

EXHIBIT 23-A

FINAL MINUTES

**Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project
Governance Committee
March 13, 2013**

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm in the MPWMD conference room.

Members present: Robert MacLean, California-American Water (Cal-Am)
Jason Burnett, Monterey Peninsula Regional Water Authority (MPRWA)
David Potter, County of Monterey (County)
Robert Brower, Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD)

Public Comments: Sue McCloud suggested that in order to meet timelines specified in the Governance Agreement, the Governance Committee (Committee) should develop a protocol for determining which issues require discussion/recommendation from the MPRWA Technical Advisory Committee prior to consideration by the Committee.

Agenda Items

The Chair received public comment on each agenda item.

1. Election of Governance Committee Chair and Vice Chair

On a motion by Brower and second of Potter, Burnett was elected to the position of Committee Chair. The motion was approved unanimously on a vote of 3 – 0 by Brower, Potter and Burnett.

On a motion of Potter and second of Burnett, Brower was elected to the position of Committee Vice Chair. The motion was approved unanimously on a vote of 3 – 0 by Brower, Potter and Burnett.

2. Design-Build Request for Qualifications (RFQ) – Selection Criteria and Qualifications

No action taken. Richard Svindland, Vice President of Engineering for California American Water, reviewed the draft outline of the RFQ and list of qualifications and selection criteria. He responded to questions from the Committee and public. The draft RFQ will be submitted for Committee review and action at the March 20, 2013 meeting.

3. Brief Discussion on Cal-Am Progress Regarding 8 “Conditions” of Support

No discussion. This item was removed from the agenda.

4. Discuss Process and Timeline for Parties Agreeing to Criteria for “GWR Recommendation” as described in Category A1 of Governance Agreement

There was consensus among the Committee members that Burnett, on behalf of the Committee, should send a letter to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) expressing support for the CPUC to conduct a workshop on Groundwater Replenishment. The Committee members agreed that it would be premature to develop a timeline, as criteria are still being developed. Brower noted that the MPWMD’s suggested criteria are: complete and certify EIR for GWR at CEQA level; water rights secured for recommended project; public support from

Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency (MRWPCA), MPRWA, MPWMD, individual cities and Seaside Basin Watermaster; cost estimate for capital and O&M costs suggesting what the cost per acre-foot will be; time estimate for project start up no later than January 2017 or the desal project start-up date; and permit status is consistent with the project schedule. Burnett listed four additional criteria suggested by MRWPCA: completion of project design; receipt of state SRF loans, project funding plan at an intermediate level; and commitment to purchase water.

5. Discuss and Provide Direction on Engaging with the Waste Management District Concerning Procurement of Power as Described in Category B4 of Governance Agreement

Burnett stated that the title of this item should refer to Category A4, not B4. The Committee members agreed that Burnett, on behalf of the Committee, should send a letter of interest to the Monterey Regional Waste Management District and invite a representative to attend a subsequent Committee meeting.

6. Review “Matters Subject to Governance Committee Action” in the Agreement and Develop a Working Calendar for Agenda Items

At the March 20, 2013 meeting, the following items will be placed on the agenda: (1) review Cal-Am’s plan and timeline for architectural student teams from California Polytechnic State University San Luis Obispo to design facilities to be located at the desalination plant site, and develop a plan to provide design teams with guidance on architectural preferences; and (2) review Cal-Am’s draft design-build RFQ and make recommendations relating to the qualifications and selection criteria for the contract. Future items could be: (1) by July or August the committee should review the final RFP for installation of slant test well; and (2) discuss the concept of community outreach at any time in the future.

7. Complete the Party Distribution List for Future Meeting Notices

The committee requested that the distribution list be expanded to include the MPRWA agenda distribution list, and interveners in Cal-Am’s application to the CPUC No. 12-04-019. To request notice of future meetings, contact Arlene Tavani at arlene@mpwmd.net or 831-658-5652.

8. Discussion of Range or Breadth of Future Governance Committee Meeting Notification

No discussion as the topic was covered under item 7.

9. Next Meeting Date

Burnett announced that the next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, March 20, 2013 at 4 pm in the MPWMD conference room.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm.