yes, Mr. Hanks-no, Ms. Jones-yes, Ms. Neeman-Brady-yes, Mr. Nelson-yes. With the vote 9-1 it was determined that holding the special meeting was warranted.

## **OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD**

Chairman Nelson invited members of the audience to address the Board on items on the agenda or matters related to the Board. Mr. Alan Boyce, a farmer from the Imperial Valley, Chairman of the Expanded Toolbox subcommittee of the Water Conservation Advisory Board and member of both the Imperial Valley Vegetable Growers Associated and Imperial Valley Farm Bureau expressed significant concern about the noticing process for holding the special meeting. In addition, Mr. Boyce discussed various concerns regarding the proposed DCP legislative language and the Imperial Irrigation District's (IID) involvement in the DCP process.

## **ADMINISTRATION**

Chairman Nelson asked the Board to provide authorization for California's Colorado River Commissioner to sign the proposed Seven Colorado River Basin States letter regarding the Colorado River Basin Drought Contingency Plan, accompanying the submittal of the DCP interstate agreements and proposed federal legislation to the U.S. congress.

Mr. Harris reported that the latest draft of the Seven Basin States letter and the proposed draft federal legislation had been posted on CRB's website. Board member Mr. Peterson made a motion to authorize California's Colorado River Commissioner to sign the Seven Basin States letter in substantial conformance with the version dated March 18, 2019 accompanying the DCP federal legislation package. Chairman Nelson seconded the motion and opened the meeting up for further discussion.

Mr. Hanks, representing the IID, reported that the new proposed federal DCP legislation had not been reviewed by IID's attorneys, noting that the language was different from the language presented during the March 13, 2019 regularly scheduled CRB meeting.

Mr. Pettijohn, representing the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP), remarked that LADWP was supportive of IID's efforts to secure funding for Salton Sea restoration, noting that LADWP spent over \$2 billion on dust mitigation efforts in Owens Valley. He added that results from the March 24-Month study shows a low probability of a shortage declaration within the next year and it is likely that the 2007 Guidelines will be sufficient to manage the reservoir system. Mr. Pettijohn also expressed his concern that the Board would not be moving forward on a consensus basis.

Chairman Nelson reported that he had received letters from the other six Basin States supporting IID's efforts to secure funding for the Salton Sea through the 2018 Farm Bill. He added that the NGO community had also written letters supportive of the DCP and IID's efforts to seek funds through the 2018 Farm Bill. Mr. Nelson also shared similar concerns regarding signing the Basin States letter without a consensus from the Board but noted that the DCP will protect water supply flexibility for the State of California.

Mr. Hanks expressed concern regarding IID's future participation in the DCP process. Chairman Nelson remarked that language in the DCP would allow IID to sign onto the DCP in the future if conditions become favorable for IID.

After the discussion concluded, Chairman Nelson requested a roll call vote: Mr. Hanks (IID)-no, Mr. Peterson (MWD)-yes, Mr. Seiler (PVID)-yes, Mr. Kuiper (Public)-abstained from voting, Mr. Wilson (SDCWA)-yes, Ms. Jones (DWR)-yes, Mr. Pettijohn (LADWP)-yes, Ms. Neeman-Brady (Public)-yes, Mr. Vigil (DFW)-yes and Mr. Nelson (CVWD)-yes. The roll-call was 8 in favor; one no vote; and one abstention. The motion passed.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further items to be brought before the Special Meeting of the Board, Chairman Nelson adjourned the meeting at 4:37 p.m.