

## 1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Short called the meeting of the Board of Directors to order at 9:00 a.m. at the Regional Water Authority. Individuals in attendance are listed below:

### RWA Board Members

S. Audie Foster, California American Water  
Ron Greenwood, Carmichael Water District  
Steve Nugent, Carmichael Water District  
Al Dains, Citrus Heights Water District  
Bob Churchill, Citrus Heights Water District  
Marcus Yasutake, City of Folsom  
Spencer Short, City of Lincoln  
Matthew Wheeler, City of Lincoln  
Pauline Roccucci, City of Roseville  
Kelye McKinney, City of Roseville  
Jim Peifer, City of Sacramento  
Beverly Sandeen, City of West Sacramento  
Diana Langley, City of Yuba City  
Ryan Saunders, Del Paso Manor Water District  
Bill George, El Dorado Irrigation District  
Chuck Dawson, Elk Grove Water District  
Randy Marx, Fair Oaks Water District  
Tom Gray, Fair Oaks Water District  
Michael Schaefer, Orange Vale Water Company  
Brent Smith, Placer County Water Agency  
Darlene Gillum, Rancho Murieta Community Services District  
Ralph Felix, Rio Linda/Elverta Community Water District  
Kerry Schmitz, Sacramento County Water Agency  
Kevin Thomas, Sacramento Suburban Water District  
Rob Roscoe, Sacramento Suburban Water District  
Pam Tobin, San Juan Water District  
Keith Durkin, San Juan Water District

### RWA Associates

Arthur Starkovich, Sacramento Municipal Utility District

### RWA Affiliate Members

Mike O'Hagan, Forsgren Associates, Charles Duncan and Abigail Madrone,  
West Yost Associates and Vanessa Nishikawa and Hugh Klein, MWH Global.

**Staff Members**

John Woodling, Rob Swartz, Dave Brent, Cecilia Partridge, Monica Garcia and Ryan Bezerra, Legal Counsel.

**Others in Attendance:**

LaSandra Edwards, Paul Selsky, May Huang, Jim Graydon, Emily Finnegan and Bruce Kamilos.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

John Woodling, Executive Director, introduced Emily Finnegan with the Local Government Commission who gave information on the CivicSpark: Water Action Fellowship program. The Water Action Fellowship is a new Governor’s Initiative AmeriCorps program dedicated to building capacity for local public agencies to address water resource management challenges. The program now offers two fellowship tracks for water and climate. She gave information on how to get started sponsoring a fellow for anyone interested in the program.

**3. CONSENT CALENDAR**

- a. Minutes of the July 14, 2016 RWA regular board meeting
- b. Approve RWA Affiliate applications from California Pool and Spa Association and Brown and Caldwell
- c. Approve RWA Associate Member Policy 100.3 amendments

In the July 14, 2016 minutes after Agenda Item 7, Closed Session, an amendment was required stating “there was no action taken at this time”.

Motion/Second/Carried (M/S/C) Mr. Roscoe moved, with a second by Mr. Greenwood, to approve the minutes of the Consent Calendar items with the amendment to the July 14, 2016 minutes. The motion carried by the unanimous voice vote of all directors.

**4. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION**

- a. Information: Final minutes from the June 22, 2016 and July 27, 2016 Executive Committee meeting and draft minutes from the August 24, 2016 Executive Committee meeting.
- b. Information: Executive Committee report on Executive Director’s performance review.

Ms. Schmitz, Chair of the Executive Director Evaluation Committee, gave a report on the Executive Director’s performance review. The committee included Jim Peifer, Kelye McKinney, Audie Foster, Robert Dugan and Sacramento Groundwater Authority Chair Caryl Sheehan. Mr. Woodling received outstanding reviews. Included in his accomplishments were the groundwater and advocacy programs. One of the suggested future goals was for outreach to agencies who do not routinely participate. Last year the RWA Board approved a two-year contract for the Executive Director with the

second year increase dependent upon the outcome of the review by the Executive Committee. Ms. Schmitz noted that with the two-year contract the committee was able to focus on a thorough evaluation without addressing the contract this year.

Chair Short thanked Mr. Woodling on the many accomplishments of the organization through his leadership.

## **5. REGIONAL RELIABILITY PLAN UPDATE**

Rob Swartz, Manager of Technical Services, announced that multiple agencies in the region applied through the Bureau of Reclamation for a basin study that will come in the form of assistance to help conduct technical work to understand our region better. The focus will be to increase our modeling and technical tools in the upper American River Watershed. His presentation provided an update on the effort to develop a Regional Water Reliability Plan (RWRP) including the RWRP status, a draft agency supply example, a DWR IRWM Program update and a draft IRWM Planning Grant Budget and Tasks.

The California Department of Water Resources released updated guidelines and a planning grant funding opportunity under the Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Program with applications due September 23, 2016. Upon review of the guidelines, staff has determined that RWA will need to update its adopted 2013 IRWM Plan. Much of the work to be updated is in evaluating vulnerabilities and mitigation actions under future climate conditions. As this is consistent with the activities under the RWRP, staff is recommending that the IRWM Planning Grant be pursued to support both the IRWM Plan update and the RWRP. Mr. Swartz explained draft supply examples that were given for City of Lincoln and Fair Oaks Water District. On August 1, DWR released three documents related to IRWM and Prop 1 including IRWM grant program guidelines for the grant program processes, IRWM grant program guidelines with IRWM planning standards and a 2016 planning grant proposal solicitation package. There is no current timeline for Prop 1 implementation grants. A draft IRWM Planning Grant Tasks/Budget indicates there will be \$60,448 unfunded with a total grant funded amount of \$250,000. Mr. Swartz provided an overview of the work scope to be included in the IRWM application and requested the Board adopt a resolution to authorize staff to pursue the IRWM Planning Grant.

After discussion it was suggested that Resolution 2016-05 be modified under #2 with the last period changed to a comma and adding “once the Executive Director has identified local cost share.”

M/S/C Mr. Roscoe moved, with a second by Ms. Tobin, to adopt Resolution 2016-05, with the added language to #2, to authorize the Executive Director to submit an application to the California Department of Water Resources for an Integrated Regional Water Management Planning Grant and to execute an Agreement if an award is made.

## 6. LEGISLATION UPDATE

Dave Brent, Water Policy Advisor, gave a presentation that included a 2016 Legislative summary, advocacy program organization and the next steps. At the beginning of 2016 the board adopted a platform and policy principles identifying priorities of what RWA would be looking for on the legislative and regulatory front going forward. The 2016 legislative priorities are water use efficiency and conservation, turf replacement and water efficiency funding, public goods charge, water transfer issues, consolidation follow up and the trailer bill process. The legislative season began with over 90 bills of interest with 37 hot bills that were of significance to RWA. The hot bills, low priority bills and spot bills are identified by the platform that was adopted. At the end of the session there were a handful of bills that staff was watching. Mr. Brent summarized the original intent and current intent of SB 1398 (Leyva) Lead Pipe Replacement, SB 552 (Wolk) Consolidation Bill and SB 814 (Hill) Excessive Water Use During Periods of Drought. RWA supported and/or consulted on local legislator's bills. Mr. Brent gave a summary of bills that RWA indicates as watch or support bills.

A complete summary of bills that have been signed by the governor will be presented to the RWA Board at the November meeting.

John Woodling noted that Senator Wolk and Senator Pavley will not be in the senate next year. Ryan Bezerra and Paul Bartkiewicz were instrumental in driving ACWA's position on the water transfer bill. Mr. Woodling reminded the board that in 2013 a new Strategic Plan was adopted that was intended to take RWA through 2018. Advocacy was the biggest issue that the Board wanted to see progress on. The RWA Board drives policies by adopting policy principles. Staff will be reviewing the policies principle document that was adopted last year and will bring the document back to the Board if revisions are needed for 2017. The Executive Committee serves to take the actual specific positions on a piece of legislation based on the policy principles that the Board adopted. The Executive Director, with concurrence from general counsel, can take action on positions on legislation if there is an urgent need and then get that action validated by the Executive Committee. The Advocacy Program has been progressing over the past several years, in fulfillment of a key objective of RWA's 2013 Strategic Plan. The Board approved a budget for FY 2016-17 that supports the move from part-time temporary to full-time permanent staffing to manage the Advocacy Program. Recruitment will begin soon, with a goal of bringing a staff member on board around the beginning of 2017.

The subscription program pays for the contract lobbyist. The subscription program is hoping to expand with some of the anticipated legislative issues applying to all water suppliers. Originally the program was set up with a flat fee spread between the 10 agencies. Staff anticipates including more members and structuring the funding in tiers similar to the RWA dues. While the policy positions RWA staff and the lobbyist advocate for represent the full RWA membership, subscription program participants help to guide priorities and specific activities. Staff will be soliciting interest for participation in the

program from other RWA members, with a goal of having additional participants for calendar year 2017.

## **7. WATER EFFICIENCY UPDATE**

John Woodling gave a presentation update on how members have been operating in response to the Executive Order B-37-16 (EO) and associated emergency regulations from the State Water Resources Control Board. The process for emergency water conservation under the new EO provides for each water supplier to conduct an assessment of its expected water supplies and ability to meet customer demand if the drought continued for three additional years. RWA members determined supplies to be adequate, and as a result, authority for water management and water conservation are returned to the local level, rather than the state mandated enforceable targets that were applied in 2015.

Mr. Woodling explained the stress test which means that agencies evaluate their individual water supplies for an additional three dry years and then report how much they may have to reduce demand. There was only one RWA member that reported a potential shortage. The stress test results indicated that 379 water suppliers submitted data, 36 identified shortages and 32 did not submit data and will retain their 2015 targets. The Sacramento Region Monthly Conservation Reductions for the three-year period, 2014 to 2016, indicated some high conservation percentages.

The four areas in the EO that the state is working on now and will incorporate into a draft framework by January 2017 are to eliminate water waste, strengthen local drought resilience, use water more wisely and reporting, compliance and enforcement. Mr. Woodling explained how each area would potentially affect agencies. The Urban Advisory Group will meet September 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> with a draft framework released for review in October and finalized January 10, 2017.

In addition, the EO called for the development of new standards and permanent targets for water efficiency that exceed the requirements of SBX7 7, passed in 2009, which required a 20% reduction in water use by 2020.

Staff reported to the RWA Board on the status of current year water use, as well as the process for the development of the permanent framework, which the EO required by January 2017.

## **8. 2016 AWARDS COMMITTEE APPOINTED**

Chair Short reported the 2016 Awards Committee was appointed at the August Executive Committee. The committee includes Paul Selsky, Chair, Kerry Schmitz and Jim Peifer.

## **9. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**Government Affairs Update** – RWA participated in an ACWA coordinated letter to the Governor commenting on the Delta Smelt Resiliency Strategy.

One particularly troublesome element of the plan would be to use precious stored water to increase summer Delta outflows.

Staff continues to engage in the State's process to develop the implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Program. This includes development of Best Management Practices and the report on Water Available for Replenishment. In addition, staff continues to provide a forum for coordination of SGMA implementation at the local level in Sacramento, Placer and Sutter counties. Depending on the interest of the Board, a detailed briefing on SGMA implementation for the November Board meeting will be developed.

**Grants Update** – Staff is currently managing eight grants totaling \$55.9 million. Staff has fully executed a funding agreement with DWR for the \$1.757 million grant award from the 2015 Proposition 84 Integrated Regional Water Management Implementation Grant round. By the end of the calendar year, RWA will be closing out four grants: 1) 2006 DWR Prop 50 Grant, 2) 2014 USBR Calfed Meter Grant, 3) 2014 USBR WaterSMART Grant, and 4) 2014 USBR Calfed Interior Retrofit Grant.

Over the past quarter, nearly \$4.9 million in grant reimbursements have been distributed to participating agencies. Notable for the last month is reimbursement to Carmichael Water District for \$723,187 from the 2014 Proposition 84 Drought Grant, for their intertie to Golden State Water.

**Powerhouse Science Center Update** – On May 15, 2014, the RWA Board approved an agreement with the Powerhouse Science Center to provide \$500,000 over 15 years to sponsor and coordinate content for two exhibits in the Liquid Gold Gallery at the science center to be developed along the Sacramento River north of Old Sacramento. The project is delayed from the original schedule, but making progress. Staff will continue to keep the Board updated with progress.

Mr. Bezerra gave an update on the Cal Water Fix. DWR and Reclamation have maintained that there would be no impact on other legal users of water because their modeling shows that with their project end of September storage in the reservoirs would be about the same as without the project. An agency did their own modeling to see data year by year and have identified years when the project could result in Folsom Reservoir being drawn down significantly in a dry year. The testimony was filed and is available as a powerpoint.

**10. CLOSED SESSION UNDER GOVERNMENT CODE SECTIONS 54954.5(C) AND 54956.9(D) – UPDATE ON CALPERS CONTINUED OBLIGATION TO PROVIDE PENSION BENEFITS TO RWA EMPLOYEES**

A closed session was not needed at this time.

## 11. DIRECTORS' COMMENTS

Mr. Nugent reported that Carmichael Water District has just completed a pipeline project with Golden State Water Company. For many years Golden State Water Company has been impacted by groundwater contamination. There was a three-party agreement. Aerojet discharges 5,000 acre feet of water to the American River after it has gone through the treatment process. Carmichael Water District will divert the water at their intake structure in the American River and run it through their treatment plant. They will then pump it back under the American River to serve Golden State Water Company. That project is now completed with testing expected in the next week. The other part of the project was an environmental restoration project. Carmichael Water District has been a legal user of water on the American River for over 100 years and some of the older facilities and pipelines will be removed this week and replaced after 22 months of working with the Corps of Engineers to obtain the permit. The project has been very successful and they are very appreciative to receive the \$723,187 of state funding through a grant to RWA for this project. They will have the capability of pumping 10 MGD through the facility with possible future tie-ins with multiple agencies.

Mr. George reported that El Dorado Irrigation District signed a contract with the Bureau of Reclamation in August to use the full 17,000 acre feet of EID's water through 2030.

Ms. Roccucci along with other council members toured their wastewater treatment plants where expansion is expected. There will be an election of Roseville council members with six people running for three seats.

Chair Short said that City of Lincoln has three seats open with six people running. The City just finalized an agreement with their largest industrial water user for reclaimed water. The agreement will have a financial benefit for the City.

### Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Board, Chair Short adjourned the meeting at 10:59 a.m.

By:

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Chairperson

Attest:

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Nancy Marrier, Board Secretary / Treasurer