



**Regional Water Authority
Executive Committee Meeting
Final Minutes
April 27, 2022**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair York 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
Brett Ewart, City of Sacramento
Bill Roberts, City of West Sacramento
Grace Espindola, City of Yuba City
Kerry Schmitz, Sacramento County Water Agency
Dan York, Sacramento Suburban Water District

Staff Members

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

Others in Attendance

N/A

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

Motion/Second/Carried (M/S/C) Mr. Bigley moved, with a second by Mr. Ewart to approve authorization of a teleconference meeting, minutes of the March 23, 2022 Executive Committee meeting and the 2022 Groundwater Substitution Transfer Staffing Support Agreement. Ron Greenwood, Carmichael Water District, Sean Bigley, City of Roseville, Brett Ewart, City of Sacramento, Bill Roberts, City of West Sacramento, Grace Espindola, City of Yuba City, Kerry Schmitz, Sacramento County Water Agency and Dan York, Sacramento Suburban Water District voted yes.

4. FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023 BUDGET

Ms. Reina-Luken gave an update on the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 (FY22/23) Budget, which included proposed Dues, budget assumptions, FY22/23 revenues, FY22/23

expenses, unfunded pension plan funding, FY22/23 budget results, strategic plan alignment, budget outlook, and budget timeline. Feedback from the Executive Committee was taken into consideration. Staff is suggesting the Board of Directors pay 3.7% increase in dues to cover the cost of FY22/23 operations.

Motion/Second/Carried (M/S/C) Mr. Ewart moved, with a second by Ms. Espindola to recommend RWA Board adoption of the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Budget. Ron Greenwood, Carmichael Water District, Sean Bigley, City of Roseville, Brett Ewart, City of Sacramento, Bill Roberts, City of West Sacramento, Grace Espindola, City of Yuba City, Kerry Schmitz, Sacramento County Water Agency and Dan York, Sacramento Suburban Water District voted yes.

5. RWA FINANCIAL POLICY UPDATES AND A NEW COVID-19 EMPLOYEE VACCINATION POLICY

Ms. Reina-Luken reported there is an ongoing process to conduct a thorough review of all RWA policies. Ms. Reina-Luken discussed six policies that the staff recommends minor edits to: 500.1, 500.5, 500.6, 500.7, 500.8 and 500.18. Staff also introduced a new policy for consideration regarding COVID-19 employee vaccination requirement.

Motion/Carried/Second (M/S/C) Ms. Espindola moved, with a second by Mr. Bigley on recommendation for RWA Board approval of RWA Financial Policy Updates and adoption of a new COVID-19 Employee Vaccination Policy via the consent calendar. Ron Greenwood, Carmichael Water District, Sean Bigley, City of Roseville, Brett Ewart, City of Sacramento, Grace Espindola, City of Yuba City, and Dan York, Sacramento Suburban Water District voted yes.

6. EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION STUDY AND POSITION CLASSIFICATIONS UPDATE

Mr. Peifer discussed the status of the employee compensation study and position reclassifications. In the last two months, the Executive Committee has reviewed the Request for Proposal advertisement and consultant distribution list, with a proposal submission deadline of March 25, 2022. RWA received one proposal from Regional Government Services (RGS) out of the seven local firms solicited in a bid amount of \$25,500.

Motion/Second/Carried (M/S/C) Mr. Greenwood moved, with a second by Ms. Espindola to authorize the Executive Director to execute a contract with RGS for the RWA Compensation and Classification Study in the amount of \$25,500 with a \$4,500 contingency budget for a total budget allocation of \$30,000. Ron Greenwood, Carmichael Water District, Sean Bigley, City of Roseville, Brett Ewart, City of Sacramento, Grace Espindola, City of Yuba City, and Dan York, Sacramento Suburban Water District voted yes.

7. NEW RWA MEMBER APPLICATIONS

Mr. Peifer reported the RWA has received three new requests for membership at various levels.

- Nevada Irrigation District – Full Membership
- Yuba Water Agency – Associate Membership
- Black and Veatch Corporation – Affiliate Membership

The three organizations collectively would add significant value to the RWA and help the RWA implement its strategic plan objectives. Mr. Peifer stated the new members are excited and enthusiastic to be involved with RWA. Mr. Bigley said it is clear that the value of RWA is being recognized outside the organization.

Motion/Carried/Second (M/S/C) Mr. Ewart moved, with a second by Mr. Greenwood to recommend RWA Board approval of three RWA member applications via the consent calendar. Ron Greenwood, Carmichael Water District, Sean Bigley, City of Roseville, Brett Ewart, City of Sacramento, Grace Espindola, City of Yuba City, and Dan York, Sacramento Suburban Water District voted yes.

8. SUBSCRIPTION PROGRAM AGREEMENT FOR BIOLOGICAL OPINION SUPPORT SERVICES (BOSS)

Mr. Peifer reported that there are several RWA member agencies that have contracts with the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation). Reclamation is initiating a process to revise their Biological Opinion (BiOp) for the operation of the Central Valley Project. A revised BiOp may have positive or negative impacts on Reclamation contract holders such as improving or reducing the availability of surface water. The Biological Opinion Support Services subscription program is a new effort to assist these RWA member agencies in a way that collectively allows them to engage with Reclamation and try to ensure they will have continued access to surface water and enjoy their surface water entitlements.

Motion/Second/Carried (M/S/C) Mr. Bigley moved, with a second by Ms. Espindola to recommend Board approval of the Biological Opinion Support Services Subscription Program via the consent calendar with minor administrative changes and edits by the subscription program members. Ron Greenwood, Carmichael Water District, Sean Bigley, City of Roseville, Brett Ewart, City of Sacramento, Grace Espindola, City of Yuba City, and Dan York, Sacramento Suburban Water District voted yes.

9. LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY UPDATE

Mr. Ojakian discussed taking positions on the following Bills and the amendments:

Support positions:

AB 2771 - Would prohibit the intentional addition of PFAS to cosmetic products.

Oppose positions:

AB 1931 - Would significantly expand lead service line replacement and create requirements on water agencies that could be in conflict with federal requirements.

Oppose Unless Amended:

AB 2201 - Would require all groundwater extraction facilities in critically overdraft basins, with specified exemptions, to have a permit from a GSA to extract groundwater after July 1, 2023. *AB 2201 is being amended. Those amendments would now have the bill apply to all medium and high priority basins and move off of a requirement that a GSA permit wells to a process where a GSA would sign off on new well permits.*

AB 2895 - Would revise and recast the water transfer process. *AB 2895 is being amended. The amendments will remove the approach to have a second parallel temporary water transfer process and instead would make refinements to the existing temporary transfer process. It would likely result in a 5-day extension of time for approvals over existing law.*

SB 1124 - Would require the establishment of a public health goal and a primary MCL for Manganese.

Several other bills have developed in the legislative process. Those bills include AB 2419, AB 2639, and SB 1157. As required by the Governors March 28th Executive Order on drought, the Water Board and DWR are moving forward with proposed actions on implementation of stage 2 of water shortage contingency plans, irrigation of non-functional turf, and annual water supply and demand assessments. The state budget process continues to develop, and the Governor's revised budget is expected out on or around May 12th. The May revised budget is expected to set off a month of intense negotiations over the final budget.

Motion/Second/Carried (M/S/C) Mr. Greenwood moved, with a second by Mr. Bigley to approve the legislative positions as recommended by staff. Ron Greenwood, Carmichael Water District, Sean Bigley, City of Roseville, Brett Ewart, City of Sacramento, Grace Espindola, City of Yuba City, Kerry Schmitz, Sacramento County Water Agency and Dan York, Sacramento Suburban Water District voted yes.

10. AD HOC COMMITTEE UPDATES

Mr. Peifer gave an update on the 3x3 Committee, the Employee Compensation Survey Oversight Ad Hoc Committee, the Space Planning Ad Hoc Committee and the Purchasing Ad Hoc Committee.

Mr. Peifer provided an update on the 3x3 committee. He stated that the SGA is going to have a special board meeting in the near future to discuss potential governance options regarding combining or consolidating the Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority and the Sacramento Groundwater Authority.

11. RWA MAY 12, 2022, BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Mr. Peifer stated that he would like to add re-adoption of the previous Drought Resolution to the RWA May 12, 2022, Board agenda. After discussion, the Executive Committee approved the addition of this item with a slight change in wording to include a modernization of the prior year Drought Resolution.

Motion/Second/Carried (M/S/C) Mr. Ewart moved, with a second by Mr. Bigley to approve RWA May 12, 2022, Board Meeting Agenda with the addition of the modernization of the prior year drought resolution. Ron Greenwood, Carmichael Water District, Sean Bigley, City of Roseville, Brett Ewart, City of Sacramento, Grace Espindola, City of Yuba City, and Dan York, Sacramento Suburban Water District voted yes.

12. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Mr. Peifer said that his full Executive Director’s Report was included in the meeting packet.

13. DIRECTOR’S COMMENTS

Mr. York reported late last year that Sacramento Suburban and Carmichael Water District began talking about a potential merging of the two districts. A 2x2 committee was developed and a business case analysis will be completed around August or September. He will bring it before both boards to see whether the boards want to continue to analyze or decide on how they want to move forward. He appreciates the boards’ feedback.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair York adjourned the meeting at 10:39 a.m.

By:

Chairperson

Attest:

Board Secretary