

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Firenzi called the regular meeting of the Executive Committee to order at 1:30 p.m. as a hybrid meeting. Six of the Executive Committee Members were present; a quorum was established. Individuals in attendance are listed below:

Executive Committee Members

S. Audie Foster, California American Water
Ron Greenwood, Carmichael Water District
Caryl Sheehan, Citrus Heights Water District
Tony Firenzi, Placer County Water Agency
William Roberts, City of West Sacramento
Bruce Kamilos, Elk Grove Water District

Staff Members

Jim Peifer, Trevor Joseph, Ryan Ojakian, Josette Reina-Luken, Amy Talbot, Michelle Banonis, Raiyna Villasenor, Monica Garcia, Ashley Flores and Andrew Ramos, legal counsel.

Others in Attendance:

Anne Sanger, Greg Zlotnick, and Vanessa Nishikawa

S. Audie Foster joined the meeting at 1:31 p.m.

Executive Director Peifer requested that Chair Firenzi approve to reorder agenda items 4 and 5. The new order is as follows: Agenda Item 4. RWA Principal Office Location and Agenda Item 5. FY2024 Budget Overview.

Chair Firenzi asked if any of the Executive Committee members objected to the change made to the agenda, there was no objection. Chair Firenzi adopted the agenda as amended.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

3. CONSENT CALENDAR

A motion was made to approve the consent calendar as presented.

Motion/Second/Carried Mr. Greenwood moved, with a second by Ms. Sheehan

S. Audie Foster, California American Water; Ron Greenwood, Carmichael Water District; Caryl Sheehan, Citrus Heights Water District; William Roberts, City of West Sacramento; Bruce Kamilos, Elk Grove Water District and Tony Firenzi, Placer County Water Agency voted yes. The motion passed.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes- 6
Noes- 0
Abstained- 0
Absent- 3

4. RWA PRINCIPAL OFFICE LOCATION

Executive Director Peifer provided a presentation on this action item to the Executive Committee to consider letting the Birdcage Street Principal Office lease expire without exercising an option and to recommend a new principal office location to the Board of Directors for their approval.

The 2295 Gateway Oaks Drive property was identified by the Office Space Committee and the RWA staff recommended the location to the Executive Committee for the RWA Board's approval of the RWA's principal office location. The location addresses all of the criteria used to select a new office location. Staff recommends not exercising the option for the existing Birdcage Office lease and letting the lease expire.

A motion was made to waive the lease provision to extend the lease at the Birdcage Street Office and recommendation of a new principal office location at 2295 Gateway Oaks Drive to the Board of Directors

Motion/Second/Carried Mr. Greenwood moved, with a second by Mr. Foster

S. Audie Foster, California American Water; Ron Greenwood, Carmichael Water District; Caryl Sheehan, Citrus Heights Water District; William Roberts, City of West Sacramento; and Tony Firenzi, Placer County Water Agency voted yes. Bruce Kamilos, Elk Grove Water District voted no. The motion passed.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes- 5
Noes- 1
Abstained- 0
Absent- 3

5. FY2024 BUDGET OVERVIEW

Ms. Reina-Luken presented this action item for the Board of Directors to receive a presentation and provide direction on key issues for the FY2024 Budget.

The presentation provided an overview of those critical budget issues including potential increase in annual dues for board, associate and affiliate members, and budget expense category increases such as estimated cost of living allowance, office relocation, and PERS side payment to future unfunded liability. The presentation also included a discussion of potential budget transfers to staff subscription programs and the corresponding cash designations which restrict funds for specific purposes in accordance with RWA financial policies. Ms. Reina-Luken also explained how the unrestricted cash may be eligible for one or more or a combination of further reduction in annual dues, banking to offset future year expenses, increase administrative support and/or application to various RWA strategic priorities.

Direction was provided to staff and a motion was made to approve zero percent dues increase and invest the rest.

Motion/Second/Carried Mr. Greenwood moved, with a second by Mr. Kamilos

S. Audie Foster, California American Water; Ron Greenwood, Carmichael Water District; Caryl Sheehan, Citrus Heights Water District; William Roberts, City of West Sacramento; Bruce Kamilos, Elk Grove Water District and Tony Firenzi, Placer County Water Agency voted yes. The motion passed.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes- 6
Noes- 0
Abstained- 0
Absent- 3

6. STRATEGIC PLAN SURVEY AND RWA STRATEGIC PLAN PRIORITIES

Executive Director Peifer presented an action item for the Executive Committee to receive a presentation summarizing feedback from a Strategic Plan Prioritization Survey from the members and to consider staff proposed priorities for the upcoming fiscal year.

Staff recommended the Executive Committee members consider the priorities and provide additional feedback to the staff to finalize the Strategic Plan. Staff believes the success indicators and goals identified in the RWA Strategic Plan are consistent with the workshop discussions and survey results provided by the RWA Executive Committee.

Chair Firenzi requested that Funding Support will continue to be an ongoing priority, but suspended from the list so it can be better understood the implications of what good vesting and funding looks like. Upon resolution of that process, the priority can be reassessed.

A motion was made to recommend to the RWA Board to approve Strategic Plan Priorities for Fiscal Year 2023/2024 as presented.

Motion/Second/Carried Ms. Sheehan moved, with a second by Mr. Greenwood.

S. Audie Foster, California American Water; Ron Greenwood, Carmichael Water District; Caryl Sheehan, Citrus Heights Water District; William Roberts, City of West Sacramento; Bruce Kamilos, Elk Grove Water District and Tony Firenzi, Placer County Water Agency voted yes. The motion passed.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes- 6
Noes- 0
Abstained- 0
Absent- 3

7. LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY UPDATE

Mr. Ojakian presented an informational oral update for the Executive Committee to review and discuss various State legislation. Ryan Ojakian, Legislative and Regulatory Affairs Manager will provide an oral report on legislation and recommended Executive Committee action on AB 249, AB 285, and SB 23.

Mr. Kamilos requested additional information on SB 23 and why RWA is supporting the bill.

Mr. Ojakian explained that SB 23 built off of an effort specifically led by Santa Clara Water to streamline permitting in relation to the Andersen Dam work they were conducting in Santa Clara. This is modeled off of that and experiences that they had in that legislative discussion. This particular bill is sponsored by ACWA and taking the lessons learned from that legislative process and including all permitting for specific water supply and flood control projects. I don't see it being critical to all RWA members but it could be helpful.

AB 249 (Holden D- Pasadena) Would require a community water system that serves a school site with a building constructed before January 1, 2010, to test for lead in the potable water system of the school site before January 1, 2027. Recommended oppose unless amended.

AB 285 (Luz Rivas D- Arleta) Would require teaching on the cause and effect of climate change to both grades 1-6 and 9-12. Recommended Support.

SB 23 (Caballero D- Salinas) Would make streamlined permitting changes to water supply and flood control projects. Recommended Support.

RWA is co-sponsoring SB 659 (Ashby D- Sacramento) with the California Association of Wine Grape Growers. The bill establishes a goal of 10 million acre-feet of groundwater recharge in wet years.

Mr. Kamilos exited the meeting at 2:55 p.m.

A motion to approve positions on legislative bills to oppose unless amended on AB 249 and support for AB 285 and SB 23.

Motion/Second/Carried Mr. Foster moved, with a second by Mr. Greenwood.

S. Audie Foster, California American Water; Ron Greenwood, Carmichael Water District; Caryl Sheehan, Citrus Heights Water District; William Roberts, City of West Sacramento; and Tony Firenzi, Placer County Water Agency voted yes. The motion passed.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes- 5
Noes- 0
Abstained- 0
Absent- 4

8. RWA BOARD OF DIRECTORS AGENDA

Executive Director Peifer presented this action item for the Executive Committee to review and consider approving the draft Agenda of the Regular Regional Water Authority (RWA) Board of Directors Meeting of March 9, 2023.

Executive Director Peifer requested to add two additional items for the agenda. RWA staff received a request from Mr. David Wheaton for the approval by resolution for his nomination for the ACWA JPIA's Executive Committee. Mr. Peifer requested that this item to be included on the Consent Calendar. Mr. Peifer also requested an additional action to be added to agenda item entitled RWA PRINCIPAL OFFICE LOCATION to direct the Executive Director to enter into a new lease agreement for the new principal office location.

A motion to approve RWA Board of Directors Agenda for March 9, 2023 Board Meeting, including the two additional items.

Motion/Second/Carried Ms. Sheehan moved, with a second by Mr. Greenwood.

S. Audie Foster, California American Water; Ron Greenwood, Carmichael Water District; Caryl Sheehan, Citrus Heights Water District; William Roberts, City of West Sacramento; and Tony Firenzi, Placer County Water Agency voted yes. The motion passed.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes- 5
Noes- 0
Abstained- 0
Absent- 4

9. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

No comment.

10. DIRECTORS' COMMENTS

Chair Firenzi reported on the PCWA is presenting their Year End and Strategic Plan on March 2, 2023 at their Board meeting at 2:00 p.m. in Auburn, CA.

Ms. Sheehan requested that the times in which the RWA Board and Executive Committee meetings are being held be placed on the agenda.

Executive Director Peifer stated that staff can get a sense of what the time commitments are for the Executive Committee. We can have that conversation at the next Committee meeting. Chair Firenzi reminded the committee that they voted on the set of meetings for the times we have so far, so we would have to reopen and take action as a committee before we set new times.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Board, Chair Firenzi adjourned the meeting at 3:59 p.m.

By:



Chairperson

Attest:



Ashley Flores, Secretary