

**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 ENDORSEMENTS**

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-of-service 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 meeting at 4:18 p.m.

By:



Anthony Firenzi, Chair

Attest:



Ashley Flores, Secretary