

**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**

Audie Foster, California American Water  
Ron Greenwood, Carmichael Water District  
Sean Bigley, City of Roseville  
Brett Ewart, City of Sacramento  
Tony Firenzi, Placer County Water Agency  
Kerry Schmitz, Sacramento County Water Agency  
Dan York, Sacramento Suburban Water District

**Staff Members**

Jim Peifer, Ryan Ojakian, Trevor Joseph, Amy Talbot, Monica Garcia, Josette Reina-Luken, Michelle Banonis, Raiyna Villasenor, and Andrew Ramos, Legal Counsel

**Others in Attendance**

Jay Boatwright, Vanessa Nishikawa, Brian Sanders, Anne Sanger, and Peggy Vande Vooren.

Chair York announced that Item 8 on the agenda, Protocols for Press Releases, will be deferred to a future meeting.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**3. CONSENT CALENDAR:**

3a. Authorize a Teleconference Meeting

3b. Minutes of the October 26, 2022, Executive Committee meeting

Motion/Second/Carried (M/S/C) Mr. Bigley moved, with a second by Mr. Greenwood, to approve the consent calendar items, authorize a Teleconference meeting and minutes of the October 26, 2022 Executive Committee meeting. Audie Foster, California American Water, Ron Greenwood, Carmichael Water District, Sean Bigley, City of Roseville, Brett Ewart, City of Sacramento, Tony Firenzi, Placer County Water Agency, Kerry Schmitz, Sacramento County Water Agency, and Dan York, Sacramento Suburban Water District voted yes. The motion passed.

**4. 2022 AUDIT REPORT**

Ms. Vande Vooren, Gilbert Associates, Inc., presented the final audit report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022. She highlighted some of the required communications and the actual audit financial statement report. The report provided

an unqualified opinion, which is the cleanest possible opinion that can be provided. She gave an overview of the financial statements, revenues and expenses, the pension liability, the required supplementary information, and the independent auditor's report.

M/S/C Mr. Ewart moved, with a second by Mr. Firenzi, to accept the 2022 SGA Financial Audit Report. Audie Foster, California American Water, Ron Greenwood, Carmichael Water District, Sean Bigley, City of Roseville, Brett Ewart, City of Sacramento, Tony Firenzi, Placer County Water Agency, Kerry Schmitz, Sacramento County Water Agency and Dan York, Sacramento Suburban Water District voted yes. The motion passed.

## **5. STRATEGIC PLAN SURVEY**

Mr. Peifer reviewed the Strategic Plan Prioritization Process Survey results provided by the RWA member agencies. Mr. Peifer provided an overview of the differences between the goals, strategies and tactics of the Strategic Plan and how the RWA member agency feedback can be utilized to update the Plan. He stated that there will be a special board meeting in the future to finalize RWA member agency priorities and determine appropriate resource allocation prior to RWA's Fiscal Year 2024 budget approval.

## **6. REGIONAL WATER BANK UPDATE AND CONTRACT APPROVAL**

Mr. Joseph provided a status of the Sacramento Regional Water Bank (SRWB) development process including recommended consultant services to support SRWB development. The proposed action for this item was to approve a task order with Khadam Consulting Inc. with technical services provided by Ibrahim Khadam, a former employee of Stantec Consulting. As RWA is already under contract with Stantec for SRWB consulting services and based on Mr. Khadam's uniquely qualified experience, extensive background, and knowledge related to the SRWB as documented in the agenda packet, staff requested to waive RWA Policy 300.2 Competitive Process.

M/S/C Mr. Bigley moved, with a second by Ms. Schmitz, to authorize the Executive Director to enter into a Professional Services Agreement with Khadam Consulting Inc. in the amount of \$103,750 for technical support (Task Order T01) of RWA's development of the Sacramento Regional Water Bank (SRWB) and to waive RWA Policy 300.2 Competitive Process. Audie Foster, California American Water, Ron Greenwood, Carmichael Water District, Sean Bigley, City of Roseville, Brett Ewart, City of Sacramento, Kerry Schmitz, Sacramento County Water Agency and Dan York, Sacramento Suburban Water District voted yes. The motion passed.

## **7. 2023 RWA POLICY PRINCIPLES AND FEDERAL AFFAIRS PLATFORM**

Mr. Ojakian presented an overview of the changes of the 2023 RWA Policy Principles which remained largely the same as 2022. The only changes in the proposed 2023 policy principles from the adopted 2022 policy principles were minor additions to the priority issues related to "Protect the Water Rights and Entitlements of RWA Member Agencies", "Promote Balanced Statewide Water Management Solutions Beneficial to

the Greater Sacramento Region", and "Promote Water Efficiency and Water Conservation."

M/S/C Mr. Greenwood moved, with a second by Mr. Firenzi, to recommend approval of the 2023 Policy Principles to RWA Board of Directors via consent calendar. Audie Foster, California American Water, Ron Greenwood, Carmichael Water District, Sean Bigley, City of Roseville, Brett Ewart, City of Sacramento, Tony Firenzi, Placer County Water Agency, Kerry Schmitz, Sacramento County Water Agency and Dan York, Sacramento Suburban Water District voted yes. The motion passed.

Mr. Peifer presented the 2023 Federal Affairs Platform. The RWA Strategic Plan requires the "annual update of the RWA Policy Principles and Federal legislative platforms to effectively advocate for the region." (Advocacy Goal, Objective A, 1)

M/S/C Mr. Firenzi moved, with a second by Mr. Foster, to recommend approval of the 2023 Federal Affairs Platform to RWA Board of Directors via consent calendar. Audie Foster, California American Water, Ron Greenwood, Carmichael Water District, Sean Bigley, City of Roseville, Brett Ewart, City of Sacramento, Tony Firenzi, Placer County Water Agency, Kerry Schmitz, Sacramento County Water Agency and Dan York, Sacramento Suburban Water District voted yes. The motion passed.

## **8. PROTOCOLS FOR PRESS RELEASES**

As described above, at the beginning of this meeting Chair York announced that Item 8 on the agenda, Protocols for Press Releases, will be deferred to a future meeting.

## **9. RWA JANUARY 12, 2023 BOARD MEETING AGENDA**

M/S/C Mr. Ewart moved, with a second by Mr. Greenwood, to approve the RWA January 12, 2023, Board Meeting Agenda Audie Foster, California American Water, Ron Greenwood, Carmichael Water District, Sean Bigley, City of Roseville, Brett Ewart, City of Sacramento, Tony Firenzi, Placer County Water Agency, Kerry Schmitz, Sacramento County Water Agency and Dan York, Sacramento Suburban Water District voted yes. The motion passed.

## **10. AD HOC COMMITTEE UPDATES**

Mr. Peifer gave an update on RWA Policy 200.2 Ad Hoc Committee (Executive Committee Authority), RWA Policy 200.3 Ad Hoc Committee (Election Procedures), Space Planning Ad Hoc Committee, and Purchasing Ad Hoc Committee.

For Standing Committees: Federal Affairs meetings will continue in 2023 with focus on policy direction. The Water Quality Committee is a successful program with ongoing periodic meetings with water member agencies that will continue moving forward into next year.

## 11. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Peifer stated that there will be an upcoming SRWB Program Committee meeting which may be a Special Executive Committee meeting in order to be compliant with the Brown Act.

Recruitment efforts to replace the Executive Assistant are being finalized. The new Executive Assistant is expected to start in early January.

There was an update on the Voluntary Agreements that could materialize into several million dollars for the region.

Staff recently attended the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) conference where meetings were held that aimed to build a coalition to bring attention to investments for subsurface water storage. At the conference, Ms. Banonis helped build relationships with the United States Bureau of Reclamation and member agencies by conducting a tabletop exercise for VA implementation on the American River.

Mr. Peifer attended a listening session meeting with Antonio Villaraigosa, advisor to Governor Newsom's office, regarding federal investments for infrastructure needs of the region. Other RWA water member agency representatives in attendance included Yuba Water Agency and San Juan Water District, who clearly articulated the need for support to this region.

Mr. Peifer also provided salary survey data as described in the RWA 2022 Compensation Study Report related to RWA staff compensation analysis which was included in the board packet.

## 12. DIRECTORS' COMMENTS

Many directors wished happy holidays to all RWA members and staff with compliments on the recent Holiday Social and Awards Ceremony.

Chair York made closing comments regarding this being his last Executive Committee meeting as Chair and thanked his fellow committee members and staff for an outstanding year.

## ADJOURNMENT

Chair York adjourned the meeting at 10:22 a.m.

By:

  
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Chairperson

Attest:

  
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Board Secretary