

# REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AGENDA

**August 28, 2019; 8:30 a.m.**

5620 Birdcage Street, Suite 110

Citrus Heights, CA 95610

(916) 967-7692

## AGENDA

The public shall have the opportunity to directly address the Board on any item of interest 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. 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. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you have a disability and need a disability-related modification or accommodation to participate in this meeting, please contact the Executive Director of the Authority at (916) 967-7692. Requests must be made as early as possible, and at least one full business day before the start of the meeting. The Executive Committee may consider any agenda item at any time during the meeting.

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**
2. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** Members of the public who wish to address the committee may do so at this time. Please keep your comments to less than three minutes
3. **CONSENT CALENDAR**
  - a. Minutes of the July 24, 2019 Executive Committee meeting  
**Action: Approve the July 24, 2019 Executive Committee meeting minutes**
4. **LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY UPDATE**

Information Presentation: Ryan Ojakian, Legislative and Regulatory Affairs Manager  
**Action: Take positions on recently amended legislation**
5. **RESOLUTION SUPPORTING PAM TOBIN FOR ACWA VP**

Information and Discussion: Led by Jim Peifer, Executive Director  
**Action: Recommend submission of the resolution for consideration and adoption by the RWA Board**
6. **RWA STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE**

Information and Discussion: Led by Jim Peifer, Executive Director
7. **AGENCY AWARD**

Information and Discussion: Led by Jim Peifer, Executive Director
8. **TELECOMMUNICATION POLICY**

Information and Discussion: Led by Jim Peifer, Executive Director  
**Action: Recommend RWA Board approval of Telecommunication Policy 500.17**

- 9. VOLUNTARY AGREEMENT AD HOC COMMITTEE UPDATE**  
Information Update and Discussion: Led by Kerry Schmitz, Ad Hoc Committee Chair
- 10. FEDERAL AFFAIRS AD HOC COMMITTEE UPDATE**  
Information Update and Discussion: Led by Sean Bigley, Ad Hoc Committee Chair
- 11. SACRAMENTO REGIONAL WATER BANK UPDATE**  
Information and Discussion: Rob Swartz, Manager of Technical Services
- 12. RWA SEPTEMBER 12, 2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING AGENDA**  
**Action: Approve September 12, 2019 Board of Directors Meeting Agenda**
- 13. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**
- 14. DIRECTORS' COMMENTS**

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

#### **Upcoming meetings:**

**Upcoming Executive Committee Meetings** – September 25, 2019 at 8:30 a.m. at the RWA office

**Next RWA Board of Directors' Meeting** – Thursday, September 12, 2019, at 9:00 a.m. at the RWA office

The RWA Executive Committee Meeting electronic packet is available on the RWA website at <https://rwah2o.org/meetings/board-meetings/> to access and print the RWA Board electronic packet.

August 28, 2019

**AGENDA ITEM 3a: CONSENT CALENDAR**

Minutes of the July 24, 2019 Executive Committee meeting

**Action: Approve the July 24, 2019 Executive Committee meeting**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Schubert called the meeting of the Executive Committee to order at 8:30 a.m. Individuals in attendance are listed below:

**Executive Committee Members**

Ron Greenwood, Carmichael Water District  
Marcus Yasutake, City of Folsom  
Sean Bigley, City of Roseville  
Michelle Carrey, City of Sacramento  
Paul Schubert, Golden State Water Company  
Brent Smith, Placer County Water Agency  
Kerry Schmitz, Sacramento County Water Agency  
Dan York, Sacramento Suburban Water District  
Pam Tobin, San Juan Water District

**Staff Members**

Jim Peifer, Rob Swartz, Ryan Ojikian, Nancy Marrier, Cecilia Partridge and Ryan Bezerra, legal counsel.

**Others in Attendance**

Nicole Krotoski and José Ramirez

After the agenda was posted, it came to the attention of staff that the Executive Committee will not meet again before a deadline for a signed letter agreement to establish funding allocations among the San Joaquin River Funding Area for the Proposition 1 Integrated Regional Water Management Grant Program. Staff asked to add an action item to the agenda to follow the Consent Calendar item. Under the Brown Act the Executive Committee has to have a 2/3 vote to take immediate action.

Motion/Second/Carried (M/S/C) Ms. Tobin moved, with a second by Ms. Schmitz, to approve the addition of this action item to the agenda. The motion carried by the unanimous voice vote of all directors present.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

### **3. CONSENT CALENDAR**

The minutes from the June 26, 2019 Executive Committee meeting

M/S/C Mr. Greenwood moved, with a second by Ms. Tobin, to approve the consent calendar item. The motion carried by the unanimous voice vote of all directors present.

### **4. PROPOSITION 1 IMPLEMENTATION GRANT PROGRAM**

Rob Swartz, Manager of Technical Services, said that staff has been reporting over the past few months that the Department of Water Resources (DWR) has released the first round of the Proposition 1 (Prop 1) Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Implementation Grant Program. On behalf of the IRWM stakeholders in the American River Basin (ARB), RWA will pursue funding from two distinct funding areas identified in Prop 1 – the Sacramento River Funding Area (SRFA) and the San Joaquin River Funding Area (SJRFA).

In the past many of the regional water management groups (RWMGs) have not received funding and have expressed dissatisfaction of the state process. Mr. Swartz provided a map showing the funding areas that the state encouraged to work together. The current focus is in the SJRFA; specifically, in the Galt area.

RWA staff has been coordinating with other RWMGs in both funding areas over the past couple of years. This was necessary because DWR is administering the IRWM grant program by funding area. In the SJRFA, there are seven RWMGs and the coordination has been challenging. After several proposed funding allocations for the SJRFA, an agreeable proposed allocation has been reached. RWA's portion of the allocation is approximately \$1 million in the SJRFA and is based on the request for funding from the ARB IRWM stakeholders in that area. To document this allocation, the RWMGs propose to enter into a letter agreement. There is no fiscal impact to RWA as a result of the agreement. Staff is requesting that the Executive Committee authorize the Executive Director to sign the agreement following legal counsel acceptance of the final draft of the agreement.

M/S/C Ms. Tobin moved, with a second by Mr. Bigley, to Authorize the Executive Director to Sign a Letter Agreement to establish the funding allocations among the San Joaquin River Funding Area for the Proposition 1 Integrated Regional Water Management Grant Program. The motion carried by the unanimous voice vote of all directors present.

### **5. LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY UPDATE**

Ryan Ojakian, Legislative and Regulatory Affairs Manager, reported that funding for safe drinking water was resolved. The solution provides for \$130 million annually and comes primarily from Greenhouse Gas Reduction Funds (GGRF), it is backstopped by General Funds if the GGRF funds do not produce \$130 million. The legislation for the solution was Senate Bill (SB) 200 (Monning). RWA had a support position on SB 200

based on its passage being a requirement of an early version of the Senate's proposed Budget. RWA submitted a letter of support and joined a coalition letter in support of SB 200. Both letters were included in the packet.

With the passage of SB 200 much of the work on implementation will shift over to the State Water Board and the regulatory realm. The State Water Board has previously begun work on a safe drinking water needs assessment and water affordability. RWA staff has been engaged in those processes and has submitted comment letters into both of those proceedings and will remain engaged as the work on safe drinking water continues.

The Legislature went on recess July 12<sup>th</sup> and reconvenes August 12<sup>th</sup>. The regular session ends September 13<sup>th</sup>. RWA has a position on nine bills that will be acted on over the final month of session, and staff will be monitoring legislative developments for any additional bills that could require RWA taking a position.

President Trump will prevent the federal government from rolling back protections for clean water, clean air and worker protections under SB 1. That bill is now in the Assembly Appropriations Committee. The bill also deals with endangered species provisions. Depending on how it is constructed it may lock in 2008-2009 Biological Opinions, which is a concern.

PFAS are emerging contaminants with a family of compounds that contain chemicals including Teflon and firefighting foam that do not break down in the environment and bio accumulate. There is a notification and response level depending on the level of PFAS compounds found. Mr. Swartz commented that there will be agencies who are affected by the notification levels. Some agencies have been required to do additional testing. A meeting is scheduled tomorrow with the Regional Contaminations Issues Committee to discuss the issue.

Mr. Peifer said that it important for agencies to be aware and understand any requested media response. There remains a lot to be developed and science needs to be more fully formed to make an actionable level on contaminants. Conversations need to take place emphasizing that the companies who manufacture the chemicals are responsible for the contaminants, not water agencies.

## **6. RWA STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE**

Jim Peifer, Executive Director, gave an update on the RWA Strategic Plan. The RWA prepared a strategic plan in 2013 and adopted minor plan updates in 2017. An update of the Strategic Plan is recommended by the Executive Director with Executive Committee input requested. Similar to the 2013 update, the Executive Committee will guide development of the process to update the plan, including schedules, the process used to solicit input from members and stakeholders, and other considerations. The Strategic Plan is the foundation for what RWA does. Modifications need to be made to the Strategic Plan for future growth.

Mr. Peifer is conducting a listening tour to introduce himself to the membership and ask questions about how the RWA is serving the needs of the membership. In addition, questions will be asked about the current strategic plan and what changes, if any, are necessary. This feedback will be brought back to the Executive Committee. A consultant could be hired to assist in the preparation of the strategic plan update while the listening tour is occurring. Additional assessments of the Strategic Plan could be performed through a web-based survey. A workshop or a series of workshops would be conducted to educate the members on topics that the region may need to address in the next five years. The number of workshops and topics will be determined by the Executive Committee. A final workshop would be conducted with the members to develop the content of the draft Strategic Plan. A draft Strategic Plan will be submitted to the Executive Committee for consideration and modification. After the Executive Committee completes the Strategic Plan, it will be sent to the RWA Board for consideration and adoption.

The goal of the workshops is to identify issues and educate members for a better understanding of those issues to ultimately solidify what the vision is for the RWA for several future years. A survey tool can uncover ideas and food for thought for discussion and consideration. SGA will also be involved in the RWA Strategic Plan process. Ideally, there will be an update to the Strategic Plan going into the first quarter of 2020.

Mr. Peifer said that prior to the workshops a list of questions should be formed focusing on what the workshop is about, any new functions or additions and any associated costs. There is interest among the members to expand RWA services.

Mr. Bezerra suggested that the policy principles that we use as a basis for taking positions on legislation be refreshed before the next legislative session begins in January. He suggested that in addition to elections at the January 2020 RWA Board meeting that we include adoption of policy principles on the agenda.

## **7. VOLUNTARY AGREEMENT AD HOC COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Chair Schubert appointed an Ad Hoc Committee to address the RWA's role in the Bay Delta Water Quality Control Plan (WQCP) and the Voluntary Agreements (VA). The new Ad Hoc Committee's charge is to oversee the participation of RWA and its Executive Director in the ongoing negotiations and proceedings concerning the State Water Resources Control Board proposal to amend the WQCP. The Ad Hoc Committee will make recommendations to the RWA Board and Executive Committee for defining the RWA role and commitments of resources.

The members of the Ad Hoc Committee include Kerry Schmitz (chair), Marcus Yasutake, Anne Sanger, Sean Bigley, Dan York, Paul Helliker, Steve Nugent, Andy Fecko and Jim Abercrombie.

Ms. Schmitz reported that the first meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee was very productive. There is a substantial time commitment for the VA process and with Mr. Peifer's new duties as Executive Director, he will no longer have the time required to

be involved with the process. To fill the gap in the interim San Juan Water District volunteered Mr. Zlotnick to assist with the VA process.

After discussion there was consensus that RWA should look into a subscription program for the VA process as it evolves and perhaps hiring a consultant through the PCWA joint defense agreement. Ms. Schmitz handed out a draft scope of proposed work that a consultant could do while the VA development process is ongoing. The VA process will require an organized, facilitated process that portrays the region with one voice.

Mr. Bezerra suggested that the Ad Hoc Committee continue to meet as needed. A proposal for the subscription program needs to be developed to present to the Executive Committee for approval.

To keep the Executive Director engaged in the process, it would be helpful if he attended the plenary meetings that will provide him with updates from the various VA committees. Mr. Swartz has been meeting and working with the member agencies as part of the VA defining the groundwater substitution transfer and will continue in a technical support role.

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

**Finance and Administrative Services Manager Recruitment** – Staff is advertising for a Finance and Administrative Services Manager to fill the vacancy when Nancy Marrier retires. A copy of the advertisement was included in the packet. Ms. Marrier will be retiring from public service on December 3, 2019.

**Sacramento Regional Water Bank, Phase 1 Update** – The project is officially authorized to proceed, with 15 of the 21 expected agreements now being fully executed; the remainder are in progress. The focus of Phase 1 is development of the Integrated Water Flow Model (IWFM) to assess Water Bank operations. Staff recently met with representatives of the South American Subbasin to begin discussing the IWFM development in that part of the region. Development of an IWFM model grid is the first task, with an expected completion by August. The IWFM application is expected to be completed by mid-2020.

**RWA Outreach** – Mr. Peifer has met with four RWA member agencies to introduce himself as the new Executive Director and to ask questions about the strategic plan.

**Water Resilience Portfolio Initiative** – On April 29, 2019, Governor Newsom signed an executive order directing his administration to develop a comprehensive strategy to build a climate-resilient water system. The order directs the secretaries of the California Natural Resources Agency, California Environmental Protection Agency and the California Department of Food and Agriculture to identify and assess a suite of complementary actions to ensure safe and resilient water supplies, flood protection and healthy waterways for the state's communities, economy and environment.



The RWA will be developing a set of recommendations to inform the Governor's Water Resilience Portfolio initiative.

Mr. Peifer said that he has been asked to participate on the ACWA Water Resilient Portfolio workgroup, and he was assigned to the sub-workgroup on Delta Conveyance. He asked the Executive Committee if it was appropriate for him to continue to be on the subcommittee. It was suggested that it might be problematic for Mr. Peifer's name to be on documents that come out of that workgroup, and he was asked to seek another ACWA sub-workgroup to be a part of.

### **California Employer's Retirement Benefit Trust (CERBT) Managed by CalPERS –**

Ms. Krotoski gave some background saying that since 2009 RWA has been investing funds into the California Employer's Retirement Benefit Trust Fund through CalPERS for health benefits for future retirees and health care retirement benefits

From time to time, CalPERS reviews the investment strategies and makes modifications. Effective October 1, 2018, CalPERS modified CERBT's investment strategy mix and revised the long-term expected earnings for the different investment strategies. RWA is currently invested in Strategy 1, which is considered the most aggressive of the three strategies offered. The time-weighted expected rate for strategy 1 is now 7.59% compared to a prior expected long-term rate of 7.28%. RWA had used a 7.0% rate for the July 1, 2017 funding report that details the cash required for the trust for FY2019 and FY2020. This same 7.0% rate will be used to calculate the accounting liability for the June 30, 2019 financial statements using June 30, 2018 data.

When RWA's actuary prepares the bi-annual funding report to determine cash requirements to pay the retiree health benefits, RWA will need to consider the new rate changes implemented by CERBT. Since CalPERS now has provided additional data on how they calculate the expected time-weighted rate, it will allow the actuary to provide a more precise time-weighted rate that applies to RWA specifically based upon expected cash flow requirements for these health benefits. Until the actuary prepares a preliminary analysis of cash flows and incorporates the recently adopted retiree health benefit changes, it is unknown what will be the new investment rate.

From time to time, RWA can expect to review the long-term time weighted rate that will be used in calculating cash requirements to fund the retiree health benefits. RWA plans to start this funding report analysis in this fiscal year and will seek EC input for the investment assumption.

There are different concepts, a funding rate that actually pays into the trust fund and an accounting liability. The same rate will be used for the funding rate and the accounting liability. In the future it will be presented to the Executive Committee to consider a different discount rate.

**Executive Director Activities** – The Executive Director is participating in a number of near-term external activities including the ACWA Water Resilience Portfolio Working Group, support of federal advocacy efforts in pursuit of the Sacramento Regional

Water Bank, a presentation to the Northern California Water Association Board in September, the ACWA Federal Affairs and Water Management Committees and the VA process as directed by the VA Ad Hoc Committee.

Mr. Peifer asked the Executive Committee if they supported his continued participation in these activities and if it was beneficial to RWA. There is a need for the RWA to become engaged on a federal level for obtaining grants for the groundwater bank and other initiatives. There may be a future need to engage with ACWA on groundwater. He plans to deliver a requested presentation to NCWA at their board meeting.

Ms. Tobin said it would be beneficial to RWA and SGA for Mr. Peifer to participate on the committees. He would provide knowledge and representation for the organizations to strengthen the entire region. Ms. Schmitz commented that all of the activities and committees provide value however we must be mindful of the time commitment for the Executive Director.

Mr. Peifer noted that Mr. Ojakian is on the ACWA State Legislative Committee and he would like to see that role continue.

## **9. DIRECTORS' COMMENTS**

Mr. Yasutake said that the City of Folsom is hosting a public workshop on August 27<sup>th</sup> for discussion on water, waste water and solid waste rates. The City of Folsom received approval from the Bureau of Reclamation for their application for an inclusion request for their Central Valley Project for contract water. They can now use the CVP water within their entire service area.

Mr. Bigley said that the City of Roseville has been working on a proposed water transfer with SMUD. The City of Roseville continues to work with Reclamation on the transfer. He is attempting to take documentation to the Roseville City Council in August. The transfer will allow them to test their infrastructure recovery. Roseville is wrapping up their groundwater strategic plan looking at their long-term strategy with respect to infrastructure. The plan is working on solutions to be prepared for worst case scenarios if Folsom Reservoir supplies were cut off for some unknown reason.

Ms. Carrey said that having the Ad Hoc Committee for the VA has been very good. The City of Sacramento has had a shift in workloads and staff who have been working on the VA. Some of the things that the committee has been working on have been very helpful. The city is working on identifying projects that will need to be implemented in anticipation of the VA moving forward. The city is working with a consultant on their wholesale rate structure study.

Mr. Greenwood said that Carmichael Water District was recruiting to fill the vacancy left with Mr. Nugent's retirement. They are in negotiations for the position with the current Assistant General Manager. The district is working

with neighboring water agencies to make sure they have water stability and security prior to the next drought.

Ms. Tobin said that San Juan Water District provided a resolution and she will be running for the ACWA Vice President position. She would appreciate letters of support.

Mr. Smith mentioned that Placer County Water Agency (PCWA) was selected to submit a proposal for the Water Management Operations Pilot along with RWA. The proposal was submitted to the Bureau of Reclamation. This is a \$1 million effort with the Bureau of Reclamation covering about half of the funding. PCWA has been working on a series of improvements at the Newcastle Water Treatment Plant. On August 7<sup>th</sup> they will move forward with testing with an expectation to run it at 63 million gallons per day (mgd).

Ms. Schmitz said that the Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority Alternative Groundwater Sustainability Plan has been recommended to be denied by the California Department of Water Resources.

Chair Schubert thanked Vice Chair Schmitz for chairing the July 11, 2019 RWA Board meeting in his absence. The Sutter Pointe development in Sutter County has drilled their first test well. Golden State Water Company will serve the development.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Schubert adjourned the meeting at 10:27 a.m.

By:

---

Chairperson

Attest:

---

Nancy Marrier, Board Secretary / Treasurer

August 28, 2019

## **AGENDA ITEM 4: LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY UPDATE**

### **BACKGROUND:**

The Legislative session concludes at midnight on September 13<sup>th</sup>. There are a number of bills that RWA has taken a support/oppose unless amended position on earlier in the session that it is now appropriate to look at moving to a more definitive position on as session comes to a conclusion. Those bills are:

AB 402 (Quirk) which would establish a funding stabilization program, supported by drinking water fees, for Local Primacy Agencies (LPA). RWA currently has an oppose unless amended position on the bill. The author has submitted amendments that would limit access to the program, provide greater oversight over those participating in the program, and require LPAs participating in the program to identify water systems that are candidates for consolidation. RWAs current position on this bill is oppose unless amended.

AB 658 (Arambula) would create a new groundwater recharge permit. Recent amendments would require the Water Board to make a finding of consistency that a permit is consistent with a GSP. RWAs current position on this bill is support if amended.

AB 933 (Petrie-Norris) would allow the Department of Conservation (DOC) to establish and administer the ecosystem resilience program to fund watershed coordinator position throughout the state. Recent amendments would require the DOC to comply with the administrative procedure act (APA) in adopting guidelines for the ecosystem resilience program. RWA does not currently have a position on this bill.

AB 1414 (Freidman) would make technical changes to the times when various water management reports are due. Recent amendments address timing issues with reports due based on the calendar year. RWA current position on this bill is support if amended.

AB 1415 (Friedman) would make it a civil penalty for failure to submit various water management reports. If it will remove opposition the author will submit amendments to require notice of failure to submit a report to be in writing and that penalties may be reduced or waived if "good cause" can be shown as the reason for the failure to report. RWAs current position on this bill is oppose unless amended.

SB 134 (Hertzberg) is intended to address double jeopardy of water loss in water conservation requirements. The bill has not been amended, and has passed the legislature so it cannot be amended. RWAs current position on this bill is support if amended.

August 28, 2019

SB 414 (Caballero) would establish a process for regional consolidation of failing public water systems. Pending amendments would among other things make the Water Board the ultimate approver of these consolidations in doing so this would supplant local agency formation commissions (LAFCOs) in the approving role. RWAs current position on this bill is support if amended.

In the regulatory realm the Water Board held a two day board meeting on August 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> to take action on and describe the approach they are taking to achieve safe drinking water. As part of that board meeting the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) released a draft human right to water tool. Additionally the Water Board released a draft administrator policy handbook designed to define requirements for water board placed system administrators. The water board highlighted several areas of work, but of particular interest is and indication that they will focus on an analysis of water affordability and workforce development. There has not been an indication of when the December 2018 draft low income water rate assistance report will be finalized, but there is some belief it will occur sometime in this fall.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

**Action: Take positions on recently amended legislation**

August 28, 2019

## **AGENDA ITEM 5: RESOLUTION SUPPORTING PAM TOBIN FOR ACWA VP**

### **BACKGROUND:**

Every two years, the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) forms a nominating committee to select and propose a “slate of candidates” for president and vice president. The ACWA members vote for the slate at the ACWA fall conference. In general, the candidate for president is the current vice president. The terms for president and vice president are for two years.

Ms. Pam Tobin would like to be selected by the nominating committee for ACWA vice president. The purpose of the resolution is to support the nomination of Ms. Tobin.

Information and Discussion: Led by Jim Peifer, Executive Director

### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

**Action: Recommend submission of the resolution for consideration and adoption by the RWA Board**

**Resolution 2019-10**

**A Resolution of the Regional Water Authority in Support of  
Pamela Tobin  
for ACWA Vice President**

**Whereas**, the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) has announced that a Nominating Committee has been formed to develop a slate for the Association’s statewide positions of President and Vice President; and

**Whereas**, Pamela Tobin has served as a member of the San Juan Water District Board of Directors since December 2004; and

**Whereas**, Pamela Tobin has served in a leadership role as a member of the ACWA Board of Directors since 2018; has served on the ACWA Region 4 Board since 2016 and is currently Region 4 Chair; has served on the ACWA Federal Affairs Committee and the ACWA Local Government Committee since 2014; and

**Whereas**, Pamela Tobin has served on the Board of the Regional Water Authority (RWA) since 2004, has previously served as RWA Board Chair, has served on the RWA Executive Committee for a number of years and received the RWA “Distinguished Service” Award for 2018, and

**Whereas**, Pamela Tobin has served on the Board of the Sacramento Groundwater Authority (SGA) since 2004 and is currently the SGA Chair.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Regional Water Authority Board of Directors does hereby support Pamela Tobin for the office of ACWA Vice President.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** at a meeting of the Authority held on \_\_\_\_\_.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chair, Regional Water Authority

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk, Regional Water Authority

August 28, 2019

## **AGENDA ITEM 6: RWA STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE**

### **BACKGROUND:**

The RWA prepared a strategic plan in 2013 and adopted minor plan updates in 2017. An update of the Strategic Plan is recommended by the Executive Director and Executive Committee input is requested. Similar to the 2013 update, the Executive Committee will guide the development of the process to update the plan, including schedule, the process(es) used to solicit input from members and stakeholders, and other considerations.

### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Information and Discussion: Led by Jim Peifer, Executive Director



August 28, 2019

## **AGENDA ITEM 7: AGENCY AWARD**

### **BACKGROUND:**

RWA policy 100.4 establishes the criteria for Water Statesperson of the Year Award and Distinguished Service Award. The awards are presented at the RWA annual holiday social in December.

The Executive Director would like to receive Executive Committee input on creating a new award that would be received by an agency. The Executive Director proposes that the award would be granted for an agency's efforts to work collaboratively with others within the Region on initiatives that are innovative and improve the management of water resources or improve the reliability of water resources.

### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Information and Discussion: Led by Jim Peifer, Executive Director

August 28, 2019

## **AGENDA ITEM 8: TELECOMMUNICATIONS POLICY**

### **BACKGROUND:**

The Executive Director proposes the Executive Committee consider and provide input to a policy that compensates staff for using their personal cell phone for conducting RWA and SGA business. In addition the policy establishes limits on the cost of a cell phone and accessories that would be issued to an employee.

Certain RWA employees need to be accessible via cellular telephone to conduct RWA or SGA related business. Currently, employees may use an RWA issued cell phone to conduct business. Some employees have found having an RWA issued cell phone and their personal cell phone cumbersome to manage, and they would prefer to use their personal cell phone to conduct RWA or SGA business.

Staff has reviewed the policies from ACWA JPIA, Placer County Water Agency and the City of Sacramento. In general, PCWA and ACWA JPIA provide an allowance of up to \$50 per month to employees who use their personal cell phones to conduct agency business. The City of Sacramento provides up to \$100 per month.

### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Information and Discussion: Led by Jim Peifer, Executive Director

**Action: Recommend RWA Board approval of Telecommunication Policy 500.17**

## REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

---

Policy Type : Fiscal Management  
Policy Title : Telecommunications Allowance Policy  
Policy number : 500.17  
Date Adopted : XX XX, 2019  
Date Amended :

---

### **Purpose of the Policy**

Regional Water Authority (RWA) employees may need to use a cell phone to conduct RWA or SGA business. The purpose of this policy is to establish the RWA's requirements for issuing cellular phones, and allowances for cellular phone usage.

### **General**

If the RWA requires an employee to be generally accessible via cellular telephone to conduct RWA or SGA related business, or a cell phone is needed to conduct RWA or SGA business, the RWA shall provide either:

- An RWA-issued cellular phone and service plan
- A telecommunication allowance

The Executive Director shall determine if an employee needs to be generally accessible or needs cell phone service to conduct RWA or SGA business.

The Executive Director shall have the discretion to provide an allowance to employees or to authorize the purchase of an RWA cell phone and service plan.

The RWA may publish the cellular telephone number to designated individuals and organizations with whom the employee normally conducts RWA-related business.

### **RWA Cell Phone and Service Plan**

Should the Executive Director authorize an RWA Cell Phone and Service Plan, the RWA will purchase a phone and service plan. RWA pays for the cell phone up to \$680. The \$680 includes all phone accessories. The employee can opt for a more expensive phone but is responsible for paying the amount that exceeds \$680. The RWA pays the monthly service fees for this plan. Replacement cell phones may be needed based on factors such as cell phone obsolescence, or job requirements. The Executive Director

## DRAFT

shall make the determination if a replacement phone is necessary and shall authorize a replacement.

Upon employment separation, the employee must turn in the RWA cell phone, or at the Executive Director's discretion, the employee may purchase the phone in accordance with the RWA policy regarding surplus property disposal. The employee shall be entitled to keep the cell phone number.

### **Allowances**

The employee can opt to maintain a personal cell phone for which the RWA will reimburse up to \$50 monthly for usage. With this option, the employee is responsible for maintaining the data line and the RWA takes no responsibility for it. To obtain reimbursement, the employee need only demonstrate he or she is paying for their own personal data plan.

Upon approval of the telecommunications allowance, the employee shall provide and maintain a personal cellular telephone and service that is available to conduct RWA-related business.

Allowance amounts are considered income subject to State of California and Federal income tax requirements and shall be reported as such by the Authority.

### **Policy Review**

This policy will be reviewed by the Executive Committee at least every three years, or as necessary. Allowance amounts should be reviewed and revised to account for inflation or deflation.

.

August 28, 2019

## **AGENDA ITEM 9: VOLUNTARY AGREEMENT AD HOC COMMITTEE UPDATE**

### **BACKGROUND:**

Chair Paul Schubert has appointed an ad hoc committee to address the RWA's role in the Bay Delta Water Quality Control Plan (WQCP) and the Voluntary Agreements (VA). The new ad hoc committee's charge is to oversee the participation of RWA and its Executive Director in the ongoing negotiations and proceedings concerning the SWRCB proposal to amend the WQCP. The ad hoc committee will make recommendations to the RWA Board and Executive Committee for defining the RWA role and commitments of resources.

The members of the Ad Hoc Committee include:

- Kerry Schmitz, Sacramento County Water Agency (Chair)
- Marcus Yasutake, City of Folsom
- Anne Sanger, City of Sacramento
- Sean Bigley, City of Roseville
- Dan York, Sacramento Suburban Water District
- Paul Helliker, San Juan Water District
- Steve Nugent, Carmichael Water District
- Andy Fecko, Placer County Water Agency
- Jim Abercrombie, El Dorado Water District

### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Information Update and Discussion: Led by Kerry Schmitz, Ad Hoc Committee Chair

August 28, 2019

## **AGENDA ITEM 10: FEDERAL AFFAIRS AD HOC COMMITTEE UPDATE**

### **BACKGROUND:**

Chair Paul Schubert has appointed an ad hoc committee to address the RWA's role in Federal Affairs. The new ad hoc committee's charge is to 1) to make recommendations to the RWA Board on the role of the RWA on federal matters and 2) to provide direction to the Executive Director on federal matters. The committee will terminate upon completion of the updated strategic plan.

The members of the Ad Hoc Committee include:

- Sean Bigley, Chair
- Anne Sanger, Vice Chair
- Hilary Straus
- Marcus Yasutake
- Dan York
- Andy Fecko
- Evan Jacobs

Counsel for the committee is Jennifer Buckman.

The Ad Hoc Committee will make recommendations to the RWA board that address the following questions:

1. What should the RWA's role be in federal affairs, if any?
2. What are the limits of the involvement? Funding, Policy, Relations with federal agencies/regulators (e.g., Reclamation, COE, EPA, NMFS, FWS)?
3. If the RWA gets involved in federal affairs, what resources would the RWA need? Should the RWA rely on the member's advocates (with or without contribution from the RWA), or hire an advocate? Are other resources needed such as communication, legal, other?
4. How should a program be structured at the RWA? Subscription or core program? Should there be a standing committee? What would the staff requirements be for this? Could the RWA hire a consultant to assist with this?
5. What are the immediate needs of the effort? What are the priorities?

### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Information Update and Discussion: Led by Sean Bigley, Ad Hoc Committee Chair

August 28, 2019

## **AGENDA ITEM 11: SACRAMENTO REGIONAL WATER BANK UPDATE**

### **BACKGROUND:**

The Sacramento Regional Water Bank, Phase 1 effort is underway. Phase 1 consists primarily of developing a model to assess operations for future environmental analysis of the Water Bank. Modeling is expected to be complete in mid-2020. Phase 1 also consists stakeholder outreach activities. To keep the Water Bank development effort on track for completion in early 2022, staff is beginning to focus on development of the scope, budget, and funding strategies for Phase 2. On August 19th, staff convened a meeting of agencies that have participated in past groundwater substitution transfers or hold water rights needed for transfers to get their input on steps needed to commence Phase 2. Staff will provide an update to the Executive Committee.

### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Information and Discussion: Rob Swartz, Manager of Technical Services

August 28, 2019

**AGENDA ITEM 12: RWA September 12, 2019 Board of directors meeting agenda**

**Action: Approve September 12, 2019 Board of Directors Meeting Agenda**



**REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
Thursday, September 12, 2019, 9:00 a.m.**

5620 Birdcage Street, Suite 110  
Citrus Heights, CA 95610  
(916) 967-7692

**AGENDA**

The public shall have the opportunity to directly address the Board on any item of interest 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. 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. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you have a disability and need a disability-related modification or accommodation to participate in this meeting, please contact the Executive Director of the Authority at (916) 967-7692. Requests must be made as early as possible, and at least one full business day before the start of the meeting. The Board of Directors may consider any agenda item at any time during the meeting.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**
- 2. PUBLIC COMMENT**
- 3. CONSENT CALENDAR**
  - a. Minutes from the July 11, 2019 RWA regular board meeting  
**Action: Approve July 11, 2019 RWA Board meeting minutes**
- 4. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS**
  - a. Information: Final minutes of the June 26, 2019 and July 24, 2019 Executive Committee meetings
- 5. LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY UPDATE**

Information Presentation: Ryan Ojakian, Legislative and Regulatory Affairs Manager
- 6. RESOLUTION SUPPORTING PAM TOBIN FOR ACWA VP**

**Action: Adopt resolution supporting the nomination of Pam Tobin as Vice President of ACWA**
- 7. REGIONAL INTEGRATED WATER FLOW MODEL UPDATE**

Information Update: Rob Swartz, Manager of Technical Services  
**Action: Authorize Executive Director to enter into a Project Agreement to develop a model for the Cosumnes Subbasin in South Sacramento County**  
**Action: Approve proposed alternate selection process for work on model development for Cosumnes Subbasin**  
**Action: Authorize the Executive Director to execute Task Orders with Woodard & Curran to work on Cosumnes Subbasin model development**
- 8. TELECOMMUNICATION POLICY**

Information and Discussion: Jim Peifer, Executive Director  
**Action: Adopt Policy 500.17**

**9. VOLUNTARY AGREEMENT AD HOC COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Information Update and Discussion: Led by Kerry Schmitz, Ad Hoc Committee Chair

**10. FEDERAL AFFAIRS AD HOC COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Information Update and Discussion: Led by Sean Bigley, Ad Hoc Committee Chair

**12. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**13. DIRECTORS' COMMENTS**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Upcoming meetings:

Next Executive Committee Meetings – Wednesday, September 25, 2019, 8:30 a.m. and October 23, 2019, 8:30 a.m. at the RWA office.

Next RWA Board of Directors' Meetings –November 14, 2019, 9:00 a.m. and January 9, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. at the RWA office.

The RWA Board Meeting electronic packet is available on the RWA website at <https://rwah2o.org/meetings/board-meetings/> to access and print the RWA Board electronic packet.

August 28, 2019

**AGENDA ITEM 13: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

**AUGUST 28, 2019**

**TO: REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**FROM: JIM PEIFER**

**RE: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

- a. Finance and Administrative Services Manager Recruitment** – Staff is in the process of interviewing candidates for the position.
- b. Grants update** – Staff submitted a Proposition 1 Integrated Regional Water Management Grant preliminary application to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) seeking \$8.75M from DWR. The next step in the process will be to participate in a DWR workshop on the proposal on September 20<sup>th</sup>. DWR will confirm which projects can proceed with a full application in early October, with the final proposal due in November 2019.
- c. RWA Outreach** – Rob Swartz presented to the California Water Commission (CWC) on the water bank and was invited to sit on a panel for the CWC's listening session on the Water Resilience Portfolio Initiative on August 27<sup>th</sup>.

Jim Peifer has been meeting with several members to introduce himself as the new Executive Director and to ask questions about the strategic plan. Member agencies that Mr. Peifer has met with since the last Executive Committee meeting include:

- Elk Grove Water District
- Carmichael Water District
- Citrus Heights Water District
- City of Yuba City
- City of Roseville
- Ranch Murieta Community Services District
- Sacramento Suburban Water District
- California American Water
- San Juan Water District
- El Dorado Irrigation District
- Placer County Water Agency
- City of Lincoln
- Rio Linda/Elverta Community Water District

- d. Water Resilience Portfolio Initiative** – On April 29, 2019, Governor Newsom signed an executive order directing his administration to develop a comprehensive strategy to build a climate-resilient water system. The order directs the secretaries of the California Natural Resources Agency, California Environmental Protection Agency and the California Department of Food and Agriculture to identify and assess a suite of complementary actions to ensure safe and resilient water supplies, flood protection and healthy waterways for the state's communities, economy and environment.

Jim Peifer and Ryan Ojakian met with Nancy Vogel, Director of the Governor's Water Portfolio Program along with Kerry Schmitz, Sacramento County Water Agency, Tom Gohring, Water Forum, Gary Bardini, SAFCA and Ron Stork, Friends of the River. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the Water Resilience Portfolio Initiative. Ms. Vogel requested comments on specific actions that the State could take.

August 28, 2019

**AGENDA ITEM 14: DIRECTORS' COMMENTS**