

# D R A F T

## MEETING NOTES CENTRAL VALLEY SALINITY POLICY GROUP Executive Committee Meeting June 17, 2008

Attendees:

See attached Sign-in Sheet/Telephone Participants List

### 1. **Welcome, introductions and housekeeping matters**

Dr. Longley welcomed meeting participants and stated that this was an important meeting because of the opportunity to obtain grant funding for the salinity effort. Participants introduced themselves.

### 2. **Cal Fed Grant Opportunity**

Dr. Longley introduced the topic, noting that the State Water Resources Control Board is soliciting grant proposal applications for the Water Quality Grant Program. Pam Buford, Regional Water Board Grant Coordinator, explained that there is approximately \$2.4 million available with a minimum grant amount of \$250,000 and a maximum grant amount of \$4.2 million. A 25 percent non-state match is required. Ms. Buford explained that the projects should be watershed-wide and have measureable, demonstrable benefits within the three year term of the agreement. Planning and research projects are not eligible.

The Committee discussed several projects that might be eligible and could be endorsed by the Executive Committee. These included:

- A proposal for evaluating how bio fuel and bio mass may be part of the salinity solution. (UCD)
- Implementation of the westside regional drainage plan (Grasslands)
- Assessment of the effectiveness of alternative treatment and source control methods for industrial dischargers (City of Tracy)
- A water softener buy out program (City of Patterson)
- A targeted public information campaign focused on disadvantaged communities

The Committee established the following schedule for responding to the solicitation:

June 25, 2008: Applicant Workshop at the Regional Board offices in Rancho Cordova

June 27, 2008: Proponents of projects provide a summary of concept proposals to Gail Cismowski by Noon

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July 2, 2008: Executive Committee meeting to decide which proposals to support for funding.

## 3. Other Efforts

### CASA/CVCWA Scope of Work

Bobbi Larson provided a brief summary of the proposed scope of work to be funded by contributions to date from CASA and CVCWA. The Committee discussed the need to form an organization, such as a 501(c)(6), to enter into and manage contracts, and for the Executive Committee to assume a greater leadership role for the program. Rob Neenan suggested that a full time Executive Director may be needed to oversee the day to day activities of the program.

It was agreed that Bobbi Larson would work with Daniel Cozad to prepare a proposed Year 1 schedule and budget, including Year 1 deliverables, for review by the Executive Committee at the July 2, 2008 meeting to allow organizations to evaluate their participation in funding the effort. Rob Neenan suggested that one of the key tasks during the first year would be development of a funding strategy, as it is unlikely that the amount of revenue needed to accomplish the program goals can be met entirely from industry contributions.

### Status of Studies

#### Economic Study:

UC Davis has not yet provided a revised draft of the economic study. Pamela Creedon stated that Dr. Richard Howitt should provide a status report at the next Executive Committee meeting. Linda Dorn, Chair of the Economic and Social Impact Study Committee, noted that the Committee is holding off scheduling its next meeting until after the revised draft report is made available.

#### Data Gaps:

The draft report has been completed and sent to the Technical Advisory Committee; the TAC will decide next steps at its July 14, 2008 meeting.

## 4. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for July 2, 2008 at 1:00 p.m.