

CALIFORNIA WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL MODELING FORUM

MINUTES OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE

For January 21, 2011

(This meeting was held at the Solano Irrigation District Office in Vacaville.)

Decisions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•
Action Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Send a letter welcoming the general membership to Asilomar - Paul Hutton• Send out the final notice on the Asilomar annual meeting - Executive Director• Send invoices in March (covering March 2011-Feb. 2012) to those individual members who do not pay at the upcoming Asilomar meeting – Executive Director• Send invoices in March (covering March 2011-Feb. 2012) to those institutions who do not pay by the upcoming Asilomar meeting – Executive Director• After the annual meeting, find out how the Asilomar management assigns the meeting rooms to the different groups – Executive Director• Invite the Delta Watermaster to the Asilomar meeting – Rich Satkowski• Draft up some questions to ask Mr. Baggett after his keynote address, centered around how the SWRCB views modeling – Steering Committee (Are we going to do this?)• Let Stacy Tanaka know if you are going to have a poster or pop-up talk at Asilomar – all• Put signs out conspicuously (such as on the tables) announcing who is sponsoring our refreshments and poster session – Executive Director• Prepare a letter to CWEMF asking for a peer review of the CalLite model – DWR (Nazrul Islam)
Parking Lot Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•
Motions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•

REFERENCES HANDED OUT:

1. Executive Directors Report.
 2. 2011 Asilomar Annual Meeting Agenda
 3. Listing of sponsors and organizational members
 4. CWEMF Workshop Status
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MINUTES

1. **INTRODUCTIONS/DESIGNATION OF QUORUM** – The meeting was opened with 13 persons in attendance and 2 proxies. A quorum was declared.

2. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT** – The Executive Director’s comments have been included in the comments below, where applicable.

3. **SECRETARY’S REPORT** –Passed unanimously.

4. TREASURER'S REPORT – There is \$38,840 total, with \$20,500 in the general fund and \$18,720 in the peer review fund. The Finance Committee met this month, and will meet again in July. Our financial situation is improving.

5. ORGANIZATIONAL DUES UPDATE – We have defined our institutional/company members as small (small companies) (\$1,000), medium (institutions) (\$2,500), and large (DWR, USBR) (\$5,000). We are eliminating Survey Monkey after this year, to save on costs. Donations have been coming in from companies for refreshments at Asilomar. The question arose as to how to bill individuals who do not come to Asilomar, as that is when most individuals pay their annual dues. After the next annual meeting at Asilomar the Executive Director will send annual membership invoices to those individuals who did not attend Asilomar. Invoices will also be sent then to institutions/companies that have not yet paid. Payment will be asked for within 60 days. The time period for these dues from now on (both institutional and individual) will be from February 28, 2011 through Feb. 27, 2012.

6. 2011 ANNUAL MEETING –

General - Everything is set up. The Executive Director will send the final notice out. A suggestion was made to invite the Delta Water Master (Craig Wilson) to come to Asilomar. Rich will send Craig the Asilomar information. Heather and Acacia are our meeting rooms. The poster session will be in Acacia, and the social event in Heather. Asilomar management assigns the meeting rooms according to the number of living quarters reserved by the group. The question arose as to whether our membership understands the relationship between the number of people staying on site and the size of meeting rooms we are assigned. Should we put a blurb on this in the registration packet? Paul is going to write a letter welcoming the general membership to Asilomar, and will put in a note suggesting that people stay on site and why. A question arose as to whether we could pay directly for the larger meeting rooms. Rich mentioned that the meeting rooms may be assigned according to how many people are there from the different groups there at that time. The Executive Director will check on this for next year. Let Stacy know if you are going to have a poster or give a pop-up talk by next week.

Keynote Speaker - Our keynote speaker, Art Baggett, recently a member of the SWRCB, would like to have a Q & A period after his speech. Art's topic will be "How Decision Makers Synthesize Disparate Information Into Policy". Should the Steering Committee draft up some specific questions for Art, such as (1) "why does the SWRCB not do modeling, while the ARB has about 30 people who do modeling (the ARB also does economic modeling)", or (2) should the SWRCB be more pro-active in making projections of future conditions within its jurisdiction", or (3) if the SWRCB does not intend to get involved in modeling, should it at least have on its staff some people (possibly an advisory panel) who know some details about modeling who can answer questions within the Board on modeling questions as they arise"?

SWRCB Model Advising - The question arose as to whether the DWR could fulfill the task of advising the SWRCB on modeling: some thought probably not, because sometime there may be a conflict of interest. However, the DWR has assisted the SWRCB on modeling in the past. The question arose as to whether the CWEMF could serve in the role of advisory panel to the SWRCB on modeling.

IEP - The question arose as to whether we should have a session at the IEP Conference. The IEP will have a one-day workshop on March 30.

Business Meeting - At the Business Meeting we need to ask for a vote on raising the organizational dues to \$5,000 for large institutions, and to \$2,500 for medium institutions. Paul will announce that our finances are improving. Marianne will ask for ideas for workshops. We need to get the membership involved in the workshops more if we can. The Business Meeting at Asilomar is full, so move the Distinguished Life Membership Award to the evening session.

Sponsors - Put signs on the tables for people to see who is sponsoring the refreshments, poster session, etc.

7. **AWARDS** – The nominees were discussed in detail, and the persons selected for the three awards will be announced at Asilomar. Many good candidates were nominated. The award panel felt that some of the nominees would certainly be selected for the award in the future with a little bit more time in their work. Again it was stressed to make sure to submit complete packages on nominees, as some people on the selection panel may not know of the achievements of the nominees.

8. **2011-2012 OFFICERS** – Marianne Guerin is the nominee for Convener. Nominees for Vice-Convener are being sought: Paul will fill in at Vice-Convener until a nominee is selected. Stacy Tanaka will be the nominee for Treasurer, and George Nichol for Secretary. Anyone interested in running for the Vice-Convener position get in touch with Paul Hutton or the Executive Director.

9. **TECHNICAL WORKSHOPS** – After Asilomar let's re-think the mission of CWEMF and our position in the sociology of California water matters, and tailor some of our workshops to that. This may bring in more person's interested in running for CWEMF offices. Let's get more involved in leadership in the field. Our past two-year efforts in taxes and budget has kept us busy so that we have not built up our leadership capabilities. Think of workshops in what BDCP needs, what the SWRCB needs, etc. Pick workshops where we can get ahead of the power curve. Possibly in 3-dimensional modeling, stressor-response modeling, sediment transport modeling, etc. Table a BDCP workshop for now.

10. **PEER REVIEWS** -

a. **Cal-Lite** - The DWR would like to have a peer review done by July 2011 on the new version of the Cal-Lite model (a version of the CalSim model). The model is scheduled to be released for public use in July, 2011. The DWR can help fund this review. Possibly have a review something like the previous CalSim-2 review of a couple of years ago, where CWEMF established committees to oversee the effort. For that there was a pre-peer review workshop, a workshop presenting the findings of the reviewers, and a post peer-review workshop. The DWR will send CWEMF a letter to start the peer review. As mentioned the timing is relatively short on this. Based on past experiences CWEMF members suggested that DWR should now start the process of getting the model prepared for peer review, such as preparing the documentation that will be needed for the review. It was mentioned that CWEMF could get a workshop accomplished by then, and receive comments back, but not have the review completed by July. Other aspects of

the review, such as preparing the documentation, getting the financing going, and identifying the peer reviewers are things that additionally have to be done before the first workshop can be held. Volunteers to work on the workshop are Nazrul Islam, Marianne Guerin, Paul Hutton, and George Nichol.

b. Groundwater Peer Review – This is the beginning of a new fiscal year for the USBR, and they have their \$20,000 grant ready to go for the peer review. The volunteers to help get this review going are Marianne Guerin, Stacy Tanaka, Ben Bray, Rich Satkowski, and George Nichol. The Executive Director will set up a conference call in the near future with the volunteers.

11. MODEL USER’S GROUPS – The DSM-2 model user group will meet next Wednesday, Jan. 26, from 1:30-4 PM.

12. 2011 MEETING LOCATION – The Solano Irrigation District office will be moving to a new location this Spring, a few miles away. Right now we don’t know where we will be meeting in March, but possible at CCWD.

13. NEW BUSINESS – None

14. ADJOURN – 12:50 PM. Next meeting March 18, 9:30 – 1:30 pm, location TBD.

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Respectfully Submitted
George Nichol, Secretary, CWEMF

ATTENDANCE

Paul Hutton	Convener	MWD
Elaine Archibald	Executive Director	CWEMF
Stacy Tanaka	Treasurer	Watercourse Engr. Inc.
George Nichol	Secretary	SWRCB
Jay Lund		UCD
Rich Satkowski		Public Member
Lisa Holm		USBR
Ben Bray		EBMUD
G. Fred Lee		GFL & Assoc.
Nazrul Islam		DWR
Mark Gowdy		SWRCB

On Phone: Marianne Guerin, Lucinda Shih, Michael Tansey.

Proxies: Hubert Morel-Seytoux, Mike Deas