

Chair Sanger called the meeting of the RWA Federal Affairs Standing Committee to order at 11:00 a.m. as a teleconference meeting.

1. Roll Call

Individuals in attendance are listed below:

Committee Members in Attendance:

Anne Sanger, Chair, City of Sacramento

Cathy Lee, Carmichael Water District

Noelle Mattock, City of Roseville

Sean Bigley, City of Roseville

Brian Sanders, City of Sacramento

Tony Firenzi, Placer County Water Agency

Robert Dugan, Placer County Water Agency

Forrest Williams, Sacramento County Water Agency

Greg Bundesen, Sacramento Suburban Water District

Greg Zlotnick, San Juan Water District

Committee Members Not in Attendance:

Evan Jacobs, California-American Water and Grace Espindola,

City of Yuba City

Others in Attendance:

Ryan Ojakian, Eric Sapirstein, Michelle Banonis, Lane Dickson,

Ross Branch, Mark Smith, Jim Peifer and Cecilia Partridge

2. Public Comment

Chair Sanger opened the meeting for anyone who had anything that they would like to share with the Federal Affairs Committee.

3. Approval of previous meeting minutes

Minutes from the August 18, 2021, October 20, 2021 and November 17, 2021 RWA Federal Affairs Standing Committee Meetings.

Motion/Second/Carried (M/S/C) Mr. Bigley moved, with a second by Mr. Zlotnick, to approve the August 18, 2021, October 20, 2021 and November 17, 2021, RWA Federal Affairs Standing Committee meeting minutes. Mr. Firenzi abstained. Ms. Lee was not present when the vote was taken. The motion carried by the voice vote of the remaining committee members.

4. Disclosures and Regional Coordination

Chair Sanger said that a press event will be rescheduled with Secretary Crowfoot and Sacramento Mayor Steinberg sometime in January.

Mr. Bigley reported that the city of Roseville is working on a grant application for a solar array battery backup project at their water treatment plant in Granite Bay for energy resilience. Support letters will be requested from the RWA to be included in the grant application.

5. Federal Legislative Review

Mr. Sapirstein said that the infrastructure bill includes emergency appropriations, so funding is available without the FY22 budget having been completed yet. He gave an overview of the Build Back Better legislation and the process for the funds to be distributed. There is \$200 million that will go to environmental infrastructure and specific projects.

6. WIIN Act Funding for Water Bank Status

Ms. Banonis gave an update on the MOA with Reclamation that will be sent to RWA soon. The MOA will define the steps and commitments that each of the participating parties are making. The next steps include development of a project management plan and establishing the process for securing a contributed funds agreement between Reclamation and RWA.

There was discussion on assembling a list to include projects that are at the construction phase. It was suggested that members meet to discuss the project list.

Chair Sanger mentioned that the Legislative Platform was distributed to the Federal Affairs Committee members and was posted on the website. There was discussion on presenting the Federal Legislative Platform for adoption by the RWA full board at the January 2022 meeting. Input was encouraged and for any updates to be sent to Chair Sanger. There was discussion on adding a section to the platform highlighting support for funding conservation and water efficiency programs.

The RWA strategic plan requires that the Federal Affairs Committee be evaluated each year to review the successes of the committee and what the committee would like to accomplish in the future.

7. Action Items

The Federal Affairs Legislative Platform will be presented at the RWA January meeting. The Federal Affairs Committee will be evaluated as directed in the RWA strategic plan.

A letter will be drafted to Reclamation Regional Director Ernest Conant requesting the water bank be included in the next round of funding.

Project lists will be requested from agencies.

8. Public Comment

None.

9. Next Meeting January 19, 2022.

10. Adjournment

Chair Sanger adjourned the meeting at 11:52 a.m.

By:

Chairperson

Attest:
