



**Regional Water Authority
Executive Committee Meeting
Minutes
December 13, 2021**

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

Executive Committee Members

Ron Greenwood, Carmichael Water District
Sean Bigley, City of Roseville
Bill Roberts, City of West Sacramento
Paul Schubert, Golden State Water Company
Tony Firenzi, Placer County Water Agency
Kerry Schmitz, Sacramento County Water Agency
Dan York, Sacramento Suburban Water District
Dan Rich, San Juan Water District

Staff Members

Jim Peifer, Ryan Ojakian, Rob Swartz, Ryan Ojakian, Michelle Banonis, Josette Reina-Luken, Monica Garcia, Cecilia Partridge and Andrew Ramos, legal counsel

Others in Attendance

Brian Sanders, Bob Reisig, Cathy Lee, Paul Helliker, Greg Zlotnick and Peggy Vande Vooren

- 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.

None

3. CONSENT CALENDAR

- 3a. Authorize a Teleconference Meeting
3b. Minutes of the October 27, 2021, Executive Committee meeting

Motion/Second/Carried (M/S/C) Mr. Schubert moved, with a second by Mr. York to approve the consent calendar items. Ron Greenwood, Carmichael Water District, Sean Bigley, City of Roseville, Bill Roberts, City of West Sacramento, Paul Schubert, Golden State Water Company, Tony Firenzi, Placer County Water Agency, Kerry Schmitz, Sacramento County Water

Agency, Dan York, Sacramento Suburban Water District and Dan Rich, San Juan Water District voted yes.

4. 2021 AUDIT REPORT

Ms. Vande Vooren reported that there are two documents issued by Gilbert Associates for the 2021 RWA audit, a financial statement, and required communications. She gave a brief overview of the audit with a clean opinion report this year. Management provided all documents requested, there were no new accounting policies adopted, no audit adjustments and no findings to report. The Management's Discussion and Analysis gives an overview of any changes that occurred during the year and provides future forecasting explanations of why items went up and down. She gave highlights of the Financial Statements, Pension Liability, the Statement of Revenues and Expenses and the Cash Flow Statement.

M/S/C Mr. Greenwood moved, with a second by Mr. Roberts to recommend RWA Board acceptance of the 2021 RWA Financial Audit Report. Ron Greenwood, Carmichael Water District, Sean Bigley, City of Roseville, Bill Roberts, City of West Sacramento, Paul Schubert, Golden State Water Company, Tony Firenzi, Placer County Water Agency, Kerry Schmitz, Sacramento County Water Agency, Dan York, Sacramento Suburban Water District and Dan Rich, San Juan Water District voted yes.

5. ANNUAL REVIEW OF RWA INVESTMENT POLICY 500.2 AND OTHER POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB)

Mr. Peifer said that accounting standards require investment policies and associated investment's selections be reviewed annually. There are no recommended changes to the policy.

Ms. Reina-Luken said that this review is in accordance with our annual audit. She provided information on our current investment strategies and how they are managed.

M/S/C Mr. Firenzi moved, with a second by Mr. Roberts to recommend no changes to Policy 500.2 and/or OPEB investment portfolio to the RWA Board of Directors. Ron Greenwood, Carmichael Water District, Sean Bigley, City of Roseville, Bill Roberts, City of West Sacramento, Paul Schubert, Golden State Water Company, Tony Firenzi, Placer County Water Agency, Kerry Schmitz, Sacramento County Water Agency, Dan York, Sacramento Suburban Water District and Dan Rich, San Juan Water District voted yes.

6. BUREAU OF RECLAMATION MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT (MOA)

Ms. Banonis said that the proposed Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) is for the completion of the Sacramento Regional Water Bank project with shared costs between Reclamation and RWA members that are participating in the subscription program. The document envisions moving toward completion of feasibility, analysis

and environmental compliance activities for the water bank and outlines the steps to take. After Reclamation recommends a project for approval to the Commissioner's Office, it is then sent to the Office of Management and Budget, and then goes to Congress to set an appropriations limit on the project. The MOA calls for the joint development of a federally acknowledged water bank for water supply reliability and defines the roles and responsibilities of the parties and how to track costs. Technical modeling work that was done by RWA will be put up as a cost share component. The MOA is part of an administrative process to move the contributed funds agreement process forward. RWA will be serving in the capacity of representative for participating agencies. A draft project management plan may be available to provide additional information before the January RWA Board meeting.

M/S/C Mr. Schubert moved, with a second by Mr. York to recommend approval of the Bureau of Reclamation MOA to the RWA Board of Directors. Ron Greenwood, Carmichael Water District, Sean Bigley, City of Roseville, Bill Roberts, City of West Sacramento, Paul Schubert, Golden State Water Company, Tony Firenzi, Placer County Water Agency, Kerry Schmitz, Sacramento County Water Agency, Dan York, Sacramento Suburban Water District and Dan Rich, San Juan Water District voted yes.

7. REGIONAL EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM

Mr. Peifer said that some RWA members have expressed an interest in sharing the costs of a Regional Emergency Preparedness Program (REPP) to support improved coordination and develop an approach that accounts for risks and responses at a regional scale. There is member interest to engage the services of a consultant to help guide us through the process to provide recommendations to those interested RWA members on how to integrate and coordinate member capabilities, alleviate risks and limitations, and create a unified incident response command. This is proposed as a subscription program.

Ms. Banonis explained that this would be a process where a more regional approach can be taken to planning and evaluating risks to evaluate resource sharing in the event of an emergency. The first effort would be to gather information and conduct a facilitated seminar to assess coordinating member capabilities and finding areas for improvement. From the information, a recommendation for further action would be created. The proposed draft REPP Subscription Program Agreement is for discussion and approval.

M/S/C Mr. Schubert moved, with a second by Mr. York to recommend to approve the Regional Emergency Preparedness Program Agreement. Ron Greenwood, Carmichael Water District, Sean Bigley, City of Roseville, Bill Roberts, City of West Sacramento, Paul Schubert, Golden State Water Company, Tony Firenzi, Placer County Water Agency, Kerry Schmitz, Sacramento County Water Agency and Dan York, Sacramento Suburban Water District voted yes. Dan Rich, San Juan Water District abstained.

8. STATE WATER BOARD EMERGENCY RULEMAKING: WASTEFUL WATER USE

Mr. Ojakian reported that the State Water Resources Control Board (SWB) has initiated the process under emergency rule making to prohibit certain wasteful water uses. The wasteful water uses include but are not limited to irrigating after a measurable rain event, using water in a non-recycling water fountain, washing cars without a shutoff on the hose, hosing down sidewalks and hardscapes. Additionally, the rule making would limit the ability of homeowners' associations (and similar organizations) from requiring certain landscape maintenance as well as cities and counties from issuing fines for not maintaining certain outdoor landscape. One of the additional benefits that the notice highlights is "increased drought awareness and shared sense of responsibility among urban water users." He said that we are already doing these things under Water Efficiency and suggested the RWA Executive Committee take a support position, with a recommendation that the rule making be adjusted to avoid adverse impacts of urban trees.

M/S/C Mr. Roberts moved, with a second by Ms. Schmitz to take a position of support on the State Water Board Emergency Rulemaking. Ron Greenwood, Carmichael Water District, Sean Bigley, City of Roseville, Bill Roberts, City of West Sacramento, Paul Schubert, Golden State Water Company, Tony Firenzi, Placer County Water Agency, Kerry Schmitz, Sacramento County Water Agency, Dan York, Sacramento Suburban Water District and Dan Rich, San Juan Water District voted yes.

9. LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY UPDATE

Mr. Ojakian reported that bills related to indoor water use efficiency standards are expected to be heard in the Assembly in January. It is possible that bills will be introduced related to turf prohibitions and water energy nexus. There is a projected budget surplus in the coming budget year (2022-2023), and there is reason to believe that individual members will have an ability to advocate for specific funding in their respective districts. He is working to get a portion of the budget surplus for water resilient infrastructure, specifically infrastructure necessary for implementation of the water bank.

A Special Board meeting is expected to be scheduled in January to update the RWA Board on water use legislation and the regulatory/rulemaking process.

10. WATER QUALITY AD HOC COMMITTEE

Chair Bigley will appoint members to a Water Quality Ad Hoc Committee.

11. JANUARY 13, 2022 RWA BOARD MEETING AGENDA

M/S/C Ms. Schmitz moved, with a second by Mr. Roberts to approve the January 13, 2022 proposed RWA Board Meeting agenda. Ron Greenwood, Carmichael Water District, Sean Bigley, City of Roseville, Bill Roberts, City of West Sacramento, Paul Schubert, Golden State Water Company, Tony

Firenzi, Placer County Water Agency, Kerry Schmitz, Sacramento County Water Agency, Dan York, Sacramento Suburban Water District and Dan Rich, San Juan Water District voted yes.

12. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Peifer asked for feedback from the Executive Committee on in-person meetings versus teleconference meetings. Facilitating integrated meetings that include in-person and teleconference participation are challenging and require additional audio and visual resources. It was noted that some agencies are restricting employees from attending in-person meetings at this time.

RWA staff attended the ACWA Fall Conference in-person and met with representatives of other agencies, including the Metropolitan Water District. Staff will be attending the ACWA Spring Conference, 2022 Cap-to-Cap in Washington, DC, and Bureau of Reclamation Water Users Conference in January.

At the December SGA Board meeting, the vote was affirmative to support the recommendation from the RWA Executive Committee to amend the Executive Director's employment agreement.

The staff cost of living allowances (COLA) will run 6.9% this year and will be a shared expense with SGA. This is higher than typically budgeted for COLA and may affect the next budget.

13. DIRECTORS' COMMENTS

Mr. Greenwood reported that Carmichael Water District is going through a 2 x 2 committee study for feasibility of a merger with Sacramento Suburban Water District. He said that the district is constructing a new storage tank.

Mr. Roberts said that the City of West Sacramento is discussing alternative water supplies with the City of Sacramento. They will be moving into a new Corporation Yard next spring.

Mr. Firenzi said that Brent Smith retired a week ago and Jeremy Shepherd has been named as the Director of Technical Services for Placer County Water Agency.

Ms. Schmitz said that tomorrow Sacramento County will take action on three GSPs.

Mr. York reported that a Sacramento Suburban Water District board member resigned November 15th. Several qualified candidates have applied for the position.

Chair Bigley said that it has been his pleasure to serve as 2021 Executive Committee Chair.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Bigley adjourned the meeting at 10:18 a.m.

By:

Chairperson

Attest:

Board Secretary