

Board Workshop

EDCWA 2019 WRDMP / 184031088

Date/Time: October 9, 2019 / 9:00 AM

Place: *El Dorado County Board of Supervisors Meeting Room; 330 Fair Lane, Placerville, CA 95667*

(Due to power outage, the board workshop was held outside of the meeting room; power supply was provided by a portable power bank provided by Stantec.)

Notes: The purpose of the workshop was to provide the Board with a comprehensive review of El Dorado County Water Agency's (Agency) development of the 2019 Water Resources Development and Management Plan (WRDMP), including its process, findings and recommendations. The workshop was also used to solicit the Board's guidance for the Agency's implementation of the WRDMP.

WRDMP Feedback: The following are notes and comments received from the Board workshop.

- **Welcome and Agenda Review**

- No comments received.

- **Modernization for the WRDMP**

- No comments received.

- **Summary of the WRDMP**

- Water Supply-Demand Imbalance for the West Slope
 - A Board member commented on the results, and stated that our future generations will be the ones affected by the water supply-demand imbalance. Given the range of results from different scenarios, the takeaway message is how and what will El Dorado County do to prepare for the future to secure water supplies. The nexus between headwaters management and water resources was brought up to highlight that efforts can be made to improve future water supplies. For example, with adequate headwater management, the water available as snowpack can be improved.
 - A Board member referenced ongoing work by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to state that scientists believe that a cooling cycle may occur in the future such that there will be more a lot more snowmelt. A question was asked on whether the WRDMP should have a clause of what should be done in El Dorado County to adapt if this cooling cycle does occur instead of a warming trend? It was clarified that the intent of the material presented for the water supply-demand imbalance was to provide awareness of what could happen in the future and therefore determine how the situation may be handled. Results presented from studies will continue to evolve as more information becomes available, the key for El Dorado County is to remain flexible as change occurs.

- **Implementation of the WRDMP**

- No comments received.

- **Next Steps**

- With the completion of the WRDMP, the steps that follow were reviewed.
- The Board members expressed their satisfaction with the WRDMP. The WRDMP is thorough and integrated information and policies well.
- RMS7: Improve Drought Preparedness and Responses was reviewed. The intent of RMS7 is to improve drought preparedness and response in El Dorado County, to reduce the vulnerability that communities may face during a drought. For example, the Agency is part of a small work group lead by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) geared towards developing scores to access exposure and vulnerability to drought and water shortages for small water suppliers and rural communities. The Agency's involvement in the small work group is to assure that mountain communities are well represented in this process. The involvement of El Dorado County Irrigation District (EID) and the County of El Dorado on the development of the West Slope Regional Drought Contingency Plan was also explained - EID and the Agency applied for and won a WaterSMART grant. The WaterSMART grant was available to Central Valley Contractors. The County of El Dorado will be involved as it helps manage the small public water systems. A comment was made that water is wholesaled to the City of Placerville, and the question was asked on whether the City of Placerville will be involved in the Drought Contingency Plan? It was stated that the City of Placerville could be invited to participate in the process, there is recognition to get the City of Placerville involved.
- A question was asked on whether efficiencies were considered in the agricultural and municipal and industrial water demand estimates. It was discussed that both water demand estimates did include conservation estimates (ei. irrigation efficiencies and the California Urban Water Conservation Law: 20 by 2020). Even though efficiencies were considered, there needs to be flexibility moving forward. Technical memorandums are underdevelopment describing the water demand estimates for municipal and industrial water use and agricultural water use.
- The nexus between wildfires and water resources was explained. Wildfires can impair water quality and cause damage to water conveyance infrastructure. The current conversation for wildfires is centered around environmental impacts and fire damage, the discussion on how water supply is affected by wildfires is not active. The Agency can help provide direction on nexus between water supply impacts and wildfires in ongoing watershed/headwater management groups.
- The consolidation of Agencies to support the drought response was discussed. With regards to the drought preparedness the Agency would help existing efforts, in addition to providing and sharing available resources .
- Water quality degradation from pharmaceuticals and septic tanks was discussed. It was asked if this was covered in the WRDMP and how the expansion of septic tanks will be limited. At the moment there is no plan of how to address water quality issues in El Dorado County. The WRDMP currently frames water quality degradation.
- RMS8:Ensure All Residents Have Water Accessibility and Affordable Water was reviewed. Comment was made that this is a tough one since the state limits the amount of water that is

available and the community is afraid to use it. There needs to be better understanding on water affordability and quantity and there needs to be more advocacy.

- The WRDMP identified the issues of El Dorado County, now they need to be resolved together. The WRDMP has established the collaboration.
- No comments were received by the public.
- No revisions were requested on the plan.

Action Items:

- Schedule a meeting with the El Dorado Irrigation District Board to brief them on the efforts that have been with the WRDMP. This meeting should be scheduled before the next 2x2 Meeting, scheduled for next month.

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 AM





COMMENT CARD

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Comprehensive Planning! Best we have ever done. It's dynamic so one can return & adjust as events change perspectives.

Competition for water is intensifying and will increase. Comprehensive planning gives us the best opportunity to insure water in the future.