

REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AGENDA

September 25, 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 August 28, 2019 Executive Committee meeting
Action: Approve the August 28, 2019 Executive Committee meeting minutes
4. **SACRAMENTO CENTRAL GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON STAFFING SERVICES**
Information and Discussion: Led by Jim Peifer, Executive Director
Action: Request committee input and direction
5. **RWA STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE**
Information and Discussion: Led by Jim Peifer, Executive Director
6. **CAPITOL REGION CLIMATE READINESS COLLABORATIVE**
Information and Discussion: Amy Talbot, Senior Project Manager and Ryan Ojakian, Legislative and Regulatory Affairs Manager
Action: Direct the Executive Director to have the RWA join the Capitol Region Climate Readiness Collaborative
7. **AGENCY AWARD**
Information and Discussion: Led by Jim Peifer, Executive Director
Action: Recommend adoption of revisions to Policy 100.4 (RWA Awards) by the RWA Board
8. **VOLUNTARY AGREEMENT AD HOC COMMITTEE UPDATE**
Information Update and Discussion: Led by Kerry Schmitz, Ad Hoc Committee Chair

9. **FEDERAL AFFAIRS AD HOC COMMITTEE UPDATE**
Information Update and Discussion: Led by Sean Bigley, Ad Hoc Committee Chair
10. **SACRAMENTO REGIONAL WATER BANK UPDATE**
Information and Discussion: Rob Swartz, Manager of Technical Services
- 11: **2018 RECLAMATION WATERSMART DROUGHT INTERTIES GRANT PROGRAM AGREEMENT**
Information Update: Rob Swartz, Manager of Technical Services
Action: Approve the 2018 Reclamation WaterSMART Drought Interties Program Agreement
12. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**
13. **DIRECTORS' COMMENTS**

ADJOURNMENT

Upcoming meetings:

Upcoming Executive Committee Meetings – Wednesday, October 23, 2019 at 8:30 a.m. at the RWA office

Next RWA Board of Directors' Meeting – Thursday, November 14, 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.

September 25, 2019

AGENDA ITEM 3a: CONSENT CALENDAR

Minutes of the August 28, 2019 Executive Committee meeting

Action: Approve the August 28, 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
Pam Tobin, San Juan Water District

Staff Members

Jim Peifer, Rob Swartz, Ryan Ojakian, Nancy Marrier, Cecilia Partridge,
Monica Garcia and Ryan Bezerra, legal counsel

Others in Attendance

José Ramirez, Tom Gray, Bruce Kamilos, Ken Payne and Dave Ocenosak

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR

The minutes from the July 24, 2019 Executive Committee meeting

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

4. LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY UPDATE

Ryan Ojakian, Legislative and Regulatory Affairs Manager, said that the Legislative session concludes at midnight on September 13th. There are a number of bills that RWA has taken a support/oppose unless amended position on earlier in the session and it is now appropriate to look at moving to a more definitive position as the session comes to a conclusion. Mr. Ojakian outlined the content of several bills and gave his current position recommendations on each.

AB 402 (Quirk) would establish a funding stabilization program, supported by drinking water fees, for Local Primacy Agencies (LPA). 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, the recommendation is a watch and neutral position.

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, the recommendation is to take a neutral position.

Ms. Tobin entered the meeting.

Mr. Ojakian will send a letter on AB 658 explaining our arguments supporting why we are changing our position from support if amended to a neutral position. The letter will include suggestions on how the groundwater recharge project process should look going forward and how to improve groundwater recharge.

AB 933 (Petrie-Norris) would allow the Department of Conservation (DOC) to establish and administer the ecosystem resilience program to fund watershed coordinator positions 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. The recommendation is to take a support position as ACWA has done.

There was discussion on what qualifications constitute a watershed coordinator. Mr. Ojakian said that watershed coordinators are meant to bring together environmental water supply community interests and to develop plans and projects that improve watershed health.

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

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 and the recommendation is to take a neutral position.

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 and the recommendation is to take a neutral position.

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 and the recommendation is to take a neutral position. The State Water Board put out a workbook with guidelines stating requirements for someone to qualify as an administrator.

Mr. Smith noted that there are several small systems within Placer County. Placer County Water Agency has been supportive of consolidation efforts. Consolidation is the result of extreme conditions where a water district has gotten into a bad situation. Anything that assists in consolidating these water districts is moving in a positive direction. Mr. Payne commented that El Dorado County is facing two to three dozen small systems that need to be addressed.

M/S/C Mr. Yasutake moved, with a second by Mr. Greenwood, to take new positions on recently amended legislation. The motion carried by the unanimous voice vote of all directors present.

The Water Board held a two-day board meeting on August 20th and 21st 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. The tool is an interactive map that looks at water quality, accessibility, and affordability, and uses different components to give a composite score in each distinct category. The goal of OEHHA is to have a tool to evaluate progress towards achieving a human right to water. 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 at the two-day board meeting, but of particular interest is an 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 this fall.

Mr. Peifer commented that at this time we do not know how the model is constructed. We need to confirm that the model has good information. There is a concern that the measures being used to judge the issues have supporting background behind it. Mr. Ojakian expects to have conversations with OEHHA and staffers who are developing the tool. He will bring information back to the Executive Committee with examples of how the tool is evaluating affordability.

The State Water Board lowered notification levels on PFOS and PFOA down to detection levels. There will be future required testing for the contaminants. A scientific based process for establishing standards was initiated. Mr. Peifer noted that speaking points were emailed to members to assist in responding to any media inquiries regarding the new guidelines issued by the State Water Resources Control Board for testing and reporting PFOA and PFOS contaminants.

AB 756 is going to become law January 1, 2020 requiring that if you have a detection of PFOA or PFOS at the notification level you have to put it in your Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) and if you are over the response level that you have to notify your customers or take that water supply out of service.

Mr. Ojakian said that SB 1 is a bill intended to stop Trump administration rollbacks on various environmental and labor protections. The bill has ramifications for the Voluntary Agreements in particular the provisions on the endangered species act. This bill would not allow Trump administration rollbacks by incorporating into state law federal protections that were in place prior to president Trump being sworn into office. The provisions in the bill could lock in place the 2009 Biological Opinions regulating delta pumping operations and apply the California Endangered Species Act to the Central Valley Project. The latter of which could impact Folsom reservoir operations.

5. RESOLUTION SUPPORTING PAM TOBIN FOR ACWA VP

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.

Mr. Peifer proposed that a resolution be recommended for adoption to the RWA Board supporting Ms. Tobin as a Vice President nominee. Ms. Tobin said that she mailed her introduction letter, statement of qualifications and resume to all board member presidents and general managers. She read her statement of qualifications to the Executive Committee. She gave an overview of the nomination and election process with the final voting to take place at the ACWA Fall Conference.

M/S/C Mr. Greenwood moved, with a second by Mr. Smith, to recommend submission of the resolution for consideration and adoption by the RWA Board. The motion carried by the unanimous voice vote of all directors present.

6. RWA STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

Mr. Peifer gave an update on the RWA Strategic Plan saying that the current strategic plan was adopted in 2013 with minor plan updates in 2017. An update of the Strategic Plan is recommended by the Executive Director and Executive Committee input is requested. 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. He continues his listening tour with a list of questions that he will organize to incorporate into the Strategic Plan. He wants to know if members are happy with the Strategic Plan, what changes are needed, how they see the future of RWA and the member's visions for the RWA.

Mr. Peifer is interested in identifying ways to increase efficiency in services that members need or identifying opportunities to reduce costs for the members.

Mr. Peifer asked the committee if a consultant should be hired to facilitate the Strategic Plan update. Mr. Peifer received feedback that he should conclude his listening tour before hiring a consultant.

After the Executive Director's listening tour he will assemble the agencies answers and look at governance and staffing structure, explore potential opportunities for RWA, SGA and potentially the SCGA and the financial and operational impacts. It was reported by Mr. Schubert that there is a chance for aligning and sharing for additional support and unifying the purpose between the three organizations. SCGA is reviewing PERS to see if there would be any possible financial impact.

7. AGENCY AWARD

Mr. Peifer proposed that an agency award be added along with the established Water Statesperson of the Year and Distinguished Service awards that are presented at the RWA annual holiday social in December. He asked for input from the Executive Committee on creating a new award that would be received by an agency and 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.

After discussion there was concession that an agency award would have merit, would be given for an outstanding agency achievement and may not be an annual award. The awards committee would handle the nomination process. The award would recognize an agency for a collective effort that makes a project stand out above the rest.

8. TELECOMMUNICATION POLICY

Mr. Peifer proposed that 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.

A version of Policy 500.17 was provided with edits made by Ryan Bezerra, legal counsel. Mr. Bezerra explained how an employee would respond to a public records act request by disclosing calls and texts. For IRS reporting they want the charges explained at a level of detail that is not possible. A basis for what the allowance amount will be is required. The Executive Director has the discretion to adjust the current not to exceed amount.

M/S/C Ms. Tobin moved, with a second by Mr. Smith, to recommend RWA Board approval of Telecommunication Policy 500.17. The motion carried by the unanimous voice vote of all directors present.

9. VOLUNTARY AGREEMENT AD HOC COMMITTEE UPDATE

Chair Paul 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 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, Marcus Yasutake, Anne Sanger, Sean Bigley, Dan York, Paul Helliker, Steve Nugent, Andy Fecko and Jim Abercrombie.

Mr. Peifer noted that he would give the update in the absence of Ms. Schmitz. The ad hoc committee has met twice. There is consensus by the members that work to define the scope and a program will be drafted to identify what the cost share is for the members. This information will be brought back to the Executive Committee and eventually the RWA Board for adoption.

10. FEDERAL AFFAIRS AD HOC COMMITTEE UPDATE

Mr. Bigley said that Chair 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 make recommendations to the RWA Board on the role of the RWA on federal matters and 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 and Jennifer Buckman is committee counsel.

The ad hoc committee will make recommendations to the RWA board that addresses 1) what the RWA's role should be in federal affairs; 2) the limit of involvement with federal agencies/regulations; 3) if the RWA gets involved in federal affairs what resources would the RWA need; 4) should a program be structured as an RWA subscription or core program; and 5) what are the immediate needs and priorities of the

effort. The ad hoc committee will meet on Friday at RWA to begin discussions. The committee is requesting member feedback. Updates will be presented to the Executive Committee at future meetings.

11. SACRAMENTO REGIONAL WATER BANK UPDATE

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. 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.

Rob Swartz, Manager of Technical Services, gave an update and handed out a graphic on the water bank development phases showing the development of two phases. Phase 1 includes pre-feasibility activities and phase 2 includes final feasibility and program acceptance. He will be meeting with the consultant next week to begin discussions. It is a significant effort to put this model together. Last week some of the agencies convened that participated in last year's regional groundwater substitution transfer along with those who are most likely to be participants in the Water Bank to get input on proceeding with a plan to get phase 2 ready. Part of the discussion was about bringing in a strategic advisor who would assist in helping to develop a strategy around getting phase 2 going.

Mr. Yasutake exited the meeting.

12. RWA SEPTEMBER 12, 2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING AGENDA

Appointment of a temporary Secretary was added as agenda item 2. Mr. Swartz said that it may not be necessary to have the Regional Integrated Water Flow Model Update agenda item on the agenda and it may be pulled from the agenda for the September 12th RWA Board meeting. It was noted that the Executive Director has the authority to modify the agenda.

M/S/C Ms. Tobin moved, with a second by Mr. Bigley, to approve the September 12, 2019 Board of Directors meeting agenda with the mentioned changes. The motion carried by the unanimous voice vote of all directors present.

13. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Finance and Administrative Services Manager Recruitment – Staff is in the process of interviewing candidates for the position. Nine resumes were received with four first round interviews held. A second interview with one of the possible candidates is scheduled for this afternoon.

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 20th. DWR will confirm which projects can proceed with a full application in early October, with the final proposal due in November 2019.

RWA Outreach – Mr. 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 27th. Mr. Peifer will share the link to view the presentation when it becomes available.

Mr. Peifer has been meeting with 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
- Rancho 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

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.

Mr. Peifer and Mr. 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. A comment letter from the RWA, SGA and Water Forum is being prepared to send to Ms. Vogel.

14. DIRECTORS’ COMMENTS

Ms. Tobin thanked the Executive Committee for their support of her nomination as the Vice President of ACWA.

Mr. Greenwood said that Carmichael Water District continues their search for general manager to replace Steve Nugent when he retires in December.

Mr. Bigley reported that progress is being made in the repayment contract with reclamation. Executed contracts are expected later this year. Work continues on the SMUD and City of Roseville proposed transfer to refine and perfect the groundwater program in Roseville.

Mr. Smith said that there has been a lot of concern with customers in rural communities through Placer County with the loss of their fire insurance. There is a town hall meeting scheduled for tonight to address the problem. Ms. Tobin is on the JPIA Liability Committee and she suggested that there may be a possibility of coverage under the JPIA for those who have lost their fire insurance coverage. Mr. Smith is looking for insurance experts who can address these issues and assist in finding a solution.

Ms. Carrey said that the City of Sacramento has a quarterly water committee meeting scheduled next month where Mr. Swartz will give a presentation on the Water Bank. A Resolution supporting Ms. Tobin for ACWA Vice President will also be taken up at that meeting.

Mr. Peifer reported that RWA Policy 500.13 requires that the Executive Director report to the Executive Committee on future conferences that RWA will reimburse employee expenses. Upcoming conferences include the Water Smart Conference, ACWA Conferences and Groundwater Resources Association of California Western Water Conference.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Schubert adjourned the meeting at 11:21 a.m.

By:

Chairperson

Attest:

Nancy Marrier, Board Secretary / Treasurer

September 25, 2019

AGENDA ITEM 4: SACRAMENTO CENTRAL GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON STAFFING SERVICES

BACKGROUND:

The Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority (SCGA) recently adopted a strategic plan. A goal of the SCGA plan states the SCGA will “Determine the most appropriate governance structure that effectively represents the diverse stakeholders and executes the mission of the SCGA.”

Two objectives associated with this goal include: “...model SCGA after the Sacramento Groundwater Authority (SGA), or other measures to most effectively and efficiently govern” and “create new governance to foster independence, transparency, accountability, and cost efficiency as it relates to the long-term management of the basin.”

The RWA has received a request from the SCGA to brief the SCGA board on the RWA staffing relationship with the SGA and the feasibility of providing staff to SCGA in a similar method. SCGA has requested the RWA staff review the details and feasibility of providing staff to SCGA and present the findings to the SCGA at a future board meeting. A copy of the letter making the request is attached.

The purpose of this item is to discuss how the RWA should respond to this request.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Information and Discussion: Led by Jim Peifer, Executive Director

Action: Request committee input and direction



Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority
*Managing Groundwater Resources
 in Central Sacramento County*

827 7th St, Rm 301
 Sacramento, CA 95814

Tel: (916) 874-6851
 Fax: (916) 874-5698
 www.scgah2o.org

Darrell K. Eck
 Executive Director

California-American
 Water Company

City of Elk Grove

City of Folsom

City of Rancho Cordova

City of Sacramento

County of Sacramento

Florin Resource Conservation
 District/Elk Grove Water
 Service

Golden State Water Company

Orochumne-Hartnell
 Water District

Rancho Murieta Community
 Services District

Sacramento Regional
 County Sanitation District

Agricultural Representative

Agricultural-Residential
 Representative

Commercial/Industrial
 Representative

Conservation Landowners

Public Agencies/Self-
 Supplied Representative

Regional Water Authority
 5620 Birdcage Street, Suite 180
 Citrus Heights, CA 95610
 Attn: Executive Director, Jim Peifer

Subject: Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority request for the Regional Water Authority to review the feasibility of Modelling SCGA after SGA.

Mr. Peifer,

At the August 14, 2019 Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority (SCGA) Board meeting, the SCGA Board approved the Strategic Plan 2023+ mission, vision, core values, and goals. Goal #2 states that SCGA will, "Determine the most appropriate governance structure that effectively represents diverse stakeholders and executes the mission of the Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority."

Two objectives associated with this goal include, "... model SCGA after the Sacramento Groundwater Authority (SGA), or other measures to most effectively and efficiently govern" and "create new governance to foster independence, transparency, accountability, and cost efficiency as it relates to the long-term management of the basin."

Based on these objectives, the chair and vice-chair of the Board held a 2x2 meeting on August 22, 2019 with respective Board members from the Regional Water Authority (RWA) and SGA to preliminarily review the concept of modeling SCGA governance similar to SGA and to identify if there were any "fatal flaws". The consensus was that there was a regional benefit to exploring this concept and to move forward with the appropriate next steps.

On September 11, 2019, the SCGA board approved a motion to direct the SCGA chairman to request that Regional Water Authority brief the SCGA board on the RWA staffing relationship with SGA and the feasibility of providing staff to SCGA in a similar method. SCGA respectfully requests the RWA staff to review the details and feasibility of providing staff to SCGA and present the findings to the SCGA board at a future board meeting.

Sincerely,

Todd L. Eising
 Chairman, SCGA

September 25, 2019

AGENDA ITEM 5: 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

September 25, 2019

AGENDA ITEM 6: CAPITOL REGION CLIMATE READINESS COLLABORATIVE

BACKGROUND:

The Capitol Region Climate Readiness Collaborative (CRC) is a 501(c)(3) organization that encompasses a 6-county Sacramento region focused on finding regional solutions to address shared challenges – drought, extreme heat, extreme weather events, wildfires and more. CRC is a member networking organization of 36 state, public, non-profit, academic and private members working together to advance climate resiliency efforts in our region. Benefits include annual members' forum, membership to CRC's steering committee, staff support, CRC directory and participants list, regular webinars on a variety of climate related topics and resident education on climate related issues. RWA is considered a local and regional agency with annual dues of \$3,000.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Information and Discussion: Amy Talbot, Senior Project Manager and Ryan Ojakian, Legislative and Regulatory Affairs Manager

Action: Direct the Executive Director to have the RWA join the Capitol Regional Climate Readiness Collaborative



CAPITAL REGION
CLIMATE READINESS
COLLABORATIVE

www.climatereadiness.info

facebook.com/capclimate 

@cap_climate 

Creating a Climate-Ready Capital Region

The Capital Region Climate Readiness Collaborative (CRC) is a public-private, multi-sector network of organizations working together to advance climate resiliency efforts in our region. Together, through knowledge exchange, targeted learning opportunities, and project coordination, we advance innovative climate solutions.

What is Climate Readiness

Climate readiness is about taking targeted action to preserve and improve our region's economy, infrastructure, and resources while safeguarding our community members' health, safety, and quality of life.

The Need for Collaboration on Climate Change

From heat waves to flooding to agricultural productivity, a wide range of impacts threaten the Capital region. We are already seeing changes in our climate and environment, like extreme heat events, more extreme weather events, earlier snow melt, milder winter temperatures, longer fire seasons, and water shortages. These effects disrupt multiple sectors and highlight the importance of cross-regional and cross-sectoral collaboration to effectively build resilience in our communities and businesses.



Many organizations are already responding to these key vulnerabilities, but there is much more to be done. By developing and implementing a set of comprehensive adaptation strategies, our region can increase its resilience, protect its unique resources and assets, strengthen its economy, leverage new opportunities, and ensure a healthy and prosperous future.



Rising to the Climate Challenge Together

Our purpose is to provide a forum for regional engagement for leaders from government, business, agriculture, academia, and community groups. The helps stakeholders come together across market and jurisdictional boundaries to share information and best practices, leverage efforts and resources, avoid duplication, identify critical needs and strategies, and develop funding strategies.



Joint Fundraising Proposals

Through our multidisciplinary network, CRC paves the way for leaders in the Capital Region to pursue grant funding based on strong cross-sector or multi-jurisdictional partnerships, as State opportunities increasingly require. Robust collaboration ensures that we maximize climate investments for our region.

Most recently in 2018, CRC coordinated a grant application to Caltrans' SB-1 Transportation Adaptation Planning Grant program and was awarded nearly \$500,000 to model the urban heat island effect in our 6-county region, develop heat mitigation and adaptation strategies, and engage with priority populations.



Quarterly Information Exchanges

CRC organizes workshops with experts to ensure that our region's, planners, policymakers, advocates, and practitioners stay informed and identify opportunities for collaboration. Through interactive discussions, participants identify actionable strategies to move the needle on climate readiness.

Previous workshops have covered topics including the intersection of extreme heat, air quality, and the transportation sector; flood risks to our region; adaptation opportunities for natural and working lands, including carbon farming, and Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and the mental health impacts of climate change.



State Policy Engagement

CRC develops robust comment letters on State policies and funding guidelines collectively with our members, and also through the Alliance of Regional Collaboratives for Climate Adaptation, coordinating directly with key state agencies to create resilient and livable communities throughout California.



Project Ideation and Design

CRC provide coordination and guidance to its members to help identify project concepts and support grant efforts that support CRC's mission of regional economic, ecological, and public benefits. CRC also provides support letters for members, showcasing strong regional and cross-sector support.



2019 Impact Report

January 1 - September 20



1000+

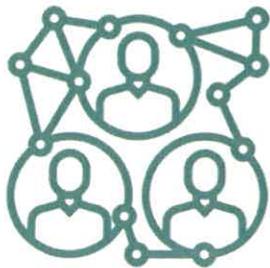
people provided direct learning opportunities through forums and webinars



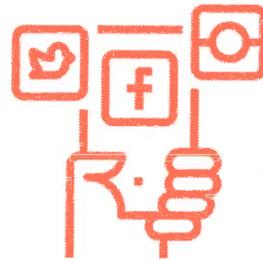
30%

growth in membership

13 requests for CRC technical assistance



27 organized community events



120,000+
views on CRC's social media



89%

of the Capital Region's population is represented by CRC membership



110%

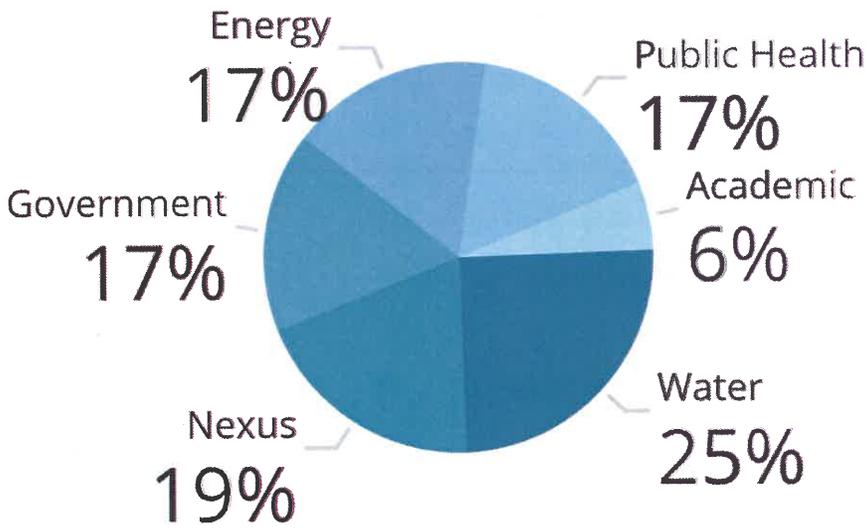
increase in newsletter subscribers

1600+

community members surveyed about transportation & extreme heat

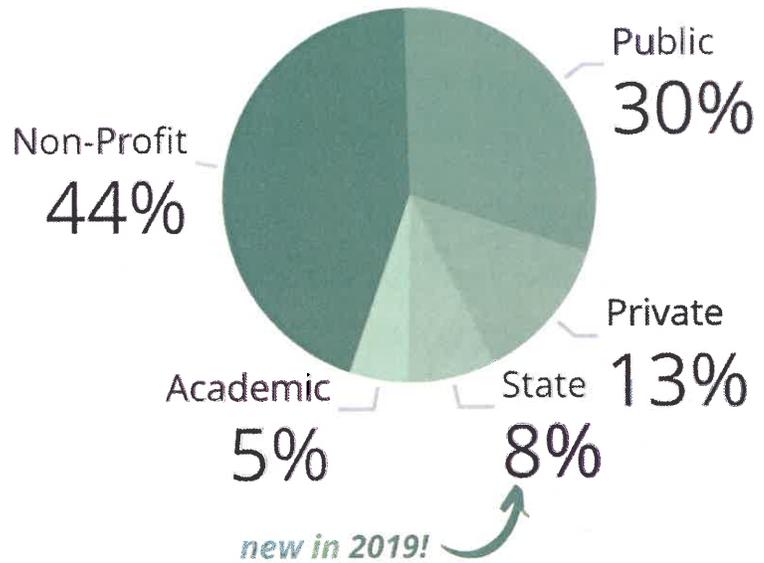


Composition of CRC Membership



Members by Sector

Members by Organization Type



The Capital Region's Growing Network of Climate Leaders





Key Collaborative Updates

- **New members:** City of Elk Grove, Delta Stewardship Council, Sierra Club Mother Lode Chapter, Yuba Water Agency. So far in 2019, *CRC membership has grown by 35%!*
- **Quarterly Workshop - Managing Our Region's Flood Risk (July 17th):** Over 80 participants gathered to learn about the Capital Region's flood risk, including current investments, existing flood infrastructure and community preparedness. All participants received flood kits provided by Sacramento County Public Works.
- **Extreme Heat Public Safety Campaign:** CRC completed its annual Extreme Heat PSA Campaign, which was viewed more than 79,000 times by users and increased CRC's follower-count by 20%.

2019 Activities

→ Webinars

- **June:** CRC hosted a webinar with the *California Office of Planning and Research* where over 100 participants learned about California's Adaptation Clearinghouse.
- **August:** CRC hosted a webinar with one of its members, the *Institute for Local Government - Public Participation: How to Authentically Engage Communities*. With over 260 people registered, it was CRC's most successful webinar to date.
- **September 26:** CRC is hosting a webinar with *ecoAmerica* about climate communication. With over 100 people registered so far from across the country, this webinar is a great opportunity to connect CRC to a national audience.

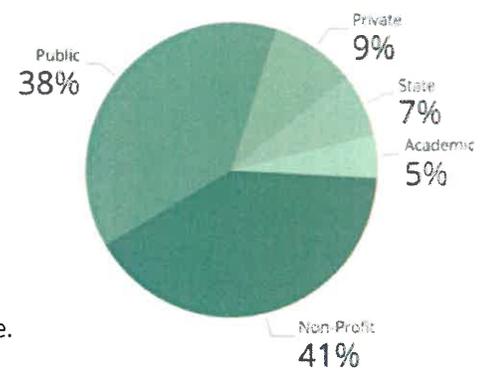
→ Workshops

- **July 17:** After the workshop, CRC met with multiple water-focused agencies and organizations in the region who attended to workshop to discuss membership and future avenues for collaboration.
- **September 23:** Members gathered for CRC's Annual Member Meeting where the executive committee provided an overview of global reports on a variety of topics to provide local context and to give members the opportunity to strategize for regional action.

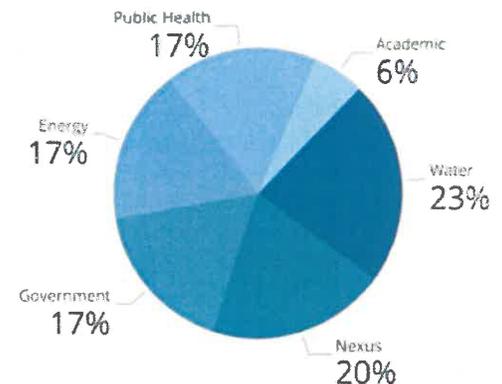
→ Recruitment

- CRC recognizes the impact State Agency employees have on the region's climate. As a result, CRC created a new membership category to invite State Agencies to engage in regionally-focused climate conversations.
- At the beginning of 2019, CRC's Steering Committee identified flood as a priority area for recruitment. Following, CRC has welcomed four new water-focused organizations as members and is currently in discussions with several more.

CRC Membership



Member Sectors



Capital Region Updates

- **Mayors' Commission on Climate Change:** The Sacramento and West Sacramento Commission has a goal to reach carbon neutrality by 2045. Many CRC members are involved with the commission and are also Commissioners.
- **South County Ag Program:** Regional San's (CRC Member) program will offer multiple benefits, including providing a safe and reliable supply of tertiary-treated water for agricultural uses, reducing groundwater pumping, supporting habitat restoration efforts, and providing ecological benefits to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.
- **Urban Wood Rescue Program:** Sacramento Tree Foundation's (CRC member) program aims to give a second life to trees removed from Sacramento's urban forest by processing their wood into usable materials for sale to the public. This results in unique wood pieces of a variety of dimensions and types of wood - perfect for DIY projects, furniture, accent pieces, wood art, and more.
- To learn what all CRC members are working on, check out: <http://climatereadiness.info/member-spotlights/>



Members of the Capital Region Climate Readiness Collaborative (CRC) receive a multitude of benefits in support of their own agency or organization's initiatives, as well as to accelerate climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts throughout our region.

Please reach out to **Grace Kaufman** at gkaufman@lgc.org for any of the following services that CRC can provide to its members.

Access to a network of climate leaders in the Capital Region

Annual Members Forum

Each year, CRC conducts a members-only forum to facilitate valuable connections between members, identify new initiatives that can be pursued collaboratively, and to highlight local and regional efforts.

Annual Check-In with Steering Committee

CRC members has the opportunity to directly connect with a steering committee representative to share about their needs, priorities, and projects for inclusion in CRC marketing efforts and to inform CRC's annual priorities.

Staff Support for Introductions, Resources, and Marketing

As requested, CRC provides introductions to connect its members to leaders and practitioners across a range of different disciplines and sectors within our broader network. CRC staff also provide additional support to locate specific resources, assist with marketing and promotion efforts, and more!

CRC Directory and Participant Lists

All members have access to a directory of CRC members, as well as participant lists from CRC's meetings.

Targeted resources and support for individual efforts

Promotion

Members have the opportunity to highlight their work through webinars hosted by CRC and ARCCA, which regularly welcome 100-200 participants.

Event Support

As requested, CRC provides support to its members to help identify high-level speakers for events, as well as to include member events in CRC's calendar, newsletter, and targeted promotion emails.

Co-Branded Marketing Materials

All members have the opportunity to co-brand marketing materials developed by CRC including the Investing In Our Future and the OutsideIn factsheet series.

Expert Consultation

By leveraging trusted relationships with key regional and State partners, CRC can help its members gather valuable input and feedback from subject-matter experts, on-the-ground practitioners, and community-based organizations for policies, plans, and resources under development.

Assistance for grant writing and development

Support Letters

CRC provides support letters for members who are applying for grants. With a diverse and expansive membership, support letters from CRC showcase strong regional and cross-sector support.

Project Ideation and Design

As new funding opportunities become available, CRC provides coordination support and guidance to members to help identify project concepts and support grant writing efforts

Joint Fundraising Proposals

A growing priority for CRC is to facilitate joint efforts to pursue funding as exemplified in the successful SB-1 Transportation Adaptation Planning Grant and Transformative Climate Communities Planning Grant applications for regional projects.

Stay up-to-date on the latest climate news and opportunities

Quarterly Information Exchange

Each quarter, CRC hosts a workshop on timely and relevant topics that bring together the region's leaders and experts for informative presentations and interactive discussions.

Biweekly Regional Newsletter

CRC members receive biweekly CRC newsletters, which include regionally-relevant news, grant opportunities, events, case studies, and resources.

Biweekly Statewide Newsletter

CRC members also receive biweekly ARCCA newsletters, which highlight key news, opportunities, and resources related to adaptation in California more broadly.

Funding Alerts

CRC sends timely and relevant announcements for new grant programs and funding opportunities to its members.

Demonstrate your leadership in and commitment to climate action

Opportunity to Join CRC Steering Committee

Each year, members are given the opportunity to join CRC's Steering Committee for a two-year commitment. By joining the Steering Committee, members can directly shape CRC priorities and activities.

Recognition as a Leader

As a member of CRC, your organization is recognized as a regional leader in climate adaptation and mitigation through our website, webinars, workshops, and newsletters.

State Policy Engagement

Members have the opportunity to engage with California's adaptation thought leaders to advance State policies by engaging in the development of robust comment letters through ARCCA.



CAPITAL REGION CLIMATE READINESS COLLABORATIVE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



CAPITAL REGION CLIMATE READINESS COLLABORATIVE

Please submit this application to
Grace Kaufman at gkaufman@lgc.org

▼ Primary Contact Name _____

▼ Primary Contact Title _____

▼ Organization _____

▼ Phone _____

▼ Email _____

▼ Mailing Address _____

▼ City _____ ▼ State _____ ▼ Zip _____

MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS

- FOUNDATIONAL MEMBERS
- PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS & SPECIAL DISTRICTS
Number of Employees: _____
- LOCAL AND REGIONAL AGENCIES
Population: _____
- STATE AGENCIES
Number of Employees: _____
- NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS & UNIVERSITIES
Number of Employees: _____

- I have read and agree to CRC's organizational structure and purpose.
Date: _____

MEMBERSHIP DUES

FOUNDATIONAL MEMBERS

Dues
\$10,000

PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS & SPECIAL DISTRICTS

Number of Employees	Dues
1 - 24	\$750
25 - 74	\$1,500
75 - 99	\$3,000
100 +	\$6,000

LOCAL AND REGIONAL AGENCIES

Population	Dues
25,000 or under	\$750
25,001 - 74,999	\$1,500
75,000 +	\$3,000

STATE AGENCIES

Number of Employees	Dues
1 - 1,000	\$1,000
1,001 - 2,499	\$2,000
2,500 +	\$3,000

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS & UNIVERSITIES

Number of Employees	Dues
1 - 25	\$250
26 - 49	\$500
50 +	\$1,000

Investing In Our Future: Natural Systems

The Capital Region is unique in its geographic diversity – from the Sierra Nevada to the rich agricultural valleys and the Delta wetlands. Our natural lands provide clean air and water, biodiverse forests and rivers, and a multitude of aesthetic, recreational, economic, and cultural benefits. While policies and investments have prioritized the built environment, safeguarding our natural systems can buffer communities against flood risks, extreme heat, drought, wildfire, and other impacts of climate change, improving resilience throughout the region.

How Will Climate Change Affect Our Natural Environments?

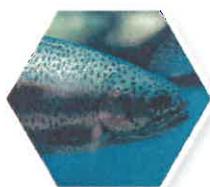


Forests and Trees

Forests provide substantial ecosystem services and serve as critical carbon sinks. However, the stresses of drought and extreme heat, which accelerate the spread of disease and pests, have taken a deadly toll on California's forests. The extreme number of dead trees increase wildfire risk and they no longer can provide air quality, carbon sequestration, and cooling benefits.

Air and Water Quality

The Sierra Nevada – our greatest source of freshwater – is at risk. Higher temperatures, decreased snowpack, and more frequent and intense wildfires are degrading the quantity and quality of water flowing downstream, as well as the water filtration and storage capacities of natural lands. Wildfire smoke also contributes to severe air pollution and diminished economic activity across the region.



Biodiversity Loss

Warmer water temperatures in the Delta and our rivers are diminishing Chinook salmon runs and contributing to the endangerment of delta smelt. Ecosystems are vulnerable to rapid changes caused by climate change, urban development, and reduced biodiversity can trigger adverse economic impacts from lost job to decreased recreational opportunities.

Rural Communities and Recreation

Climate impacts to natural environments threaten rural economies, where many jobs are closely tied to natural resources. The loss of scenic quality and recreational value also affects the tourism and outdoor recreation industry, which Sierra communities are already experiencing due to decreasing snowpack and shorter winter ski seasons.

A Local Perspective



"Long-term, active stewardship of forest communities is critical for producing high-quality fresh water and slowing the devastating effects of air pollution. Through partnerships with agencies and private landholders, we are able to demonstrate how Maidu traditional ecology and contemporary ecological science can be woven together for the benefit of the land and all who share it."
— Ken Holbrook, Executive Director,
Maidu Summit Conservancy



"Urban greenways are one of the best amenities in our region, providing flood control and wildlife habitat along with biking and walking trails. Our restoration work on the American River Parkway conserves these capabilities and creates harmony between natural ecosystems and our built environments."
— Dianna Poggetto, Executive Director,
American River Parkway Foundation

The Capital Region Climate Readiness Collaborative is exploring strategies and solutions to strengthen the climate resiliency of our region. Join us to learn more!
www.climatereadiness.info



**CAPITAL REGION
CLIMATE READINESS
COLLABORATIVE**

Investing In Our Future: Taking Action for a Healthier Community

Local Solutions for a Stronger Community

An Innovative Approach to Leverage Agriculture for Habitat Conservation

The Nigiri Project is a collaborative effort between rice farmers and researchers to help restore salmon populations in the largest floodplain of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta: the 60,000-acre Yolo Bypass. The project seeks to optimize habitat benefits for salmon and water birds, while also maintaining farming. With more than 95% of natural floodplain wetlands eliminated by the development of farms and houses, rice fields – which are typically flooded during the off-season – make an ideal habitat solution in the winter and spring for endangered fish. The Nigiri Project reintroduces juvenile salmon to flooded, dormant rice fields in the winter. After the first year, the salmon had a five-fold weight gain in only six weeks, which was among the highest growth rates recorded in Delta salmon research.

CLIMATE CHANGE BY THE NUMBERS



Sierra Nevada forests store enough carbon to offset the emissions of **108** coal-fired power plants.



The interception of stormwater by San Francisco's entire urban forest has an annual value to the city of **\$467,000**.



There are **129 million** dead and dying trees in California.



Trees may slow their growth for up to **four years** following a severe drought.

Sources: <http://www.sierranevada.ca.gov/factsheets/10.31rimrefactsheet.pdf>; <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/energy-environment/wp/2015/07/30/yes-another-way-that-climate-change-makes-itself-worse>; <https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2016/11/161125083555.htm>; https://enr.com/sites/default/files/lliers/files/ste_of_2008_annual_of_report.pdf

Become a Leader



Preserve natural lands: Restricting development to within urban boundaries allows natural lands to collect stormwater, clean the air, support trees and biodiversity,

and replenish other resources while preventing additional resource burdens and air pollution.

Implement urban
Trees provide a multitude of benefits including clean air, shading and cooling, stormwater capture and flood protection, increased property values, and crime reduction.



Invest in ecosystem health: Restoration of natural ecosystems, such as meadows, wetlands, streams, and forests, helps provide clean air and water to both urban and rural communities. Additionally, greater investments to restore the health of California's forests are critical to reducing wildfire risk, sustaining biodiversity, and preserving the carbon storage potential of upland forests and agricultural lands.



CAPITAL REGION
CLIMATE READINESS
COLLABORATIVE

Join us to learn more!
www.climatereadiness.info

What's Good for Health is Good for Climate

We care about healthy living in the Capital Region. OutsideIn means that the outside environment (climate) affects us on the inside (health). That is why we are concerned about climate change. Now is the time to come together as a community and talk about how hotter temperatures, more rain, and other changes to our environment are affecting our wellbeing. The good news is that many actions that help reduce climate change also improve the health of our families and community.

Changes to the Capital Region's rainfall patterns will challenge our streets, water systems, and everyday lives. While drought is likely to be more common in the future, climate scientists predict that storms will be stronger, and rain-on-snow events will increase. There are likely to be more floods, and rising sea levels may result in more salt water getting into the Sacramento River and Delta areas. These threats to our water supply and water quality, affect our health and way of life. The health effects from stronger storms include:

- Increased allergies from pollen, molds, and air pollution
- Injuries, illness, mental stress, and death from disasters
- Vector-borne diseases like West Nile Virus, Zika Virus, and Lyme disease
- Water-borne disease, such as diarrhea from dirty water
- Loss of housing and jobs, displacement, and economic impacts



Being Healthy in Wetter Weather

What we can do

- West Nile Virus and other diseases infect through mosquito bites. Rain followed by warmer weather leaves standing water that creates mosquito-breeding conditions.



- Always "Drain after the rain" to prevent mosquitos from breeding.
- Wear long sleeves and pants, and use repellent when outdoors. Hard ticks can spread diseases such as Lyme disease and Rocky Mountain Spotted fever. Mosquito and Vector Control

Districts remind us to cover up when outdoors.

- Prepare your home and street before storms by clearing gutters and grates.
- Add drainage on the sides of your driveway, or consider replacing an asphalt or concrete driveway with gravel, permeable pavers, or other permeable materials.

- Sign up for emergency alert notifications such as Sacramento-Alert.org to quickly receive information on emergency events.
- Plan Ahead! Visit SacramentoReady.org for an [Are You Prepared Guide](#) and information on staying safe during storms.
- Use landscaping to protect your property and the environment. Reduce, divert, and filter storm runoff by creating a [swale](#) or [rain garden](#), or using heavier mulch.
- Residents in the American River Basin can get a household rebate of up to \$500 to install a rainwater catchment system. [Check online](#) to see if you qualify.
- Adopt environmentally friendly practices, and maintain social and support networks to cope with extreme events.
- Check on elderly, family and neighbors to see that they're safe and have what's needed.

To learn more and get involved, visit the Climate Readiness Collaborative website at <http://climatereadiness.info/outsidein-capital-region/>



CAPITAL REGION
CLIMATE READINESS
COLLABORATIVE



September 25, 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

Action: Recommend adoption of revisions to RWA Policy 100.4 (RWA Awards) by the RWA Board

RWA AWARDS

The Regional Water Authority (RWA) presents two awards each year. The awards are presented at the RWA annual holiday social in December. Distinctive perpetual trophies are displayed in the RWA office and are inscribed with the recipient's names. Each honoree receives an individual trophy as well.

Water Statesperson of the Year

The Water Statesperson of the Year award recipient is selected for outstanding achievements in building alliances in the RWA service area. The awardee(s) can be from any profession or employment, and need not be an RWA member/participant. This award is intended to recognize specific "timely achievements" during the award year. This award was established in 2001.

Distinguished Service Award

The Distinguished Service Award is awarded for services and/or leadership rendered to the region's water community over a period of years. The award recipient(s) can be from any profession or employment, and not necessarily but preferably, from an RWA member agency. This award was established in 2002.

Regional Water Management Award

The Regional Water Management Award is awarded to one or more RWA member agencies or associate member agencies that implements a program or project which creatively addresses a water management need. The program or project must do one or more of the following:

- Improve water supply reliability or the management of water resources
- Improve water use efficiency or sustainability
- Reduce costs and/or improve operational efficiency
- Improve water utility services to ratepayers or customers
- Improve the environment
- Improve water quality

Eligible projects or programs must demonstrate a commitment to excellence, and show creativity in addressing a water resource or management issue on a regional scale. It is the intent of this award to be awarded for exceptionally special programs or projects, and will likely not be awarded every year.

This award was established in 2019.

September 25, 2019

AGENDA ITEM 8: 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 and Discussion: Led by Kerry Schmitz, Ad Hoc Committee Chair

September 25, 2019

AGENDA ITEM 9: 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

September 25, 2019

AGENDA ITEM 10: SACRAMENTO REGIONAL WATER BANK UPDATE

BACKGROUND:

Staff will provide an update on efforts to develop the Sacramento Regional Water Bank

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Information Update and Discussion: Rob Swartz, Manager of Technical Services

September 25, 2019

AGENDA ITEM 11: 2018 RECLAMATION WATERSMART DROUGHT INTERTIES GRANT PROGRAM AGREEMENT

BACKGROUND:

In 2018, RWA staff assisted San Juan Water District (SJWD) and Sacramento County Water Agency (SCWA) in applying for funding to construct interties with neighboring agencies through the Bureau of Reclamation's Drought Response Program. SJWD served as the lead applicant, and was awarded \$300,000 on behalf of both agencies. SJWD has recently executed a funding agreement with Reclamation.

Because of RWA's extensive experience with Reclamation grants, SJWD and SCWA want RWA to assist in managing the various grant requirements. Staff has prepared an RWA Program Agreement (enclosed) as authorized by the RWA Joint Powers Agreement. The participating agencies will directly fund the program management expenses to ensure there is no fiscal impact to RWA or its member agencies that are not participating in the program. Staff is requesting that the Executive Committee approve the Program Agreement.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Information Update: Rob Swartz, Manager of Technical Services

Action: Approve the 2018 Reclamation WaterSMART Drought Interties Program Agreement

**REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY
PROGRAM AGREEMENT**

2018 RECLAMATION WATERSMART DROUGHT INTERTIES GRANT

This Agreement is made and entered into effective as of the ___ day of _____, 2019, by and between the Regional Water Authority (“RWA”), a joint exercise of powers authority formed under California Government Code section 6500, and following, and the San Juan Water District and Sacramento County Water Agency, upon their execution of this Agreement (who are collectively referred to in this Agreement as “Participants”), to provide for carrying out a project or program that is within the authorized purposes of RWA, and sharing in the cost and benefits by the Participants.

RECITALS

A. RWA is a joint powers authority, formed to serve and represent regional water supply interests and to assist its members in protecting and enhancing the reliability, availability, affordability and quality of water resources.

B. The joint powers agreement (“RWA JPA”) pursuant to which RWA was formed and operates, authorizes RWA to enter into a “Project or Program Agreement,” which is defined in the RWA JPA as an agreement between RWA and two or more of its Members or Contracting Entities to provide for carrying out a project or program that is within the authorized purposes of RWA, and sharing in the cost and benefits by the parties to the Project or Program Agreement.

C. Article 21 of the RWA JPA states: “The Regional Authority’s projects are intended to facilitate and coordinate the development, design, construction, rehabilitation, acquisition or financing of water-related facilities (including sharing in the cost of federal, State or local projects) on behalf of Members and/or Contracting Entities. The Regional Authority may undertake the development, design, construction, rehabilitation, acquisition or funding of all or any portion of such projects on behalf of Members and/or Contracting Entities in the manner and to the extent authorized by such Members and/or Contracting Entities as provided in this Agreement, but shall not accomplish these functions, nor acquire or own water-related facilities in its own name.”

D. Article 22 of the RWA JPA states: “Prior to undertaking a project or program, the Members and/or Contracting Entities who elect to participate in a project or program shall enter into a Project or Program Agreement. Thereafter, all assets, benefits and obligations attributable to the project shall be assets, benefits and obligations of those Members and/or Contracting Entities that have entered into the Project or Program Agreement. Any debts, liabilities, obligations or indebtedness incurred by the Regional Authority in regard to a particular project or program, including startup costs advanced by the Regional Authority, shall be obligations of the participating Members and/or Contracting Entities, and shall not be the debts, liabilities, obligations and indebtedness of those Members and/or Contracting Entities who have not executed the Project or Program Agreement.”

E. RWA and the Participants desire to carry out a Program and share in the costs and

benefits of the project, as a Project or Program Agreement as provided for in Articles 21 and 22 of the RWA JPA.

In consideration of the promises, terms, conditions and covenants contained herein, the parties to this Agreement hereby agree as follows:

- 1. Recitals Incorporated.** The foregoing recitals are hereby incorporated by reference.
- 2. Defined Terms.** Terms defined in the RWA JPA will have the same meaning in this Agreement.
- 3. Description of the Program.** This is a collaborative project between the Participants to use a grant award from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) WaterSMART Drought Response Program: Drought Resiliency Projects for Fiscal Year 2018. San Juan Water District (“SJWD”) acted as the lead agency and was awarded the grant. RWA will serve as the grant manager on behalf of the Participants.

The proposed project will install or improve interties at the Kokila Reservoir in Placer County by SJWD and at the Franklin Booster Station in Sacramento County by the Sacramento County Water Agency (“SCWA”). Participants have committed \$324,645 in direct and in-kind funding to the project to be matched by \$300,000 in Reclamation grant funds. The project duration is to run from October 1, 2018 through December 31, 2020.

- 4. Sharing in Program Costs and Benefits.** Subject to the provisions of Articles 8 and 10 of this Agreement, two RWA members will participate in the Program. Each Participant will ensure that it meets its obligation for its identified local cost share portion. Each Participant will pay a prorated share for the RWA project management costs that are estimated to be \$12,790 identified in Article 7 of this Agreement. The prorated share for project management is based on the initial grant award to each agency as shown in **Exhibit 1** to this Agreement.

Reclamation has reduced the overall grant award to fund Reclamation’s environmental review expenses. Reclamation has estimated this fee for environmental review at \$22,883. The Participants agree to share in this expense by reducing their shares of the grant award in equal amounts. If Reclamation determines that the entire fee estimated for environmental is not needed, those funds will be restored to the Participants in equal amounts. **Exhibit 1** provides the required local cost share of each Participant and an estimate of the grant benefit for each of the Participants. If Reclamation determines that additional project management expenses are required, the participants agree to reduce their grant awards to cover those costs in equal amounts unless the additional fees can be specifically attributed to one of the Participants. At the time of execution of the Reclamation funding agreement on September 17, 2019, Reclamation obligated \$277,117.00 as the total estimated funding award available.

In accordance with the provisions of Articles 21 and 22 of the RWA JPA, any debts, liabilities, obligations or indebtedness incurred by RWA in regard to the Program will be the obligations of the Participants, and will not be the debts, liabilities, obligations and indebtedness of those Members and/or Contracting Entities who have not executed this Agreement.

5. Role of RWA. The Executive Director of RWA will ensure that the interests of Members and Contracting Entities of RWA who do not participate in this Program are not adversely affected in performing this Agreement. The RWA Program Manager will (a) provide information to the Participants on the status of implementation of the Program, (b) assist the Participants in carrying out their activities consistent with the terms of the Reclamation funding agreement, and (c) administer the grant on behalf of the Participants consistent with the provisions of this Agreement.

6. Role of Participants. SJWD is considered the grantee, and is the only Participant to execute the funding agreement with Reclamation. However, all Participants must ensure that they implement their portions of the Program consistent with the Reclamation funding agreement included as **Exhibit 2**. The Reclamation grant is a Federal award and is therefore subject to the Davis-Bacon Act for labor standards and other applicable federal “cross-cutter” requirements as more fully described and imposed on each Participant by their incorporation into this Agreement by **Exhibit 2**. Program participants agree to submit information associated with fulfilling the statement of work in a timely fashion to allow RWA and SJWD to meet reporting requirements and to notify RWA regarding any delays in the Program that could result in meeting the overall goal of completing their respective projects by December 31, 2020. No funds will be disbursed to any Participant that is not current with all compliance and reporting obligations.

7. RWA Program Management Fee. The RWA management fee to administer the Program is estimated to be \$12,790, and is itemized in **Exhibit 3**. Each Participant will be assessed a prorated portion of this fee based on its initial grant award. Management activities include development of Program agreements, Program guidance, semi-annual reporting and semi-annual invoice processing, and final project reports as required by the Reclamation funding agreement.

8. Authorization to Proceed with the Program. The Program is authorized to proceed upon the commitment of the Participants to fund Program costs by each Participant’s approval and execution of this Agreement. Upon execution of this Agreement, the Participants agree to make their payments to cover their shares of the management fees, which are estimated at \$8,953 for SJWD and \$3,837 for SCWA. Payments will be due and payable upon RWA’s presentation of an invoice to each Participant.

9. Term. This Agreement will remain in effect for so long as any obligations under this Agreement remain outstanding.

10. Withdrawal. A Participant may withdraw from this Agreement without requiring termination of this Agreement, effective upon ninety days’ notice to RWA and the other Participants, provided that, the withdrawing Participant will remain responsible for any indebtedness incurred by the Participant under this Agreement prior to the effective date of withdrawal.

11. Amendments. This Agreement may be amended from time to time only with the written approval of all of the Participants and RWA.

12. General Provisions. Any notice to be given under this Agreement shall be made by: (a) depositing in any United States Post Office, postage prepaid, and shall be deemed received at the expiration of 72 hours after its deposit; (b) transmission by facsimile copy; (c) transmission by electronic mail; or (d) personal delivery. This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of California. This Agreement may be executed by the parties in counterpart, each of which when executed and delivered shall be an original and all of which together will constitute one and the same document.

The foregoing 2018 Reclamation WaterSMART Drought Interties Grant Program Agreement is hereby consented to and authorized by RWA and the Participants.

Dated: _____, 2019

Dated: _____, 2019

Signature

Signature

James Peifer

Name

Name

Regional Water Authority

Agency

EXHIBIT 1**REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY****2018 RECLAMATION WATERSMART DROUGHT INTERTIES METER GRANT****LOCAL COST SHARE AND
ESTIMATED BENEFITS**

Agency	Local Share	Initial Grant Share	Reclamation Project Management Fee Deduction*	Net Estimated Grant Share
San Juan Water District	\$231,996	\$208,500	\$11,441.50	\$197,058.50
Sacramento County Water Agency	\$92,649	\$91,500	\$11,441.50	\$80,058.50
Total	\$324,645	\$300,000	\$22,883	\$277,117

*This was the project management deducted at the time of execution of the Reclamation funding agreement. It included environmental review. If Reclamation determines that the entire fee estimated for environmental is not needed, those funds will be restored to the Participants in equal amounts. If additional amounts for Reclamation staff expenses are deducted, those costs will be deducted in equal amounts unless the additional fees can be specifically attributed to one of the Participants.

EXHIBIT 2

REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY

2018 RECLAMATION WATERSMART DROUGHT INTERTIES GRANT

**U.S. BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
FUNDING ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT**

[To be inserted into final agreement]

DRAFT

EXHIBIT 3

REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY

2018 RECLAMATION WATERSMART DROUGHT INTERTIES GRANT

**ESTIMATE OF RWA
PROGRAM MANAGEMENT EXPENSES**

PROGRAM MANAGEMENT COST ESTIMATE - 2018 Reclamation WaterSMART Drought Interties Grant				
Management Tasks	Staff	hrs	Rate	Total
Grant Agreement Administration/Support and	Manager of Technical Services	24	190	\$4,560
Project Agreement Development	RWA legal counsel	2	315	\$630
Prepare up to 2 Invoices for Grant Reimbursement to Reclamation and Distribute to Participants	Manager of Technical Services	16	190	\$3,040
Prepare up to 3 Semi-Annual Reports to Reclamation	Manager of Technical Services	12	190	\$2,280
Prepare Final Grant Report	Manager of Technical Services	12	190	\$2,280
Total RWA Program Management Expenses				\$12,790

September 25, 2019

AGENDA ITEM 12: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

SEPTEMBER 25, 2019

TO: REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

FROM: JIM PEIFER

RE: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- a. **Finance and Administrative Services Manager Recruitment** – An offer of employment has been presented to Ms. Josette Reina-Luken for the position of Finance and Administrative Manager and she has accepted. Ms. Reina-Luken will begin on October 8th.
- b. **RWA Outreach** – Jim Peifer participated on a panel on Urban, Rural and Agricultural Supplies at the State Water Resources Control Board on September 23rd. The Panel discussion was part of a larger Drought Panel discussion to inform the Water Resilience Portfolio Initiative.

Rob Swartz presented on the Sacramento Regional Water Bank to the Groundwater Resources of California's Western Groundwater Congress on September 19th and to the City of Sacramento Water Committee on September 24th.

Jim Peifer, Rob Swartz, Amy Talbot, and Ryan Ojakian are meeting with members of the Water Forum Environmental Caucus on September 26th to brief them on a variety of RWA activities.

Jim Peifer has continued to meet with member agencies 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:

- City of Sacramento
- Del Paso Manor Water District

Jim Peifer participated on a regional advocacy trip with a number of RWA member agencies to Washington DC to discuss funding needs for the Sacramento Regional Water Bank. The trip occurred during the period of September 15th to September 18th.

- c. **Water Loss Regulations** – The water loss regulation part of the water supplier based water budgets required in the recently passed Senate Bill 606, Assembly Bill 1668 and associated Senate Bill 555, is currently being discussed and considered at the state level. The regulation would define a numeric water loss target for each urban retail water supplier in the state. The State Water Resources Control Board (SWB) is proposing a complex individual water supplier target based on a cost effectiveness model, which would define appropriate water loss actions for implementation matched with associated decrease in water loss. The California Municipal Utilities Association

(CMUA) has developed an alternative approach, the "simple approach" that proposes a single state wide standard for water loss based on gallons per connection per day with an option for alternative compliance. The SWB is hosting a meeting on September 23rd to discuss their approach. The water loss regulation target is required to be complete by July 2020.

September 25, 2019

AGENDA ITEM 13: DIRECTORS' COMMENTS