



Chair Bigley called the Special Meeting of the Board of Directors to order at 2:00 p.m. as a teleconference meeting. Individuals who participated are listed below:

RWA Board Members

Evan Jacobs, California American Water
Cathy Lee, Carmichael Water District
Hilary Straus, Citrus Heights Water District
Marcus Yasutake, City of Folsom
Bruce Houdesheldt, City of Roseville
Sean Bigley, City of Roseville
Michelle Carrey, City of Sacramento
Bill Roberts, City of West Sacramento
Diana Langley, City of Yuba City
John Lenahan, Del Paso Manor Water District
Brian Mueller, El Dorado Irrigation District
Jim Abercrombie, El Dorado Irrigation District
Bruce Kamilos, Elk Grove Water District
Paul Schubert, Golden State Water Company
Robert Hunter, Orange Vale Water Company
Tony Firenzi, Placer County Water Agency
Tom Hennig, Rancho Murieta Community Services District
Kerry Schmitz, Sacramento County Water Agency
Kevin Thomas, Sacramento Suburban Water District
Dan Rich, San Juan Water District
Greg Zlotnick, San Juan Water District

RWA Associate Members

Ansel Lundberg, Sacramento Municipal Utilities District and Ken Payne, El Dorado Water Agency

RWA Affiliate Members

Rebecca Guo and Vanessa Nishikawa, Stantec and Jim Mulligan, West Yost Associates

Staff Members

Jim Peifer, Rob Swartz, Ryan Ojakian, Michelle Banonis, Amy Talbot, Josette Reina-Luken, Monica Garcia and Jennifer Buckman, Legal Counsel

Others in Attendance:

Angela Frost, Anne Sanger, Bill Busath, Bobby Alvarez, Brett Ewart, Brian Hensley, Brian McKee, Brian Sanders, William Cassady, Chris Nelson, Christian Bennett, Dan Corcoran, Debra Kahn, Don Smith, Edwin DeLeon, Jeffrey Weaver, Jennifer Scaffi, Jessica Law, Karen Wilhelm, Kristin White, Linda Higgins, Marcy Goodman, Marty Hanneman, Maurice Chaney, Mike Huot, Erika Nelson-Johnson, Pam Tobin, Paul Selsky, Rich Plecker, Robert Barragan, Roshini Das, Ryan Burnett, Stephen Grinnel, Travis Franklin, William Granger, Christine Kohn, Greg Bundesen, Mike Grinstead and Paul Helliker

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

2. MEETING PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES, AND UPDATES SINCE MARCH 3RD DRY YEAR COORDINATION MEETING

Chair Bigley said that the intent and purpose of this meeting is for general managers in the region to have discussion about coordination, collaboration and other areas relative to dry year or drought situations and any other issues along those lines. Information was provided on our water supply outlook and a draft resolution was presented for discussion and feedback. There was discussion from water efficiency staff , communications practitioners and our government relations staff on coordinating the region.

3. WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK

Mr. Firenzi, Placer County Water Agency (PCWA), gave a report on PCWA operations and supply on the Middle Fork Project, the American River watershed where PCWA operates their system and Lake Spaulding. The forecast is that PCWA will make the carryover target of 130,000 acre feet. There are concerns about temperature management for the fisheries during the dry years.

Mr. Corcoran, El Dorado Irrigation District (EID), reported on the district water supplies and what they anticipate for the future. Any runoff is at its peak now and over the next 3 to 4 weeks will return to base flow conditions. Creek Tunnel diverts water from their canal and the South Fork of the American River. EID is on target to be in the range of end of carryover storage target conditions. Preparations are being made for a potential curtailment and they are messaging to have responsible use of water resources. Review of the district's drought action plan will be presented to their board on May 24th.

Mr. Lundberg, Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD), presented on the reservoir system in the Upper American River Project, mainly on Silver Creek and the South Fork of the American River. He explained their storage volumes, how the water flows through their system, the forecasted precipitation and their storage contents at their three largest reservoirs.

Ms. Law, Water Forum Executive Director, said that the dry conditions throughout California continue to deteriorate. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed with the Bureau of Reclamation earlier this year. Work has been done with the Bureau of Reclamation and other agencies to take local action for management to balance our water supply. Conditions on the Lower American River are complex and based on all current forecasts and modeling, we are expected to be in a dire situation. She said that we need to be thinking about what storage looks like now and what it could potentially mean for subsequent years.

Mr. Weaver, HDR, presented expectations for inflows for the rest of the year. He provided information on where we are today and the estimate from the Bureau of Reclamation with regards to storage. Storage in Folsom is well below what we have seen historically, with the exception of 1977. Calendar year 2013 was one of the driest falls on record with historically low inflows into the reservoir and storage plummeted. It was equivalent to 99% exceedance inflow that fall, which shows that whatever snow there had been in the watershed was gone by fall. Our low runoff between the snow and the reservoir inflows are of real concern.

4. BUREAU OF RECLAMATION COORDINATION

Ms. White, US Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), reported that releases are being made everywhere for Delta outflow. We are entering a critical year and the shifting down towards 90% exceedance that we saw in February is not unusual for a critical year. She gave an overview of the results from lack of inflows and snowpack with nothing flowing into our reservoirs creating a serious water delivery problem. They are working on any action that can boost Folsom storage. Other reservoirs in the system have challenges as well. Another concern is the loss of water to groundwater underneath the river systems. If water that is taken for landscaping and irrigation could be reduced that could be helpful for Reclamation given the situation. Any information that can be given to Reclamation about any plans, shortage revisions or changing up on some of the upstream reservoir operations would be helpful.

5. KEY COORDINATION MATTERS – REVIEW OF KEY AREAS OF FOCUS FROM MARCH 3RD DRY YEAR COORDINATION MEETING

Mr. Peifer said that a mutual aid agreement has been distributed to member agencies that can be adapted for their own purposes. The RWA drought year messaging has been updated and will be updated again with the information received today.

6. REVIEW AND POTENTIAL AMENDMENTS TO COORDINATED REGIONAL APPROACHES (TO INCLUDE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE RWA BOARD OF DIRECTORS)

Chair Bigley presented a draft resolution for discussion and possible recommendation for RWA Board adoption. The resolution, as presented, is written in a way to be non-binding for RWA member agencies. It provides some

helpful tools for the RWA to move forward and recognizes differences between public utilities and investor-owned companies. The resolution provides a clear message that although our water supplies are secure, we understand the dry year situation and RWA is willing to help coordinate local efforts to mitigate and solve dry year and drought related challenges. The resolution provides RWA with the ability and tools to be responsive and supportive in providing necessary help to the RWA membership when requested and needed.

Mr. Peifer said that the resolution is consistent with the RWA mission, while being responsive to hydrologic conditions and the stressed fishery in the Lower American River. Through water use efficiency and reduced water demands within the region and investments in our water facilities, we have a secure water supply for this summer.

Mr. Yasutake mentioned that in the document it refers to asking agencies to reduce or conserve water. Some agencies require governing body approval to implement water use reductions or to require or ask for water use reductions. Agency approval may be needed to be able to support the RWA resolution.

Chair Bigley said that the language in the resolution needs to give RWA member agencies the ability to implement the resolution in a way that works for them. We are looking for a quick time turnaround before the resolution is presented to the full board for adoption recognizing that some agencies have to go to their boards for explicit approval to take these types of actions.

There was discussion on what agencies should use for a baseline for water efficiency and reduction in water use. It was suggested that Amy Talbot give her thoughts on what an appropriate baseline would be to operate from and incorporate that into the resolution.

RWA was looking for direction from the agencies before presenting the resolution to the full RWA Board for deliberation, consideration, and ultimate adoption. With the input and discussion today, edits will be incorporated into the document prior to presentation to the RWA Board.

7. COMMUNICATION, PROGRAMMATIC AND POLICY COORDINATION UPDATES

Ms. Talbot gave a PowerPoint presentation with information on regional monthly water production and individual production by agency. She addressed the baseline question saying that she recommends using 2019 as a baseline. She outlined plans for drought related messaging and available resources. Drought activities include grant funded rebate programs that are available to suppliers to supplement their local programs including rebates for irrigation nozzles, irrigation controllers, drip irrigation and turf replacement programs. Interested agencies will pay for rebates upfront, submit invoices to the RWA Water Efficiency program and receive reimbursement funding directly from RWA through the Department of Water Resources. Additionally, regional grant funding supplements the RWA Water

Efficiency Program’s annual public outreach program by expanding media buys. The Public Outreach Committee has already updated messaging language for outdoor water use and household water use to be responsive to dry year conditions.

Mr. Ojakian gave updated information on legislative activities. It remains to be seen what the details are with the Governor’s \$5.1 billion in funding to address drought issues and the \$3.4 billion Senate budget package and where the funding will be directed.

8. SET NEXT MEETING

A meeting will be scheduled in a month, as needed.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Board, Chair Bigley adjourned the meeting at 4:10 p.m.

By:

Chairperson

Attest:

Josette Reina-Luken, Board Secretary / Treasurer