

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  
Evan Jacobs, California American Water  
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  
Greg Budesen, Sacramento Suburban Water District  
Jeni Buckman, legal counsel

#### **Committee Members Not in Attendance:**

Grace Espindola, City of Yuba City and Greg Zlotnick, San Juan Water District

#### **Others in Attendance:**

Kristi More, Ryan Ojakian, Eric Sapirstein, Lane Dickson, David Wheaton, Katherine Willis, Travis Franklin, Paul Helliker, Bruce Kamilos, Michelle Banonis, Jim Peifer and Monica Garcia

## **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**

The minutes from the March 16, 2022 will be added to the May 18, 2022 RWA Federal Affairs Standing Committee Meeting agenda for approval.

## **4. Disclosures and Regional Coordination**

Chair Sanger said that the Water Resources Team with about 15 participants from the region will be attending the Cap-to-Cap trip. The Regional Water Authority Legislative Platform will be printed and given in person at meetings this year.

Mr. Firenzi said that PCWA and the City of Roseville has submitted a request for funding for their conveyance pipeline project.

Mr. Bigley said that the request for the joint project as well as a grant application for a proposed Solar Energy Battery Backup system at their water treatment plant will go to the Roseville City Council. The grant will be submitted to the Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration Group with a request for \$4.5 million in federal funds with a total cost of \$6.5 million for the project.

Ms. Lee reported that Carmichael Water District (CWD) hosted Congressman Bera at their construction site. There was discussion on the needs and future projects of CWD.

Chair Sanger noted that it would be beneficial for a future Congressional Committee and staff tour to familiarize the committee with our water resource needs.

#### **5. Confirm RWA FAC member appointments – Chair Dan York**

This item will be included on the May 18, 2022 Federal Affairs meeting agenda.

#### **6. Chair York's Vision for 2022**

This item will be included on the May 18, 2022 Federal Affairs meeting agenda.

#### **7. Federal Legislative Review – Potential action may be taken**

##### **a) FY 22 Budget Timeline & FY23 kick off**

Chair Sanger noted that we are waiting for local guidance from Reclamation to see how we will proceed to access funding from the federal infrastructure bill.

Mr. Sapirstein said that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) issued guidance to the federal agencies on how to comply with the Buy American language in the infrastructure bill. A waiver to the Buy American mandate is available on an agency by agency and program specific basis. Utilities and cities who may be affected will need to seek a waiver. There is a possibility that projects that are planned and designed to date would not be impacted and would not require a waiver.

##### **b) Bipartisan Infrastructure Law – water provisions summary**

There was not an update on the infrastructure package.

**c) WRDA Section 219 Work Group Status**

Ms. More said that the FY 22 Omnibus bill was signed into law. There were three projects that received funding in FY 2022. Applications are needed for FY 2023 funds to meet the deadlines. There was an effort to secure a large portion of funding for the region that would be distributed to a list of projects. Different approaches were taken to work with the restrictions to receive funds.

**d) Arrearage funding – LIHWAP**

There was discussion on project requests, how the funding is distributed and the challenges to be successful in receiving funding.

**8. WIIN Act Funding for Water Bank Status**

Mr. Peifer said that staff has attended meetings with the Bureau of Reclamation making progress on the Memorandum of Agreement for adoption. The planning staff has requested working with them on the water bank to make sure everything is done properly. A letter has been submitted for \$30 million in funding requests.

**9. Action Items**

There is a Section 219 process workgroup that will be meeting to find a way forward that works for RWA.

There will be an internal meeting of the 219 recipients making preparations to meet with the Corp in May.

Staff will get guidance for the May RWA FAC meeting about whether the meeting will be in-person, hybrid or virtual.

**10. Public Comment**

None.

**11. Next Meeting May 18, 2022.**

**12. Adjournment**

Chair Sanger adjourned the meeting at 12:24 a.m.

By:

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Chairperson

Attest:

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