

CALIFORNIA WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL MODELING FORUM

**MINUTES OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE**

For November 21, 2014

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

Decisions	
Action Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Elaine will check with Lake Natoma Inn to see if the Tuesday furnished lunch can be served in the same room as the awards ceremony.</li><li>• Ben will send a letter to Elaine with information on equilibrium water temperature modeling and Klamath River modeling that can be added to the Fischer award certificate.</li><li>• Ben will see if the Calif. Water Plan webinar presentation can be recorded as a webex</li><li>• Josue will check to see if a training room at UCD can be used for the Cal Lite and Cal Sim workshop</li><li>• Josue will take a survey to see how many CWEMF members would be interested in a Remote Sensing workshop</li></ul>
Parking Lot Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• (Located at end of minutes.)</li></ul>
Motions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A motion made for the Fischer Award nominee.</li><li>• A motion made for the Career Achievement Award nominee.</li><li>• A motion made for the Distinguished Life Membership Award.</li></ul>

REFERENCES HANDED OUT:

1. Executive Director's report.
2. Minutes of the Sept. 19, 2014 Steering Committee meeting.
3. Treasurer's Trial Balance as of Oct. 31, 2014
4. Draft Annual Meeting Plan
5. 2015 Proposed Annual Meeting Sessions
6. List of Annual Meeting Sponsors
7. Proposed 2015 Steering Committee Meeting Dates
8. Description of Short Course: Calibration, Uncertainty Analysis and Model-Based Decision-Making
9. Ideas for CWEMF Sessions and /or Poster
10. Submission for Fischer Award
11. Workshop Status

**1. INTRODUCTIONS/DESIGNATION OF QUORUM** – The meeting was opened by Ben with 12 persons in attendance, 2 persons on the phone, and 1 proxy. A quorum was declared.

**2. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT** – The Executive Director mentioned that the tax form has been submitted and on time. She has renewed the SAM with the Feds. The amount of revenue that CWEMF has now accumulated for an operating reserve and for potential special

projects such as white papers is not near the limit imposed for non-profit organizations. Other input from the Executive Director is input into the various discussions below.

3. **SECRETARY'S REPORT** - The minutes for the September 19, 2014 Steering Committee meeting were accepted without any changes.

4. **TREASURER'S REPORT** – As Stacy was absent today Elaine gave the Treasurer's report. There is \$187,432 in the CWEMF combined accounts, of which \$131,432 is in the general fund, \$16,000 is in the peer review fund, and \$40,000 is in the operational reserve fund. The recent three day PEST workshop brought in a net profit of \$8,555.

5. **ANNUAL MEETING** – The Executive Director's packet had the draft plans for the annual meeting and the proposed Meeting Sessions. The need to get better attendance at the awards presentation was discussed. It was decided to have the awards presentation before the pop-up session which is very popular and will draw people to the awards presentation. Also, the awards presentation follows lunch, so Elaine will check with Lake Natoma Inn to see if the lunch can be served in the same room as the awards ceremony to draw people there. Also discussed was how much informal time to have at the annual meeting, for networking and fellowship. There is a desire to get the students to do more pop-up talks.

The idea of incorporating a one-day (PEST) workshop into the agenda vs having more sessions was discussed. The three-day PEST workshop of several months ago was deemed excellent by those attending, but it is too soon to have such a full workshop again. So the idea is to have a one-day workshop during the annual meeting, general enough for both managers and modelers. It was mentioned that both surface water modelers and ground water modelers are now using PEST. There will be a charge for this workshop to help pay for the instructor's air fare from Australia and expenses.

There was much discussion on how to build the two sessions so that people could attend most of the sessions that they are interested in. A mid-December phone call with the planning committee will finalize the building of the two sessions.

6. **AWARDS** – The nominee for the Career Achievement Award was discussed. Marianne read off the criteria for the award. A motion was made to accept the award committee's recommendation. The motion was seconded and passed with all ayes and one abstention. The nominee for the Hugo Fischer Award was discussed. Marianne read off the criteria for the award. A motion was made to accept the award committee's recommendation. The motion was seconded and passed with all ayes. Ben will send a letter to Elaine on equilibrium water temperature modeling and Klamath River modeling with information that can be added to the Fischer award certificate. The selection of the Life Member Award was made at today's meeting, with a motion made, seconded, and passing with all ayes. So there will be three awards made at the annual meeting.

## **7. TECHNICAL WORKSHOPS –**

a. SELFE - The SELFE workshop is coming up. 32 persons have signed up for the Dec. 11 overview. This will be general enough for both managers and modelers. 6-12 people have signed up or indicated an interest for the hands-on training in January. The January training will be at the DWR training center. The DWR computers can be used or bring your own laptop.

b. California Water Plan Webinar – This will be held in January, and will cover Update 2013. CWEMF will participate. There will be six speakers. It will focus on water balances in the various hydrologic regions, future management in the regions, climate change, indicators of sustainability, and so on. Josue and Ben will work with Rich Juricich on this. Ben will moderate. He will see if the presentation can be recorded as a webex (sound with slides for later viewing on the web).

c. Delta Modeling Summit – The National Science Foundation has been asked for a grant to help fund this session. This appears a possibility after an administrative problem is worked out. This workshop may be held in winter or spring.

d. IWFM/IDC – The IWFM workshop (3 days) may be held in April, and the IDC workshop (2 days) in May.

e. MODFLOW and Farm Process – This workshop will cover the USGS's new MODFLOW and Farm Process Model, and its modules. The model presented is generic. (This model is also being presented at the upcoming American Geophysical Union meeting in San Francisco.)

f. Natural Delta Flows/Unimpaired Flows – This workshop will be held in the spring or summer.

g. Cal Lite and Cal Sim – DWR and USBR are issuing a new version. Combined training for a full day in the spring will be given on Cal Lite and Cal Sim. CWEMF can charge for this, which will include lunch. 50 people are anticipated to attend. A room with many electrical outlets is needed. Josue will check to see if a training room at UCD can be used for this workshop. Model software will be provided for installation. There will be 6-12 DWR and USBR personnel who can help with the training and software installation. The session will be recorded for the future training of personnel.

h. Remote Sensing – Josue will take a survey to see how many CWEMF members would be interested in this workshop. This will be a 4-day workshop put on by persons from Idaho.

i. Measurement and Data Issues – In the planning stage.

**8. CWEMF WEBSITE UPDATE** – Eleanor gave an update on this. She is working with Kevin Long of the SWRCB on this. The desire is to produce a more modern look. Eleanor presented her vision of what the new website would look like. She presented the draft website on the large screen in the room. Possibly the draft web site could be put onto the internet behind a firewall and be accessible with a password during a future testing phase.

9. **MODEL USERS GROUP** - The IWFM/IDC subgroup will meet on Dec. 3. The DSM2 subgroup will meet on Dec. 4.

10. **PROPOSED CWEMF SOCIAL** – It has previously been proposed that we have some informal get-togethers to have fun, to tour facilities related to the State and Federal water projects, or to address special modeling needs that arise. Perhaps meet at pee-wee golf, or have a barbecue, or go to the Tracy Pumping Plant, or to Folsom Dam, or tour the Delta in a boat. The question arose as to whether CWEMF could financially support any of these options as a non-profit organization. Let’s check on the interest in this at the annual meeting.

11. **PROPOSED 2015 STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING DATES** – These will normally be on the third Friday every other month.

----- (WORKING LUNCH FROM 12:00 TO 12:30 PM) -----

12. **STRATEGIC PLAN** – (No official CWEMF minutes were taken on this. Comments were taken on finishing the draft plan.)

13. **OTHER BUSINESS** - None

14. **ADJOURN** – 2:30 pm

Respectfully Submitted  
George Nichol, Secretary, CWEMF

ATTENDANCE

Ben Bray	Convener	East Bay MUD
Elaine Archibald	Executive Director	CWEMF
Marianne Guerin	Past Convener	RMA
Josué Medellin	Vice-Convener	UCD
George Nichol	Secretary	Public Member
Fred Lee		GFLA
Paul Hutton		MWD
Tariq Kadir		DWR
Anne Huber		ICF
Eleanor Bartolomeo		SWRCB
Yuan Liu		CCWD
Nazrul Islam		DWR

Phone: Rich Juricich (DWR), Tara Smith (DWR)

Proxies: Ben for Mike Deas

Parking Lot Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Multi-Year Budget – Prepare a draft.</li><li>• Peer Review Process - Development of peer review administrative process.</li><li>• Investment Policy - Development of investment policy.</li><li>• Financial Transparency – Determine how best to show our financial transparency to outsiders.</li><li>• Bylaw Changes – Develop a proposal for updating the Bylaws</li><li>• Determine how much money can be accumulated as a non-profit organization.</li></ul>
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