

# REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

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## RULES FOR PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### INTRODUCTION

These are the rules for proceedings of meetings of the Board of Directors of the Regional Water Authority (“Authority”), which are authorized by Section 17 of the Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement forming the Authority, dated July 1, 2001 (“JPA Agreement”). The purposes of these rules are to facilitate public participation during meetings of the Board, protect the rights of all Directors, and to provide a process for conducting Board meetings in an orderly and efficient manner. The provisions of the JPA Agreement, the Community Services District Law (see Section 7.a.12 of the JPA Agreement, and Government Code sections 61000, et seq.), the Brown Act (Government Code section 54950, et seq.) and any other law governing the powers and/or proceedings of the Authority will control over any inconsistent provision contained in these rules.

### RULE 1 - SELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Chair and Vice-Chair of the Board will be elected by the members of the Board for a one-year term commencing immediately upon conclusion of the meeting where the election was held. The election will be held prior to January 31 each year. The procedures that the Board will follow for the election of Chair and the Vice-Chair are set forth in the “Procedures for Selection of the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors and the Chair and the Vice-Chair of the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors” (attached as **Exhibit 1**, as amended by the Board from time to time, “Election Procedures”).

The Board will by majority vote appoint, considering the recommendation of the Executive Director of the Authority, a Secretary and a Treasurer, who will serve at the pleasure of the Board. (See JPA Agreement Section 18, and Government Code sections 61002 and 61050(b).)

## **RULE 2 - DUTIES OF CHAIR OF BOARD**

The Chair of the Board of Directors will be its presiding officer. (See JPA Agreement Section 18, and Government Code section 61043(b).) The Chair's duties will include, but not be limited to, the following: acting as the liaison between the Executive Director and the Board and the Executive Committee, calling special meetings of the Board and the Executive Committee, presiding over meetings of the Board and the Executive Committee, establishing and appointing committees of the Board and the Executive Committee (except that, the members of the Executive Committee will be appointed in accordance with the procedures set forth in the Election Procedures), and appointing representatives of the Authority to associations of which the Authority is a member. The Board will appoint representatives of the Authority to joint powers authorities of which the Authority is a member. In the Chair's absence, the Vice-Chair of the Board will perform such duties. (See JPA Agreement Section 18.)

## **RULE 3 - TIME AND PLACE FOR REGULAR MEETINGS**

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors will be held in the boardroom of the Authority's office, 5620 Birdcage Street, Suite 110, Citrus Heights, California, or at such other locations within the Authority as designated by the Executive Committee from time to time on the second Thursday of odd-numbered months, commencing at 9 a.m., or a later time specified by the Executive Committee. The location, day and time for holding regular meetings may be changed by the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee from time to time. If a regular meeting falls on a holiday (as listed in Government Code section 6700), the meeting will be held on the day designated by the Board or the Executive Committee. (See Government Code section 54954(a).)

## **RULE 4 - QUORUM REQUIREMENTS**

A majority of all of the members of the Board will constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. (See JPA Agreement Section 13.)

## **RULE 5 - MAJORITY VOTE**

A majority of all of the members of the Board will be required to approve any resolution or motion, unless a different voting requirement to approve a particular action is specified under State law or the JPA Agreement. (See JPA Agreement Section 13.)

## **RULE 6 - WHAT CONSTITUTES AN AFFIRMATIVE VOTE**

Unless a Director is not voting because of a conflict of interest, a Director who is present will be deemed to have voted in the affirmative on a matter unless the Director votes against the measure by casting a "no" vote. An "abstain" vote will constitute an "aye" vote. (See *Dry Creek Valley Association, Inc. v. Board of Supervisors* (1977) 67 Cal.App.3d 839.) When calling for the vote on a motion, the Chair of the Board may (1) ask for the "aye" and "no" votes, or (2) ask if there is any opposition, since the remaining Directors present will be deemed to have voted in the affirmative unless they are not

voting due to a conflict of interest.

## **RULE 7 - CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

A member of the Board may not make, participate in making or in any way attempt to use his or her official position to influence a decision of the Board of Directors in which he or she knows or has reason to know that he or she has a financial interest. (Government Code section 87100.) Generally, a Director has a financial interest in a matter if it is reasonably foreseeable that the Board decision would have a material financial effect (as defined by the Fair Political Practices Commission's [FPPC] regulations) that is distinguishable from the effect on the public generally, involving dollar amount set by FPPC regulations from time to time, on (a) a business entity in which the Director has a direct or indirect investment, in the amount specified in FPPC regulations, (b) real property in which the Director has a direct or indirect investment interest, with a worth in the amount specified in FPPC regulations or, (c) a source of income of the Director, in the amount specified in FPPC regulations, within twelve months before the Board decision, (d) a source of gifts to the Director, in the amount specified in FPPC regulations, within twelve months before the Board decision, or (e) a business entity in which the Director holds a position as a director, trustee, officer, partner, manager or employee. An "indirect interest" means any investment or interest owned by the spouse or dependent child of the Director, by an agent on behalf of the Director, or by a business entity or trust in which the Director, or the Director's spouse, dependent child or agent owns directly, indirectly or beneficially a ten percent interest or greater. (Government Code section 87103.)

If a member of the Board believes he or she may be disqualified from participation in the discussion, deliberations or vote on a particular matter due to a conflict of interest, the following procedure will be used: (a) if the Director becomes aware of the potential conflict of interest before the Board meeting at which the matter will be discussed or acted on, the Director will notify the Executive Director of the potential conflict of interest, so that a determination can be made whether it is a disqualifying conflict of interest; (b) if it is not possible for the Director to discuss the potential conflict with the Executive Director before the meeting, or if the Director does not become aware of the potential conflict until during the meeting, the Director will immediately disclose the potential conflict during the Board meeting, so that there can be a determination whether it is a disqualifying conflict of interest; and (c) upon a determination that a disqualifying conflict of interest exists, the Director (1) will not participate in the discussion, deliberation or vote on the matter for which a conflict of interest exists; and (2) unless the matter has been placed on the consent calendar, leave the Board room until after the discussion, vote or any other disposition of the matter has been concluded, except that the Director may speak on the matter during the time that the general public speaks on the matter. In such a case, the Board minutes will state: "Due to a potential conflict of interest, Director \_\_\_\_\_ left the boardroom and did not participate in the discussion, deliberation or vote on this matter."

## **RULE 8 - MOTIONS**

The three steps for bringing a motion before the Board are: (a) a Director makes a motion, (b) another Director seconds the motion, and (c) the Chair states the motion. Once the motion has been stated by the Chair, it is open to formal discussion. While only one motion can be considered at a time, and a pending motion must be disposed of before any other question is considered, (a) a pending motion may be amended before it is voted on, either by the consent of the Directors who moved and seconded, or by a new motion (and second) “to amend” the pending motion, which is then approved by the Board, or (b) a pending motion may be tabled before it is voted on by motion (and second) made “to table,” which is then approved by the Board, or (c) a pending motion may be rejected without further discussion or action by a motion (and second) “of objection to consideration,” which is then approved by the Board, or (d) further discussion of a pending motion can be terminated by a motion (and second) “to call the question,” which is then approved by the Board. Any Director, including the Chair, may make or second a motion.

## **RULE 9 - PROTECTION OF RIGHTS OF DIRECTORS**

One of the primary purposes for these rules of procedure is to protect the rights of all Directors. The Chair will allow each Director a reasonable opportunity to discuss a motion, after it has been made and seconded, and before it has been voted on. The Chair can set reasonable time limits for discussion of a motion. A Director can object to a procedural ruling by the Chair by stating: “Mr./Madam Chair, I rise to a point of order.” The Chair must then ask the Director to state the point of order. The Chair will then rule on the point of order. The Chair’s ruling on a point of order may be appealed by a motion made and seconded to appeal the decision, which is then voted on by the Board.

In order to ensure that the Board’s discussions and deliberations during a public meeting can be heard by other Board members and the public, Directors should refrain from engaging in other than oral communications on Authority matters during a Board or committee meeting (e.g., refrain from using written, electronic or telephonic communications that are not made available to other Board members and to the public).

## **RULE 10 - RECORD OF VOTE**

Except where action is taken by the unanimous vote of all Board members present and voting, the ayes and noes taken upon the passage of all resolutions or motions will be entered upon the minutes. (See Government Code section 61045(d).)

## **RULE 11 - AGENDA AND AGENDA MATERIALS**

The Executive Director will be responsible for preparing the agenda for regular Board meetings and meetings of the Executive Committee and other standing committees (see Government Code section 54952 and Rules 21 and 22), and having it posted at the Authority office in a location freely accessible to the public no later than

seventy-two hours before a regular meeting. The Executive Director will also be responsible for preparing the agenda for *ad hoc* advisory committee meetings. The agenda will specify the time and location of the meeting and contain a brief, general description of each item of business to be transacted or discussed at the meeting, including closed session items. (See Government Code section 54954.2.) Any member of the Board may request that the Executive Director place an item for discussion or action on the agenda. In order to allow sufficient time to prepare the agenda and back-up materials, the deadline for adding items to the agenda for a regular meeting will be at noon, five working days before the meeting.

An agenda for a regular or special Board meeting will contain the following statements: (a) "The public shall have the opportunity to directly address the Board on any item of interest either before or during the Board's consideration of that item. Public comment on items within the jurisdiction of the Board is welcomed, subject to reasonable time limitations for each speaker." (See Government Code section 54954.3(a).); (b) "Public documents relating to any open session item listed on this agenda that are distributed to all or a majority of the members of the Board of Directors less than 72 hours before the meeting are available for public inspection in the customer service area of the Authority's Administrative Office at the address listed above." (See Government Code section 54957.5(b)(2).); and (c) "In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you have a disability and you need a disability-related modification or accommodation to participate in this meeting, then please contact the Executive Director of the Authority. Requests must be made as early as possible, and at least one-full business day before the start of the meeting." (See Government Code section 54954.2 (a).)

Additional statements may be added to the agenda from time to time as recommended or deemed advisable by the Board Chair, Executive Director or General Counsel.

## **RULE 12 - REQUESTS FOR COPIES OF AGENDAS AND AGENDA MATERIALS**

Any person may request the Authority to mail or electronically transmit to him or her a copy of the agenda or agenda packet for any meeting of the Board. When the Authority receives such a request, the Executive Director will transmit copies of the requested materials (except for documents that are exempt from disclosure under the Public Records Act) to the requesting party at the time that the agenda is posted or when the agenda packets are distributed to a majority of the Board members, whichever occurs first. Any request for copies of agendas or agenda packets for all Board meetings in a given year will be valid for the calendar year in which the request is submitted, and the request must be renewed after January 1 of each year in which it is to remain in effect. (Government Code section 54954.1.)

Documents that are distributed to all or a majority of the members of the Board by any person in connection with a matter subject to discussion or consideration at a regular or special meeting of the Board will be disclosable public records under the California Public Records Act (commencing with Government Code section 6250), and

will be made available upon request by a member of the public without delay, except as to documents that are exempt from disclosure under the Public Records Act. Documents that are distributed during a regular or special Board meeting that are subject to disclosure under the Public Records Act will be made available for public inspection at the meeting, if prepared by the Authority or a member of the Board, or after the meeting, if prepared by some other person. The Authority may charge a fee for responding to requests for copies of agendas, agenda packets or other documents, which fee will be limited to the Authority's copying and postage costs. (See Government Code section 54957.5(a) and (b).)

Public documents and materials that are related to an open session agenda item that are provided to the Board less than seventy-two hours before a regular meeting will be made available for public inspection and copying at the Authority's office during normal business hours. These documents also may be made available on the Authority's web site. (See Government Code section 54957.5.)

Upon request, the agenda and other documents referred to in this rule will be made available in an appropriate alternative format to persons with a disability, as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. section 12132) and the federal rules and regulations adopted in implementation thereof. (See Government Code sections 54954.1, 54954.2(a) and 54957.5(b).) The Authority will not charge a special surcharge to provide documents requested in an alternative format by a person with a disability in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and its implementing regulations. (See Government Code section 54957.5(c).)

The Authority may record its meetings for the sole purpose of assisting staff with the preparation of minutes. If RWA records a meeting, it will retain the recording for at least thirty days following the meeting or Board or committee approval of the minutes, whichever occurs later, after which the recording may be erased or destroyed. The public may inspect the recording on a playback device made available by the Authority, without charge. (See Government Code section 54953.5(b).)

### **RULE 13 - AUTHORITY TO ACT ON MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

The Board will not take action on or discuss any item not appearing on the posted agenda, except under the following conditions, in which cases the item will be publicly identified before discussion begins: (a) upon a determination by a majority of the Board that an emergency situation exists as provided in Rule 26; (b) upon a determination by a two-third vote of the Board members present at the meeting, or, if less than two-thirds of the members of the Board are present, a unanimous vote of those members present, that the need to take immediate action became apparent after the agenda was posted; or (c) the item was posted for a prior meeting of the Board occurring not more than five calendar days prior to the date action is taken on the item, and at the prior meeting the item was continued to the meeting at which action is being taken. (See Government Code sections 54954.2 and 54956.5.)

## **RULE 14 - CONSENT CALENDAR**

The Executive Director may list on the agenda a "consent calendar", which will consist of routine matters on which there is generally no opposition or need for discussion. Examples of consent calendar items might include approval of minutes, financial reports and routine resolutions. Any matter may be removed from the consent calendar and placed on the regular calendar at the request of any member of the Board. The entire consent calendar may be approved by a single motion made, seconded and approved by the Board.

## **RULE 15 - ORAL INFORMATIONAL REPORTS**

Any member of the Board may make an oral report at a regular meeting for the purpose of informing the Board of any matter of interest to the Authority. The Board may also call on the Executive Director, Authority staff or Authority legal counsel for oral informational reports on matters not on the agenda. Unless the Board makes the determinations required under Rule 13, there will be no more than limited discussion, and no action, on matters covered in such oral reports. (See Government Code section 54954.2(a).)

## **RULE 16 - PUBLIC FORUM AND COMMENT**

Every agenda for a regular meeting will provide an opportunity for members of the public to directly address the Board on items of interest that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board and that do not appear on the agenda. This agenda item will be described substantially as follows: "Opportunity for public comment on non-agenda items." During the Public Forum, the Board may, at its discretion, not respond, briefly respond to statements made or to questions posed by the public, or ask Authority staff for clarification, refer the matter to Authority staff or ask Authority staff to report back at a future meeting. (See Government Code sections 54954.2 and 54954.3.) The Board will not take action on any matter raised during the Public Forum, unless the Board first makes the determinations set forth in Rule 13. In order to facilitate public participation during the Public Forum session of the meeting, the Board may limit the total amount of time allocated for public comment on a particular issue (10 minutes or less will normally be standard), and may limit the time allocated for public comment of an individual speaker (3 minutes or less will normally be standard). The Chair may declare as out of order irrelevant, repetitious or disruptive comments. (See Government Code section 54954.3.)

The public may address the Board concerning an agenda item either before or during the Board's consideration of that agenda item. (See Government Code section 54954.3(a).)

These rules are not intended to prohibit public criticism of policies, procedures, programs or services of the Authority, or of the acts or omissions of the Board. (See Government Code section 54954.3(c).)

In the event that any meeting is willfully interrupted by a group or groups of persons so as to render the orderly conduct of such meeting unfeasible, and order cannot be restored by the removal of individuals who are willfully interrupting the meeting, the Board may order the meeting room cleared and continue in session. Only matters appearing on the agenda may be considered in such a session. Representatives of the press or other news media, except those participating in the disturbance, will be allowed to attend any session held pursuant to this section. Nothing in this section will prohibit the Board from readmitting an individual or individuals not responsible for disturbing the orderly conduct of the meeting. (See Government Code section 54957.9.)

It is the general policy of the Board to refer to the Executive Director for resolution of complaints received from members of the public. If the complaint cannot be resolved, the Executive Director will place it on a meeting agenda for consideration by the Board.

### **RULE 17 - PUBLIC HEARINGS**

The procedure for conducting public hearings during a meeting of the Board will be as follows: (a) no earlier than the time set for the public hearing, the Chair of the Board will declare the public hearing open; (b) the Chair will ask the Executive Director whether notice of the public hearing has been given in the manner required by law; (c) the Chair will ask the Executive Director whether written comments on the subject matter of the public hearing have been received; (d) the Chair will ask whether any member of the public wishes to present written or oral comments on the subject of the public hearing; (e) in its discretion, the Board may set time limits on the amount of time an individual speaker is allowed to comment orally during the public hearing; and (f) following the close of presentation of comments, the Chair will declare the public hearing closed. The Board may continue a public hearing from time to time in accordance with the procedures provided in Rule 18. (See Government Code section 54955.1.) If otherwise permitted by law, the Board may take action related to the subject matter of the public hearing after the hearing is closed.

### **RULE 18 - ADJOURNMENT**

A meeting of the Board will be adjourned by (a) loss of a quorum, (b) by motion made, seconded and approved to adjourn the meeting, or (c) by declaration of the Chair that the meeting is adjourned when the agenda has been completed and there is no further business to come before the Board. A regular or special meeting of the Board may also be adjourned for the purpose of continuing it to a specific day and time (a) by motion made, seconded and approved, (b) by approval of less than a quorum if a quorum is not present, or (c) by the Secretary of the Board if all members are absent from any regular or adjourned regular meeting. A copy of the order or notice of adjournment to continue a meeting to another date will be conspicuously posted on or near the door of the Authority boardroom or other location where the meeting was held within twenty-four hours after the time of adjournment. (See Government Code section 54955.)



## **RULE 19 - SPECIAL MEETINGS**

A special meeting may be called at any time by the Chair, by the Executive Committee or by a majority of the members of the Board, by delivering personally or by any other means, including mail, facsimile and electronic mail, written notice to each member and to each newspaper, radio or television station requesting notice in writing. Such notice must be received at least twenty-four hours before the time of such meeting as specified in the notice (except as to emergency meetings, in which case, the notice requirements specified in Rule 26 will be followed). Electronic mail will constitute notice of a special meeting only if the recipient confirms receipt, and it will be deemed to be received at the time of such confirmation. The call and notice must specify the time and place of the special meeting and the business to be transacted, and will include the statements specified in Rule 11. No other business will be considered at such meeting. The written notice may be dispensed with as to any member who at or prior to the time the meeting convenes files with the Authority Secretary a written waiver of notice. Waiver may be given in person or by mail, facsimile, or electronic mail. Such written notice may also be dispensed with as to any member who was actually present at the meeting at the time it convenes. The call and notice must also be posted at least twenty-four hours before the meeting in a location freely accessible to the public. (See Government Code sections 54954.3(a) and 54956.)

## **RULE 20 - BOARD WORKSHOP MEETINGS**

From time to time, the Board may set a regular or special meeting to be conducted as a “workshop meeting,” during which the Board will have the opportunity to receive presentations on and discuss matters identified on the agenda, but the Board would not normally take action on those items. Nothing in this rule is intended to prevent the Board from taking action on a matter during a workshop session if it is identified as an “action item” on the agenda for that meeting.

## **RULE 21 - BOARD COMMITTEES**

Board committees will be composed of less than a majority of Directors, and may be either standing committees or *ad hoc* advisory committees. The Board has the following standing committee (i.e., committees with continuing subject matter jurisdiction; see Government Code section 54952): the Executive Committee. In accordance with Rule 11, standing committee meetings will be open to the public (except for authorized closed sessions), and the agenda for those meetings will be posted in the same manner as the agenda for regular Board meetings. In addition, the Chair may from time to time establish, and appoint the members of, *ad hoc* advisory committees to serve a limited or single purpose, which committees are to be dissolved once their specific task is completed. The meetings of an *ad hoc* advisory committee are not required to be open to the public, and notice of such meetings is not required to be posted. (See Government Code sections 54951 and 54952.)

Directors who are not members of a standing committee may attend a standing

committee meeting only as observers, and they may not participate in the committee meeting, ask questions or sit with the committee members at the Board table. (See Government Code section 54952.2(c)(6).) Directors who are not members of an *ad hoc* committee may not attend an *ad hoc* committee meeting, unless such a meeting has been publicly noticed, in which case the same rules governing attendance at standing committee meetings described above shall apply.

## **RULE 22 - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

The Executive Committee of the Board will have the duties and authority specified in Section 10.a of the JPA Agreement, and as set forth in the "Authority Delegated to the Executive Committee" (Authority Policy 200.2, attached as **Exhibit 2**, as amended by the Board from time to time ). The Executive Committee will operate according to these Rules to the extent applicable.

## **RULE 23 - EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

The Executive Director of the Authority will have the duties and authority specified in Section 19 of the JPA Agreement, and as set forth in the "Authority Delegated to the Executive Director" (Authority Policy 300.1, attached as **Exhibit 3**, as amended by the Board from time to time ).

## **RULE 24 - CLOSED SESSIONS**

A closed session may be held on any subject authorized under the Brown Act. The agenda for a regular or special meeting will contain a brief, general description of the purpose of a closed session, in substantially the following form:

a. Conference with legal counsel--existing litigation; Government Code sections 54954.5(c) and 54956.9(a); \_\_\_\_\_ v. \_\_\_\_\_ [insert name of case, e.g., *Jones v. Authority*].

b. Conference with legal counsel--existing litigation; Government Code sections 54954.5(c) and 54956.9(a); case name unspecified because \_\_\_\_\_ [insert either "disclosure would jeopardize service of process" or "disclosure would jeopardize existing settlement negotiations"].

c. Conference with legal counsel--anticipated litigation; Government Code sections 54954.5(c) and 54956.9(b); significant exposure to litigation involving \_\_\_\_\_ [describe].

d. Conference with legal counsel--anticipated litigation; Government Code sections 54954.5(c) and 54956.9(c); consideration of initiation of litigation involving \_\_\_\_\_ [describe].

e. Public employee appointment involving \_\_\_\_\_ [insert position(s) to be filled]; Government Code sections 54954.5(e) and 54957.

f. Public employee performance evaluation involving \_\_\_\_\_ [insert position(s) being reviewed]; Government Code sections 54954.5(e) and 54957.

g. Public employee discipline/dismissal/release; Government Code sections 54954.5(e) and 54957. [No additional information required.]

h. Conference with labor negotiator involving \_\_\_\_\_ [insert name of Authority negotiator] and \_\_\_\_\_ [insert name of employee organization involved in negotiation]; Government Code sections 54954.5(f) and 54957.6.

i. Conference with labor negotiator involving \_\_\_\_\_ [insert name of Authority negotiator] and unrepresented employee(s) in position(s) of \_\_\_\_\_ [insert position(s) of unrepresented employee(s) involved in negotiation]; Government Code sections 54954.5(f) and 54957.6.

j. Conference with real property negotiator involving \_\_\_\_\_ [insert street address or other description of property], and \_\_\_\_\_ [insert name(s) of Authority negotiator(s); Authority negotiators will negotiate with \_\_\_\_\_ [insert name of other party(ies)]. Instructions to the negotiator(s) may include price, terms of payment, or both. (See Government Code sections 54954.5(b) and 54956.8.)

k. Closed session consultation with \_\_\_\_\_ [insert the name of a law enforcement agency, and the title of the officer, or the name of an applicable agency representative and title] concerning a threat to public services or facilities, or for the assessment of the security vulnerability of public facilities. (See Government Code section 54957.)

The Board will not keep minutes of its closed sessions. (See Government Code section 54957.2.) In the closed session, the Board will consider only those matters covered in its statement of reasons for holding the closed session. (See Government Code section 54957.7.)

Before holding a closed session to consider complaints or charges against a particular employee (as distinguished from mere evaluation of performance unrelated to any specific complaint or charge), the Authority will provide twenty-four hours' advance written notice to the employee of his or her right to have the matter heard in open session. (See Government Code section 54957.)

A closed session may be held to meet with the Authority's negotiator regarding the salary and benefits of Authority officers and employees, but not including elected officials, but the Authority's available funds, funding priorities or budget will not be discussed during the closed session. (See Government Code section 54957.6.)

Following every closed session, the Board will reconvene to open session and publicly report any action and vote during the closed session in accordance with the

following guidelines:

a. For action concerning final approval of a real property purchase/sale agreement or lease, report in open session at the same meeting the action taken (including the substance of the agreement) and vote, except that, if final approval rests with another party, the report may be deferred until the other party's approval. (See Government Code section 54957.1(a)(1).)

b. Approval given to legal counsel to defend or initiate a lawsuit, or seek appellate review will be reported in open session at the public meeting during which the closed session was held. (See Government Code section 54957.1(a)(2).)

c. Approval given to legal counsel to settle pending litigation or action taken to dispose of a claim will be reported in open session as soon as the settlement or claim disposition becomes final. (See Government Code section 54957.1(a)(3) and (4).)

d. For action to appoint, employ or dismiss, accept the resignation of, or otherwise affect the employment status of an employee, the Board will report in open session at the same meeting the action taken (including identity of employee or position and any change in compensation) and vote, except that, for any dismissal or non-renewal of a contract, the report back may be deferred until the first meeting after the exhaustion of administrative remedies. (See Government Code section 54957.1(a)(5).)

e. For action concerning a labor MOU, after the MOU has been approved by both parties, the Board will report in open session the action taken and vote. (See Government Code section 54957.1(a)(6).)

The Authority will make available after a closed session to anyone who has requested them in advance, agreements or other documents approved in closed session, unless the document needs to be revised, in which case it will be provided as soon as possible. After the closed session, changes to the agreement will be orally summarized if anyone present so requests. (See Government Code section 54957.1(b).)

A Director is not authorized, without approval of the Board of Directors, to disclose information that is deemed confidential information under applicable provisions of law to a person not authorized to receive it, that (1) has been received for, or during, a closed session meeting of the Board, (2) is protected from disclosure under the attorney/client or other evidentiary privilege, or (3) is not required or authorized to be disclosed under the California Public Records Act. A Director is not prohibited from taking the following actions in regard to a closed session of the Board: (a) making a confidential inquiry or complaint to a district attorney or grand jury concerning a perceived violation of law, including disclosing facts to a district attorney or grand jury that are necessary to establish the alleged illegality of an action taken by the Board, (b) expressing an opinion concerning the propriety or legality of actions taken by the Board in closed session, including disclosure of the nature and extent of the allegedly illegal action, or (c) disclosing information acquired by being present in a closed session that is

not confidential information. Prior to disclosing confidential information pursuant to (a) or (b), above, however, a Board member will first bring the matter to the attention of either the Chair of the Board or the full Board, to provide the Board an opportunity to cure an alleged violation. A Director who willfully and knowingly discloses for pecuniary gain confidential information received by him or her in the course of his or her official duties may be guilty of a misdemeanor under Government Code section 1098. (See Government Code section 54963; 76 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 289 (1993) and 80 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 231 (1997).)

It is within the Board's discretion to allow a Director who serves as a member of the legislative body of a member agency to disclose information obtained in a closed session that has direct financial or liability implications for that member agency to the following individuals: (1) legal counsel of that member local agency for purposes of obtaining advice on whether the matter has direct financial or liability implications for that member local agency; or (2) other members of the legislative body of the member agency present in a closed session of that member agency. (See Government Code section 54956.96)

## **RULE 25 - MEETINGS BY TELECONFERENCE**

The Board or the Executive Committee may hold meetings by teleconference. (See Government Code section 54953(b).) For purposes of this rule, "meetings by teleconference" include meetings at which one or more Board member attends and participates in the meeting by telephone, video conferencing or any other electronic means using live audio or video, or both. For any meeting by teleconference conducted by the Board, the following requirements will apply:

a. During a meeting by teleconference, at least a quorum of the members of the Board will participate from locations within the territory of the Authority.

b. Each teleconference location (i.e., the location from which one or more Board members attends and participates in a meeting by teleconference) will be accessible to the public.

c. When meetings by teleconference are held by telephone, speaker phones will be used at the main meeting location and at any teleconference location where there are members of the public in attendance.

d. All votes taken at a meeting by teleconference will be by roll call.

e. The Board will conduct the meeting by teleconference in a manner that protects the statutory and constitutional rights of parties and the public to attend and participate in the meeting.

f. Each teleconference location will be identified in the regular meeting agenda or special meeting notice, and the agenda or notice will state that members of the public will have the opportunity to address the Board from any teleconference

location.

g. Notice of any meeting by teleconference will be included in the meeting agenda or special meeting notice in substantially the following form:

"All or portions of this meeting will be conducted by teleconference in accordance with Government Code section 54953(b). The teleconference location(s) for the meeting are as follows: \_\_\_\_\_ . Each teleconference location is accessible to the public, and members of the public may address the Board of Directors from any teleconference location."

h. In addition to the usual notice and agenda requirements, the regular meeting agenda or special meeting notice will be posted at all teleconference locations at least seventy-two hours before regular meetings or twenty-four hours before special meetings.

## **RULE 26 – EMERGENCY MEETINGS**

Under Government Code section 54956.5, the Authority may hold a meeting to address an emergency if a majority of the Board determines that a situation exists that involves matters upon which prompt action is necessary. An emergency situation is defined as: (1) a work stoppage, crippling activity, or other activity that severely impairs public health, safety, or both; or (2) a dire emergency, which shall be defined as a crippling disaster, mass destruction, terrorist act, or threatened terrorist activity that poses peril so immediate and significant that requiring the Board to provide one-hour notice before holding an emergency meeting may endanger the public health, safety, or both.

As a condition of holding an emergency meeting, the Board Chair or his/her designee shall provide notice of the meeting by telephone to each local newspaper of general circulation, radio station and television station that has requested notice of special meetings. For a meeting for a "non-dire emergency" (Definition 1, above), the telephone notice must be provided at least one hour prior to the emergency meeting. In the case of a meeting for a "dire emergency" (Definition 2, above), the telephone notice must be provided to the media at or near the same time as notice is given to the members of the Board. In the event that telephone services are not functioning, the notice requirements of this section shall be deemed waived, and the legislative body, or designee of the legislative body, shall notify those newspapers, radio stations, or television stations of the fact of the holding of the emergency meeting, the purpose of the meeting, and any action taken at the meeting as soon after the meeting as possible.

The Board may meet in closed session upon approval by a two-thirds vote of the Board (or the unanimous vote of the Board if less than two-thirds are present) to discuss matters related to the emergency situation. (See Government Code sections 54956.5(c) and 54957.)

With the exception of the 24-hour notice and posting requirements and any other exceptions provided in herein, all special meeting requirements described in Rule 19 shall be applicable to an emergency meeting called pursuant to this Rule.

The draft minutes of an emergency meeting called under this Rule must be posted in a public place for a minimum of 10 days as soon after the meeting as possible, and include a list of persons who the Board Chair or his/her designee notified or attempted to notify of the meeting, if applicable, any actions taken at the meeting, and a recording of any votes taken by roll call. (See Government Code section 54956.5(e).)

### **RULE 27 - COMPENSATION OF DIRECTORS**

The Authority does not compensate or reimburse the expenses of members of the Board of Directors. Generally, the agency that a member of the Board represents provides for compensation and reimbursement of expenses associated with representing that agency on the Board of the Authority, in accordance with the rules of that agency.

### **RULE 28 - AMENDMENT OF RULES**

By motion made, seconded and approved, the Board in its discretion may at any meeting (a) temporarily suspend these rules in whole or in part, (b) amend these rules in whole or in part, or (c) both.