

# MINUTES

## MEETING OF THE CENTRAL VALLEY FLOOD PROTECTION BOARD

April 25, 2025

NOTE: THE BOARD WILL CONSIDER TIMED ITEMS AS CLOSE AS POSSIBLE TO THE LISTED TIME, BUT NOT BEFORE THE TIME SPECIFIED. UNTIMED ITEMS MAY BE HEARD IN ANY ORDER. THESE MINUTES ARE PRESENTED IN AGENDA ORDER, BUT ITEMS WERE NOT NECESSARILY HEARD IN THAT ORDER.

A regular meeting of the Central Valley Flood Protection Board was held at the California Natural Resources Agency Headquarters, 715 P Street, Room 2-201, Second Floor, Sacramento, California and concurrently online (on WebEx) on April 25, 2025, beginning at 9:04 a.m.

### **Board Members present:**

Jane Dolan, President  
Brian Johnson, Secretary (Remote)  
Betty Andrews  
Joe Countryman (Remote)  
Mary Jane Griego

### **Board Members absent:**

Mike Villines, Vice President  
Keely Bosler

### **Board staff present:**

Chris Lief, Executive Officer  
Andrea Buckley, Deputy Executive Officer, Natural Resource Management and Planning Division  
Kanwarjit (Jit) Dua, General Counsel (Remote)  
Michael Wright, Chief Engineer  
Greg Harvey, Program Manager, Flood System Improvement Branch  
Jonah Knapp, Board Clerk, Executive Assistant  
Jeremiah Peek, Staff Engineer, Deferred Encroachment Compliance Section  
Dustin Sanoski, Senior Engineer, Flood System Improvement Branch  
Selva Selvamohan, Manager, Sacramento Levees Section, Flood System Improvement Branch  
Jamie Silva, Senior Environmental Scientist, Environmental and Land Management Branch  
Kristyne Van Skike, Program Manager, Flood Planning and Programs Branch

### **Department of Water Resources (DWR) staff present:**

Mark List, Supervising Engineering Geologist

**Department of Water Resources (DWR) staff present (continued):**

Justin Logan, Staff Engineer  
Brian Murphy, Senior Engineer

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**Also present:**

Adam Bier, United States Army Corps of Engineers  
Bill Brattain  
Kevin Fellows, HDR  
Chris Fritz, R&F Engineering, Sutter Butte Flood Control Agency  
Juan Gonzalez, United States Army Corps of Engineers  
Brenda Gustin, Save the American River Association  
Cesar Medina, United States Army Corps of Engineers  
Kyle Sanchez, MHM, Levee District 1 (Sutter County), Levee District 9  
Pete Spaulding, American River Trees

**1. ROLL CALL/ESTABLISH A QUORUM (Water Code § 8560)**

Jonah Knapp, Board Clerk and Executive Assistant, called the roll and a quorum was established.

**2. WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Jane Dolan, Board President, welcomed the participants.

Chris Lief, Board Executive Officer, announced that Detta Hunt is retiring in May. She has been with the Board since 2018 and has had a 30-year State career.

Mr. Lief introduced Aaron Bernachi, who joined the Board as a Water Resources Engineer in the Operations Branch Permitting Section.

**3. REVIEW AGENDA**

President Dolan briefly reviewed the agenda.

**4. APPROVE MINUTES – March 28, 2025**

Secretary Johnson moved that that the March 28, 2025 Minutes be approved with a correction to clarify that Item 9A was not an Action item, but rather was Informational.

*Upon **motion** by Secretary Johnson, seconded by Board Member Griego, the Board unanimously approved, by a 5-0 vote, the March 28, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes with that correction (Absent-Villines, Bosler).*

**5. CONSENT ITEMS**

- A. **Approve Permit No. 19473, Stockton East Water District Mormon Slough Weir Replacement, San Joaquin County.  
Humberto Negrete, Board Staff, Operations Branch**
- B. **Approve Permit No. 19896, McPherrin Land Utility Pole #3, Butte County.  
Celina Ortega, Board Staff, Operations Branch**
- C. **Approve Permit No. 19897, McPherrin Land Utility Pole #2, Butte County.  
Celina Ortega, Board Staff, Operations Branch**
- D. **Approve Permit No. 19962, Sacramento County Morrison Creek Bridge Replacement, Sacramento County.  
Celina Ortega, Board Staff, Operations Branch**

*Upon motion by Board Member Griego, seconded by Board Member Andrews, the Board unanimously approved, by a 5-0 vote, Consent Items 5A, 5B, 5C and 5D (Absent-Villines, Bosler).*

## **6. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Bill Brattain commented on his concerns regarding the USACE's Contract 3B. He suggested that the Board, as CEQA lead agency, should ask the various agencies involved to remove Contract 3B from the environmental document and reissue it with a reasonable range of alternatives, as required by CEQA, and include in that the promised bioengineering alternative.

Pete Spaulding and Brenda Gustin, American River Trees, stressed the need to ensure that sufficient time is taken to properly complete the Contract 3B process in a way that culminates with a win-win-win -- erosion control and flood protection that ensures a wild and scenic American River Parkway for generations to come.

## **7. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

- A. **A written update on pertinent State legislation and federal news will be provided.**

President Dolan noted that the Board did receive the written update.

## **8. UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS (USACE)**

- A. **Presentation of the USACE Levee Inspection Results for Feather River right bank – Sutter Bypass east bank, Sutter County.**

Jeremiah Peek, Board Staff Engineer, Deferred Encroachment Compliance Section and Juan Gonzalez, USACE, gave the presentation and answered questions.



Mark List, DWR Supervising Engineering Geologist, and Kyle Sanchez, MHM and Levee Districts 1 (Sutter County) and 9, provided additional information.

## **9. BOARD ITEMS**

### **A. Adopt Resolution 2025-01 for the adoption of the Charter for the Central Valley Flood Protection Board Advisory Committee on Implementation of Habitat-Related Issues Identified in the 2022 Update of the Central Valley Flood Protection Plan.**

Jamie Silva, Board Senior Environmental Scientist, introduced the resolution.

Board Member Andrews and Secretary Johnson provided background on the Advisory Committee.

*Upon **motion** by Board Member Andrews, seconded by Secretary Johnson, the Board unanimously adopted, by a 5-0 vote, Resolution 2025-01 (Absent-Villines, Bosler).*

### **B. Approve Permit No. 19914 for the construction of 1.6 miles of levee cutoff wall for the Tudor Flood Risk Reduction Project on the southern-most portion of the Feather River West Levee.**

### **C. Approve Permit No. 13624-1 for the removal and replacement of an existing 20-inch pressurized pipe due to the construction of a cutoff wall for the Tudor Flood Risk Reduction Project (Permit No. 19914).**

Dustin Sanoski, Board Senior Engineer, Flood System Improvement Branch, introduced Items B and C (same project, different permits) and answered questions. He concluded his remarks with the staff recommendation that the Board adopt the CEQA findings (for both permits), conditionally approve the permits upon receipt of the Letters of Permission and direct the Executive Officer to execute the permits and file the Notices Of Determination with the State Clearinghouse.

Chris Fritz, R&F Engineering and Sutter Butte Flood Control Agency, commented that it is very exciting to reach this milestone on this important project.

Michael Wright, Board Chief Engineer, provided additional clarifying information.

*Upon **motion** by Board Member Griego, seconded by Board Member Andrews, the Board unanimously approved Permits 19914 and 13624-1, by a 5-0 vote (Absent-Villines, Bosler).*

### **D. Informational Briefing on the Sacramento Weir and Bypass Widening Project.**

Selva Selvamohan, Board Sacramento Levees Section Manager; Adam Bier, USACE Engineering Technical Lead for the project; Cesar Medina, USACE Lead Project Engineer; and Kevin Fellows, HDR, provided the briefing and answered questions.

## **10. DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES (DWR) ITEMS**

### **A. Written Report from DWR**

President Dolan noted that the written report was submitted.

### **B. Delta Levee Maintenance Subventions Program – Approve the FY 2023-24 Subventions Program AMENDMENT 2 Funding Allocation Plan.**

Justin Logan, DWR Staff Engineer, provided a brief overview.

*Upon motion by Board Member Griego, seconded by Board Member Andrews, the Board unanimously approved, by a 5-0 vote, the Funding Allocation Plan (Absent-Villines, Bosler).*

### **C. Approve DWR Maintenance Area Budget for FY 2025-26.**

Mark List, DWR Supervising Engineering Geologist, introduced the item.

Brain Murphy, DWR Senior Engineer Specialist, presented details of the actual budget and answered questions.

*Upon motion by Board Member Andrews, seconded by Board Member Griego, the Board unanimously approved, by a 5-0 vote, the FY 2025-26 DWR Maintenance Area Budget to fix the amount of the estimate as presented, pursuant to California Water Code 12878, et seq (Absent-Villines, Bosler).*

## **11. STAFF ACTIVITY REPORTS**

**Written updates regarding the activities of the Board's staff:**

### **A. Executive Staff and Administrative Division**

### **B. Operations Branch**

### **C. Flood System Improvement Branch**

Greg Harvey, Flood System Improvement Branch Program Manager, noted that he and President Dolan attended the TS30L groundbreaking ceremony in Stockton and President Dolan provided some remarks.

### **D. Natural Resource Management and Planning Division**

Kristyne Van Skike, Board Flood Planning and Programs Branch Program Manager, remarked that the public draft Yolo Bypass Cache Slough Master Plan has been released for public comment.

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In addition, President Dolan noted that all written reports had been received.

## **12. BOARD COMMENTS AND UPCOMING COMMITTEE UPDATES**

Board Member Andrews commented that she had participated in one of the Lower American River bank erosion tours with USACE, which was very useful and highly informative.

Board Member Griego updated the Board on the Horseshoe Levee activities.

## **13. UPCOMING MEETINGS**

- **Coordinating Committee, May 20, 2025 (West Sacramento City Hall)**
- **Board Meeting, May 23, 2025 (Location TBD)**
- **Board Meeting, June 13, 2025 (Location TBD)**
- **Advisory Committee, June 24, 2025 (Central Valley Flood Protection Board)**
- **Board Meeting, June 27, 2025 (California Natural Resources Agency Headquarters)**

President Dolan briefly discussed the upcoming meetings.

## **14. CLOSED SESSION**

- A. Pursuant to the authority of Government Code Section 11126 (e)(i). To discuss litigation: Sierra Northern Railway vs. Central Valley Flood Protection Board, et al, Superior Court of the State of California, County of Yolo Case No. CV-2022-0479. (Kanwarjit (Jit) Dua, Board Counsel)**
- B. Pursuant to the authority of Government Code section 11126 (e)(i). To discuss litigation: Liam Meyer v. Central Valley Flood Protection Board, et al., Sacramento County Superior Court Case No. 34-2020-00276397. (Kanwarjit (Jit) Dua, Board Counsel)**
- C. Pursuant to the authority of Government Code section 11126 (e)(i). To discuss litigation: The People of The State vs. Yeung Farms Enterprises, Superior Court of the State of California, County of Yolo CV-2020-330. (Kanwarjit (Jit) Dua, Board Counsel)**
- D. Pursuant to the authority of Government Code section 11126, subdivisions (e)(1), (e)(2)(B)(i), and (e)(2)(C)(i), to consider potential litigation involving the Board. (Kanwarjit (Jit) Dua, Board Counsel)**



- E. Pursuant to the authority of Government Code section 11126, subdivisions (a)(1), to consider personnel matters. (Kanwarjit (Jit) Dua, Board Counsel)

There was no Closed Session.

## 15. CLOSED SESSION REPORT

As there was no Closed Session, there was no Closed Session Report.

## 16. ADJOURNMENT

President Dolan adjourned the Board Meeting at 12:24 p.m.

Dated: 5/23/2025

The foregoing Minutes were approved:



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Brian J. Johnson  
Board Secretary



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Jane Dolan  
Board President