

**REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**Thursday, September 29, 2022; 9:00 a.m.**

**AGENDA**

The public shall have the opportunity to directly address the Board on any item of interest before or during the Board's consideration of that item. Public comment on items within the jurisdiction of the Board is welcomed, subject to reasonable time limitations for each speaker. Public documents relating to any open session item listed on this agenda that are distributed to all or a majority of the members of the Board of Directors less than 72 hours before the meeting are available for public inspection in the customer service area of the Authority's Administrative Office at the address listed above. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you have a disability and need a disability related modification or accommodation to participate in this meeting, please contact the Executive Director of the Authority at (916) 967-7692. Requests must be made as early as possible, and at least one full business day before the start of the meeting. The Board of Directors may consider any agenda item at any time during the meeting.

**Notice:** The Board meeting will be held virtually.

**Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet, or smartphone.**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85417812601?pwd=M1RZam54MVVVMIEvSmFQeWI2ajdhZz09>

**You can also dial in using your phone.**

**United States: +1 (669) 900 6833**

**Meeting ID: 854 1781 2601 Passcode: 343205**

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT:** Members of the public who wish to address the Board may do so at this time. Please keep your comments to less than three minutes.

**3. CONSENT CALENDAR:** All items listed under the Consent Calendar are considered and acted upon by one motion. Board Members may request an item be removed for separate consideration.

3a. Authorize a Teleconference Meeting

3b. Approve the minutes of September 8, 2022 Board Meeting

**Action: Approve Consent Calendar**

**4. REGIONAL WATER RELIABILITY PLAN PROJECT PRIORITIZATION**

Discussion: Jim Peifer, Executive Director

**5. CLOSED SESSION**

**5a. CLOSED SESSION – PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION**

Government Code §§ 54954.5(e), 54957(b)(1)

Title: Executive Director

**5b. CLOSED SESSION – CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS**

Government Code §§ 54954.5(f), 54957.6

Agency designated representatives: Dan York and Tony Firenzi

Unrepresented employee: Executive Director

## **6. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT**

**Action: Consider Approval of Recommendations from Executive Committee for Adjustments to Executive Director Compensation**

### **ADJOURNMENT**

#### **Next RWA Board of Director's Meeting:**

November 10, 2022, 9:00 a.m. at the RWA/SGA office, 5620 Birdcage Street, Ste. 110, Citrus Heights. The location is subject to change depending on the COVID-19 emergency.

#### **Next RWA Executive Committee Meeting:**

October 26, 2022, 8:30 a.m. at the RWA/SGA office, 5620 Birdcage Street, Ste. 110, Citrus Heights. The location is subject to change depending on the COVID-19 emergency.

Notification will be emailed when the RWA electronic packet is complete and posted on the RWA website at: <https://www.rwah2o.org/meetings/board-meetings/>.

**RWA Board of Directors**  
**2022 Chair: Dan York**  
**2022 Vice Chair: Tony Firenzi**

***S. Audie Foster, General Manager, California American Water***

*Evan Jacobs, Operations Manager, California American Water*

***Ron Greenwood, Board Member, Carmichael Water District***

*Cathy Lee, General Manager, Carmichael Water District*

*Caryl Sheehan, Director, Citrus Heights Water District*

*Raymond Riehle, Director, Citrus Heights Water District*

*Hilary Straus, General Manager, Citrus Heights Water District (alternate)*

*Rebecca Scott, Principal Operations Specialist (alternate)*

*Kerri Howell, Councilmember, City of Folsom*

*Marcus Yasutake, Environmental/Water Resources Director, City of Folsom*

*Chuck Poole, Water Facilities Supervisor, City of Lincoln*

*Paul Joiner, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Lincoln*

*Bruce Houdesheldt, Councilmember, City of Roseville*

***Sean Bigley, Assistant Environment Utilities Director, City of Roseville***

*Rich Plecker, Director of Utilities, City of Roseville (alternate)*

*Trevor Joseph, Hydrogeologist, City of Roseville (alternate)*

*Pauline Roccucci, Councilmember, City of Roseville (alternate)*

*Jeff S. Harris, Councilmember, City of Sacramento*

***Brett Ewart, Water Policy & Regional Planning Supervising Engineer, City of Sacramento***

*Michelle Carrey, Supervising Engineer, City of Sacramento (alternate)*

*Bill Busath, Director of Utilities, City of Sacramento (alternate)*

*Anne Sanger, Policy and Legislative Specialist, City of Sacramento (alternate)*

*Martha Guerrero, Council Member, City of West Sacramento*

***William Roberts, Director of Public Works and Operations, City of West Sacramento***

***Grace Espindola, Councilmember, City of Yuba City***

*Diana Langley, City Manager, City of Yuba City*

*Ryan Saunders, Board Member, Del Paso Manor Water District*

*Alan Gardner, General Manager, Del Paso Manor Water District*

*Pat Dwyer, Director/Board President, El Dorado Irrigation District*

*Jim Abercrombie, General Manager, El Dorado Irrigation District*

*Brian Mueller, Engineering Director, El Dorado Irrigation District (alternate)*

*Sophia Scherman, Board Chair, Elk Grove Water District*

*Bruce Kamilos, General Manager, Elk Grove Water District*

\* Names highlighted in red are Executive Committee members

<p><b>Randy Marx</b>, Board Member, Fair Oaks Water District  <b>Tom Gray</b>, General Manager, Fair Oaks Water District</p>
<p><b>Paul Schubert</b>, General Manager, Golden State Water Company  <b>Ernie Gisler</b>, Capital Program Manager, Golden State Water Company</p>
<p><b>Ricki Heck</b>, Board Member, Nevada Irrigation District  <b>Karen Hull</b>, Board Member, Nevada Irrigation District (alternate)  <b>Greg Jones</b>, Assistant General Manager, Nevada Irrigation District (alternate)  <b>Jennifer Hanson</b>, General Manager, Nevada Irrigation District (alternate)</p>
<p><b>Robert Hunter</b>, Board Member, Orange Vale Water Company  <b>Joe Duran</b>, General Manager, Orange Vale Water Company</p>
<p><b>Robert Dugan</b>, Board Member, Placer County Water Agency  <b>Tony Firenzi</b>, Director of Strategic Affairs, Placer County Water Agency, Vice Chair  <b>Andy Fecko</b>, General Manager, Placer County Water Agency (alternate)  <b>Mike Lee</b>, Board Member, Placer County Water Agency (alternate)</p>
<p><b>Tim Maybee</b>, Director, Rancho Murieta Community Services District  <b>Tom Hennig</b>, General Manager, Rancho Murieta Community Services District</p>
<p><b>Patrick Kennedy</b>, Supervisor, Sacramento County Water Agency  <b>Kerry Schmitz</b>, Division Chief, Water Supply, Sacramento County Water Agency</p>
<p><b>Dave Jones</b>, Board Member, Sacramento Suburban Water District  <b>Dan York</b>, General Manager, Sacramento Suburban Water District, Chair  <b>Kevin Thomas</b>, Board Member, Sacramento Suburban Water District (alternate)</p>
<p><b>Dan Rich</b>, Director, San Juan Water District  <b>Greg Zlotnick</b>, Water Resources and Strategic Affairs, San Juan Water District  <b>Ted Costa</b>, Board President, San Juan Water District (alternate)</p>

\* Names highlighted in red are Executive Committee members

## RWA ASSOCIATES

Organization	Representatives
El Dorado Water Agency	<b>Lori Parlin</b> , Chair <b>Ken Payne</b> , General Manager (alternate)
Placer County	<b>Ken Grehm</b> , Director Public Works and Facilities <b>Jared Deck</b> , Manager Environmental Engineering
Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD)	<b>Arlen Orchard</b> , General Manager/CEO <b>Christopher Cole</b> , Strategic Account Advisor <b>Ansel Lundberg</b> , Energy Commodity Contracts Specialist
Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District (Regional San)	<b>Mike Huot</b> , Director of Policy and Planning <b>Terrie Mitchell</b> , Manager Legislative and Regulatory Affairs <b>David Ocenosak</b> , Principal Civil Engineer <b>Jose Ramirez</b> , Senior Civil Engineer
Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency (SAFCA)	<b>Richard Johnson</b> , Executive Director
Yuba Water Agency	<b>Adam Robin</b> , Government Relations Manager <b>Willie Whittlesey</b> , General Manager

\* Names highlighted in red are Executive Committee members

## **RWA AFFILIATE MEMBERS**

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Representatives</b>
<b>Black &amp; Veatch</b>	<i>David Carlson</i> , Vice president
<b>Brown &amp; Caldwell</b>	<i>Paul Selsky</i> , Water Supply Planning, Vice president <i>LaSandra Edwards</i> , Civil Engineer <i>May Huang</i> , Engineer <i>David Zuber</i> , Vice President
<b>GEI Consultants</b>	<i>John Woodling</i> , Vice President, Branch Manager <i>Chris Petersen</i> , Principal Hydrogeologist <i>Richard Shatz</i> , Principal Hydrogeologist
<b>HDR, Inc.</b>	<i>Jafar Faghieh</i> , Water Resources Engineer <i>Ed Winkler</i> , Client Development Lead
<b>Sacramento Association of Realtors</b>	<i>David Tanner</i> , Chief Executive Officer <i>Christopher Ly</i> , Chief Operations Officer
<b>Stantec</b>	<i>Kari Shively</i> , Vice President <i>Vanessa Nishikawa</i> , Principal Water Resources Engineer <i>Yung-Hsin Sun</i> , Principal Engineer <i>Rebecca Guo</i> , Senior Associate Water Resources Engineer <i>Ibrahim Khadam</i> , Principal Engineer
<b>West Yost Associates</b>	<i>Charles Duncan</i> , President <i>Abigail Madrone</i> , Business Development Director <i>Kelye McKinney</i> , Engineering Manager I <i>Jim Mulligan</i> , Principal Engineer
<b>Woodard &amp; Curran</b>	<i>Ali Taghavi</i> , Principal <i>Jim Graydon</i> , Senior Client Service Manager

\* Names highlighted in red are Executive Committee members

## **AGENDA ITEM 2: PUBLIC COMMENT**

Members of the public who wish to address the board may do so at this time. Please keep your comments to less than three minutes.

### **AGENDA ITEM 3: CONSENT CALENDAR**

All items listed under the Consent Calendar are considered and acted upon by one motion. Board members may request an item be removed for separate consideration. The items to be considered and approved include:

3a. Authorize a Teleconference Meeting by Passing a Motion by a majority vote under Gov. Code, § 54953, subd. (e)(1)(B) that as a result of the COVID-19 emergency: (i) meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees; and (ii) the meeting is authorized to be held by teleconference pursuant to Gov. Code, § 54953, subd. (e)(1)(C).

3b. Approve the minutes of the September 8, 2022 Board Meeting

#### **Action: Approve Consent Calendar**

Attachments:

3b. Minutes of the September 8, 2022 Board Meeting



## **AGENDA ITEM 3a: AUTHORIZE A TELECONFERENCE MEETING**

### **BACKGROUND:**

In light of the Governor's declaration that a state of emergency exists due to the incidence and spread of the novel corona virus, and the pandemic caused by the resulting disease COVID-19, the Board should consider whether meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of meeting attendees.

The Centers for Disease Control indicates that COVID-19 is a highly transmissible virus that is spread when an infected person breathes out droplets and very small particles that contain the virus, and such droplets and particles are breathed in by other people. Conducting meetings by teleconference would directly reduce the risk of transmission among meeting attendees, including members of the public and agency staff, which has the ancillary effect of reducing risk of serious illness and death as well as reducing community spread of the virus.

If the authorization to meet by teleconference is not approved by a majority vote, then the meeting will adjourn after this item and the remaining agenda items will be rescheduled to a future in-person meeting.

**Action: Pass a Motion to Authorize a Teleconference Meeting**

**AGENDA ITEM 3b: MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 8, 2022 BOARD MEETING**

Attachment:

Draft September 8, 2022 Minutes



**Regional Water Authority**  
BUILDING ALLIANCES IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

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RWA Board Meeting  
Draft Minutes  
September 8, 2022

## 1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Firenzi called the meeting of the Board of Directors to order at 9:00 a.m. as a teleconference and in person meeting. Individuals who participated are listed below:

### **RWA Board Members**

Ron Greenwood, Carmichael Water District  
Cathy Lee, Carmichael Water District  
Caryl Sheehan, Citrus Heights Water District  
Rebecca Scott, Citrus Heights Water District  
Marcus Yasutake, City of Folsom  
Bruce Houdesheldt, City of Roseville  
Sean Bigley, City of Roseville  
Jeff Harris, City of Sacramento  
Brett Ewart, City of Sacramento  
Bill Roberts, City of West Sacramento  
Sophia Scherman, Elk Grove Water District  
Bruce Kamilos, Elk Grove Water District  
Randy Marx, Fair Oaks Water District  
Tom Gray, Fair Oaks Water District  
Paul Schubert, Golden State Water Company  
Greg Jones, Nevada Irrigation District  
Robert Hunter, Orange Vale Water Company  
Robert Dugan, Placer County Water Agency  
Tony Firenzi, Placer County Water Agency  
Kerry Schmitz, Sacramento County Water Agency  
Dan Rich, San Juan Water District  
Greg Zlotnick, San Juan Water District

### **RWA Associate Members**

José Ramirez, SRCSD

### **RWA Affiliate Members**

Vanessa Nishikawa, Stantec

### **Staff Members**

Jim Peifer, Rob Swartz, Ryan Ojikian, Raiyna Villasenor, Michelle Banonis,

Josette Reina-Luken, Cecilia Partridge, Amy Talbot, Monica Garcia, and Andrew Ramos, legal counsel.

**Others in Attendance:**

Anne Sanger, Trevor Joseph, Brian Sanders, Jay Boatright, Ligaya Kohagura, Mike Grinstead, Michael Sanders, Paul Helliker, Michelle Carrey and Trevor Kent

Vice Chair Firenzi announced that item 5, Water Loss Regulation Update, will be reported before agenda item 6. The agenda items are reported on the minutes in the order they appeared on the amended agenda.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**3. AUTHORIZE A TELECONFERENCE MEETING**

Motion/Second/Carried (M/S/C) Mr. Greenwood moved, with a second by Ms. Scherman, to authorize a Teleconference Meeting, approve the minutes of the July 7, 2022 Board meeting, approve the revised RWA Board meeting schedule and approve RWA Policy 500.19. Ron Greenwood, Carmichael Water District, Caryl Sheehan, Citrus Heights Water District, Marcus Yasutake, City of Folsom, Bruce Houdesheldt, City of Roseville, Jeff Harris, City of Sacramento, William Roberts, City of West Sacramento, Sophia Scherman, Elk Grove Water District, Tom Gray, Fair Oaks Water District, Paul Schubert, Golden State Water Company, Greg Jones, Nevada Irrigation District, Tony Firenzi, Placer County Water Agency, Kerry Schmitz, Sacramento County Water Agency and Greg Zlotnick, San Juan Water District voted yes. The motion passed.

**4. RWA HIGHLIGHTS**

Mr. Peifer gave a presentation on RWA highlights, in particular, discussing RWA work to support the strategic plan. The item was intended to support better communication to and with the Board of Directors and to discuss how the RWA staff does their work. Mr. Peifer discussed the RWA staff's approach to advocacy, and how we achieve the policy and fiscal outcomes that the Board desires. Mr. Peifer discussed how this supports initiatives including voluntary agreements and biological opinions, the American River Basin Study, communication with the media, and building coalitions and alliances to support our interests.

**5. SACRAMENTO REGIONAL WATER BANK PROGRAM UPDATE**

Mr. Swartz gave an update on the Sacramento Regional Water Bank Program explaining how the program works as a sustainable storage and recovery program. He presented information on how our reservoir systems are changing and how to adapt to that change. Conjunctive use is a proven method to operate the basin as a reservoir. He explained the barriers to expanding conjunctive use, including operational expenses and the expenses of

infrastructure to support expansion, the updated Water Bank development timeline, and initial thoughts on Water Bank governance.

## **6. WATER LOSS REGULATION UPDATE**

Ms. Talbot provided information on the water loss regulation and how the regulation develops system specific water loss targets for all urban water suppliers based on a State Water Board developed economic model. There will also be several additional reporting requirements. She outlined some concerns and the next steps. The second formal rulemaking process and comment period started on September 2<sup>nd</sup>. All comments are due to the State Water Board by September 19<sup>th</sup> at noon. RWA will be submitting a comment letter and participated in the development of a coalition comment letter along with ACWA, CMUA, CWA and CA NV AWWA.

## **7. RWA POLICY 400.4 REVISIONS – EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR PERFORMANCE REVIEW EVALUATION**

Mr. Dugan outlined the revisions that were made to the RWA Policy 400.4 by the Ad Hoc Committee. The focus of the Ad Hoc Committee was the expectation of success for the Executive Director through a process of performance evaluation procedures.

There was discussion on the wording of the bonus policy, the Executive Director's self-evaluation and how that could be shared confidentially with the full board and how many members should be on the Evaluation Committee. After further discussion on the proposed policy revisions, it was determined that the policy be approved as written so the process can move forward this year. The policy will continue to be revisited and reviewed by the Ad Hoc Committee and any board members that have concerns. If substantive changes are needed, a revised policy will be presented to the full board for approval.

M/S/C Mr. Zlotnick moved, with a second by Mr. Greenwood, to approve the proposed revisions to RWA Policy 400.4 and for the Ad Hoc Committee to continue to review the issues for next year's Executive Director Evaluation process. Ron Greenwood, Carmichael Water District, Marcus Yasutake, City of Folsom, Bruce Houdesheldt, City of Roseville, Brett Ewart, City of Sacramento, William Roberts, City of West Sacramento, Sophia Scherman, Elk Grove Water District, Randy Marx, Fair Oaks Water District, Paul Schubert, Golden State Water Company, Greg Jones, Nevada Irrigation District, Tony Firenzi, Placer County Water Agency, Kerry Schmitz, Sacramento County Water Agency and Greg Zlotnick, San Juan Water District voted yes. The motion passed.

## **8. LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY UPDATE**

Mr. Ojakian reported that the legislative session and all legislative action on bills was concluded. The budget contained funding for watershed climate resilience

grants, sustainable groundwater management implementation, conservation and turf replacement, and funding to the Natural Resources Agency that can support Voluntary Agreements. He provided details on some of the higher profile bills including SB 222 that would establish a state-run water rate assistance program upon funding, SB 1157 which would lower the indoor water use efficiency standards, SB 1205 which would require the Water Board to include climate change when issuing new water right permits and AB 2142 which would exempt turf rebates from state taxable income. RWA has an oppose unless amended position on SB 222 and SB 1157, a watch position on SB 1205, and a support position on AB 2142.

**9. SPACE PLANNING UPDATE**

Due to time constraints, this item was continued to the next RWA Board meeting.

**10. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

The Executive Director's Report was included in the board packet with information on the release of the American River Basin Study, the reason that legal expenses are higher than expected, awards received by the RWA Water Use Efficiency program and the retirement of Rob Swartz.

**11. DIRECTORS' COMMENTS**

Ms. Lee suggested that in the interest of time future discussions on the Executive Director Evaluation Process be agenized for two different meetings.

Mr. Houdesheldt announced the City of Roseville was recognized by the California Association of Public Information Officials for their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Barton Road Water Treatment Plant.

Mr. Rich stated that comments made by Pam Tobin at the last Executive Committee meeting were not made on behalf of San Juan Water District.

Vice Chair Firenzi reported on the Mosquito Fire outside of Foresthill regarding the Placer County Water Agency's hydroelectric power system. Currently there is no threat to the hydroelectric power facilities, but generation has been disrupted due to the loss of power transmission lines from the fire.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to come before the Board, Vice Chair Firenzi adjourned the meeting at 12:07 p.m.

By:

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Chairperson

Attest:

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Josette Reina-Luken, Board Secretary / Treasurer

## **AGENDA ITEM 4: REGIONAL WATER RELIABILITY PLAN PROJECT PRIORITIZATION**

### **BACKGROUND:**

The RWA continues to advocate for funding for its members' projects that improve water reliability. Members of the Legislature, Congress, and state and Federal administration officials frequently prefer programs to fund projects that have near-term benefit. As part of the RWA's advocacy, the staff would like to prepare a survey for the members to identify projects that can demonstrate a readiness for construction. The survey will establish a priority for members' projects. The project list will be a key tool for the RWA's near-term advocacy.

The Executive Director will briefly discuss the survey and purpose.

Discussion: Jim Peifer, Executive Director

Attachment:

Draft Regional Water Reliability Plan Project Survey



**Draft**  
**Regional Water Reliability Plan Project Survey**

Purpose: To develop a list of projects that can be used in advocating for near-term state and federal funding for the Regional Water Reliability Plan. There is no current specific funding source or set of criteria, but RWA is advocating for recent state budgeting for climate resilience and the recently passed federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (otherwise known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law).

Projects that would likely be eligible are those that have environmental work complete, substantial local cost share, and are ready to construct.

**Please provide the following project information:**

Project Name:

Project Description (100 words max):

Total Project Cost (2023 to Completion):

General description of benefit to the Regional Water Reliability Plan (20 words max):

Is this project part of the Water Bank? Yes / No

If yes, please indicate the quantitative Estimate of Benefit to the Water Bank (annual displaced SW or GW use in AF):

**Please verify the following in submitting your project:**

Anticipated environmental to be completed: CEQA/NEPA/Both

Environmental work will be complete and certified by June 30, 2023: Yes / No

The project will be funded at least 50% with local funding or other sources: Yes / No

The project will be bid for construction in summer 2023: Yes / No

A **no** to any of the previous three questions above will eliminate the project from the near-term Regional Water Reliability Plan projects list.

**AGENDA ITEM 5: CLOSED SESSION**

**AGENDA ITEM 5a: CLOSED SESSION – PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION**

Government Code §§ 54954.5(e), 54957(b)(1)  
Title: Executive Director

**AGENDA ITEM 5b: CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS**

Government Code §§ 54954.5(f), 54957.6

Agency designated representatives: Dan York and Tony Firenzi

Unrepresented employee: Executive Director

**AGENDA ITEM 6: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT**

**Action: Consider Approval of Recommendations from Executive Committee for Adjustments to Executive Director Compensation**