

Dec. 7, 2005

CALIFORNIA WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL MODELING FORUM

Draft
MINUTES OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE

For Nov. 18, 2005

(This meeting was held at the CH2M-Hill Office in Sacramento.)

Decisions	
Action Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• CEDEN - Lisa and Rich Juricich work up a CEDEN session for Asilomar.• Model Linkage – Marianne, Tara, Nigel, and Jay explore how the lessons of model linkage with data being done in Europe can be applied here.• Lisa will check on the possibility of having Joe Grindstaff of CALFED as our keynote speaker.• Rich will send out the nomination paperwork next week for the Fischer Award, including the requirements.
Parking Lot Items	
Motions	A motion was made and passed unanimously to change the by-laws to allow “non-profit” and small organizations (20 persons or less) to pay annual dues of \$500

REFERENCES HANDED OUT:

1. Executive Directors Report, including:
 - CWEMF’s Peer Review Process Description
 - Revisions to “Protocols for Water and Environmental Modeling”
 - IEPs 2006 Asilomar Agenda
2. State Water Analysis Network (SWAN) Workshop Agenda
3. Bay-Delta and Tribs (BDAT) / California Environmental Data Exchange Network (CEDEN) System Description (25 pages)
4. Strategic Analysis Framework Model Linkage Proposed Plan (1 page)
5. Suggested Themes for the CWEMF 2006 Annual Meeting

MINUTES

1. INTRODUCTIONS/DESIGNATION OF QUORUM – The meeting was opened with 13 persons in attendance, 1 on the phone, and 3 proxies. A quorum was declared.

2. EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT – Estuary Conference - The E.D. attended the recent San Francisco Estuary Conference, and showed a poster of the CWEMF.
Audit - Rich recently talked to an auditor who suggested that in practicality audits for 503c organizations were only needed when budgets get above \$500,000. The auditor suggested that a quick look-over by someone would suffice as an informal audit, or have CWEMF members review the budget periodically to serve as an audit. **Dues for Small Organizations** – Several smaller organizations have expressed an interest in joining

CWEMF, but the organizational fee can be financially restrictive for small organizations. A motion was made and passed unanimously to change the by-laws to allow non-profit and small organizations (20 persons or less) to pay annual dues of \$500. **Peer Review Process** – Rich has put together an update of the Peer Review process. Review and send any comments to Rich. **Russian River Peer Review** – The E.D. received a request from the Russian River Flood Control District for information on CWEMF's peer review process. The E.D. and KT sent them the information.

3. SECRETARY'S REPORT - The approval of the past minutes were postponed until the next meeting.

4. TREASURER'S REPORT – This was postponed until the next Steering Committee meeting.

5. PEER REVIEW: SJV Representation in CALSIM II – KT summarized events to date. A draft of the review report will be posted next week. Comments can be made until Dec. 15, and the final report will be finished by Jan. 10. The final workshop will be on Jan. 17, 2006. The next step will be to extend the review, and cover sensitivity analyses. There may be a follow-up review later to update the report findings in response to improvements made by Reclamation since. The review has also received funding from the US EPA (CALFED Drinking Water Program) and the San Joaquin River Group Authority. The USBR will discuss its response to the report at Asilomar.

6. STRATEGIC ANALYSIS FRAMEWORK –

a. **Database Development** – Rich Juricich of DWR and Lisa Beutler of CSUS talked about the upcoming Nov. 22 State Water Analysis Network (SWAN) Workshop (by invitation only, for this first workshop). This was discussed because it relates to the CWEMF's Strategic Analysis Framework which is being discussed today. The SWAN will be an institutional network for data exchange and analysis. The following questions were posed: (1) Can CWEMF assist in these efforts? (2) How can SWAN and CWEMF relate to each other, and not duplicate efforts? (3) How can we leverage the efforts? CWEMF could assist this effort by providing insights into the interconnectivity between models and their power as analytical tools.

The workplan for SWAN has three phases: (1) promote collaboration; (2) facilitate information exchange; and (3) improve quantitative information. What are the planning needs of the State Water Project, and how does the data being collected relate to them? The Dept. of Water Resources (DWR) would like the thoughts of others on this. Broad issues are at stake. For example, how can Prop. 50 be used to everybody's advantage? The data in the current database being used, called California Environmental Data Exchange Network (CEDEN), is not driven by DWR. CEDEN is not just for the SWP: it's for a lot of agencies. CEDEN is developing better networks, with GIS layers. Most agencies are doing individual data collection now: integration of efforts and data is needed. The Nov. 22 workshop will address the key items for SWAN to consider, determine the key elements that should go into a proposal, and explore the funding available. The meeting will cover a broad spectrum.

The question arose as to whether this important undertaking (a coordination between SWAN and CWEMF) should be preceded by a pilot project, to keep costs small. It was mentioned that Europe is ahead of us on the connectivity of planning, data collection and analysis, and modeling. Nigel said that Europe has an institute dedicated to this sort of thing.

So, it appears that the key elements to consider are:

- Is such a coordination desirable?
- How close should the coordination be?
- What will the roles of CWEMF and SWAN be on guidelines and standards?
- SWAN is going to the CWP advisory committee on Dec. 9
- How will the data clearinghouse be involved

We need to find out who in CWEMF could be committed to it, and what funding is available. Can this effort be supported by grants? What should any contract language say? Can we get started on a small scale now, and then enlarge later?

The CEDEN database was discussed. All agencies are being encouraged to use CEDEN. All CALFED programs should try to use CEDEN. Should a session be held at Asilomar on this? Lisa will work with Rich Juricich to work up an Asilomar session.

b. **Model Linkage** – Modularized models and integrating data with models was discussed. The Open MI coding was described. There are many ways to bring data to models. Have an open discussion on this at Asilomar. This may be how CALFED should work. Europe is ahead on this. Get persons from Europe to talk on model and data integration. Marianne, Tara, Nigel, and Jay will explore this further. Sometimes some of these Europe persons are here and perhaps an arrangement can be made for one to come and talk to the CWEMF. Can they be invited to Asilomar?

c. **Modeling Protocols** – A session on modeling protocols for planning studies may be held at Asilomar. We are expanding our CWEMF protocols document. Rich Satkowski said that the first draft of the updated protocols report will be done by June 2006. The modeling protocols session will complement the session on the Strategic Analysis Framework.

7. TECHNICAL WORKSHOPS -

- a. **San Joaquin Valley Workshop** – The last workshop had about 40 people. Next workshop to be held in early summer 2006. Lisa knows a post-doc who is working on dissolved organic carbon, and this may tie into the SPARROW model being prepared for dissolved organic carbon in the SJV. John deGeorge has done some work on model visualization, which could be an educational part of the workshop.
- b. **Mike Model** – Workshop on Dec. 8 at USBR, 1-4 PM. Part of Mike Model user's group.
- c. **Strategic Analysis Framework** – Have after Asilomar.

d. **CEQA** – The past workshop had about 50 people. The workshop was very well received. People there liked the handouts.

8. **MODEL USER GROUPS** – The DSM-2 model users group met about two weeks ago. Tara would like a peer review of IGSM-2 (which is now called IWFM) The model is well-documented.

9. **2006 ANNUAL MEETING** – The IEP sessions were in the E.D.'s handout. The IEP will be having a Delta hydrodynamic session. We have been assigned the Fred Farr Forum room for our large sessions. Two student assistants will be available to help Rich. Lisa will check on the possibility of having Joe Grindstaff of CALFED as our keynote speaker. Rich Satkowski will contact John Headlee on Flood Control Modeling. Mike Deas, Nigel, Randi, and KT will talk on a water temperature modeling session. Mike Deas said that his company will sponsor the poster session again this year.

The Fischer and Career Achievement Award announcements for nominations have to be sent out. Can re-nominate past candidates, if desired. The convenor, vice-convenor, past convenor, and ED are to work on the announcement. Send out the nomination paperwork next week, including the requirements. Have a list of nominees by the next Steering Committee meeting.

10. **OTHER BUSINESS** – The next Steering Committee meeting will be on Jan. 20, from 9:30 AM to noon. The location is to be determined.

11. **ADJOURNED** – 1:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted
George Nichol, Secretary, CWEMF

ATTENDANCE

K.T. Shum
Rich Satkowski
Lisa Holm
George Nichol
Randi Field
John Headlee
Lynda Smith
Marianne Guerin
Lisa Beutler
Mike Deas
Rob Tull
Nigel Quinn
Rich Juricich

Convenor, EBMUD
Executive Director, CWEMF
CBDA, Treasurer
Secretary, CWEMF
USBR
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MWD
CCWD
CCP CSUS
Watercourse Engineering
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LBL
DWR

On Phone:

Hubert Morel-Seytoux

Proxies:

Tara Smith, John Williams, Jay Lund