

Tony Firenzi, Chair

Brett Ewart, Vice Chair Audie Foster, Director Ron Greenwood, Director Caryl Sheehan, Director Sean Bigley, Director William Roberts, Director Bruce Kamilos, Director Michael Saunders, Director

## REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, May 30, 2023 at 1:30 p.m.

5620 Birdcage Street, Suite 110 Citrus Heights, CA 95610 (916) 967-7692

The public shall have the opportunity to directly address the Committee on any item of interest before or during the Committee's consideration of that item. Public comment on items within the jurisdiction of the Committee 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.

## **AGENDA**

## 1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

## 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.

- **3. CONSENT CALENDAR:** All items listed under the Consent Calendar are considered and acted upon by one motion. Committee members may request an item be removed for separate consideration.
  - **3.1** Approve draft meeting minutes of the May 2, 2023 Executive Committee Meeting.

**Action: Approve Consent Calendar** 

## 4. LEGISLATIVE POSITIONS

Presenter: Ryan Ojakian, Manager of Legislative and Regulatory Affairs

Discussion/Action: Approve positions on legislative bills

## 5. PROJECT FUNDING

Presenter: Jim Peifer, Executive Director **Discussion: Provide direction to staff** 

## 6. ENDORSEMENT POLICY

Presenter: Jim Peifer, Executive Director **Discussion: Provide direction to staff** 

## 7. RWA MEMBER RECEPTION AT ACWA CONFERENCES

Presenter: Jim Peifer, Executive Director **Discussion: Provide direction to staff** 

## 8. RWA BOARD AGENDA

Presenter: Jim Peifer, Executive Director

Discussion/Action: Approve RWA Special Board Agenda for June 14, 2023

**Board Meeting** 

## 9. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

## 10. DIRECTORS' COMMENTS

## **ADJOURNMENT**

## **Upcoming meetings:**

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

Special RWA Board Meeting, June 14, 2023 at 1:30 p.m. at the Fair Oak Water District, 10326 Fair Oaks Blvd, Fair Oaks, CA 95628

**Meeting Cancelled - June 29, 2023, 9:00 a.m**. at the Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District Administrative Office, 10060 Goethe Rd, Sacramento, CA 95827. The location is subject to change.

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

June 27, 2023, 1:30 p.m. at the RWA/SGA office, 5620 Birdcage Street, Ste. 110, Citrus Heights, CA 95610. The location is subject to change.

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

Posted on: May 26, 2023

Ashley Flores
Ashley Flores, CMC, Secretary



Jim Peifer

Topic: Public Comment
Type: New Business

Item For: Information/Discussion

Purpose: Policy 200.1, Rule 11

Ashley Flores, CMC

SUBMITTED BY: Secretary PRESENTER: Executive Director

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This is an information item to provide an opportunity for the Regional Water Authority Executive Committee to recognize or hear from visitors that may be attending the meeting or to allow members of the public to address the Executive Committee on matters that are not on the agenda.

As noted on the agenda, 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.

### STAFF RECOMMENDED ACTION

None. This item is for information only.

### **BACKGROUND**

Public agencies are required by law to provide an opportunity for the public to address the RWA Executive Committee matters that are not on the agenda.

## **3.0 CONSENT CALENDAR**

## Agenda Item 3.1



Topic: Meeting Minutes
Type: Consent Calendar

Item For: Action; Motion to Approve

Purpose: Policy 200.1, Rule 14

Ashley Flores, CMC Jim Peifer

SUBMITTED BY: Secretary PRESENTER: Executive Director

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This is an action item for the Regional Water Authority Executive Committee to review and consider approving the draft minutes of the regular Regional Water Authority Executive Committee Meeting of May 2, 2023.

### STAFF RECOMMENDED ACTION

A motion to approve the Minutes, as presented or amended.

#### **BACKGROUND**

The draft minutes of the above referenced meetings are included with this Agenda. The minutes reflect the RWA Policy 200.1 to document specific details on items discussed at the meetings.

The Executive Director may list on the agenda a "consent calendar", which will consist of routine matters on which there is generally no opposition or need for discussion. Examples of consent calendar items might include approval of minutes, financial reports and routine resolutions. Any matter may be removed from the consent calendar and placed on the regular calendar at the request of any member of the Board. The entire consent calendar may be approved by a single motion made, seconded and approved by the Board.

## FINDING/CONCLUSION

Staff believes the draft of the presented minutes correctly reflect the information shared and actions taken by the Executive Committee.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment 1- Draft meeting minutes of the Regional Water Authority Executive Committee Meeting of May 2, 2023





## 1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Firenzi called the regular meeting of the Executive Committee to order on May 2, 2023 at 1:30 p.m. at the RWA Board Room located at 5620 Birdcage Street, Citrus Heights, CA 95610. Eight of the Executive Committee Members were present at roll call; a quorum was established. Individuals in attendance are listed below:

## **Executive Committee Members**

Audie Foster, California American Water
Ron Greenwood, Carmichael Water District
Caryl Sheehan, Citrus Heights Water District
Sean Bigley, City of Roseville
Brett Ewart, City of Sacramento
Bruce Kamilos, Elk Grove Water District
Michael Saunders, Georgetown Divide Public Utility District
Tony Firenzi, Placer County Water Agency

## **Staff Members**

Jim Peifer, Raiyna Villasenor, Monica Garcia, Ashley Flores and Andrew Ramos, legal counsel.

## **Others in Attendance:**

None

## 2. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

## 3. CONSENT CALENDAR

Director Kamilos requested to pull Item 3.1 Meeting Minutes for clarification on page 4. He requested that "semi-annual" be corrected to "annual."

**3.1** Approve draft meeting minutes of the March 28, 2023 Executive Committee Meeting.

A motion was made to approve the March 28, 2023, meeting minutes as amended.

Motion/Second/Carried Director Kamilos moved, with a second by Director Bigley

Audie Foster, California American Water; Caryl Sheehan, Citrus Heights Water District; Sean Bigley, City of Roseville; Brett Ewart, City of Sacramento; Bruce Kamilos, Elk Grove Water District; Michael Saunders, Georgetown Divide Public Utility District; Tony Firenzi, Placer County Water Agency; voted yes. Ron Greenwood, Carmichael Water District; abstained. The motion passed.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes- 7

Noes- 0 Abstained- 1 Absent- 1

3.2 Recommend approval by the Board of Directors for the Executive Director to execute Task Order # T-02 in the amount of \$243,900 with Woodard & Curran for Technical Modeling Support for the development of the Sacramento Regional Water Bank

A motion was made to recommend approval by the Board of Directors for the Executive Director to execute Task Order # T-02 in the amount of \$243,900 with Woodard & Curran for Technical Modeling Support for the development of the Sacramento Regional Water Bank

Motion/Second/Carried Director Ewart moved, with a second by Director Greenwood

Audie Foster, California American Water; Ron Greenwood, Carmichael Water District; Caryl Sheehan, Citrus Heights Water District; Sean Bigley, City of Roseville; Brett Ewart, City of Sacramento; Bruce Kamilos, Elk Grove Water District; Michael Saunders, Georgetown Divide Public Utility District; Tony Firenzi, Placer County Water Agency; voted yes. The motion passed.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes- 8

Noes- 0 Abstained- 0 Absent- 1

### 4. RWA ENDORESEMENTS

Chair Firenzi lead a discussion with the Executive Committee regarding how the RWA Board currently approves RWA endorsements for members and non-members

seeking association positions and whether or not a policy should be created for future requests.

The Executive Committee provided direction to staff to draft a policy to be brought back to the Executive Committee for their review at the next meeting.

## 5. LEGISLATIVE POSITIONS

Executive Director Peifer presented an action item for the Executive Committee to review and discuss various State legislation and approve positions on legislative bills. Mr. Peifer provided an oral report on legislation and recommended Executive Committee action on bills related to water rights administration, bond measures, groundwater management, and water use efficiency.

AB 755 (Papan D- San Mateo) Would require an agency when conducting a cost-ofservice analysis to identify the incremental costs incurred by the major water users, defined as the highest 10 percent of users, in the single-family residential class and the incremental costs, as defined, that would be avoided if major water users met the standards in the urban water use efficiency objective. The bill would also require the incremental costs incurred by the major water users to be made publicly available by posting the information on the public entity's internet website.

Recommendation: Oppose

AB 1072 (Wicks D- Oakland) Would require on and after January 1, 2025, urban wholesale water suppliers and urban water suppliers to offer technical assistance and financial incentives to low-income residential customers to install efficient water conservation devices and climate resilient landscaping. Would require suppliers to allocate a minimum of 40 percent of program funds to low-income households and disadvantaged communities within their service areas. Makes an urban wholesaler water supplier and urban water suppliers ineligible for state funds if they are not in compliance with the above.

Recommendation: Oppose, Unless Amended

AB 1337 (Wicks D- Oakland) Would specify that the State Water Resources Control Board has authority to enforce pre 1914 water rights. Would allow the State Water Resources Control Board to implement curtailments at their discretion without any specific requirements. RWA currently has an oppose position.

Recommendation: Oppose, Unless Amended

AB 1573 (Friedman D- Burbank) Would make significant revisions to MWELO including requiring specific low water use plants, 75 percent native plants, and only

allow for regionally and site-specific "appropriate" plants. The bill also includes a definition of non-functional turf.

Recommendation: Oppose, Unless Amended

A motion was made to approve the recommended positions on the legislative bills as presented.

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

Audie Foster, California American Water; Ron Greenwood, Carmichael Water District; Caryl Sheehan, Citrus Heights Water District; Sean Bigley, City of Roseville; Brett Ewart, City of Sacramento; Bruce Kamilos, Elk Grove Water District; Michael Saunders, Georgetown Divide Public Utility District; Tony Firenzi, Placer County Water Agency; voted yes. The motion passed.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes- 8

Noes- 0 Abstained- 0 Absent- 1

### 6. FUTURE RWA BOARD 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 May 18, 2023.

Executive Director Peifer requested to add one additional item to the agenda. RWA staff received an endorsement request from Ms. Cathy Green who is running for ACWA Board President. Mr. Peifer requested that this item be included on the Consent Calendar. Mr. Peifer also requested ability to either provide a project update or pull the agenda item regarding the Voluntary Agreement funding pending the status of the contract.

A motion to approve RWA Board of Directors Agenda for May 18, 2023 Board Meeting, including the additional item and amendment as requested.

Motion/Second/Carried Director Sheehan moved, with a second by Director Foster.

Audie Foster, California American Water; Ron Greenwood, Carmichael Water District; Caryl Sheehan, Citrus Heights Water District; Sean Bigley, City of Roseville; Brett Ewart, City of Sacramento; Bruce Kamilos, Elk Grove Water District; Michael Saunders, Georgetown Divide Public Utility District; Tony Firenzi, Placer County Water Agency; voted yes. The motion passed.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes- 8

Noes- 0 Abstained- 0 Absent- 1

## 7. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS CLOSED SESSION MATTERS

None

## 8. CLOSED SESSION – Started at 2:34 p.m.

**8.1** Public Employee Performance Evaluation Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957

Title: Executive Director

8.2 Closed session regarding labor negotiations (Gov. Code, § 54957.6.)

Agency Representative(s): Directors Firenzi and Ewart

Unrepresented employee: Executive Director

OPEN SESSION - Returned at 4:01 P.M.

## 9. ANNOUNCEMENT OF REPORTABLE ACTION IN CLOSED SESSION

No reportable action was taken on 8.1 or 8.2.

## 10. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Peifer reported that he and Michelle Banonis participated with the Water Team for the Metro Chamber Cap to Cap event scheduled for April 22 to April 26. Senator Padilla and Feinstein put in an appropriation for RWA and they were able to help move that along with follow up to secure it. The City of Davis has expressed interest in joining the RWA. A future agenda item that will be coming to the Executive Committee - funding projects.

## 11. DIRECTORS' COMMENTS

Director Saunders reported that Georgetown Divide Public Utility District has received appropriation of 3 million dollars from Senator Padilla and Feinstein.

Director Kamilos reported that he will be attending the ACWA conference in Monterey next week.

Director Greenwood reported that Carmichael is finishing up their Bella Vista storage tank. They are also dealing with a contamination incident with their contractor with potential litigation. The district has two new ASR wells being installed; one partly

funded by the RWA and other grants. The district had a groundbreaking ceremony with Congressmen Ami Bera, State Water Resources Board Representative, State Water Control Board Representative, and the Bureau of Reclamation representative giving them a chance to thank them for their financial support. The district has recently purchased a property that has access to a well that belongs to the district that wasn't performing well. The property will allow for a lot line adjustment and better accessibility to the well. A 2x2 study with Sacramento Suburban Water District looking at the possibility of a consolidation, they are now at the public comment portion of the process. Director Greenwood thanked Jim Peifer and Tony Firenzi, who presented at a recent Carmichael Water District meeting.

Director Foster reported because California American Water is an investor-owned utility. The regulatory board, the Public Utility Commissions, are required to file a forward-looking rate case every three years, 2024-26. Public comments were minimal. Cal Public Advocacy recommended that California American Water is currently working on the rebuttal testimony to their recommendation. He also reported that Cal American Water have has a purchase agreement with Sacramento Suburban Water District which is water off the lower American River.

Director Bigley reported the City of Roseville is also going through their rate review process. The City is projecting an 8% rate increase for water and 6% in wastewater over a two year period. There was a lack of public participation at the workshops. Senator Padilla appropriated 3 million dollars for a solar battery backup project at their water treatment plant and 5-million-dollar appropriation for a joint conveyance program with PCWA. The City is currently recharging through May 16<sup>th</sup> depending on the snowmelt. In July, the City will be having a ribbon cutting event for the new ASR wells and they will make sure to extend an invitation to the RWA.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

With	no	further	business	to	come	before	the	Board,	Chair	Firenzi	adjourned	the
meet	ing	at 4:18	p.m.									

By:	
Anthony Firenzi, Chair	
Attest:	
Ashley Flores, Secretary	



Topic: Legislative and Regulatory Update

Type: **New Business** 

Item For: Discussion/Action

Purpose: Policy 100.5 and Strategic Plan Priority- Advocacy Objective A

Ryan Ojakian Ryan Ojakian

PRESENTER: SUBMITTED BY: Legislative and Regulatory Legislative and Regulatory

> Affairs Manager Affairs Manager

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This is a discussion/action item 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 post Appropriations suspense and heading into house of origin deadlines and recommended Executive Committee action on bills.

### STAFF RECOMMENDED ACTION

A motion to approve positions or position changes on legislative bills.

### **BACKGROUND**

AB 676 (Bennett D- Ventura) Would define what is considered domestic use within existing law characterizing the highest uses of water.

RWA's current position is Oppose. Recommendation: Oppose Unless Amended

AB 830 (Soria D- Fresno) Would exempt from lake and streambed alteration agreements the temporary operation of existing infrastructure or temporary pumps being used to divert flood stage and monitor stage flows to beneficial groundwater recharge.

Recommendation: Support

AB 1572 (Friedman D- Burbank) Would prohibit the use of potable water, as defined, for the irrigation of nonfunctional turf located on commercial, industrial, municipal, institutional, and multifamily residential properties.

RWA currently has an Oppose Unless Amended position. Recommendation: Neutral and amend



**SB 48 (Becker D- Menlo Park)** Originally, would have required the Energy Commission and State Water Resources Control Board, in consultation with the State Air Resources Board, Public Utilities Commission, and Department of Housing and Community Development, to jointly develop a strategy for using benchmarking data to track and manage the energy and water usage and emissions of greenhouse gases of covered buildings, as defined, in order to achieve the state's goals, targets, and standards related to energy and water usage and emissions of greenhouse gases of covered buildings. The bill has since been amended to remove water usage from the bill and now only pertains to energy usage.

RWA currently has Oppose Unless Amended. Recommendation: Neutral

## FINDING/CONCLUSION

The action is consistent with Policy Principles adopted as part of RWA policy 100.5 and Strategic Plan Priority- Advocacy Objective A



Topic: Project Funding
Type: Old Business

Item For: Discussion; Provide direction to staff

Purpose: Strategic Plan

Jim Peifer Jim Peifer

SUBMITTED BY: Executive Director PRESENTER: Executive Director

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This is a discussion item for the Regional Water Authority Executive Committee to discuss how the RWA will position itself to increase funding support to assist in building our member's projects.

#### STAFF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Discussion only, no action required. The Executive Director requests the Executive Committee provide direction on this item.

#### **BACKGROUND**

When the RWA Board of Directors adopted the strategic plan priorities for FY 2023/24, the staff indicated that the RWA will need to consider how to adapt to the current funding environment. The staff would like to discuss the first steps of a process to identify how the RWA will become more competitive.

The new funding will likely require the RWA to utilize new strategies and perhaps more resources to position the members for increased funding. Identifying new strategies and the necessary resources would result in a planning exercise. Staff recommends a Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) analysis as the means to plan this item. The SWOT analysis will start with and be developed by RWA staff. Initial results of the SWOT analysis will be brought to the Executive Committee for further discussion and development.

A SWOT analysis is not a complete planning product. More work will likely need to be accomplished to identify the cost of resources to address the results of the SWOT analysis. Nevertheless, a SWOT analysis should be accomplished first.

## FINDING/CONCLUSION

Staff requests the Executive Committee provide feedback on the initial steps for increasing the RWA's ability to compete in the changed funding environment.



Topic: Endorsement Policy

Type: Old Business

Item For: Discussion; Provide direction to staff

Purpose: Policy 200.1

Jim Peifer Jim Peifer

SUBMITTED BY: Executive Director PRESENTER: Executive Director

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This item is a follow up for the Executive Committee to the April 25 discussion on a potential endorsement policy for individuals requesting RWA resolutions endorsing their candidacy for association positions.

### STAFF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Provide direction to staff.

#### **BACKGROUND**

At the April 25<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee, the committee discussed the potential for an endorsement policy. The Executive Committee requested the staff consider the input and bring back an endorsement policy.

The RWA rules of procedure already provide for a member to place an item on the RWA Board agenda (rule 11 of policy 200.1), should they desire an endorsement from the RWA. The rule states:

...Any member of the Board may request that the Executive Director place an item for discussion or action on the agenda. In order to allow sufficient time to prepare the agenda and back-up materials, the deadline for adding items to the agenda for a regular meeting will be at noon, five working days before the meeting.

Should the Executive Committee wish to bring an endorsement policy to the Board for its consideration, staff recommends the following be included in Policy 200.1:

## Rule XX - Endorsing individuals for Association positions:

 For individuals within organizations that are RWA members, The RWA Board will consider endorsing those individuals.



For individuals within organizations that are not RWA members, The Board of
Directors may consider endorsing individuals if recommended by a member of the
Board of Directors. The Board of Directors will consider whether the individual's
perspectives and positions align with the policy positions of the RWA, including the
Policy Positions, RWA Strategic Plan and other relevant policies.

## FINDING/CONCLUSION

The staff has reviewed the need for an endorsement policy and is recommending that no policy be developed.



Topic: RWA Member Reception at Future ACWA Conferences

Type: New Business

Item For: Discussion; Provide direction to staff

Purpose: Strategic Plan

Jim Peifer Jim Peifer

SUBMITTED BY: Executive Director PRESENTER: Executive Director

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This is a discussion item for the Regional Water Authority Executive Committee to discuss improving the RWA Member Reception at future ACWA Conferences and the potential of upgrading the event.

#### STAFF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Discussion only, no action required. The Executive Director requests the Executive Committee provide direction on this item.

### **BACKGROUND**

For the last several years, the RWA has held a social hour at ACWA Conferences, generally on Tuesday afternoons. It appears members enjoy the social gathering.

In the past, PCWA has obtained a suite for meetings during the conference which the RWA utilizes at no cost for its meetings during the conference and the social gathering. At the most recent ACWA Conference in Monterey, the networking opportunity was well attended by elected officials and agency staff from RWA member agencies, as well as guests.

The Executive Director has received some feedback from the last event which includes: 1) the venue is too small; 2) it appears to be done cheaply; and 3) The RWA could benefit by upgrading the event and being strategic about inviting guests. For example, State Water Resources Control Board member Laurel Firestone attended and appeared to enjoy the social hour in Monterey.

Staff recommends upgrading the event to a Member Reception and using it to: 1) create a warm and festive environment for RWA members to meet each other and bond, 2) strategically invite important members of the water community to the social to leave a positive impression of the RWA, and 3) potentially recruit new RWA members.

Staff is recommending renting a larger space at the venue. Staff would also like to pursue soliciting sponsorships to purchase catering services for food and alcoholic beverages. Alternatively, the



RWA can fund the catering and perhaps set up a no host bar. No RWA funds have been used to pay for alcohol beverages at past social hour events.



Topic: RWA Board of Directors Agenda

Type: New Business

Item For: Action; Motion to Approve

Purpose: Policy 200.2

Jim Peifer Jim Peifer

SUBMITTED BY: Executive Director PRESENTER: Executive Director

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This is an action item for the Executive Committee to review and consider approving the draft Agenda of the Regular Regional Water Authority (RWA) Board of Directors Special Meeting of June 14, 2023.

### STAFF RECOMMENDED ACTION

A motion to approve RWA Board of Directors Agenda for June 14, 2023, Special Board Meeting.

#### **BACKGROUND**

Per RWA Policy 200.0, the Executive Committee will be authorized to prepare and approve agendas for meetings of the RWA Board of Directors.

Please be aware that the regularly scheduled Board meeting for June 29, 2023 has been cancelled and the RWA Special Board meeting on June 14, 2023 will be held at Fair Oaks Water Districted located at 10326 Fair Oaks Blvd, Fair Oaks, CA 95628.

### FINDING/CONCLUSION

The Executive Director has prepared the draft Agenda for the RWA Board of Directors Special Meeting June 14, 2023 for the RWA's Executive Committee's to review and approval.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment 1- Draft RWA Board of Directors Agenda for June 14, 2023 Special Board Meeting



# REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Wednesday, June 14, 2023 at 1:30 p.m.

Fair Oaks Water District 10326 Fair Oaks Blvd Fair Oaks, CA 95628 (916) 967-7692

## IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING VIRTUAL PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

The Regional Water Authority currently provides in person as well as virtual public participation via the Zoom link below until further notice. 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.

## Join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83679455812?pwd=NTQ4OEdWbzZZT2h1M0xRc1RTdkRCUT09

Phone: 1-669-900-6833

Meeting ID: 836 7945 5812 Passcode: 094844

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.

## <u>AGENDA</u>

- 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.
  - **3.1** Approve the draft meeting minutes of May 18, 2023 regular meeting.
  - **3.2** Approve agreement with Raftelis for professional Leadership Development Training Services.

## 4. PRESENTATION: LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLD WATER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Presenters: Jim Peifer, Executive Director and Nichole Baxter, External Affairs, Northern CA, California American Water

5. FUNDING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE STATE OF CA (NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY AND DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES) AND RWA FOR VOLUNTARY AGREEMENT EARLY IMPLEMENTATION FOR THE AMERICAN RIVER

Presenter: Michelle Banonis, Manager of Strategic Affairs

**Discussion/Action: Approve Agreement** 

## 6. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Presenter: Ryan Ojakian, Manager of Legislative and Regulatory Affairs **Discussion/ Action: Approve positions on legislative bills** 

- 7. Executive Director's Report
- 8. Directors' Comments

**ADJOURNMENT** 

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

September 14, 2023, 9:00 a.m. location TBD.

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

May 30, 2023, 1:30 p.m. at the RWA/SGA office, 5620 Birdcage Street, Ste. 110, Citrus Heights, CA 95610.

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/.



Topic: Executive Directors' Report

Type: New Business
Item For: Information

Purpose: General

Jim Peifer Jim Peifer

SUBMITTED BY: Executive Director PRESENTER: Executive Director

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This is an information item for the Executive Director to provide a briefing on important activities, reports, communications, advocacy, and other updates.

#### STAFF RECOMMENDED ACTION

None. This item is for information/discussion only.

## **BACKGROUND**

This agenda item is a standing item to provide an opportunity for the Executive Director to report to the Executive Committee on important activities, reports, communications, advocacy, and other updates.

Remember to submit questions you would like addressed during RWA's next Coffee and Conversation event on June 7 at 10 a.m. with <u>Jay Ziegler</u>, Delta Watermaster and former policy director for the California Office of The Nature Conservancy. You can find the registration link <u>here</u>, and send questions by June 1 to Christine Kohn at <u>christine@INprOnline.com</u>.

**ACWA Conference in Monterey:** Thank you for those who attended the RWA mixer at the ACWA Conference. The RWA team advocated for, among other things, DWR's support for increased groundwater recharge as outlined in RWA's co-sponsored legislation, SB659 (Ashby).

The California Department of Water Resources announced a recommendation to provide over \$3.5 million in grant funding for projects and activities that recharge the groundwater basin, monitor groundwater conditions, study water quality contamination, and improve water modeling. These project and activities aid in maintaining basin sustainability and supporting the Sacramento region's communities in the North American Subbasin. The amount includes funding for all components requested, including nearly all of the funding necessary for SGA to complete SGMA-required annual reporting for the next five years and five-year update to the Groundwater Sustainability Plan.

RWA co-sponsored <u>Senate Bill 659 (Ashby)</u>--the California Water Supply Solutions Act of 2023—passed through Senate Appropriations and is now on the Senate consent calendar. The likely



next stop is the Assembly Committee on Water, Parks and Wildlife. RWA is requesting that members submit additional letters in support of the legislation. For information and a template letter, contact RWA Legislative and Regulatory Affairs Manager at rojakian@rwah2o.org.

An RWA-sponsored advertising campaign on Twitter and Facebook worked to secure Sen Ashby's continued advocacy for SB659 while by raising her profile as an advocate for local water solutions. The Ashby "thank you" campaign followed an earlier digital advertising program that boosted exposure for the RWA-sponsored op-ed on water banking that ran in the Sacramento Bee.

The RWA team is continuing to reach out to stakeholders on groundwater issues and Water Bank development to provide updates and address questions. This included a presentation to the Environmental Council of Sacramento (ECOS) Water Committee on May 24 on groundwater sustainability in the North American Subbasin.

The RWA Water Efficiency Program launched a new partnership with the Sacramento Republic FC, the region's popular minor league soccer team. The partnership, which runs through October, includes messages displayed on the field and throughout the stadium encouraging visitors to make their yard "Summer Strong" through water-wise practices and plants.

The 2022 RWA Water Efficiency Year in Review is available <a href="here">here</a>. The report details program results for grant-funded programs, regional rebates, outreach and advertising, including over \$125,000 in value earned by placing television and radio public service announcements with regional media outlets.

The next Program Advisory Committee for the Sacramento Regional Water Bank is scheduled for Thursday, June 1 at 10:30 a.m.



Topic: Board Directors' Comments

Type: New Business Item For: Information

Purpose: Routine

Jim Peifer Tony Firenzi

SUBMITTED BY: Executive Director PRESENTER: Chair

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This is an information item to provide an opportunity for the RWA Executive Committee to report on any updates from their agency, comments, request future agenda items, recommendations, and questions.

## STAFF RECOMMENDED ACTION

None. This item is for information only.

#### **BACKGROUND**

This agenda item is a standing item to provide an opportunity to report on any updates from their agency, comments, request future agenda items, recommendations, and questions.