

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

<u>City of Stockton</u> Michael Blower, Vice-Chair Brando Villapudua Alt. Mariela Ponce	<u>Public Member</u> Steve DeBrum	<u>San Joaquin County/SJCFCWCD*</u> Paul Canepa, Chair Sonny Dhaliwal* Alt. Robert Rickman
<u>City of Manteca</u> Gary Singh Charlie Halford Alt. Mike Morowit	<u>Executive Director</u> Darren Suen, PE	<u>City of Lathrop</u> Diane Lazard Steve Dresser Alt. Jennifer Torres-O'Callaghan
*San Joaquin County Flood Control and Water Conservation District		

BOARD MEETING
San Joaquin Council of Governments
Council Chambers
555 E Weber Ave. Stockton, CA
THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 2025, 1:00 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

2. PLEDGE TO FLAG

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

4. CONSENT ITEMS

- 4.1) Approve Minutes from March 13, 2025, Board Meeting

5. NEW BUSINESS

6. INFORMATIONAL BRIEFING

- 6.1) Lower San Joaquin River Project
a. SJAFCA staff and consultant team will provide an informational briefing about the Lower San Joaquin River Project.

7. ORAL REPORT FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

8. BOARD QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, ACTIONS

9. COUNSEL REPORT

10. CLOSED SESSION

10.1) Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to § 54956.9(d)(4): (1) Case

11. ADJOURNMENT

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the meeting room is wheelchair accessible and disabled parking is available. If you have a disability and need disability-related modifications or accommodations to participate in this meeting, please contact the Board's office at (209) 299-4200. Requests must be made one full business day before the start of the meeting.

Agenda Item 4.1

MINUTES
SAN JOAQUIN AREA FLOOD CONTROL AGENCY
BOARD MEETING OF MARCH 13, 2025

STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL 1:01 PM

Present:	Absent:
Director Blower	Director Singh
Director Canepa	Director Villapudua
Director DeBrum	
Director Dhaliwal	
Director Dresser	
Director Halford	
Director Lazard	

Vice Chair Blower called the meeting to order.

2. PLEDGE TO FLAG 1:02 PM

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS 1:02 PM

Dominick Gulli submitted written comments.

4. CONSENT ITEMS 1:10 PM

4.1) Approve Minutes from January 30, 2025, Board Meeting

Motion:	To approve Consent Items 4.1
Moved by:	Director Halford, Seconded by Director DeBrum
Vote:	Motion carried 7-0
Yes:	Director Blower, Director Canepa, Director DeBrum, Director Dhaliwal, Director Dresser, Director Halford, Director Lazard
Absent:	Director Singh, Director Villapudua

5. NEW BUSINESS 1:10 PM

5.1) Adopt Resolution to accept Independent Auditor's Report and Financial Statements for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024.

Sylvia Razniak introduced the San Joaquin Area Flood Control Agency's auditors, Jeff Stone and Shelvina Bains with Schwartz, Giannini, Lantsberger & Adamson, who presented the financial audit results.

In August, 2023, the sale of the two series of bonds resulted in the aggregate principal amount of \$27,730,000. The revenue bonds generated resulted from the successful Prop 218 Ballot. The Board of Directors authorized the issuance and sale of Assessment Revenue Bonds to finance flood control improvements for the LCMA District. Details of the revenue bonds are subject to the fiscal year 2024 financial statement audit.

There were no significant changes to accounting policies during the year ending June 30, 2024. They noted no transactions entered into by the Agency during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

They encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing their audit.

Professional standards require them to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are clearly trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. The total impact of uncorrected misstatements was an understatement of net position of \$2,135. Management has determined that their effects are immaterial.

There were no disagreements with management during the audit.

The auditor's explained they have given a "clean opinion" with no findings.

Public Comment: Dominick Gulli submitted written comments.

Motion: Adopt a Resolution to accept Independent Auditor's Report and Financial Statements for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024
Moved by: Director Halford, Seconded by Director DeBrum
Vote: Motion carried 7-0
Yes: Director Blower, Director Canepa, Director DeBrum, Director Dhaliwal, Director Dresser, Director Halford, Director Lazard
Absent: Director Singh, Director Villapudua

6. BRIEFINGS 1:25 PM

6.1) Flood Risk in the San Joaquin River Basin

a. SJAFCA staff and R&F Engineering will provide an overview of the flood risk in the San Joaquin River Basin.

Executive Director Darren Suen introduced consultant Mike Rossiter of R&F Engineering.

Mr. Rossiter gave an overview of the history and current system of flood protection in the San Joaquin River Basin, ... "To manage flood risk in the Central Valley, dams, levees, weirs, bypasses, and other features have been constructed over the last 150 years by local, State, and federal agencies."

In 2007, CA Senate Bill 5 passed requiring all urban and urbanizing areas of the Central Valley must meet 200-year flood protection standards.

Examples of extreme flood events were shown.

Current SJAFCA-led flood risk reduction initiatives include Lower San Joaquin River Project – Phase 1, which is the Smith Canal Gate Project, the Mossdale Tract Area

Urban Flood Risk Reduction (UFRR) Project, and the Paradise Cut Bypass Expansion and Multi-Benefit Project. More details on these projects will be provided later in the meeting.

Public Comment: Artie Valencia provided public comment.

She shared that the consensus at a recent CA Assembly Water, Parks, and Wildlife Committee informational hearing she attended was that there is not enough being done to prevent flooding of the San Joaquin River. Ms. Valencia is in support of SJAFCA's projects.

6.2) Smith Canal Gate Operations and Maintenance

a. SJAFCA staff and consultant team will provide an informational briefing about the operations and maintenance, covering interim and long-term plans and responsibilities.

Juan Neira provided an overview of the operations of the Smith Canal Gate and maintenance. The Gate will remain open allowing for tidal movement and recreational boating. The Gate will be closed for high tide and flow events forecasted to exceed elevation 8 feet, for emergencies and for operations and maintenance activities.

Safety measures have been implemented to aid navigation through the Gate. These measures meet the U.S. Coast Guard and California Department of Boating and Waterways requirements. Safety features include signs, lights, and a siren. Boaters must follow the rules and regulations stated in the State's Guide to Boating Law and Safety.

Interim gate operations will involve SJAFCA staff, some consultants, and a small crew from the contractor. A consultant will monitor the forecasting stations, while agency staff will determine when to close the gate. An Agency communications consultant, in coordination with city and county staff, will inform the public and relevant agencies about the opening and closing of the gate. Additionally, an Agency consultant, working with the contractor's crew, will handle the actual closing and opening of the gate.

The gate's closure will be confirmed two days before the anticipated event. Once the closure is confirmed, the boat launch at the end of Dad's Point will also be closed. The gate will be shut at low tide prior to the forecasted high event.

The next steps will include completing the necessary ancillary work, training the county O&M crew, and collaborating with county staff to finalize the Operations and Maintenance (O&M) agreement. Ultimately, all O&M activities will be transferred to the San Joaquin County Flood Control and Water Conservation District.

Public Comment: Dominick Gulli submitted written comments.

6.3) Paradise Cut Bypass Expansion and Multi-Benefit Project

a. SJAFCA staff and consultant team will present an overview of the Paradise Cut Bypass Expansion and Multi-Benefit Project.

Glenn Prasad gave an overview of the Paradise Cut Bypass Expansion and Multi-Benefit Project and introduced Ric Reinhardt with Wood Rodgers, later in the presentation.

The objective of this project is to reduce catastrophic flood risk, protect farms and uncontrolled flooding, restore riverine habitats, improve irrigation intake reliability and waterway navigability, and improve water supply.

Consultant Ric Reinhardt, of Wood Rodgers, presented further information.

The team is currently preparing a Feasibility Study that is funded by the Department of Water Resources. The next phase, which will include: design and permitting and acquisition of conservation and flood easements, will be dependent on funding. Construction and long term monitoring would be funded in a follow on phase.

The project is overseen by the Paradise Cut Advisory Committee and the Paradise Cut Management Team, which consists of representatives from surrounding Reclamation Districts, Central Valley Flood Protection Board, South Delta Water Agency, Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy, American Rivers, the City of Tracy, The Department of Water Resources, and San Joaquin Area Flood Control Agency as the study Lead.

The SJAFCA Board of Directors has already approved various actions to advance the project including delegating authority to the Executive Director to narrow the range of alternatives from seven to three. Today, multiple alternatives were presented. The Team made a recommendation on a final array of three alternative designs that the PCMT is considering.

The next steps will be to draft an alternative formulation and screening technical memorandum, an evaluation and comparison of alternatives memo, and draft Feasibility Report.

John Herrick, Chair of the Paradise Cut Advisory Committee and Sarah Puckett, Vice-Chair, made comments in support of the study and were available to answer questions and provide input regarding the project.

7. ORAL REPORT FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR 3:04 PM

- a. Groundbreaking for the TS30L segment will be during the week of 4/18.
- b. Phase A 65% plan review was a successful team effort by the SJAFCA team, USACE Sacramento and St. Paul districts.
- c. The USACE Executive Leadership Briefing was productive.
- d. Executive Director and Deputy Executive Director had productive meetings in Washington DC with USACE HQ, the Acting Assistant Secretary of the Army, Senator Padilla's, and Representative Gray's offices.

8. BOARD QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, ACTIONS 3:14 PM

None.

9. COUNSEL REPORT 3:14 PM

Will hold until next month.

10. CLOSED SESSION 3:15 PM

10.1) CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATIONS (Government Code Section 54956.8). [(1) Charles Weber (Calaveras River): (a) APN 102-010-050 - 20.19 Acres; (b) APN 104-010-060 – 13.97 Acres; (c) APN 102-010-040 – 1.71 Acres. Total acreage is 35.87 Acres] Agency Negotiators: [Darren Suen, Executive Director; Omar Al-Hindi, Executive Project Manager; Rebekah Green, BRI, Scott Shapiro, General Counsel]. Under Negotiation: Price

Public Comment: None.

RECONVENED AT: 3:22 PM

REPORT OUT: The Weber family has considered the counteroffer and has accepted. All terms have been resolved.

11. ADJOURNMENT 3:22 PM

The meeting adjourned at 3:22pm. The next meeting will be a Regular Board Meeting to be held on April 10, 2025 at 1pm.

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DARREN SUEN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
SAN JOAQUIN AREA FLOOD
CONTROL AGENCY

March 13, 2025, SJAFCA Meeting Minutes

**End of
Agenda Packet**