



**REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Thursday, March 12, 2026 at 9:00 a.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

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or dial 1 669-444-9171

Meeting ID: **815 9105 6125**

If we experience technical difficulties and the Zoom link drops and you are no longer able to connect to the Board meeting, please dial 877-654-0338 – Guest Code 198

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.

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 January 8, 2026 RWA Regular Board Meeting

Action: Approve Consent Calendar items as presented

4. INFORMATION: WATERSHED RESILIENCE PILOT PROJECT

Presenter: Jim Peifer, Executive Director

5. PROPOSITION 4

Presenter: Jim Peifer, Executive Director

Action: Approve Resolution 2026-01

6. WATER FORUM 2050

Presenter: Jim Peifer, Executive Director

Action: Approve and authorize the RWA Chair to sign the Water Forum 2050 Agreement

7. INFORMATION: STRATEGIC PLAN 2030

Presenters: Michael Saunders, Chair and Ashley Flores, Associate Project Manager

8. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

9. DIRECTORS' COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

Next RWA Board of Director's Meeting:

May 14, 2026, 9:00 a.m. at Carmichael Water District. The location is subject to change.

Next RWA Executive Committee Meeting:

March 17, 2026, 1:30 p.m. at the RWA Office, 2295 Gateway Oaks, Suite 100 Sacramento, CA 95833.

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/>.

Posted on March 6, 2026

Ashley Flores

Ashley Flores, CMC, Board Clerk

RWA Board of Directors – 2026

Chair: Michael Saunders

Vice Chair: Sean Twilla

California American Water Audie Foster, General Manager Evan Jacobs, Operations Manager Nichole Baxter , Business Development Director (alternate)
Carmichael Water District Ron Greenwood , Board Member Cathy Lee, General Manager
Citrus Heights Water District Caryl Sheehan, Director Raymond Riehle, Director (alternate) Hilary Straus, General Manager Todd Jordan, Director of Operations (alternate)
City of Folsom Barbara Leary, Councilmember Marcus Yasutake, Environmental/Water Resources Director (alternate)
City of Lincoln Whitney Eklund, Councilmember Matthew Medill, Public Works Director Chris Nelson , Environmental Services Manager (alternate)
City of Roseville Pauline Rocucci, Councilmember Sean Bigley, Director of Utilities Devin Whittington, Assistant Environmental Utilities (alternate) George Hanson, Water Utilities Manager (alternate)
City of Sacramento Lisa Kaplan, Councilmember Brett Ewart , Water Policy & Regional Planning Supervising Engineer Michelle Carrey, Supervising Engineer (alternate) Anne Sanger, Policy and Legislative Specialist (alternate)
City of West Sacramento Rebecca Scott, Director of Public Works
City of Yuba City Wade Kirchner, Councilmember Philip Marler, Public Works & Development Services Director
El Dorado Irrigation District Paul Penn, Director Pravani Vandeyar, General Manager Jon Money, Engineering Director (Alternate)
Elk Grove Water District Tom Nelson, Board Chair Bruce Kamilos , General Manager

* Names highlighted in red are Executive Committee members

<p>Fair Oaks Water District Randy Marx, Board Member Tom Gray, General Manager</p>
<p>Georgetown Divide Public Utility District Michael Saunders, Board Member, Chair Nicholas Schneider, General Manager Adam Brown, Operations Manager (alternate)</p>
<p>Golden State Water Company Sean Twilla, General Manager, Vice Chair Paul Schubert, Utility Solutions Team (alternate)</p>
<p>Nevada Irrigation District Ricki Heck, Board Member Greg Jones, Assistant General Manager Jennifer Hanson, General Manager (alternate)</p>
<p>Orange Vale Water Company Robert Hunter, Board Member Chris Shepard, General Manager (alternate)</p>
<p>Placer County Water Agency Chris Wilson, Board Member Robert Dugan, Board Member (alternate) Tony Firenzi, Director of Strategic Affairs Andy Fecko, General Manager, (alternate)</p>
<p>Rancho Murieta Community Services District John Merchant, Board Member Eric Houston, Director of Operations</p>
<p>Sacramento County Water Agency Patrick Kennedy, Supervisor Michael Grinstead, P.E. Principal Civil Engineer</p>
<p>Sacramento Suburban Water District Robert “Bob” Wichert, Board Member Dan York, General Manager Jay Boatwright, (alternate) Craig Locke, (alternate) Kevin Thomas, Board Member (alternate) Dave Jones, Board Member (alternate)</p>
<p>San Juan Water District Ted Costa, Board President Adam Larsen, General Manager Greg Zlotnick, Water Resources and Strategic Affairs (alternate)</p>

* Names highlighted in red are Executive Committee members

RWA ASSOCIATES

Organization:	Representatives:
El Dorado Water Agency	Lori Parlin , Chair Rebecca Guo , General Manager
Placer County	Derek Gade , Director Public Works and Facilities Jared Deck , Manager Environmental Engineering
Sacramento Municipal Utility District	Paul Lau , General Manager/CEO Christopher Cole , Strategic Account Advisor Chad Adair , Energy Trading and Contracts Manager John Hansen , Power Contracts Specialist
Sacramento Area Sewer District	Mike Huot , Director of Policy and Planning Jose Ramirez , Senior Civil Engineer
Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency	Jason Campbell , Executive Director
Yuba Water Agency	Adam Robin , Government Relations Manager Willie Whittlesey , General Manager

RWA AFFILIATE MEMBERS

Organization:	Representatives:
Black & Veatch	David Carlson , Vice president
Brown & Caldwell	Paul Selsky , Water Supply Planning, Vice president LaSandra Edwards , Civil Engineer May Huang , Engineer David Zuber , Vice President
CDM Smith	Lauren Sullivan , Client Service Leader - Water Services Brian Heywood, PE Principal Water Resources Engineer
GEI Consultants	John Woodling , Vice President, Branch Manager Chris Petersen , Principal Hydrogeologist Richard Shatz , Principal Hydrogeologist
HDR, Inc.	Jafar Faghieh , Water Resources Engineer Ed Winkler , Client Development Lead
Sacramento Association of Realtors	Jessica Coates , Chief Executive Officer
Stantec	Kari Shively , Vice President Vanessa Nishikawa , Principal Water Resources Engineer
West Yost Associates	Charles Duncan , President Abigail Madrone , Business Development Director Kelye McKinney , Engineering Manager I Jim Mulligan , Principal Engineer
Wood Rogers, Inc.	Kevin Gustorf , Vice President Sean Spaeth , Senior Hydrogeologist
Woodard & Curran	Ali Taghavi , Principal Jim Graydon , Senior Client Service Manager

* Names highlighted in red are Executive Committee members

Topic: Public Comment
Type: New Business
Item For: Information/Discussion
Purpose: [Policy 200.1, Rule 11](#)

SUBMITTED BY: Ashley Flores, CMC
Associate PM & Board Clerk PRESENTER: Michael Saunders, Chair

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

3.0 CONSENT CALENDAR



Topic: Meeting Minutes
Type: Consent Calendar
Item For: Action; Motion to Approve
Purpose: Policy 200.1, Rule 14

SUBMITTED BY:	Ashley Flores, CMC Associate PM & Board Clerk	PRESENTER:	Jim Peifer Executive Director
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This is an action item for the Regional Water Authority Board of Directors to review and consider approving the draft minutes of the special and regular Regional Water Authority Board Meeting of January 8, 2026.

STAFF RECOMMENDED ACTION

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

BACKGROUND

The draft minutes of the above-mentioned meeting are included with this Agenda. The minutes reflect the RWA Policy 200.1 to document actions taken 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 Board of Directors.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1- Draft Meeting Minutes of the Regional Water Authority Board Meeting of
January 8, 2026



Regional Water Authority
BUILDING ALLIANCES IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

RWA Board Meeting
Draft Minutes
January 8, 2026

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Saunders called the regular meeting of the Board of Directors to order at 9:02 a.m. the meeting location was at the Carmichael Water District, 7837 Fair Oaks Blvd, Carmichael, CA 95608. A quorum was established of 18 participating members present in person. Individuals who participated are listed below:

RWA Board Members

Audie Foster, California American Water
Nichole Baxter, California American Water (Online)
Ron Greenwood, Carmichael Water District
Cathy Lee, Carmichael Water District
Hilary Straus, Citrus Heights Water District
David Wheaton, Citrus Heights Water District
Marcus Yasutake, City of Folsom
Barbara Leary, City of Folsom
Chris Nelson, City of Lincoln
Pauline Roccucci, City of Roseville
Sean Bigley, City of Roseville
George Hanson, City of Roseville
Lisa Kaplan, City of Sacramento (Online)
Brett Ewart, City of Sacramento
Rebecca Scott, City of West Sacramento
Paul Penn, El Dorado Irrigation District
Pravani Vandeyar, El Dorado Irrigation District
Jon Money, El Dorado Irrigation District (Online)
Tom Nelson, Elk Grove Water District
Bruce Kamilos, Elk Grove Water District
Randy Marx, Fair Oaks Water District
Tom Gray, Fair Oaks Water District
Michael Saunders, Georgetown Divide Public Utilities District
Sean Twilla, Golden State Water Company
Greg Jones, Nevada Irrigation District – *Entered at 9:09 a.m.*
Chris Wilson, Placer County Water Agency
Tony Firenzi, Placer County Water Agency
Michael Grinstead, Sacramento County Water Agency
Robert Wichert, Sacramento Suburban Water District
Dan York, Sacramento Suburban Water District
Kevin Thomas, Sacramento Suburban Water District (Online)
Ted Costa, San Juan Water District
Adam Larsen, San Juan Water District

George Machado, San Juan Water District
Greg Zlotnick, San Juan Water District (Online)

RWA Associate Members

Rebecca Guo, El Dorado Water Agency; John Hansen, SMUD

RWA Affiliate Members

None

Staff Members

Jim Peifer, Tom Hoffart, Ryan Ojakian, Michelle Banonis, Trevor Joseph, Monica Garcia, Ashley Flores and Josh Horowitz, Legal Counsel

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

3. CONSENT CALENDAR

- 3.1 Approve the draft meeting minutes of November 13, 2025, RWA Regular Board Meeting
- 3.2 Approve revisions to RWA Policies 200.1 (Rules for Proceedings of the Board of Directors) and 500.13 (Business Expense Reimbursement)
- 3.3 Accept the Fiscal Year 2024/2025 RWA Financial Audit Report
- 3.4 Approve the 2026 Policy Principles
- 3.5 Approve the 2026 Federal Affairs Platform

A motion was made to approve the Consent Calendar as presented.

Motion/Second/Carried Director Nelson moved, with a second by Director Roccucci

Audie Foster, California American Water; Ron Greenwood, Carmichael Water District; David Wheaton, Citrus Heights Water District; Marcus Yasutake, City of Folsom Chris Nelson, City of Lincoln; Pauline Roccucci, City of Roseville; Brett Ewart, City of Sacramento; Rebecca Scott, City of West Sacramento; Paul Penn, El Dorado Irrigation District; Tom Nelson, Elk Grove Water District; Tom Gray, Fair Oaks Water District; Michael Saunders, Georgetown Divide Public Utilities District; Sean Twilla, Golden State Water Company; Chris Wilson, Placer County Water Agency; Michael Grinstead, Sacramento County Water Agency; Robert Wichert, Sacramento Suburban Water District; and Ted Costa, San Juan Water District; voted yes.

Ayes	17
Noes	0
Abstained	0
Absent	4

4. 2026 VICE CHAIR AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

This was an action item for the Board of Directors to approve the 2026 Vice Chair and members of the Executive Committee.

A motion was made to approve Sean Twilla as 2026 Vice Chair and approve Michael Saunders, Sean Twilla, Brett Ewart, Michael Grinstead, Ron Greenwood, Nichole Baxter, Robert Wichert, Chris Nelson and Bruce Kamilos to serve on the RWA 2026 Executive Committee.

Motion/Second/Carried Director Gray moved, with a second by Director Wheaton

Audie Foster, California American Water; Ron Greenwood, Carmichael Water District; David Wheaton, Citrus Heights Water District; Marcus Yasutake, City of Folsom Chris Nelson, City of Lincoln; Pauline Roccucci, City of Roseville; Brett Ewart, City of Sacramento; Rebecca Scott, City of West Sacramento; Paul Penn, El Dorado Irrigation District; Tom Nelson, Elk Grove Water District; Tom Gray, Fair Oaks Water District; Michael Saunders, Georgetown Divide Public Utilities District; Sean Twilla, Golden State Water Company; Greg Jones, Nevada Irrigation District; Chris Wilson, Placer County Water Agency; Michael Grinstead, Sacramento County Water Agency; Robert Wichert, Sacramento Suburban Water District; and Ted Costa, San Juan Water District; voted yes.

Ayes	18
Noes	0
Abstained	0
Absent	3

5. INFORMATION: WATERSHED RESILIENCE PILOT PROJECT UPDATE

This is an information item presented by Executive Director, Jim Peifer and Ryan Ojakian, Manager of Government Relations briefing the Board of Directors on the Watershed Resilience Pilot Project activities. Staff and consultants continue to work on the Watershed Resilience Pilot Project, which is being funded by a grant from the Department of Water Resources. Most recently, the consultants have been focused on setting up technical tools for analysis and developing a framework for prioritizing the strategies to adapt to climate change. The Board of Directors received a presentation on the recent activities.

The next phase will involve identifying adaptation strategies and projects for inclusion in the Watershed Resilience Plan. DWR has emphasized that regions further along in planning will be better positioned to compete for Proposition 4 funding. Progress to date, supported by the collaboration of local agencies, NGOs, community partners, and Water Forum members, strengthens the region’s ability to attract the resources needed to put resilience strategies into practice.

No action taken, information only.

6. BUDGET AMENDMENT FOR THE SPONSORSHIP OF THE PUBLIC POLICY INSTITUTE OF CALIFORNIA’S “ACCOUNTING FOR WATER” INITIATIVE

This was an action item presented by Jim Peifer, Executive Director for the Board of Directors to approve a budget amendment of up to \$50,000 for a sponsorship of Public Policy Institute of California’s (PPIC) Accounting for Water initiative, which allows for the collection of funds and disbursement to PPIC. The budget amendment does not increase the cost to the members, rather, the RWA will collect funds and pass them through to PPIC.

A motion was made to approve a budget amendment of up to \$50,000 for a sponsorship to PPIC.

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

Audie Foster, California American Water; Ron Greenwood, Carmichael Water District; David Wheaton, Citrus Heights Water District; Marcus Yasutake, City of Folsom Chris Nelson, City of Lincoln; Pauline Roccucci, City of Roseville; Brett Ewart, City of Sacramento; Rebecca Scott, City of West Sacramento; Paul Penn, El Dorado Irrigation District; Tom Nelson, Elk Grove Water District; Tom Gray, Fair Oaks Water District; Michael Saunders, Georgetown Divide Public Utilities District; Sean Twilla, Golden State Water Company; Greg Jones, Nevada Irrigation District; Chris Wilson, Placer County Water Agency; Michael Grinstead, Sacramento County Water Agency; Robert Wichert, Sacramento Suburban Water District; and Ted Costa, San Juan Water District; voted yes.

Ayes	18
Noes	0
Abstained	0
Absent	3

7. DISCUSSION: WATER FORUM AGREEMENT 2050

This was a discussion item presented by Jim Peifer, Executive Director for the Board of Directors to receive and update on the Water Forum Agreement.

No action taken, information only.

8. DISCUSSION: STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

This was a discussion item presented by Jim Peifer, Executive Director for the Board of Directors to receive and update on the RFP process for the Strategic Plan 2030 update.

No action taken, information only.

9. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Executive Director Peifer reported out on advocacy and the Healthy Rivers and Landscapes Program.

10. DIRECTORS' COMMENTS

Director Roccucci called for a moment of silence for Former United States Representative Doug LaMalfa.

Director Ewart reported that the City of Sacramento has hired a new Director of Utilities Dalia Fadl and City Manager Smith.

Director Kamilos reported that the Elk Grove Water District's Board of Director's have signed and submitted payment on their Phase 3 Water Bank Agreement.

Chair Saunders reported that GDPUD General Manager's contract has been renewed.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Board, Chair Saunders adjourned the meeting at 10:17 a.m.

By:

Attest:

Michael Saunders, RWA Chair

Ashley Flores, CMC, Clerk of the Board

Topic: Watershed Resilience Pilot Project Update
Type: Old Business
Item For: Information
Purpose: Strategic Plan Objective A - Support the securing of funding and assist in resourcing projects and programs that are regional priorities

SUBMITTED BY: Jim Peifer,
Executive Director

PRESENTER: Jim Peifer,
Executive Director

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This is an information item presented by Jim Peifer, Executive Director and Ryan Ojikian, Manager of Government Affairs, will brief the Board of Directors on the Watershed Resilience Pilot Project activities.

STAFF RECOMMENDED ACTION

None. This item is for information/discussion only.

BACKGROUND

Staff and consultants continue to work on the Watershed Resilience Pilot Project, which is being funded by a grant from the Department of Water Resources. The Pilot examines nine interconnected systems that are affected by climate and weather: ecosystem, flood management, groundwater supply, hydropower, surface water supply, agriculture, recreation, water quality, and community and equity. The focus is on strategies that benefit multiple systems at once and that address the most vulnerable assets and communities.

The work is nearly complete and the RWA staff would like to brief the Board on the work before it is submitted to DWR.

ATTACHEMENTS

Attachment 1- Draft Watershed Resilience Pilot Project Report (Posted on [RWA website](#))

Topic: Proposition 4
Type: New Business
Item For: Action
Purpose: Strategic Plan Objective A - Support the securing of funding and assist in resourcing projects and programs that are regional priorities

SUBMITTED BY:	Jim Peifer, Executive Director	PRESENTER:	Jim Peifer, Executive Director
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This is an action item for the Board to consider and approve a resolution regarding securing Proposition 4 funding to support to our region’s adaption efforts to Climate Change.

STAFF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approve Resolution 2026-01

BACKGROUND

There are a number of activities now occurring that affect our member’s ability to adapt to Climate Change. One of those items is the completion and submission of the Watershed Resilience Pilot Project report to the State Department of Water Resources by March 21, 2026. Another consequential activity is the State Legislature is considering how to appropriate Proposition 4 funds, and DWR is planning for the eventual distribution of Proposition 4 funds.

To support our members acquisition of Proposition 4 funding, staff is bringing a resolution to the Board of Directors for their consideration and approval. The Resolution establishes the [RiverArc project](#), [Sacramento Regional Water Bank](#), the [American River Climate Adaption Program](#), Forecast Informed Reservoir Operations (SAFCA), and the [Scotts Flat Spillway Replacement](#) as priority projects, as well as member projects that benefit rural, disadvantaged and vulnerable populations.

ATTACHEMENTS

Attachment 1- Draft Resolution 2026-01

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-01

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY REGARDING PREPARING FOR CLIMATE CHANGE AND PROPOSITION 4

WHEREAS, the Regional Water Authority (“Authority”) was formed to serve and represent regional water supply interests and to assist in protecting and enhancing the reliability, availability, affordability and quality of water resources; and

WHEREAS, The State Department of Water Resources provided the RWA with a grant to prepare a Watershed Resilience Pilot Program (“Project”) that 1) manages water from headwaters to outflow at a watershed scale; 2) prioritizes equity and inclusiveness; 3) analyzes climate risks and adaptations that mitigate those risks both locally and statewide; 4) collaborates across water supply, flood control, surface water, groundwater, water quality, headwater health, ecosystems, and land use sectors; and 5) developing metrics to track outcomes regionally and statewide; and

WHEREAS, The Project identifies impacts to the American, Bear, and Cosumnes River watersheds region including: a doubling of wildfire risk in the upper watershed, a doubling of catastrophic flood risk, a doubling of extreme heat days, a 66 percent decrease of historical snowpack by midcentury and 80 percent decrease by the end of the century, and numerous other impacts, and

WHEREAS, The Project Report identifies that vulnerable and disadvantaged communities may be disproportionately impacted from the effects of climate change, especially by wildfire in rural communities, flooding in urban areas, and extreme heat across the region, and

WHEREAS, The problematic effects of Climate Change will reach beyond the American, Bear, and Cosumnes River watersheds and challenge all RWA member agency’s ability to manage water resources, and

WHEREAS, Many infrastructure investments made by the RWA member agencies suffer simultaneously from aging, regulatory obligations and the increasing stresses resulting from climate change; and

WHEREAS, The Region is developing projects to address these risks including the RiverArc project, the Sacramento Regional Water Bank, the American River Climate Adaption Program (ARCAP), which collectively provide the following benefits: (A) provide improved regional watershed management; (B) address current and projected drought conditions and demonstrate adaptation to climate change for a region; and (C) provide ecosystem benefits to fish and wildlife and improve stream flow for anadromous fish, and

WHEREAS, the voters of California passed the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024 (“Proposition 4”) which provides \$10 billion in general obligation bond funding to support a variety of climate change adaption projects and programs; and

WHEREAS, the Authority, given their central role in the regions conjunctive use and water banking program, is positioned to advocate for Proposition 4 funds specifically for the projects identified above; and

WHEREAS, the Authority is also positioned to advocate for and support its members in seeking Proposition 4 funds for other projects and programs, such as forest health, flood control, and dam safety; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 4 requires at least 40 percent of the total funds available shall be allocated for projects that provide meaningful and direct benefits to vulnerable populations or disadvantaged communities.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate for the Board of Directors of the Authority to clearly direct the Executive Director on these priorities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Authority direct staff to continue to make interested agencies aware of the results of the Project Report, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the Authority declare that the Water Bank, RiverArc and ARCAP, Forecast Informed Reservoir Operations Program and the Scotts Flat Spillway Replacement are priority projects and programs for the Region’s Climate Change Adaption Efforts; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors directs staff to pursue funding to support the development of Water Bank, RiverArc, ARCAP, the Region’s Forecast Informed Reservoir Operations Program and the Scotts Flat Spillway Replacement as well as funding to support our member agencies’ rural, vulnerable and/or disadvantaged communities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors directs staff to partner with organizations such as the Water Forum, Mountain Counties Water Resources Association, and Watershed Network participants in the pursuit of funding.

PASSED and APPROVED by the Regional Water Authority Board of Directors on March 12, 2026.

By:

Attest:

Michael Saunders, Chair

Ashley Flores, CMC, Clerk of the Board

CERTIFICATION

I, Ashley Flores, Regional Water Authority Board Secretary, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution 2026-01 was duly and regularly adopted by the Board of Directors of the Regional Water Authority at the regular meeting held on March 12, 2026 by the following vote of the Board:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTENTIONS:

ABSENT:

Ashley Flores, CMC
Clerk of the Board



Topic: Water Forum Agreement 2050
 Type: Old Business
 Item For: Action;
 Purpose: Strategic Plan [Objective C](#)

SUBMITTED BY: Jim Peifer Executive Director	PRESENTER: Jim Peifer Executive Director
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This is an action item for the Board of Directors to receive a brief update and consider approval and authorize the RWA Chair to sign the Water Forum 2050 Agreement.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approve and authorize the RWA Chair to sign the Water Forum 2050 Agreement

BACKGROUND

The Water Forum Agreement 2050 is complete and Water Forum participating organizations are approving the agreement. The Water Forum Plenary approved the “main body” of the agreement at a meeting of the Plenary on September 25, 2025. At the time, the remaining portions of the agreement needed to be completed, and that was largely the Purveyor Specific Agreements (PSAs) from the retail water agencies. The Water Forum participants have agreement on the PSAs.

The agreement was brought to the Board of Directors for discussion at the January Board meeting. There were no objections to the agreement during that meeting.

RWA’s predecessor organization, the Sacramento Metropolitan Water Authority, signed the first Water Agreement. That organization was noteworthy for its involvement in facilitating the creation of the SGA (formerly called the Sacramento North Area Groundwater Management Authority, of SNAGMA), and for facilitating the involvement of several smaller water agencies in the initial water forum agreement.

RWA’s Role in Water Forum 2050

The RWA’s roles described in the Water Forum 2050 agreement include:

- American River Climate Adaption Program (ARCAP): RWA staff will partner with Water Forum staff on further developing the program, including technical elements of the program (Page 24).
- Demand Management (Page 60): The agreement will require the hosting of a semi-annual meeting with Water Forum members, RWA staff, and agency water conservation staff to

Agenda Item 6

review and discuss efforts related to demand management. Water Forum members will have the opportunity to provide input on regional strategies and messaging for consideration by the agency's water conservation staff.

- Healthy Rivers and Landscapes Program (Page 74): RWA will work with the Water Forum in close coordination for implementing the requirements for the Healthy River and Landscapes Program (HR&LP).
- Water Caucus (Page 94): The RWA will participate as a member in the Water Caucus.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1- September 2025 Final Draft of the Water Forum 2050 Agreement (Posted on [RWA website](#))

Topic: Strategic Plan 2030 Update
Type: Old Business
Item For: Information/Discussion
Purpose: Policy 200.2

SUBMITTED BY:	Ashley Flores, CMC Associate PM & Board Clerk	PRESENTER:	Michael Saunders, Chair & Ad Hoc Chair
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This is an information/discussion item for the Board of Directors to receive a report from Chair Saunders and Ashley Flores, Associate Project Manager, on the latest progress in revising the Strategic Plan.

STAFF RECOMMENDED ACTION

None. This item is for information/discussion only.

BACKGROUND

Last August, Chair Ewart formed an Ad Hoc committee with the following charge:

1. To consider and make a recommendation to the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors if a consultant should be hired to assist in the preparation of the RWA’s Strategic Plan and if so, what qualities should the consultant possess?
2. To participate in the selection of a consultant.

The participants include Michael Saunders, Bob Wichert, Sean Bigley, and Brett Ewart.

The committee recommends a consultant be selected and presented this recommendation to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee discussed which consultants should be sent a request for qualifications (RFQ) and a short list was formed including:

- Strategy Driver (Ellen Cross)
- Raftelis (Cathrine Carter)
- Integrated Communications Strategies (Jerry Azavedo)
- Bienati Consulting Group, Inc. (Larry Bienati)
- Jennifer Lieberman Consulting (Jennifer Lieberman)

We received two proposals from the following firms:

- Integrated Communications Strategies (Jerry Azavedo)
- Bienati Consulting Group, Inc. (Larry Bienati)

In January 2026, we reported to the Executive Committee that the Ad Hoc Committee had met and awarded a professional services agreement to Integrated Communications Strategies (ICS). Jerry Azevedo and his team will provide strategic planning to help RWA develop a strategic plan to guide the organization for the next five years.

RWA's existing strategic plan (i.e. RWA 2025 Strategic Plan) is nearly six years old but provides a helpful foundation. However, improvements are envisioned that will update the plan, including adding specificity, and providing clarity to allow all members to gain a common understanding of the strategic plan. With new RWA member agencies in the upper American River watershed and the Bear/Yuba watersheds, RWA also seeks to update its strategic plan to reflect evolving priorities, strengthen focus, and ensure alignment with its mission and evolving regional needs.

FINDING/CONCLUSION

Staff projects that the draft strategic plan will be available for review Fall 2026 and we anticipate opportunities for the RWA staff and membership to participate in the process through the year.

Topic: Executive Director’s Report
Type: New Business
Item For: Information
Purpose: General

SUBMITTED BY: Jim Peifer
Executive Director

PRESENTER: Jim Peifer
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 Board of Directors on important activities, reports, communications, advocacy, and other updates.

Legislative Matters

February 20 marked the bill introduction deadline for the second year of the two-year legislative session. RWA is reviewing hundreds of bills to identify proposals that could affect member agencies, including legislation related to groundwater recharge, affordability, water quality, and wildfire preparedness. For more information, contact RWA Government Affairs Manager Ryan Ojakian at rojakian@rwah2o.org.

The Regional Water Authority is co-sponsoring AB 2026 (Aguiar-Curry) to improve permitting and policy for groundwater recharge. The legislation aims to reduce barriers to capturing high flows during wet years while protecting water rights and environmental needs. For more information, contact RWA Government Affairs Manager Ryan Ojakian at rojakian@rwah2o.org.

California Water Plan Update

On February 25, Governor Newsom launched the most ambitious water plan in California history with a statewide water supply target of 9 million acre-feet by 2040. RWA Manager of Strategic Affairs, Michelle Banonis, was selected as one of 36 people statewide to serve on the Advisory Committee to represent the Sacramento region and provide input for plan development. See the Governor’s press release [here](#) and learn more about the California Water Plan [here](#).

Water Use Efficiency

RWA Water Efficiency Program Manager Amy Talbot was selected to serve on the Advisory Committee for the California Growing Water Smart Metrics Program. The initiative hopes to develop a statewide guidebook and implementation framework to help urban water retailers align water and land use planning and strengthen data-driven conservation efforts.

Outreach

Maven's Notebook published a joint op-ed by Michael Saunders, RWA Chair, and Jim Mayer, Chair of the Northern California Water Groundwater Management Task Force, calling for modernization of groundwater recharge policy. The article explains how clearer permitting and access to high flows can strengthen SGMA implementation and improve water reliability statewide. Read it [here](#).

The *Sacramento Bee's* February 11 story on state water conservation regulations included quotes from RWA Executive Director Jim Peifer, who described the local-state relationship as “complicated” and raised concerns that the rules could “make water less affordable” for customers. Read the full article [here](#).

The *Sacramento Bee* on February 27 reported that the Bureau of Reclamation announced 100% initial Central Valley Project allocations for Sacramento-area urban water agencies and agricultural contractors. RWA's Jim Peifer was quoted as calling the allocation a positive sign for 2026 water supply conditions, while cautioning that reservoir carryover remains critical if next year is dry. Read the full article [here](#).

SAVE THE DATE

Water Bank Program Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, March 18, 2026, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. For more information about the Water Bank, contact Trevor Joseph at tjoseph@rwah2o.org.

Watershed Network Event on March 20, 12:30-3:30 p.m., at the Museum of Science and Curiosity (MOSAC) in Sacramento. Participants will explore findings from the DWR-funded Watershed Resilience Plan, including results of the vulnerability analysis and the draft decision-making framework, and discuss how the Watershed Network could continue as this work moves forward. The event is free, but space is limited. Register [here](#).

Webinar: Nonfunctional Turf Requirements. RWA's Water Efficiency Program is launching a quarterly webinar series to help customers understand California's new nonfunctional turf requirements. The first webinar will be held on Tuesday, March 31, at 12 p.m. and will explain who the rules apply to, what changes are required, and where to find tools and resources to help with compliance. For details, visit <https://bewatersmart.info/nft/>.

RWA Coffee and Conversation with [John Watts, Water Policy Counsel for Senator Alex Padilla](#), Wednesday, April 15, at 10 a.m. Details and registration link to come.



Financial Reports

Financial reports for the quarter ending on December 31, 2025 are attached.

California State Treasurer
Fiona Ma, CPA



Local Agency Investment Fund
 P.O. Box 942809
 Sacramento, CA 94209-0001
 (916) 653-3001

January 12, 2026

[LAIF Home](#)
[PMIA Average Monthly Yields](#)

REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY

FINANCE MANAGER
 2295 GATEWAY OAKS DRIVE
 SACRAMENTO, CA 95833

[Tran Type Definitions](#)

Account Number: 90-34-019

December 2025 Statement

Effective Date	Transaction Date	Tran Type	Confirm Number	Web Confirm Number	Authorized Caller	Amount
12/12/2025	12/12/2025	RW	1787923	1748560	THOMAS HOFFART	-250,000.00

Account Summary

Total Deposit:	0.00	Beginning Balance:	2,271,412.84
Total Withdrawal:	-250,000.00	Ending Balance:	2,021,412.84



Market Value Summary:

	QTD Current Period	Fiscal Year to Date
Beginning Balance	\$1,972,457.18	\$1,867,863.43
Contribution	0.00	0.00
Disbursement	0.00	0.00
Transfer In	0.00	0.00
Transfer Out	0.00	0.00
Investment Earnings	34,015.87	138,946.83
Administrative Expenses	(135.26)	(265.31)
Investment Expense	(215.48)	(422.64)
Other	0.00	0.00
Ending Balance	\$2,006,122.31	\$2,006,122.31
FY End Contrib per GASB 74 Para 22	0.00	0.00
FY End Disbursement Accrual	0.00	0.00
Grand Total	\$2,006,122.31	\$2,006,122.31

Unit Value Summary:

	QTD Current Period	Fiscal Year to Date
Beginning Units	73,305.990	73,305.990
Unit Purchases from Contributions	0.000	0.000
Unit Sales for Withdrawals	0.000	0.000
Unit Transfer In	0.000	0.000
Unit Transfer Out	0.000	0.000
Ending Units	73,305.990	73,305.990
Period Beginning Unit Value	26.907175	25.480364
Period Ending Unit Value	27.366416	27.366416

Please note the Grand Total is your actual fund account balance at the end of the period, including all contributions per GASB 74 paragraph 22 and accrued disbursements. Please review your statement promptly. All information contained in your statement will be considered true and accurate unless you contact us within 30 days of receipt of this statement. If you have questions about the validity of this information, please contact CERBT4U@calpers.ca.gov.

Statement of Transaction Detail for the Quarter Ending 12/31/2025

Regional Water Authority

Entity #: SKB0-6065061198



Date	Description	Amount	Unit Value	Units	Check/Wire	Notes
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Client Contact:
CERBT4U@CalPERS.ca.gov



Per California Government Code 6505.5 (e), RWA reports the following unaudited information:

For the period ending December 31, 2025

Cash in checking account:	\$	(18,283)
LAIF balance:	\$	2,021,413

For the period of October 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025

Total cash receipts for the period:	\$	843,345
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Total cash disbursements for the period:	\$	6,904,137
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REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY

Income Statement

Year-to-Date Performance, December 2025 - 2 months back, Consolidated
by account

	<i>6 Months Ended December 31, 2025</i>	<i>Annual Budget</i>	<i>Unused</i>	<i>% Used</i>
REVENUES				
Core Revenues				
Annual Assessments	1,150,750.00	1,150,751.00	1.00	100.0 %
Affiliate Members Annual	8,000.00	8,000.00	0.00	100.0 %
Associate Membership Annual	74,922.00	74,922.00	0.00	100.0 %
Miscellaneous Revenue	3,343.58	5,000.00	1,656.42	66.9 %
Interest on S/T Investments	42,270.24	70,000.00	27,729.76	60.4 %
TOTAL Core Revenues	1,279,285.82	1,308,673.00	29,387.18	97.8 %
Grant and Program Revenues				
Program Revenues	877,993.43	1,143,149.00	265,155.57	76.8 %
State Revenues	13,159,470.60	49,085,399.00	35,925,928.40	26.8 %
WEP Revenues	547,583.88	524,232.00	(23,351.88)	104.5 %
TOTAL Grant and Program Revenues	14,585,047.91	50,752,780.00	36,167,732.09	28.7 %
TOTAL REVENUES	15,864,333.73	52,061,453.00	36,197,119.27	30.5 %
TOTAL REVENUE	15,864,333.73	52,061,453.00	36,197,119.27	30.5 %
GROSS PROFIT	15,864,333.73	52,061,453.00	36,197,119.27	30.5 %
OPERATING EXPENDITURES				
Staff Expenses				
General Salaries	821,487.34	1,788,864.00	967,376.66	45.9 %
Benefits/Taxes	268,651.10	725,078.00	456,426.90	37.1 %
Payroll Clearing	3,489.80	0.00	(3,489.80)	
Travel / Meals	14,682.75	45,000.00	30,317.25	32.6 %
Professional Development	365.00	14,000.00	13,635.00	2.6 %
TOTAL Staff Expenses	1,108,675.99	2,572,942.00	1,464,266.01	43.1 %
Office Expenses				
Rent & Utilities	38,859.55	77,000.00	38,140.45	50.5 %
Insurance	78,752.53	64,000.00	(14,752.53)	123.1 %
Office Maintenance	1,267.81	2,200.00	932.19	57.6 %
Telephone	551.06	10,000.00	9,448.94	5.5 %
Dues and Subscription	26,415.46	31,000.00	4,584.54	85.2 %
Printing & Supplies	3,725.17	25,000.00	21,274.83	14.9 %
Postage	591.12	4,200.00	3,608.88	14.1 %

	<i>6 Months Ended December 31, 2025</i>	<i>Annual Budget</i>	<i>Unused</i>	<i>% Used</i>
Meetings	5,719.27	9,000.00	3,280.73	63.5 %
Events	10,387.85	24,000.00	13,612.15	43.3 %
Computer Equipment/Support	30,958.44	51,000.00	20,041.56	60.7 %
TOTAL Office Expenses	197,228.26	297,400.00	100,171.74	66.3 %
Professional Fees				
ADP / Banking Charges	1,643.75	4,200.00	2,556.25	39.1 %
Audit Fees	34,000.00	34,000.00	0.00	100.0 %
Legal Fees	30,912.63	90,000.00	59,087.37	34.3 %
GASB 68 reporting fee	450.00	0.00	(450.00)	
Consulting Expenses - General	117,720.53	418,500.00	300,779.47	28.1 %
Miscellaneous Expense	0.01	0.00	(0.01)	
Powerhouse Science Center Payments	0.00	25,000.00	25,000.00	
TOTAL Professional Fees	184,726.92	571,700.00	386,973.08	32.3 %
SGA and Program Admin Exp Reimbursement				
SGA Service Agreement Fee	(389,687.18)	(1,015,605.00)	(625,917.82)	38.4 %
Water Efficiency Program Fee	0.00	(256,547.00)	(256,547.00)	
Strategic Affairs Program Fee	0.00	(349,443.00)	(349,443.00)	
Other Programs Fee	0.00	(315,123.00)	(315,123.00)	
TOTAL SGA and Program Admin Exp Reimbursen	(389,687.18)	(1,936,718.00)	(1,547,030.82)	20.1 %
Grant and Program Expenses				
Grant Expenses - Direct and PT	14,803,650.21	48,896,482.00	34,092,831.79	30.3 %
Program Expenses - Direct	254,501.93	1,864,870.00	1,610,368.07	13.6 %
TOTAL Grant and Program Expenses	15,058,152.14	50,761,352.00	35,703,199.86	29.7 %
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURES	16,159,096.13	52,266,676.00	36,107,579.87	30.9 %
OPERATING INCOME (LOSS)	(294,762.40)	(205,223.00)	89,539.40	143.6 %
NET OPERATING INCOME (LOSS)	(294,762.40)	(205,223.00)	89,539.40	143.6 %
NET INCOME (LOSS) NET OF PROGRAM	(294,762.40)	(205,223.00)	89,539.40	143.6 %



Topic: Board Directors' Comments
Type: New Business
Item For: Information
Purpose: Routine

SUBMITTED BY: Jim Peifer
Executive Director

PRESENTER: Jim Peifer
Executive Director

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This is an information item to provide an opportunity for the Regional Water Authority Board of Directors 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.