



Merced Integrated Regional Water Management Authority (MIRWMA)

APPROVED BOARD MEETING MINUTES March 13, 2019

CALL TO ORDER

At 2:00 P.M., City of Merced (Mayor Mike Murphy) called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

Present: City of Merced (Mike Murphy) Merced Irrigation District (Jeff Marchini) Merced County (Rodrigo Espinoza), City of Atwater (John Cole)

Absent: City of Livingston

Acting Clerk: Merced Irrigation District (Dominique Zuniga)

WRITTEN PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

None

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None

BOARD ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

1. Acceptance of draft minutes by consensus: October 10, 2018 Board Minutes
2. Acceptance of draft minutes by consensus: January 23, 2019 Board Minutes

Motion was unanimously approved

ACTIONS

1. **Consider Adoption of Resolution MIRWMA 2019-1 approving the 2018 Integrated Regional Plan Update, authorizing the Contra Costa Water District, and Merced Irrigation District to administer certain tasks as applicable for implementation projects, and adopt a Notice of Exempt for purposes of compliance with the California Water Quality Act**
2. **Consider Adoption of Resolution MIRWMA 2019-2 approving the Merced Stormwater Management Plan, authorize the Merced Irrigation District to administer certain tasks as applicable for implementation projects, and adopt a Notice of Exempt for purposes of compliance with the California Water Quality Act**

Leslie Dumas of Woodan and Curran provided a high level summary of the 2018 Integrated Regional Plan Update noting it was previously updated to meet the standards of the Proposition 1 guidelines. Doing so would allow the Merced Integrated Regional Water Management Authority (MIRWMA) and the project components within the Merced IRWM region to be eligible for funding under proposition 1 and simultaneously through the Storm Water Resources Program (SWRP). Ms. Dumas discussed both plans, noting that adopting both would allow MIRWMA to be eligible for funding through two programs: the SWRP through the Storm Water Resources Control Board and the IRWMP through the Department of Water Resources(DWR).

Ms. Dumas discussed the intent of the IRWMP is to help develop a regional understanding of water resources needs and solutions, maximizing benefits through integration and partnerships. There was additional discussion regarding updates and added sections to the plan to ensure all proposition 1 guidelines were met. Additionally staff solicited for projects that folks could request to be included if they were tailored toward water resources and water resources management. The solicited projects were prioritized and presented to the Board at prior workshops where they were soon after implemented into the draft IRWM update and then made available for public review for a period of time.

Ms. Dumas discussed the importance of the Board adopting the IRWM plan in order to seek funding. The San Joaquin funding area is expected to receive an overall \$27M of funding, which is generally competitive. Ms. Dumas noted per the MIRWMA Boards prior request, staff did not accept less than \$3M for the Merced Region, however the DWR is not obligated to accept projects they don't view as qualified.

After further discussion, Ms. Dumas proceeded to provide a brief history of the SWRP and discuss the guidelines. Ms. Dumas noted, staff held a public comment period from February 5, 2019 through March 8, 2019 although it was not required. Ms. Dumas discussed the call for projects for the SWRP were solicited in parallel with the projects for the IRWM plan but the prioritization for the projects were completed separately.

Ms. Dumas briefly discussed some of the proposed projects, however she did mention the website includes a detailed explanation of those projects. It is important to note that some projects ar further along than others.

Public commenter, Richard Harriman of Merced spoke on behalf of the Merced citizens of responsible planning in the San Joaquin Valley environment center. Mr. Harriman discussed the numerous references to the Merced 2515 Urban Water Management Plan previously adopted in 2017. Mr. Harriman requested the rit of mandate petition be included in the record. Mr. Harriman made additional requests and expressed his appreciation to the Board for their time and consideration regarding this item.

After further discussion Merced Irrigation District's Hicham ElTal requested the Board approve Resolution 2019-1 and 2019-2 as presented.

Motion was approved unanimously

1. Consider approval of projects selected by the Regional Advisory Committee to be proposed for IRWM funding.

Merced Irrigation District's Hicham ElTal provided an overview and visual presentation of the proposed projects for IRWM funding. After further discussion Merced Irrigation District's Hicham ElTal requested the Board approve the proposed projects.

Motion was approved unanimously

REPORTS

BUSINESS FROM THE BOARD

None

ADJOURN

Merced County (Rodrigo Espinoza) moved to adjourn the meeting. City of Atwater (John Cole) seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 3:02pm