

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Vice Chair Peifer 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**

Ron Greenwood, Carmichael Water District  
Steve Nugent, Carmichael Water District  
Al Dains, Citrus Heights Water District  
Hilary Straus, Citrus Heights Water District  
Marcus Yasutake, City of Folsom  
Matthew Wheeler, City of Lincoln  
Paul Joiner, City of Lincoln  
Susan Rohan, City of Roseville  
Kelye McKinney, City of Roseville  
Jim Peifer, City of Sacramento  
Denix Anbiah, City of West Sacramento  
Brendan Leonard, City of West Sacramento  
Stan Cleveland, City of Yuba City  
Diana Langley, City of Yuba City  
Ryan Saunders, Del Paso Manor Water District  
Deb Sedwick, Del Paso Manor Water District  
Brian Mueller, El Dorado Irrigation District  
Tom Nelson, Elk Grove Water District  
Dave Underwood, Fair Oaks Water District  
Tom Gray, Fair Oaks Water District  
Paul Schubert, Golden State Water Company  
Michael Schaefer, Orange Vale Water Company  
Sharon Wilcox, Orange Vale Water Company  
Robert Dugan, Placer County Water Agency  
Brent Smith, Placer County Water Agency  
Ed Crouse, Rancho Murieta Community Services District  
Mary Henrici, Rio Linda/Elverta Community Water District  
Ralph Felix, Rio Linda/Elverta Community Water District  
Kerry Schmitz, Sacramento County Water Agency  
Neil Schild, Sacramento Suburban Water District  
Rob Roscoe, Sacramento Suburban Water District  
Pam Tobin, San Juan Water District  
Paul Helliker, San Juan Water District

**RWA Associates**

Arthur Starkovich and Ansel Lundberg, Sacramento Municipal Utility District and Terri Mitchell, Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District

**RWA Affiliate Members**

Jim Graydon and Melanie Holton, Brown & Caldwell; Ibrahim Khadam, Stantec; Abigail Madrone and Charles Duncan, West Yost Associates; Alan Driscoll and Sergio Guillen, Forsgren Associates Inc.; and Rodney Fricke, GEI Consultants

**Staff Members**

John Woodling, Adam W. Robin, Nancy Marrier, Amy Talbot, Cecilia Partridge and Ryan Bezerra, Legal Counsel

**Others in Attendance:**

Joe Duran, Bruce Kamilos, Mitch Dion, Lindsay Swain, Dan York, Bill George, Bob Matteoli, Ted Costa, Stan Nader, Rich Allen, Shauna Lorance, Terry Erlewine and Andy Fecko

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**3. CONSENT CALENDAR**

- a. Final minutes of the April 26, 2017 and May 24, 2017 Executive Committee meetings
- b. Approve minutes from the May 18, 2017 RWA regular board meeting

Motion/Second/Carried (M/S/C) Mr. Dugan moved, with a second by Mr. Roscoe, to approve the consent calendar item. The motion carried by the unanimous voice vote of all directors present.

**4. LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY UPDATE**

Adam W. Robin, Legislative and Regulatory Affairs Project Manager, gave an update on the long term water use efficiency and conservation legislation that are currently under discussion at the state legislature. He also provided a regulatory and legislative update related to the public goods charge that is also known as a water tax and a rate payer assessment. RWA has a well-developed policy position on the issue.

In January 2017 RWA made the decision to sponsor a set of bills as an organization working with a statewide coalition of water agencies. RWA developed and introduced bills AB 968 and AB 1654 that deal with long term water use efficiency legislation. These bills provided a comprehensive alternative to a proposal developed by a set of state agencies in the document "Making Water Conservation a California Way of Life". RWA was able to assert a leadership role working with a statewide coalition of water agencies with a goal to influence the process as it unfolds.

SB 623 is a measure that would establish a fund with the State Water Resources Control Board to help pay for solutions for communities, small water systems and domestic wells where people don't have access to safe drinking water. The bill has policy provisions which are of interest to the broader water community including a proposal to develop a statewide regulatory framework for domestic wells. At this time the bill does not include a funding source, but there are two funding sources that are expected to be amended into the bill. The first funding source is a tax on all sources of nitrogen and the other component is a rate payer assessment, which would be a state mandated fee that would be added to every water rate-payer's bill.

In 2015 AB 401 was signed into law requiring the state to produce a report to the legislature on the statewide low income rate payer assistance program. The state is considering ways to subsidize low income rate payers at the statewide level. The Water Board is developing the required report with a draft expected to be produced by fall of 2017 with the final report submitted to the legislature with recommendations in early 2018.

## **5. UPDATES TO THE RWA STRATEGIC PLAN**

RWA adopted its Strategic Plan 2013-2018+ in late 2013. In the interim, a number of internal and external factors have changed, including the passage of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, the drought emergency, and proposals for permanent water conservation standards.

The Strategic Plan included objectives in four primary goal areas, 1) Regional Planning, 2) Implementation, 3) Information and Education, and 4) Advocacy. RWA has made significant progress in implementing the plan over the last four years. However, in order for the Strategic Plan to continue to guide RWA's success, modifications are needed. RWA Board members were given the opportunity to comment on the Strategic Plan, and their input was considered by staff and the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee developed proposed changes to the Planning and Implementation areas of the Strategic Plan and recommends their adoption by the Board. There are significant changes to the planning goal. Some of the 2013 planning objectives were completed or taken to the point at which we are not planning to pursue them any further. RWA members individually have done the heavy lifting on Delta issues. Many are involved in a Sacramento Valley Water Users group to address the California Water Fix and other issues as well as being involved as American River Water Users. Agencies are involved in Delta processes for their own interests and this varies from agency to agency; therefore RWA's role has been limited. The final objective, the IRWMP, has been the foundation for a large portion of the grant money that has come into the region in the past. As we have done for the CABY region, we want to identify overlaps into the Yolo region so we make certain that regional projects can include West Sacramento on the

other side of the river. In addition, we want to recognize where we have common interests with Yuba City and other urbanizing regions in Sutter County, as well as with parts of the American River Groundwater Subbasin in Sutter County. One of the goals is to make sure that the agencies who aren't as directly engaged are aware of what's going on in the region, identify who in the region is more directly engaged and keep the feedback open to everyone.

The implementation goal of the Strategic Plan is focused on grant funding for the projects that member agencies implement that fit into our regional planning. The other primary piece is implementing the regional water efficiency program. A significant objective is recognition that for the Water Forum Agreement there is a need to modify the water conservation element that has been based on the California Urban Water Conservation Council (CUWCC) best management practices and requirements. The CUWCC is now the California Water Efficiency Partnership, and focuses on assistance to water agencies in conservation, rather than requirements. There is an Executive Committee subcommittee for the information/education piece of the Strategic Plan. The subcommittee is looking at what the information/education needs look like and will have recommendations by the end of the year. A survey may be coming out to the members requesting information on the things that they would like to see RWA accomplish, the audiences we need to reach with information and education, and the methods we can use to reach those audiences. Changes to the advocacy goal will be brought back at a future board meeting. Our vision has been carried out very well, especially with the leadership of past chairs who pushed with our resources to get the advocacy piece accomplished.

Ms. Sedwick commented that she has been attending the Executive Committee meetings as a member of the public. The Executive Committee has been going through the process of updating the strategic plan with discussion to make sure this remains the vision of RWA.

M/S/C Ms. Sedwick moved, with a second by Ms. Tobin, to approve modifications to the Planning and Implementation Goals of the Strategic Plan. The motion carried by the unanimous voice vote of all directors present.

## 6. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

**Strategic Communications Effort** – RWA staff and consultants are coordinating closely with a small group of RWA members that have engaged a consultant to support outreach and coalition building regarding long-term water efficiency legislation and regulatory action. A part of this effort is to increase RWA's social media presence on Facebook and Twitter.

**Grants Update** – Staff is currently managing four grants totaling \$30 million. Staff is expecting a final DWR contract for the \$250K 2016 Prop 1 Integrated

Regional Water Management Planning Grant award. The grant will be used to update the American River Basin IRWM Plan to meet updated standards released in 2016. Mr. Woodling attended a meeting at DWR on May 30<sup>th</sup> where DWR introduced concepts of how it might roll out the first round of Prop 1 Integrated Regional Water Management Grants in 2018.

**Regional Water Reliability Planning Update** – Work on the Regional Water Reliability Plan (RWRP) continues. The identification of vulnerabilities phase of the RWRP is complete, and the identification of mitigation actions phase is nearly complete. The next phase of RWRP development will be to quantify the potential water supply yield generated by expanded conjunctive use operations in the region. These results are expected toward the end of 2017.

**RWA Outreach** – Mr. Woodling attended the Orange County Water Summit on June 16, 2017. Mr. Woodling gave a presentation on legislative and regulatory issues to the Yolo County Water Resources Association on June 19, 2017, and attended the inaugural meeting of the Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency immediately following the WRA.

**Compensation Survey** – The Compensation Survey directed to be undertaken by the Executive Committee is underway. Shellie Anderson of Bryce Consulting is contracted to complete the study. Staff and the consultant reviewed current job descriptions and made some minor changes to serve the needs of the survey. Currently, requests to agencies for salary and benefit information have gone out. The tentative schedule will be for staff and the consultant to discuss the data with the Executive Committee at its July meeting. The ultimate goal will be to finalize a report and adopt salary schedules by the end of 2017.

**Financial Documents** – The financial reports for the period ending May 31, 2017 were attached.

Mr. Woodling introduced Ansel Lundberg who is working for Paul Olmstead at SMUD.

## **7. DIRECTORS' COMMENTS**

Mr. Yasutake referred to the Executive Director's Performance Evaluation forms that were given to each RWA member and alternate to complete. The completed evaluations are to be returned to Mr. Yasutake before Friday, July 21<sup>st</sup>. The Ad Hoc committee will give a full performance evaluation report at the September RWA board meeting.

Mr. Roscoe reported that Sacramento Suburban Water District's recruitment for a new General Manager closes on July 17, 2017.

Mr. Starkovich reported that SMUD's board voted for a change in their rate beginning in 2018. SMUD performed an extensive review of their own energy assistance program rate compared to the federal poverty levels.

Ms. Tobin directed the board's attention to the ACWA JPIA Executive Board report from the May 8, 2017 meeting that was enclosed in the board packet. Ms. Tobin was appointed to give ACWA-JPIA reports for both SGA and RWA. ACWA has moved forward with different medical plans and funding allowing employees who work for member agencies to take the medical funding source with them when they leave and manage it themselves. She encouraged everyone to attend and show their support at the hearings on bills that RWA supports. The testimony that has been given in hearings is invaluable and shows the work that has been done by Adam and John. The physical support and support letters make a huge impact.

Mr. Woodling commented that JPIA has figured out how to allow GSAs that are being formed under SGMA to both become ACWA members and to be insured by JPIA.

Mr. Crouse said that he is serving as Interim General Manager at Rancho Murieta Community Services District during the search for a permanent general manager.

## **Adjournment**

With no further business to come before the Board, Chair Peifer adjourned the meeting at 9.39 a.m.

By:

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Chairperson

Attest:

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Nancy Marrier, Board Secretary / Treasurer