

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Lorance called the meeting of the Board of Directors to order at 9:00 a.m. at the El Dorado Irrigation District. Individuals in attendance are listed below:

RWA Board Members

Paul Selsky, Carmichael Water District
Joseph Dion, Citrus Heights Water District
Walt Sadler, City of Folsom
Ken Payne, City of Folsom
Pauline Roccucci, City of Roseville
Dan Sherry, City of Sacramento
John Downing, Del Paso Manor Water District
Debra Sedwick, Del Paso Manor Water District
Bill George, El Dorado Irrigation District
Jim Abercrombie, El Dorado Irrigation District
Randy Marx, Fair Oaks Water District
Tom Gray, Fair Oaks Water District
Paul Schubert, Golden State Water Company
Michael Schaefer, Orange Vale Water Company
Sharon Wilcox, Orange Vale Water Company
Gray Allen, Placer County Water Agency
Rob Roscoe, Sacramento Suburban Water District, Vice Chair
Shauna Lorance, San Juan Water District

Staff Members

John Woodling, Executive Director; Paul Bartkiewicz, Legal Counsel; Rob Swartz, Nancy Marrier, Linda Higgins and Cecilia Partridge.

Others in Attendance: Dave Kane, Brian Martin, Michael Anderson, Frank Bradham, Steve Dalrymple, Ellen Cross, Cathy McEfee, Jim Crowley, John Kingston, Monica Reis, Karl Brustad, Lisa Maddaus, Keith Durkin, Ed Kriz, Duane Frank, Deana Donohue, Steve Frost, Steve Brown, Randy Marx, Chuck Rose, David Witter and Liz Mansfield.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR

a. The minutes from the RWA Regular Board meeting held September 10, 2009.

b. Section 28 of the RWA joint powers agreement (JPA) provides for a six-month deadline for RWA's independent auditor to complete the annual audit. Because of the time required after the June 30 end of RWA's fiscal year for staff to prepare the financial statements and for the independent auditor to conduct the audit and prepare the annual audit report, and due to the bi-monthly frequency of the regular Board meetings, staff generally is unable to present the audit report to the Executive Committee for initial approval and to file the report with Members and Contracting Entities until January of the following year, which is after the December 31 deadline called for in Section 28 of the RWA JPA. Audit Report Filing Policy 500.12 will extend the deadline without having to amend the RWA JPA.

Motion/Second/Carried (M/S/C) Mr. Dion moved, with a second by Mr. George, to approve the consent calendar items.

4. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Final minutes of the August 26, 2009 RWA Executive Committee meetings were included in the packet for informational purposes.

5. LEGISLATION UPDATE

In the pre-dawn hours of Wednesday morning, November 5th, a package of four water policy bills, and an \$11.1 billion dollar bond financing package passed both houses of the legislature. Despite the efforts of RWA and its members, some of our major concerns with the bills were not addressed. RWA staff is in the process of planning a meeting of the general managers to 1) convey a common understanding of what is in the legislation, 2) evaluate the challenges and threats it represents for our region, and 3) develop proactive next steps.

A summary of the bond bill was included in the packet. The policy bills passed included:

SBx7 1 – Delta Governance – reconfiguration of the Delta Protection Commission; creation of a Delta Conservancy; creation of a Delta Stewardship Council, which will oversee development and implementation of a Delta Plan and evaluate the BDCP for inclusion in the plan; Delta flow

and in-stream flow determinations for the tributaries to be carried out by SWRCB; appropriates \$28 million from Proposition 84 funds to construct the “two gates” project.

SBx7 6 – Groundwater Monitoring – requires groundwater elevations to be reported for every basin and sub-basin in the state.

SBx7 7 – Water Conservation – requires urban retail water suppliers to develop targets (2020) and interim targets (2015) by one of four methods to contribute to a statewide goal of 20% reduction in per capita water use by 2020.

SBx7 8 – Water Diversion Reporting, Budget Amendments – changes reporting provisions for diversions and increases penalties for failure to report; amends the Budget Act to appropriate an additional \$3.75 million annually to the SWRCB for water rights enforcement, to be funded by water rights fees; appropriates \$546 million from Proposition 84 and 1E funds to improve Delta levees and fund projects that reduce reliance on water from the Delta.

The full text of the bills as well as the voting details is available at www.leginfo.ca.gov.

Mr. Woodling outlined the changes and the effects to our region of the water policy bills that were recently passed. A meeting scheduled for November 13, 2009 at the RWA offices will include participation with general managers, other management staff and policy position staffers. This meeting will help determine where we are and what the next steps should be.

Mr. Bartkiewicz commented that there are many troubling aspects contained in the water policy bills as well as a lot of unknowns. The package does not address the issues that our region faces and does not contain policies that we can support.

6. WATER EFFICIENCY PROGRAM WORKSHOP

The RWA Strategic Plan called for development of a two-year plan for the Regional Water Efficiency Program. Recent developments in water conservation legislation and policy will also affect the region in the future. Staff has scheduled a workshop on December 15, 2009 at Sacramento Suburban Water District with RWA general managers and conservation staff to explore the future direction of the program. The agenda will include how to evaluate regional responses to new challenges, addressing additional strategic plan actions and evaluating development of common UVMP sections, aligning water shortage contingency plans on a regional basis and working toward AB 1420 compliance. Mr. Woodling informed the board that

there will be federal funds available for metering, securities study and other appropriate programs.

Mr. Woodling gave a power point presentation entitled “A Brave New World of Water Use Efficiency”, which included an overview of the expectations with the new water legislation, as well as policies and compliance enforcement options and concerns. Mr. Woodling also gave an overview of the model landscape ordinance that takes effect January 2010 and the 20x2020 Water Conservation Plan. In 2009, most water purveyor signatories to the Water Forum Agreement adopted an amended Water Conservation element. We now have the opportunity to make a renewed commitment to water conservation under the Water Forum and possibly receive some environmental caucus support for what we have been doing and what we propose to do in the future. The council adopted a modified MOU in December 2008 that made some significant changes. It maintained the foundational BMPs while providing some alternatives for compliance.

Mr. Woodling mentioned the need for support to get Lisa Amaral, City of Roseville, elected to the California Urban Water Conservation Council (CUWCC) steering committee. This would give Northern California a voice on the committee.

7. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Communications Survey – Goal 3 of the Strategic Plan is to “inform and educate members and interested parties by providing a forum for discussion of issues, outreach to stakeholders, and a clearinghouse for sharing information,” including updating the RWA website by December 31, 2009. Staff developed a survey to solicit feedback on the website, newsletters, and Water List. Seventy-eight people responded to the survey, and staff is evaluating responses in developing a plan to update the website. One change is to switch predominantly to electronic newsletters, as 90% of respondents either preferred an electronic format or had no preference. A second survey pertaining to meetings and events will be circulated later in the year.

Integrated Regional Water Management Update – Staff held a Stakeholder Forum on November 4, 2009 at Carmichael Water District. The intent of the Forum was to involve broader participation of stakeholder groups, which was identified as an important element for the update of the IRWMP. The Forum included 16 participants in addition to RWA and consulting staff. Stakeholders were asked for their input on what they considered to be the most critical water resource issues in the region and which critical issues required more attention. Staff also asked attendees for assistance in identifying additional stakeholders for participation in the IRWM update effort.

Water Efficiency Program Update – The WEP Public Outreach contract with Incommunications included a research component. A 10-minute telephone survey of 600 people in the region was completed to gauge the knowledge, perceptions and attitudes about water conservation, potential actions people are willing to take to be more efficient outdoors, barriers to those actions and potential incentive programs. Staff and the RWEF Public Outreach subcommittee will develop an outreach campaign based on the findings of the survey.

The RWA Strategic Plan called for development of a two-year plan for the Regional Water Efficiency Program. Staff has scheduled a workshop on December 15, 2009 at Sacramento Suburban Water District with RWA general managers and conservation staff to explore the future direction of the program.

Regional Water Security Study Update – The Regional Water Security Tabletop Exercise was held October 29. The exercise included presentations on elements of mutual aid agreements and put participants through a scenario that required the use of the incident command system during a simulated catastrophic event. The exercise was attended by 33 participants from local water agencies. The exercise was one component of an overall study to identify key security and mutual aid needs for water suppliers in the region. The study is on schedule for completion by December 2009.

Holiday Social/Awards Banquet Update – The annual RWA/SGA Holiday Social and Awards Banquet is scheduled for Thursday, December 10, 2009. Thanks to Paul Bartkiewicz, the guest speaker is confirmed. Jim Mayer is executive director of California Forward, a nonpartisan initiative seeking fundamental reforms to state government. Mr. Mayer was previously executive director of the Little Hoover Commission. He spent more than 12 years as a newspaper journalist in Sacramento, Bakersfield, and Placer County. Mr. Mayer serves on the board of the Yolo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District.

Nominations for the Water Statesperson of the Year and Distinguished Service Awards were due October 30, 2009. A committee led by Paul Selsky will be selecting award recipients.

Strategic Plan Update - The RWA Strategic Plan, adopted July 2009, has been finalized and printed. Executive Director Woodling will endeavor to present the plan to each member's governing board over the next several months.

The Strategic Planning Committee re-convened to discuss two issues that came out of the workshop. The committee reconsidered the RWA "unanimous consent" provisions in the joint powers agreement. A summary

of the discussion was included in the packet. No changes are proposed to the JPA at this time; however, formalizing a Legislative and Policy committee may streamline the process of developing, negotiating, and adopting policy positions.

In addition, the committee considered changes to the 20% surcharge policy for participation of non-members in subscription programs. Staff will conduct additional analysis and make a recommendation to the Executive Committee during development of the FY 2010-11 budget.

8. “DRY FUTURES – CLIMATE CHANGE AND DROUGHT IN AND AROUND THE AMERICAN RIVER WATERSHED”?

Most scientists are in agreement that global climate change will have serious consequences for California, including reduced Sierra snowpack and sea level rise of as much as 55 inches over the next century. A less understood aspect of climate change may be increased variability in precipitation, meaning potentially longer and more severe droughts and more severe floods. Dr. Anderson discussed his research on historic precipitation records and paleo-droughts, and provided some insight into the potential implications for the American River watershed.

Michael Anderson works for the California Department of Water Resources and is currently serving as State Climatologist for California. Dr. Anderson began working in the Department of Water Resources Division of Flood Management (DWR-DFM) Forecasting Section in July 2005. He came to DWR after extensive graduate and post-graduate work in the area of hydroclimate modeling and monitoring. Dr. Anderson received his Ph.D. in 1998 in Civil and Environmental Engineering at UC Davis with a minor in Atmospheric Science. He received his M.S. in 1993 in Civil and Environmental Engineering from UC Davis and his Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from Colorado State University in 1991.

Mr. Anderson gave examples of different drought scenarios and the effects of climate change for California and specifically Northern California. A program with DWR has just started to look at adaption strategies including looking at surface storage opportunities. There was discussion regarding the changing weather trends from other parts of the region and their effect on our region's precipitation.

9. DIRECTORS' COMMENTS

Chair Lorange thanked EID for hosting the November RWA Board meeting. Ms. Lorange reported that San Juan Water District will be doing a bypass pipeline. They will be shutting down their water and have a plan to cover this with groundwater and surface water. They are educating their customers on how to prepare for this shut down. Ms. Roccucci added that

the City of Roseville will be shutting off water to proceed with their parallel pipeline at Folsom Dam. This is an opportunity for coordination between the communities.

Mr. Roscoe thanked Paul Bartkiewicz and Ryan Bezerra for their water legislation leadership, time and efforts.

Mr. Allen thanked Mr. Woodling for his leadership saying that he is the right man at the right time for this job. Mr. Allen also noted that that in addition to Mr. Woodling, Mr. Bartkiewicz, Mr. Roscoe and Ms. Lorance have worked tirelessly putting in many hours trying to protect Northern California water rights. Mr. Woodling commented that everyone working on the water legislation in our region had an impact on this legislation.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Board, Chair Lorance adjourned the meeting at 11:04 a.m.

By:

Chairperson

Attest:

Nancy Marrier, Board Secretary / Treasurer