

CALIFORNIA WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL MODELING FORUM

MINUTES OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE

For September 25, 2009

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

Decisions	•
Action Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop draft business plan based on discussion –E.D. • Put income/expense discussion on annual meeting agenda – E.D. • Forward job announcements to E.D. for posting to web – Tara • Email potential LIDAR/remote sensing speakers to Tara – All
Parking Lot Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More discussion on alternatives to Asilomar.
Motions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopted 8/28/09 minutes with edits • Adopted annual meeting theme

REFERENCES HANDED OUT:

1. Executive Directors Report.
2. 8/28/09 Draft Meeting Minutes
3. Excerpt from DWR Newsletter on Ray Hoagland’s CWEMF Career Achievement Award

MINUTES

1. INTRODUCTIONS/DESIGNATION OF QUORUM – The meeting was opened with 11 persons in attendance, and 3 proxies. A quorum was declared.

2. EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT – The E.D. mailed out the 2008/2009 tax forms and renewed the Monkey Survey subscription. Received an email from Bill Smith of MWH stating that they are going to try to increase participation in CWEMF. Executive Director’s Report contains ideas on income/expense management (pp 5-6). The individual membership fee is \$100. Other organizations, such as GRAC, have a cap on number of employees per organizational membership. CWEMF currently offers workshops to members for free, which reduces income (after the membership fee is paid). An idea is to provide a discounted member fee for workshops and/or make membership a separate fee. The CWEMF could implement a sliding scale for organizational fees based on number of employees participating. Ideas to reduce costs are to reduce the number of Steering Committee meetings, workshops, or conduct a 2-day vs. 3-day annual meeting. Small workshops of 30 costs about \$500 (not including ED’s time) for refreshments,

handouts and miscellaneous items. Other ideas to increase revenue is to allow member logos to be included on the annual meeting program (say \$2500, \$1000) or a CWEMF newsletter for a fee. The CWEMF could possibly apply for a grant to fund the first newsletter (from one of the foundations, such as Packard or Google). Bottom line: CWEMF is not in trouble, but needs to watch funding, expenses. We might want to draft a business plan outlining what we could do with what level of funding. E.D. will work with these ideas. Suggestion to put this topic on annual meeting agenda.

3. SECRETARY'S REPORT – Corrections to 8/28/09 minutes: The workshop list should be at end of minutes. Deas, Lund didn't attend. Item 9 "profession" should be replaced with "user community" and CUAHSI HIS is misspelled in one location. With suggested edits minutes were adopted (NQ 1°, TS 2°).

4. TREASURER'S REPORT – Stacy not in attendance so Mike Deas provided the report for her: \$7,000 in general fund, \$37,500 in peer review fund. Question on magnitude of tax fines. About \$3,000 for 2-3 years ago. CWEMF doesn't pay taxes (as a nonprofit) but does have to pay fees for late filing.

5. TECHNICAL WORKSHOPS – DSM2 Training workshop was held last week. Training was briefly described and discussed. Since DWR's interest letter generated enough attendees, a formal notice was not sent out. Due to room limitations, private companies were limited to one attendee. Training materials are located on DWR's website, so folks can do virtual training. The E.D. is working on an agenda for a groundwater workshop.

6. PEER REVIEW / MODEL USER GROUPS – E.D. drafted a letter to Reclamation for matching funding for the proposed comparative groundwater model peer review. There was also a DSM2 mini-calibration done for BDCP, where they added Liberty Island flooding. Chandra Chilmakuri (CH2M Hill) did a great calibration report, but it still needs to be accepted by community. The report is being released to the DSM2 Users Group for feedback to judge its acceptability and determine if a peer review is needed. Tara's group hiring 3 new modelers and will send announcement to E.D. for the CWEMF website. Paul suggested peer reviewer funding to produce peer-reviewed paper or papers on DSM2. We might want to fund one person to spearhead this effort. SWC might be interested in contributing funding. The purpose is to provide reference-able materials on the model for DSM2, PTM, nutrient modeling. Fred mentioned the work being done on the EPA's new nutrient criteria, and how this might be used in future nutrient modeling efforts.

7. 2010 ANNUAL MEETING PREPARATION – E.D. report pp. 2 has theme ideas. E.D. reviewed the survey responses (also in E.D. report). Group brainstormed on theme ideas, adopted the theme "Modeling in the Eye of the Storm" (MG 1°, LH 2°). Keynote Speaker ideas: Scott Stine, BDCP/Tim Quinn, Delta Vision, FWS/NMFS on biological opinion or an enviro (Cain)/ag (Patterson), Ellen Hanack (PPIC). E.D. will contact Jay, Steve C. and Peter V. E.D. reported that we will use PayPal for registration. Lisa Holm offered to put E.D. in touch with a merchant services representative to explore a seasonal account (to accept credit cards). E.D. report pp 3 has session ideas, pp4 has session topic

survey responses. E.D. suggested considering the top 3 categories in each topic area. The survey on volunteering to produce a session has gotten two responses: CA Water Plan and Groundwater. Nigel suggested replacing CUASHI-HIS with Wetland/Salinity/TMDL. Rob will do a session on uncertainty. LIDAR is being used for stream restoration, so a LIDAR/remote sensing session was proposed. Potential speakers on Lidar should be emailed to Tara. Francis Chung suggested a REALM/UNTRIM discussion, maybe tentative. Leave Tara as point of contact for now for DSM2 session. Mike Deas can do a temperature modeling session. Isolated facility included in BDCP. The CWEMF Annual Meeting session slot are now all full.

8. **OTHER BUSINESS** – Nigel asked what was happening with the IWFm user group, with DWR and the model. DTA is the new model of consumptive use. Someone asked about a MODFLOW training workshop.

11. **ADJOURNED** – 12:00 pm. Next meeting is on Thursday, November 19, 2009, at Solano Irrigation District Office in Vacaville.

Respectfully Submitted
Lisa Holm, for
George Nichol, Secretary, CWEMF

ATTENDANCE

Paul Hutton
Rich Satkowski
Nigel Quinn
Tara Smith
Lisa Holm
Marianne Guerin
Peter Baker
Rob Tull
Mike Deas
Lucinda Shih
G. Fred Lee

Convener, MWD
Executive Director, CWEMF
LBNL
DWR
USBR
Vice Convener, RMA
Stillwater Sciences
CH2M-Hill
Watercourse Engineering Inc.
CCWD
GFL & Assoc.

Proxies: Jay Lund, John Williams, Stacy Tanaka

Workshop Title	Status	Workshop Lead	Other Contact(s)	Proposed Date	Comments
D6M2 Version 7 Training	2	Tara Smith		July, August	
Real-time WQ Management on the SJR	3	Nigel Quinn and Lisa			Nigel and Lisa will follow-up on a workshop - there's enough here for at least one
Process Models For Nutrient Dynamics in the Delta	3	Paul Hutton, Marianne Guerin		Early Fall 2009	Cover the current state of model development for nutrient dynamics. Include speakers with expertise on the important processes or measurements.
Dynamic Modeling of Soil Water: Salinity Build-up in California Soils		Marc Gowdy, Les Grober, Glen Hoffman	The State Board will let CWEMF know about timing for their workshop	Fall 2009	has already embarked on the same effort...we (the State Board, head up by myself primarily) are in discussions with them on how to join forces. If it continues in this direction there would likely not be a role for CWEMF, as its already getting crowded with many big names. I would say remove that from the CWEMF list (which is already pretty long). I'll keep CWEMF in mind as we proceed with this effort.
Delta Water Quality Modeling: pollutant transport and transformations	3	G. Fred Lee		Spring 2010	Workshop will review the current understanding the modeling of Delta water quality pollutants transport and transformations that cause violations of water quality objectives and the impairment of the water quality related impairment of Delta beneficial uses. Information will be presented on the need to develop modeling approaches and water quality and water quality data needs to develop water quality models for the Delta. I feel that it would be better to plan on this workshop in the spring of 2010, this fall would be too soon since one of the key reports on Delta water quality issues will not be available till this fall.
Modeling the Delta Smelt and Chinook Salmon Biological Opinions	3	Eric Reyes			Stalled - Eric will keep track
San Joaquin River Restoration Plan	3	Peter Vorster	Rich Satkowski		I think the SJR restoration workshop should wait a bit until perhaps we have done the first interim flow releases scheduled for this fall unless we want to put it into a larger workshop on decision support systems for real-time decision making for environmental flow releases.
CALSIM III	3	Sushil Arora	Eric Reyes	Fall, Winter 2009	MG follow-up with Eric
Groundwater Modeling	3	Brian Heywood	Rich Satkowski		Rich will keep track of this.
Design basis for a practical surface/groundwater model for conjunctive management	3	Hubert Morel-Seytoux		November 2009	Procedures combine analytical techniques with numerical ones, allowing for accuracy while minimizing computational burden. In this way the system can be simulated at the realistic operational time of the day
Sampling for Fishery Models	OFF	John Williams	Rich Satkowski		Ken Newman too busy for now - workshop on indefinite hold. (John Williams said that CALFED is interested in the workshop, which would be 4 hours in a classroom setting and then 4 hours in the field.)
HydroGeoSphere	OFF	George Matangas	Lisa Holm will check		Workshop occurred earlier in year.
Modeling Habitat Restoration	3	Mike Tansley	M. Guerin		Phil Williams Assoc (Michelle Orr, Principal)
Data Visualization	3	Tara Smith		?	
Sediment Transport	3	George Nichols			My hopes are for a workshop that would look at the effects of hydromodification (dams, low impact development, requirements, urban runoff, debris basins) and storm water permits on the transport of needed sediments from the inland watersheds to the fragile coastal beaches and wetlands. I am not quite sure how to go about this yet. I might just start out with some single model presentations like HEC-RAS (which now contains the HEC-6 sediment transport capabilities) and other sediment transport models, and then build on that.
Wadeable Streams	?	Peter Vorster	George Nichols		George will ask Peter if his suggestion was for the modeling of wadeable streams (hydraulic such as velocity and water depth, water temperature, habitat, etc), or for such other aspects such as the monitoring and assessment of aquatic streams, which in a way would support future modeling efforts. The term "wadeable stream" is a category of waterways that has a special significance other than just being able to wade across it. The EPA and SWRCB are doing special monitoring of wadeable streams for macroinvertebrates, algae, physical habitat, etc. to try to develop bio-criteria for them, rather than just have a narrative criteria that says "you must not do anything to hurt the biological habitat".

Status:

- 1 = Schedule finalized or nearly finalized
- 2 = Detailed development underway
- 3 = Concept stage
- 4 = External Group