

June 14, 2004

CALIFORNIA WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL MODELING FORUM

Draft
MINUTES OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE

For March 19, 2004

(This meeting was held at the Contra Costa Water District in Concord.)

I. SUMMARY

A. ACTION ITEMS

- Start work on the White Paper on Long-Term Water Modeling Planning – Jay and Rob.
- Modeling Clearinghouse Proposal – Nigel and Rich

B. MOTIONS PASSED OR TABLED –

- A motion was made and passed to form a sub- committee to work on a White Paper for Long-Term Water Modeling Planning

C. REFERENCES HANDED OUT

1. Executive Directors Report
 2. WRIME Inventory of Basin-Scale Groundwater Models in California, and Draft Metadata Form for Groundwater Models in California.
 3. Tentative Draft Committee Charge “Committee on Long-Term Analytical Tool and Data Development”.
 4. CWEMF 2004 Technical Workshops, dated March 19, 2004.
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II. MINUTES

1. INTRODUCTIONS AND WELCOME – The meeting was opened with 15 persons in attendance, and 2 proxies held. A quorum was declared.

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

3. TREASURER’S REPORT – Information on the CWEMF’s financial status will be presented at the next Steering Committee meeting.

4. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – The Executive Director reported on the changes in the By-Laws. His other comments are included in the topics below.

5. ANNUAL MEETING – There were 102 participants. Our income from Asilomar was \$15,000, and our expenses were \$7,000, and so we netted \$8,000. Asilomar is reserved for 2005 (Feb. 28-March 2, 2005). The question arose as to whether the 3-day meeting in 2004 was OK, as it was our first 3-day annual meeting. Some discussion ensued. It seemed that most of the Steering Committee today felt it was one of our best annual meetings. Some comments presented were as follows:

- Some preferred having only two concurrent sessions.
- Have sessions to broaden knowledge, more breadth.
- Have a call for papers
- Publicize to professional organizations with similar interests (e.g. ASCE chapters in Water Resources, Golden Gate Branch, etc.)
- Consider additional awards to recognize individual achievements as appropriate, as circumstances warrant rather than on a regular basis
- Leave students rate for attendance as is.

There was discussion that possibly next year the Forum could meet on T-W-Th, and the IEP could meet on W-Th-F, and target our overlap session with biological sessions so IEP would be interested in our activities. The question arose as to whether the Forum and IEP should allow each other free attendance at their activities, and the consensus seemed to be yes.

The question arose as to whether we could use General Funds for the Fischer Award. Most seemed to feel the General Fund should be used.

6. LONG-TERM WATER MODELING PLANNING

a. Get our input into the Calif. Water Plan (CWP) on how we might help with the modeling aspect of the CWP. Form a committee to do this. By April 15 have a draft to the Steering Committee. Many CWP members don't know modeling: we can help to broaden the impact of model output. Our potential input was discussed as follows:

- Identify what different stakeholder groups (farmers, etc) want from models)
- Do inventory of analytical tools, and what each can do.
- Data development
- How to help members of the CWP Advisory Committee to better understand the role of modeling in water management decisions
- Urban/environmental side focus on water conservation
- Role that models play in the water plan.
- The CWP has lots of needs: find the pieces we can help on
- CALSIM and DSM-2 are operations models and are not designed to address economic and biological considerations in detail.
- What is the Advisory Committee asking from the CWP?
- Be clear what we can do with models, and what we can't.

- Say, with existing tools, this is what we can do.
- The CWP is political/economic/legal, and the CWEMF is technical: which do we emphasize?
- Conservation, water demands.
- Determine the driving force, as this will define the applications and tools needed.
- The CWEMF is unique as it represents many agencies and views.
- The Forum can facilitate the individual agencies, and encourage common documentation.
- Let's make guidance on what the differences between models are. The EIRs now say "just a little difference".

b. A motion was made and passed to have Jay and Rob as co-chairmen of this subcommittee. Volunteers are Lloyd Peterson (USBR), Tara Smith (DWR), Paul Hutton (MWDSC), and possibly Pete Rhoads. (Pete Rhoads later declined because of other commitments.) The subcommittee will also seek the advice and help of Francis Chung (DWR), Grace Chan and Tim Quinn of MWD, and Levi Brekke. Have a workshop to review drafts of the proposal of the committee, and include some biologists. Consider having a phased approach, from a core committee. Kamyar and Rich will shadow the above efforts. The committee will select additional members as needed.

7. WRIME MODELING CLEARINGHOUSE PROPOSAL – A discussion was made as to whether the Forum should contract with the consulting company WRIME to show ground water models in California by watershed. See handouts. This could be expanded to surface water models. The cost discussed was about \$10,000. The result would be to see what models could be used for different uses. Mention was made that UCB Water Resource Archives might be interested in this. This would be an inventory of what models are being used, and what they are being used for, and links to other agency models, and when and where applied. Or just have links to agencies and their models. While there was some interest in this, this appears to be an effort that a consulting company might want to do for their own business interests. Nigel and Rich volunteered to look further into this.

8. TECHNICAL WORKSHOPS –

a. **Aquifer Testing Analysis Workshop** – Gordon will check into having this potentially in early Autumn, for ½ to 1 day. This is important for water transfer between basins. Get someone from SRWCB? How pump tests will fit into the water rights process. Should this workshop be technical, or for policy-makers? Should misuses and assumptions of equilibrium be in the same workshop? Should this workshop be co-sponsored with the GRA for a 2-day workshop? Have the policy in the morning, and technical in the afternoon?

b. **CALSIM Workshop**– Jay and K.T. -CALFED peer review results presentation. Draft responses plan. Have a follow-up workshop?

b. **Salmon Modeling & Recovery Workshop** - Potentially in June.

c. **DWR Annual Report Workshop** – Possibly in August.

- d. **TMDL Workshop** – Possibly in July/August.
- e. **San Joaquin River Workshop** – Cover salinity. Nigel and Paul. Possibly in mid-year.

9. **MODEL USER GROUPS**

- a. IGSM-2 User's Group -
- b. MIKE User's Group – Nothing developed yet.
- c. DSM-2 User's Group – Bulletin Board uses. Group meeting around April 23.

10. **PEER REVIEW** – About \$17,000 in fund. Consider a review on IGSM-2 code. Tariq did good documentation on IGSM-2. Send RFPs to general membership on what they think needs peer review (include IEP people). Existing models need work.

11. **OTHER BUSINESS** –

- a. Next meeting on May 21.
- b. It was reported that Lyle suggested that we consider meeting with the DWR Director, USBR Director, and the new CALFED Science Advisor. But we first have to ask what we would get out of such a meeting. Should we have this meeting after we put out the Long-Term White Paper? We would need to demonstrate what we could do for them. We need to have a strong vision of what we want. Be specific of what we need, and what we can do for them. Say how we can help CALFED. Touch bases with Mark Cowan.

12. **2004 MODELING FORUM GOALS** –

- a. The Executive Director briefed the Steering Committee on where he stood on achieving his goals, as shown in his handout. His four major goals at this time are as follows:
 - Help to draft the Long-Term Water Modeling Planning White Paper by June 2004.
 - Initiate the Modeling Clearinghouse by Jan. 2005
 - Get input on needed peer reviews by mid-2004, and fund one by late summer.
 - Meet with key stakeholders, and then with the Directors of DWR, USBR, CALFED persons, and other individuals.
- b. Some other goals are to (1) look at the expiring memberships of some agencies and water district, and contact them as needed; (2) work on a new brochure which demonstrates our products and accomplishments; (3) think about a workshop of upper managers, telling them what modeling work is going on and why it is important, and how models play a role in decisions; (4) consider having a workshop on the annual state of water policy/issues of the day, for working managers (who provide the link).

13. **ADJOURN** –

Respectfully Submitted
George Nichol, Secretary, CWEMF

ATTENDANCE

Nigel Quinn

Rich Satkowski

K.T. Shum

Lisa Holm

George Nichol

Tara Smith

Rob Tull

Lloyd Peterson

Hubert Morel-Seytoux

Rich Juricich

Paul Hutton

Jay Lund

Gordon Thrupp

Richard Denton

Leah Orloff

Convenor, LBNL/USBR

Executive Director, SWRCB

EBMUD, Vice-Convenor

Treasurer, CCWD

Secretary, SWRCB

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