



# Merced Integrated Regional Water Management Authority (MIRWMA)

## Board of Directors Meeting

AGENDA  
February 9, 2022  
2:00 PM

Merced Irrigation District  
Franklin Yard Facility  
3321 North Franklin Road  
Merced, CA 95348

---

Copies of reports or other written documentation relating to each item of business referred to on the agenda are on file in the office of the Deputy General Manager, Water Supply/Rights, Merced Irrigation District headquarters building.

Any person who has any questions concerning any agenda item may contact the Chairman of the Governing Board at the office of the Deputy General Manager, Water Supply/Rights, Merced Irrigation District.

---

A. CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

B. ROLL CALL

Representatives for: City of Merced, City of Atwater, City of Livingston, Merced Irrigation District, and Merced County

C. WRITTEN PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

D. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

---

At this time, members of the audience may comment on any matter that is not listed on the agenda.

Please state your name and address for the record. The Board will not take action on any item that is brought to their attention during the meeting. If it requires action, it will be referred to staff and/or listed on the next Board agenda.

Please be brief and to the point – preferably speaking a maximum of 5 minutes. Avoid repeating what previous speakers have said.

---

## E. BOARD ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

## F. CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Acceptance of draft minutes by consensus: May 12, 2021 Board minutes.
2. Officer Elections

## G. REPORTS

1. The Board will receive a status update on the California Department of Water Resources Disadvantaged Community Involvement (DACI) Grant.

Staff will provide a presentation regarding the status of a \$200,000 grant for assessment of location, construction and functionality of domestic groundwater wells for disadvantaged community users.

## H. DISCUSSION/ACTIONS

1. Resolution 2022-01

The Board will review and consider authorizing application for Proposition 1 – Round 2 IRWM Implementation grant funding from the California Department of Water Resources, under the Integrated Regional Water Management Program, and further authorize actions relating thereto.

The Board authorized \$2.3M in Round 1, and projects are currently under construction. The final selection of projects for Round 2 will be approved by the Regional Advisory Committee (RAC), which were generally accepted during previous meetings. Round 2, which amounts to \$0.73M, will be the final round for this Proposition 1 Grant.

2. The Board will discuss and consider eligibility and authorization for MIRWMA to complete an audit every 5-years, being a JPA with a budget less than \$150k (currently around \$91K) in Merced County.

## I. BUSINESS FROM THE BOARD

## J. ADJOURN

Any material that are public records that relate to an agenda item and that are distributed to the Board of Directors less than 72 hours prior to the meeting shall be available for public inspection at the offices of the Merced Irrigation District, 744 West 20<sup>th</sup> Street, Merced, CA 95340 during normal business hours. In addition, any materials presented during open session are available for public inspection at the above address.



# Merced Integrated Regional Water Management Authority (MIRWMA)

---

## **UNAPPROVED** BOARD MEETING MINUTES May 12, 2021

**The Merced Integrated Regional Water Management Authority (MIRWMA) met virtually on the above date pursuant to notice at 2:00 P.M., consistent with temporary authorization to deviate from Brown Act meeting guidelines issued through Executive Order by California Governor Gavin Newsom.**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

At 2:00 P.M., Merced County (Daron McDaniel) welcomed those present and called the meeting to order. MIRWMA Board Secretary, Jennifer McMaster made an announcement regarding changes that have been made to the Board meeting procedures in order to make good faith efforts to comply with the Governor's Executive Orders and allow the public the opportunity to observe, participate and comment in the Board's meeting.

Ms. McMaster stated that staff had not received any emails from members of the public requesting a link to the video portion of the meeting or commenting on any agenda item. Ms. McMaster also informed the public of the procedure for submitting comments during the meeting.

### **ROLL CALL**

Present: City of Merced (Mike Murphy), Merced Irrigation District (Jeff Marchini), City of Livingston (Juan Aguilar), City of Atwater (Paul Creighton), Merced County (Daron McDaniel)

Acting Clerk: Merced Irrigation District (Jennifer McMaster)

### **WRITTEN PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

None.

### **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

None.

### **BOARD ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA**

None.

### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. Acceptance of draft minutes by consensus: June 10, 2020 Board Minutes

**On Motion by Merced Irrigation District (Jeff Marchini), seconded by City of Livingston (Juan Aguilar); the Board unanimously approved the minutes as written.**

### **REPORTS**

Matthew Beaman, Merced Irrigation District, Water Resources Regulatory Engineer provided a brief update and overview regarding the development of a domestic well technical assessment within the Merced IRWM Region in an effort to bring fill data gaps that were identified in the Groundwater Sustainability Plan. He noted that the project is being funded by the Department of Water Resources Disadvantaged Community Involvement (DACI) Grant and the study is being conducted by consultants with Woodard and Curran. He noted the initial assessment for the project was completed earlier in the year and that a technical memorandum was released in April 2021. He discussed what he believes will be the next steps following the assessment, including collaboration with Self Help Enterprises, public outreach and at least one workshop.

Mr. Beaman then introduced Jim Blanke the consultant with Woodard and Curran leading the development of the Merced IRWM Region Domestic Well Technical Assessment. Mr. Blanke provided the Board with a presentation including additional background information and an in-depth overview of the results of the assessment. Mr. Blanke provided a comparison of the study to a similar study performed in 2020 by Pace, et al. He then provided a number of recommendations for moving forward including continued collaboration with Merced County to develop a system to link well permitting records with well destruction permit records, physical well tagging, further assessment of old wells for potential removal from results, manual data entry of OSWCR database by street address, and field verification.

The Board asked and staff responded to a number of questions, including questions related to MIRWMA's role in relation to the project.

Kevin Padway, Merced Irrigation District, Associate Engineer provided the Board with a presentation and update regarding the Department of Water Resources (DWR) Proposition 1 IRWM grant funding. He reminded the Board that Proposition 1 (Prop 1) previously authorized approximately \$510 million in IRWM grant funds for agencies throughout the state, \$34 million of that funding was allocated to the San Joaquin River Funding Area (SJRFA). The Merced Region negotiated to receive approximately \$3 million of pre-allocated funding, consistent with past IRWM grant awards to the Region.

Mr. Padway noted that that the Round 1 agreement for the grant funding for the Merced Region was executed on or about February 23, 2021 authorizing approximately \$2.3 million in grant funds for projects within the region. He then discussed the five implementation projects that received a share of the Prop 1, Round 1, grant funding. He noted that those projects are currently underway. He discussed a second round of grant funding and noted approximately \$670,000 in funding available to the Merced region. He noted that DWR has released two deadlines, March 2022 and September 2022. However, those dates may be pushed back due to the Governor's announcement regarding his plan for approximately \$5.1 billion in funding for drought relief. Mr. Padway discussed the Governor's May Budget Revision at length, but noted that it has not yet been adopted and staff would be monitoring for possible future funding associated with his proposal.

Mr. Padway discussed the Regional Advisory Committees (RAC) project recommendations from 2019 for Round 2 grant funding. He discussed each of those projects, but noted that they could be subject to change and that staff would confirm recommendations with the RAC as the grant solicitation approached. Staff would then bring the recommendations back to the Board for further discussion at a future Board meeting.

## **ACTIONS**

Lacey McBride, Merced County, Water Resources Coordinator presented and discussed the proposed FY 2021-2022 MIRWMA budget. Ms. McBride noted that the proposed budget is \$91,329, which is slightly more than last year's budget. She indicated that a majority of the budget is in projects, including technical support services that may include a contract with Woodard and Curran. She noted that the grant proposal portion of the budget also has increased in anticipated costs associated with the implementation grants and projects, with the balance of the budget including support services for coordinator, legal counsel, website, and insurance. Ms. McBride indicated that the budget is otherwise unchanged from FY 2020-2021. Upon adoption of the budget, each member agency shall approve contributions. Ms. McBride noted that member agencies are only anticipated to be invoiced for the funds spent, consistent with prior years.

Ms. McBride requested the Board approve the FY 2020-2021 Budget, as presented. Merced County (Daron McDaniel) solicited public questions and comments, none were provided.

On motion by City of Atwater (Paul Creighton), seconded by City of Livingston (Juan Aguilar); the Board voted unanimously to approve the FY 2021-2022 Budget, as presented. A roll call vote was taken and the votes were as follows:

Ayes:	City of Merced (Mike Murphy), Merced Irrigation District (Jeff Marchini), City of Livingston (Juan Aguilar), City of Atwater (Paul Creighton), Merced County (Daron McDaniel)
Noes:	None
Abstain:	None
Absent:	None

Hicham Eltal, Merced Irrigation District, Deputy General Manager Water Rights/Water Supply, discussed proposed changes to the Boards current meeting schedule. He noted that the Board is currently scheduled to meet once per month. However, the need for a meeting is dependent on available funds and actions at the state level and therefore monthly meetings are often cancelled. Mr. Eltal asked that the Board consider meeting on a quarterly basis, as needed.

Upon further discussion, the City of Atwater (Paul Creighton) made a motion to approve changes to the Boards meeting schedule, as presented. The motion was seconded by the City of Livingston (Juan Aguilar) and the Board voted unanimously to approve. A roll call vote was taken and the votes were as follows:

Ayes:	City of Merced (Mike Murphy), Merced Irrigation District (Jeff Marchini), City of Livingston (Juan Aguilar), City of Atwater (Paul Creighton), Merced County (Daron McDaniel)
Noes:	None
Abstain:	None
Absent:	None

**BUSINESS FROM THE BOARD**

None.

**ADJOURN**

Meeting adjourned at 2:54PM.

**MERCED INTEGRATED REGIONAL  
WATER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY  
RESOLUTION NO. 2022-1**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MERCED INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER  
MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY AUTHORIZING EXECUTION AND SUBMISSION OF A GRANT  
APPLICATION TO THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES FOR THE 2021  
INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT GRANT PROGRAM, ROUND 2 FUNDING;  
AUTHORIZING THE MERCED IRRIGATION DISTRICT TO ADMINISTER SUBMITTAL AND  
IMPLEMENTATION THEREOF; AND AUTHORIZING OTHER ACTIONS RELATING THERETO**

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) is soliciting applications for Round 2 of the 2021 Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Grant Program Pursuant to the Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 (Water Code § 79700 *et seq.*); and

**WHEREAS**, the Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 is funded by Proposition 1; and

**WHEREAS**, the Merced Integrated Regional Water Management Authority (MIRWMA) has solicited projects from local interests through the process of updating the Merced Region Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP); and

**WHEREAS**, the California Department of Water Resources has determined that the Merced Region's IRWMP is consistent with the 2016 IRWM guidelines; and

**WHEREAS**, the Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) agreed, by consensus, for certain high priority projects to be included in the 2021 IRWM grant application; and

**WHEREAS**, said selected projects were determined to fit multiple objectives identified in the IRWMP, including but not limited to addressing disadvantaged community needs and preparing for climate change impacts; and

**WHEREAS**, MIRWMA's core function is to solicit and work with various stakeholders to select the most efficient projects providing multiple benefits for the local community and solicit funding for such projects; and

**WHEREAS**, MIRWMA will not request advanced funding for the implementation work and will request and authorize the Merced Irrigation District to administer the submittal, execution and administration of agreements similar to previous grants undertaken by the Merced IRWM Region.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, the Governing Board of the Merced Integrated Regional Water Management Authority hereby authorizes a proposal to be executed and submitted to

the California Department of Water Resources to obtain a Round 2 2021 Integrated Regional Water Management Grant Pursuant to the Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 (Water Code § 79700 et seq.); and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Governing Board of the Merced Integrated Regional Water Management Authority authorizes the Merced Irrigation District (MID) and endorses the actions by the MID to prepare the necessary data, conduct investigations, and all necessary documents to file such application, and to execute and administer a grant agreement with the California Department of Water Resources for and on the behalf of the Merced Integrated Regional Water Management Authority and the Merced IRWM Region.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of the Merced Integrated Regional Water Management Joint Power Authority, this 9th day of February, 2022, by the following vote:

Ayes:	Members:
Noes:	Members:
Abstain:	Members:
Absent:	Members:

---

Mike Murphey  
Chair  
City of Merced

---

Daron McDaniel  
Vice Chair  
County of Merced