MONTEREY COUNTY WATER RESOURCES AGENCY
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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:
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Wini Chambliss, Clerk to the Board
Jesse Avila, Deputy County Counsel

SPECIAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
INTERLAKE TUNNEL PROJECT WORKSHOP

DATE: Monday, August 25, 2014
TIME: 9:30 A.M.
PLACE: Monterey County Water Resources Agency – Board Room
893 Blanco Circle
Salinas, CA 93901
(831) 755-4896
Monday, August 25, 2014
9:30 A.M.

SPECIAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
INTERLAKE TUNNEL PROJECT WORKSHOP

AGENDA

Staff reports relative to the agenda items listed below will be available for public review at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 21, 2014 at the Monterey County Water Resources Agency (Agency), 893 Blanco Circle, Salinas. If additional documents are produced by the Agency and provided to a majority of the Board regarding any item on the agenda after staff reports have been distributed, they will be available at the Agency during normal business hours and posted on the Agency website at http://www.mcwra.co.monterey.ca.us/BOD/BOD/AgendaCurrent_n.htm. For additional information, please contact Wini Chambliss, Clerk to the Board, at (831) 755-4896.

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS
   (Limited to three minutes per speaker within Monterey County Water Resources Agency jurisdiction and not listed on the agenda. Members of the Public will have the opportunity to ask questions or make statements on agenda items as they are considered by the Board.)

4. INFORMATIONAL WORKSHOP ON THE INTERLAKE TUNNEL PROJECT
   David Chardavoyne, General Manager, will lead an informational workshop on the Interlake Tunnel Project.
   A. Background information about the Interlake Tunnel Project (Project)
   B. Current activities and accomplishments
   C. Next Steps
   D. Questions

5. BOARD OF DIRECTORS’ COMMENTS

6. ADJOURNMENT
TODAY'S ACTION

Consider Receiving a Project Status Report on the Interlake Tunnel Project

Prior BOD/BOS Action

- June 3, 2014 – Agency made a formal request to County BOS for funds to move this project forward
  - Action
    - Direction was given to negotiate and enter into a Funding Agreement between the Agency and the County.
    - $500,000 was provided to research feasibility of Project and bring results back
      - Results regarding:
        » How much water is available?
        » Water Rights Analysis
Discussion

- Interlake Tunnel Project would connect existing Agency reservoir facilities to increase effectiveness

- Project was studied in 1991 as part of a County-wide "Water Capital Facilities Plan"

- Timing is of the essence – reservoir levels are low, thus reducing construction costs
Nacimiento Reservoir receives approximately three times more inflow than San Antonio Reservoir.
Discussion (cont.)

Interlake Tunnel Transfers Water to San Antonio Reservoir

Capturing Additional Water otherwise lost to Flood Control Releases.
Reducing Flood Control Releases from Nacimiento Reservoir.

Potential Flows Available for Transfer

Tunnel has adequate capacity.
Tunnel maximum flow capacity = 1,500 CFS
Reservoir Spill Events – Based on Preliminary Modeling of Historic Inflows Without Tunnel

14 Years with Reservoir Spill Events over 47-year Period of Record
Average Annual Spill Approximately 35,000 Acre-Feet

Interlake Tunnel Would Reduce Number of Flood Events

9 Years with Reservoir Spill Events over 47-year Period of Record
35% Reduction in Number of Reservoir Spill Events
Average Annual Spill Approximately 27,000 Acre-Feet
Interlake Tunnel will Provide an Opportunity for Increased Environmental and Conservation Releases

Average Annual Benefit Estimated in the Range of 6,000 – 12,000 Acre-Feet per Year

Interlake Tunnel Benefits

- Captures additional water and improves utilization of San Antonio Reservoir storage capacity
  - The amount of increased storage for drought protection, had the tunnel been in place over the period analyzed, has not yet been determined in the modeling work to date.

- Improves flood control by reducing flood releases
  - The maximum amount of flow through the tunnel in the wettest year, had the tunnel been in place over the period analyzed, has not yet been determined in the modeling work to date.
The Interlake Tunnel Project:

"Converts Flood Control releases to Environmental and Conservation releases over time"

Response to BOS Questions:
- Modeling work under contract began July 11, 2014

- Preliminary modeling results indicate a 10' diameter tunnel has the capacity to transfer additional water to San Antonio Reservoir

- Preliminary modeling results have demonstrated additional water is available for capture using the Interlake Tunnel, but more modeling work is needed

- Water Rights...
Discussion (cont.)

- Water Rights Questions:
  - Do we need a new water right?
  - Can we use the existing water rights?
    - If so, what changes might be needed?
    - How difficult is this process?
    - How long might it take?
    - How much might it cost?
    - Are permits needed from agencies other than the SWRCB?

Discussion (cont.)

- Preliminary Answers to Water Rights Questions:
  - Existing water rights probably can be used
    - Depends on engineering and operational questions that are still being evaluated
    - Probably a number of technical changes to the water rights (again, dependent on engineering)
    - Probably not too costly (depends if there is opposition)
    - Relatively quick (i.e. less than five years, not a decade)
    - Additional permits, again dependent on engineering
Discussion (cont.)

- Next Steps
  - Hold Public Workshop after additional modeling is completed
  - Report back to BOD/BOS August 26, 2014

Summary

- Preliminary modeling work has provided positive results
- More modeling and design work is necessary to better evaluate feasibility and cost benefit
- Water Rights efforts not onerous, depending if there is any opposition
- Project converts Flood Control releases to Environmental and Conservation releases