

Sept. 11, 2003

CALIFORNIA WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL MODELING FORUM
(formerly BAY-DELTA MODELING FORUM)

Draft
MINUTES OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE

For July 18, 2003

(This meeting was held at the USBR office in Sacramento.)

I. SUMMARY

A. ACTION ITEMS

- On August 30 the ED will meet with Asilomar representative to start the planning for the annual meeting.
- The ED will check with Kamyar and Gena of DWR to see what kind of feedback they would like from our Forum's panel on the Analytical Tools Workshop.
- The ED will talk to Mark Gowdy of the CVRWQCB to see if he can come to the next Steering Committee meeting to talk about Stockton channel dissolved oxygen models.
- The ED will turn the CALFED Grant Proposal in next Monday.
- KT will check with DWR and USBR on whether the preliminary CALFED peer review process findings could be included in the CALSIM II workshop.
- Lisa will draft up instructions for Asilomar Workshop Facilitators.

B. MOTIONS PASSED OR TABLED - None

C. REFERENCES HANDED OUT

- Executive Directors Report
 - CALSIM II Workshop Announcement (scheduled for Oct. 21-24)
 - Meeting Announcement of DWR's Ongoing Delta Hydrodynamic and Transport Model Developments (scheduled for Aug. 19)
 - Forum's Grant Proposal to CALFED for the support of IGSM2 and CALSIM II User's Groups
-

II. MINUTES

1. INTRODUCTIONS AND WELCOME – The meeting was opened with 9 persons in attendance, and 6 proxies held. A quorum was declared.

2. **SECRETARY'S REPORT** – The minutes of the last meeting were unanimously approved.

3. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S (ED) REPORT – Treasury** - It was decided to keep our funds in the River City Bank. **CALFED Proposal** - The ED made a \$25,000 proposal to CALFED for their support of the IGSM2 and CALSIM II Model Users Groups. **Asilomar** - The ED will meet on August 30 to start the Asilomar planning. **DWR's Analytical Tools** - The ED attended DWR's Analytical Tools Workshop on June 16, and had discussions with them on the potential for having the DWR present their results to us on their decided-upon analytical tools and to get feedback from us. So for this type of use of the Forum we would need to set up a formal panel of experts in the subject areas and hear the proposals and formulate our comments in a report. A comment was made as to whether we could make a publication of such a review. Would it be helpful for the Forum to present a long-term picture of where analytical tools should be going? The next DWR analytical tools workshop will be held on September 25, and the Forum's panel could write a report from that. The ED will check with Kamyar Guivetchi and Gena Bartlett of DWR on what type of feedback they would like from our panel. **CALSIM II Workshop** – The hands-on workshop is scheduled for October 21-24, in Sacramento. **Uncertainty Workshop** – Payment was made for the April presentation. **North Coast Rivers Workshop** – This was postponed for a while due to local request. **Stockton Dissolved Oxygen** – The ED talked to Les Grober of the CVRWQCB, who suggested using a workshop on the dissolved oxygen models being used at Stockton as a mini-peer review. The ED will talk to Mark Gowdy of the CVRWQCB to see about the possibility of having him come to our next Steering Committee meeting in September. **Website** – We have changed to Earth Link. It will show us the number of contacts made to the site. Three email lists will be set up there. Organizers of workshops should ideally get their agendas onto the web site, and try to get pdf's of talks and slides onto the web also. We have 300 mB space available, and we're only using 80 mB now. The web site is not expensive. **Forum Tasks/Activities** – The ED has outline about 40 tasks he could be working on, and the Steering Committee previously prioritized them into Categories A, B, and C. He is working on the A priorities now, then will go to the B priorities.

4. **CALFED GRANT PROPOSAL** – CALFED can award grants up to \$25,000 maximum. Their Science Consortium gives out these grants to projects which they think can help the Delta. As mentioned above, the Forum is asking for a grant for the support of two model user's groups. The handout describes what the Model User's Groups would do. The ED would be actively involved in working with these two user's groups. Additionally, perhaps the DSM-2 user's group could then also be set up along the same framework (and then possibly even user's groups for CALAG and water temperature models). The ED will turn the proposal in to CALFED next Monday. The goal of having these user's groups is to increase the pool of knowledgeable modelers. Get any comments you may have on this to the ED by next Sunday (rsatkowski@aol.com).

5. **NARASIMHAN BOOK FUNDRAISER PROPOSAL** – Dr. Narasimhan is a UCB geologist who has written a three-volume work on California water. There was some discussion on whether we could put this book on our web site for others to purchase and

download, and perhaps we could also earn a little money from this. Or should we just announce this publication on our web site. After some discussion on what the Forum's role should be in advertising reference books, it was decided to table the issue for now.

6. TECHNICAL WORKSHOPS

a. **CALSIM II** – Should this workshop wait until after the review panel is completed? Contact Jim Taylor to see what he thinks. Or, could we have a workshop that would be a part of the review panel? Should the workshop wait until after the interviews and external review panel are done, so they have a chance to sort things out? Perhaps a workshop could be held in January or February. *(After the meeting it was found out that the workshop has since been set for four days, Oct. 21-24. Suggestions are made to include a preliminary report of the CALFED peer-review process (conducted by Prof. Jay Lund of UC Davis) in the workshop. KT will inquire with DWR and the USBR about the possibility.)*

b. **Uncertainty in Modeling** – This workshop is still on.

c. **Climate Change** – This workshop is still on. Nigel and Jay should pool their information. Possibly have this workshop in November or December. Jay has his hydrology and CALVIN model results. Jay could probably come up with three-four topics, Nigel with one topic, and K. T. with one topic. K.T. said that possibly EBMUD's climate change planning could be used as an example. Possibly K.T. and Nigel could facilitate this workshop. Nov. 21 (Friday) was discussed as a tentative date for this workshop.

d. **CEQA/NEPA** - ?

e. **TMDLs** – On hold. George and Rob are working on developing potential ideas.

f. **Northern California Rivers** – Postponed. Mike Deas would be valuable with his knowledge.

7. **ANNUAL MEETING UPDATE** – What topics do we want to include? The Lifetime Achievement Award was discussed. Should we change it from lifetime award to career award? The selection of any nominees would be done within the Steering Committee. Should our Asilomar theme be “Ten Years of the Forum”, with Lyle coming to speak about the starting of the Forum? Can John Williams talk on biological modeling? Since we will now be there two evenings, should we have a poster session one evening, and one speaker the other evening, or have a speaker for each evening? We can have a longer session on the second day. Should we invite all past Fischer Award winners and Convenors? Should we develop “Workshop Facilitator Instructions”, to assist facilitators and let them know where spare equipment is at? Lisa will circulate suggested instructions. Consider structuring our sessions to attract IEP people.

8. **IGSM2 USER GROUP** – About 25 people came to the last meeting. Each meeting has two presentations, on model or its applications. The User’s Group is sponsored jointly by USBR and DWR. Code changes are discussed. Tasks and priorities are set. There will be a new version in about December. The minutes are now posted on the Forum’s web site.

9. **PEER REVIEW** – Should we do a peer review on dissolved oxygen models? We have about \$12,500. Try to get User’s groups to pay toward peer reviews of their models.

10. **OTHER BUSINESS** – Next meeting is on September 12, possibly at Solano I.D.

11. **NEXT MEETING DATE** - Next meeting is Sept. July 18, at

Respectfully Submitted
George Nichol, Secretary, CWEMF

ATTENDANCE

Nigel Quinn
Rich Satkowski
Lisa Holm
George Nichol
Tara Smith
K.T. Shum
Rob Tull
Jay Lund
Lloyd Peterson

Convenor, LBNL/USBR
Executive Director, SWRCB
Treasurer, CCWD
Secretary, SWRCB
DWR
EBMUD
CH2M-Hill
UCD

Proxies: Williams, Headlee, Baker, Thrupp, Deas, Vorster