

Bighorn-Desert View Water Agency



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A Public Agency

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PLANNING/LEGISLATIVE/ENGINEERING GRANT & SECURITY COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

BOARD MEETING OFFICE
1720 N. Cherokee Trail, Landers, CA 92285
Thursday, February 16, 2012 - 8:45 a.m.

The BDVWA Planning / Legislative / Engineering / Grant & Security Committee meeting will be conducted in strict compliance with the Brown Act. Members of the Board not assigned to this Committee who attend may do so only as observers and may not participate in the meeting.

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. ROLL CALL
4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS - The Committee and Staff will discuss the following items and provide direction to staff, if so inclined.

The Public is invited to comment on any item on the agenda during discussion of that item.

When giving your public comment, please have your information prepared, if you wish to be identified for the record then please state your name. Due to time constraints, each member of the public will be allotted three-minutes to provide their public comment.

5. CONFERENCE CALL WITH MOJAVE WATER AGENCY'S LEGAL/LEGISLATIVE AND PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE

Committee to participate via teleconference for an update by the State Advocate of Issues at the State Level, as well as an update by the Federal Advocate of Issues at the Federal Level.

6. UPDATE ON JOHNSON VALLEY HYDROGEOLOGIC INVESTIGATION

7. UPDATE ON JOHNSON VALLEY PRESSURIZED WATER SYSTEM

8. CONSENT ITEMS - The following is expected to be routine and non-controversial and will be acted on by the Committee members at one time without discussion, unless a member of the Public or a Committee member requests that an item be held for discussion or further action.

- a. Regular PLEGS Committee Meeting Report, December 15, 2011

9. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Any person may address the Committee on any matter within the Agency's jurisdiction on items not appearing on this agenda.

When giving your public comment, please have your information prepared, if you wish to be identified for the record then please state your name. Due to time constraints, each member of the public will be allotted three-minutes to provide their public comment. State Law prohibits the Committee from discussing or taking action on items not included on the agenda.

10. VERBAL REPORTS

- a. COMMITTEE MEMBERS' COMMENTS/REPORT
- b. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

11. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

12. ADJOURNMENT

In accordance with the requirements of California Government Code Section 54954.2, this agenda has been posted in the main lobby of the Bighorn-Desert View Water Agency, 622 S. Jemez Trail, Yucca Valley, CA not less than 72 hours if prior to a Regular meeting, date and time above; or in accordance with California Government Code Section 54956 this agenda has been posted not less than 24 hours if prior to a Special meeting, date and time above.

As a general rule, agenda reports or other written documentation has been prepared or organized with respect to each item of business listed on the agenda.

Copies of these materials and other discloseable public records in connection with an open session agenda item, are also on file with and available for inspection at the Office of the Agency Secretary, 622 S. Jemez Trail, Yucca Valley, California, during regular business hours, 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M., Monday through Friday. If such writings are distributed to members of

the Board of Directors on the day of a Board meeting, the writings will be available at the entrance to the Board of Directors meeting room at the Bighorn-Desert View Water Agency.

Internet: Once uploaded, agenda materials can also be viewed at www.bdvwa.org.

Public Comments: You may wish to submit your comments in writing to assure that you are able to express yourself adequately.

Per Government Code Section 54954.2, any person with a disability who requires a modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, in order to participate in the meeting, should contact the Board's Secretary at 760-364-2315 during Agency business hours.



Legal, Legislative and Public Information Committee

AGENDA

Mojave Water Agency
Board Room
13846 Conference Center Drive
Apple Valley, CA 92307

February 16, 2012
9:00 a.m.

1. **Approve Agenda**
2. **Approve Meeting Summary from the Legal/Legislative and Public Information Committee Meeting of January 19, 2012**
 - ◊ Meeting Summary
3. **Update on State Advocate and Issues at the State Level (teleconference)**
 - ◊ State Report
4. **Update on Federal Advocate and Issues at the Federal Level (teleconference)**
 - ◊ Federal Report
5. **Public Information Update (oral report)**
6. **General Manager's Report (oral report)**
7. **Public Participation**

8. Comments/Discussion Items for Next or Future Agendas

9. Adjournment

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2(a), any request for a disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, that is sought in order to participate in the above-agendized public meeting, should be directed to the Agency's General Manager's office at (760) 946-7008 at least 24 hours prior to said meeting.

Please visit our Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/mojavewater>



LEGAL/LEGISLATIVE AND PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE MEETING

MEETING SUMMARY January 19, 2012

CALL TO ORDER:

Director Mike Page, acting as chairperson called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

ATTENDANCE:

- ✦ Committee – Director Beverly Lowry, Director Mike Page, and Ex-Officio Member Art Bishop
- ✦ Absent – Director Doug Shumway
- ✦ Staff – Community Liaison Officer Michael Stevens; Water Conservation Program Manager Tamara Alaniz; Executive Assistant Michelle Doyle; and Senior Administrative Assistant, Public Information Gloria Golike
- ✦ Consultants – Federal Advocate Heather Hennessey, Innovative Federal Strategies, LLC and State Advocates Carolyn Jensen and Greg Hurner, KP Public Affairs joined by teleconference
- ✦ Others – Six visitors were in the audience and two online participants

1. **Approve Agenda**

Summary: The agenda was agreed upon by the Committee.

2. **Approve Meeting Summary from the Legal/Legislative and Public Information Committee Meeting of December 15, 2011**

Summary: The meeting summary of the December 15, 2011 meeting was agreed upon as submitted.

3. **Update on State Advocate and Issues at the State Level**

Mr. Hurner gave an update on state level issues since the last meeting. He specifically mentioned the bond measure that is currently scheduled for the 2012 ballot. He mentioned a couple bills of interest to the Agency. Ms. Jensen gave a brief update on the state budget. She also addressed a question from Director Bishop regarding the redevelopment agencies (RDA's). Mr. Hurner concluded with some brief information concerning the governor's state reorganization proposals.

Summary: Informational purposes only.

4. **Update on Federal Advocate and Issues at the Federal Level**
Ms. Hennessey mentioned that Congressman Lewis will not be running for re-election to Congress after several decades in office. She mentioned a few authorization bills to watch for and she also stated that next year's budget will be upon us soon. She then addressed a few questions of the Committee members.

Summary: Informational purposes only.
5. **Public Information Update**
Mr. Stevens gave an update on several activities that have recently occurred on behalf of the Agency. He also mentioned a few upcoming Agency events. A video was recently created that provides an introduction of the Mojave Water Agency, which was shown during the meeting. Ms. Doyle gave a brief update on the status of the new Agency website.

Summary: Informational purposes only
6. **General Manager's Report**
No report.
7. **Public Participation**
No report.
8. **Comments/Discussion Items for Next or Future Agendas**
Director Lowry mentioned having a reception for Congressman Lewis and the Legal, Legislative and Public Information Committee help coordinate the event. Director Bishop asked that updates of the "redevelopment agencies" remain on the agendas of this committee as well as the finance committee.
9. **Adjournment**
Acting Chairperson Mike Page adjourned the meeting at 10:16 a.m.

Submitted by: _____
Gloria Golike
Senior Administrative Assistant,
Public Information

Attachments on-file:
Item No. 3 – "Making Government More Efficient" Document
Sign-in sheet

**Audio recording of this meeting available upon request.*



**PUBLIC
AFFAIRS**

February 8, 2012

TO: Mojave Water Agency
Legal, Legislative and Public Information Committee

FR: Ed Manning
Carolyn Jensen
Greg Hurner

RE: Sacramento Update

- I. Pension Reform
 - a. California Pension Reform Proposal
<http://californiapensionreform.com/>
 - b. Governor Brown's Pension Reform Proposal
<http://www.gov.ca.gov/news.php?id=17402>
- II. State Budget
- III. State Controller Announcement on Cash Flow
- IV. Water Bond Update

Innovative Federal Strategies LLC

Comprehensive Government Relations

MEMORANDUM

To: Kirby Brill, Mike Stevens and Kathy Cortner, MWA

From: Letitia White and Heather Hennessey

Date: January 31, 2012

Re: January Monthly Legislative Update

The month of January on Capitol Hill was very slow with Congress in recess most of the month and hardly any legislative action. The House did not come back into session until January 17th and, after a quick vote to disapprove the President's request to raise the debt limit (more on that below), it adjourned for the House Republican's annual retreat. The House Democrats had their retreat the following week, which also meant a very short work week. The Senate did not return into session until January 23rd, making their legislative month even shorter than the House's. But there is plenty of important work ahead for the month of February with tax and budget issues at the top of the list.

The Debt Ceiling Resolution of Disapproval

On Wednesday, January 18th, the House voted 239-176 to disapprove President Obama's request to increase the \$15.2 trillion federal borrowing authority by \$1.2 trillion. Realistically, the vote was meaningless, because both Republicans and Democrats had already signed off on the default-averting debit limit increase deal last August, which pre-authorized the credit expansion unless the House and Senate passed a disapproval resolution with a veto proof margin. Meanwhile, the Senate's procedural vote on the same issue resulted in a failure to invoke cloture, allowing the increase to move forward as planned. The House vote does signify, however, that the legislative year ahead will be difficult and last year's fiscal battles will be revisited with continued ardor.

Payroll Tax Holiday Extension

On the subject of fiscal battles, the Congress must again deal with the payroll tax issue before the short-term extension expires at the end of February. The issue that remains is not whether Congress will extend the payroll tax cut - that much is all but certain after House Republicans lost a great deal of political capital in December's debate - but how Congress is going to pay for the extension. Both parties seem poised to drop their more contentious proposals, which include Republican provisions to block environmental regulations and a Democratic tax hike on those with incomes of more than \$1 million. But a deal will most likely involve changes to Medicare, tax credits, or unemployment benefits, fronts on which neither side seems eager to budge. Democrats already have ruled out a Republican proposal to enact a pay freeze for federal employees.

Innovative Federal Strategies LLC

News reports have said that conferees from both parties want the negotiations to go quickly and smoothly but pressure from wild-card conservatives and others angry with President Obama's recent decision on the Keystone XL pipeline may hinder those efforts.

Keystone XL Pipeline

As mentioned above, the Obama Administration reported to Congress on January 18th, a month before the deadline, that it will disapprove the application for the Keystone XL pipeline to transport crude oil from Canada to Oklahoma and Texas. We have not heard the end of this subject! While environmentalists see this as a win, Republicans feel that the Keystone Pipeline is a jobs issue and will likely use it as a point of attack. In addition, there are efforts in the mix to attach legislation to the payroll tax holiday bill that would circumvent the President in the decision making process.

President Will Submit Budget Late

The President announced late in the month that he will not submit his budget request to Congress until February 13, one week late. Federal law stipulates the budget is to be released on the first Monday in February, but release last year was also delayed by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). This delay will likely have no effect on the budget process but it doesn't make for a good start to fiscal year 2012; you can be sure that many took the opportunity to bash the President during this tempestuous election year!

Transportation (TEA) Reauthorization

The political pressure to pass a transportation reauthorization bill in this legislative session has increased. The current extension of the law will expire on March 31st and House Republicans have promised to move their five year, \$200 billion version of a reauthorization bill by President's Day recess. Their bill is paid for with anticipated receipts from new drilling. Senate Democrats are also moving their two year, version of the bill through their committee process which maintains current funding levels. The President ratcheted up the rhetoric in his State of the Union speech to Congress saying that \$200 billion in savings from the war effort should be used to pay for the legislation. Whatever the final outcome, we will certainly hear more about the TEA bill as the two chambers move their versions in the month of February!

As always, we will keep you posted!

Bighorn-Desert View Water Agency



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PLANNING/LEGISLATIVE/ENGINEERING GRANT & SECURITY COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING REPORT

BOARD MEETING OFFICE
1720 N. Cherokee Trail, Landers, CA 92285
Thursday, December 15, 2011 - 8:45 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER

President Burkhart called the meeting to order at 8:55 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by John Burkhart.

ROLL CALL

Directors' Present: Terry Burkhart

Directors' Absent: David Larson

Staff Present: Marina West
Lyni Tompkins

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

President Burkhart approved the agenda as presented.

CONFERENCE CALL WITH MOJAVE WATER AGENCY'S LEGAL/LEGISLATIVE AND PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE

Bighorn-Desert View Water Agency Committee participated via teleconference to Mojave Water Agency's agenda meeting to receive an update by their State Advocate, Ed Manning and Carolyn Jensen, KP Public Affairs. They reported on the current state of affairs at the State Level of Government. Heather Hennessey & Letitia White, Innovative Federal Strategies, reported on the current state of affairs at the Federal Level of Government.

Adjourned for a break at 9:40 a.m. - Reconvened from break at 9:45 a.m.

Report for PLEGS Committee Meeting of 12-15-2011

Approved on February 16, 2012

Page 1 of 3

PROPOSED ENGINEERING PROJECT LIST WITH COST ESTIMATES

Chief Engineer Chuck Krieger presented, via telephone, cost estimates for various engineering projects reviewed at the last committee meeting.

Chuck Krieger discussed the cost estimates listed on the "District Facilities Maintenance and Plant Improvements Potential Projects Budgetary Cost Estimates" report. This report was handed out at this meeting as a supplemental document.

Chuck Krieger recommended:

'B' zone tanks 4 & 3 as the highest priority for maintenance. He also recommended quoting the maintenance for both tanks. The Agency can then decide to award an agreement for 1 or both tanks.

Next he recommended installing transfer switches at various facilities so that they can be powered by a portable generator during emergencies. Priorities identified are Well 8 (Zone B) & Booster A (Zone A), as a priority. Installation of transfer switches for Well Pumping Plants, W7, W4, W9, would be the next priority. He also recommended quoting the transfer switches for two Well Pumping Plants. The Agency can then decide to award an agreement for 1 or both Plants.

Regarding a transfer switch for Well Pumping Plant W4, Marina said the Agency needs to decide what to do about the Uranium in Wells 2, 3, & 4 before equipping W4 with a transfer switch.

Chuck Krieger commented the time frame to put together a reservoir specification, go to bid, review the bid, and prepare yourself for an award is less than 3 months; then it will take 6 weeks to coat the reservoir.

Marina commented that the Agency needs to know the capacity of our generator to know if it will run well No. 8.; she will also speak with our mutual aid partners and determine what switches we can install and still be compatible with their generators.

General Manager West would like to bring these maintenance and upgrade issues to the January 2012 Board meeting.

Krieger & Stewart Engineering would like to discuss giving the Agency a range of infrastructure improvements necessary to serve the Johnson Valley area at the next PLEGS meeting; possibly in February 2012. He would like to establish the minimum amount of facilities needed to get water in Johnson Valley and identify the optimum facilities which increases the length of distribution pipes to the more remote properties. Also, discuss how to divide the costs (how many dollars per connection).

General Manager West commented that after we determine the cost of the Johnson Valley project, the Agency will have to get the community to commit to the project probably through a vote.

Public comment:

Anonymous, commented to survey people that have property along a proposed pipeline; the people who would most likely benefit from a pressurized water system. It would give the Agency an understanding of what their views are about a Johnson Valley pressurized water system.

CONSENT ITEMS

- a. Regular PLEGS Committee Meeting Report, October 20 2011

No public comment.

President Burkhart approved as presented item 'a'.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

No public comment.

VERBAL REPORTS

COMMITTEE MEMBERS' COMMENTS/REPORTS

None.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

General Manager Reported that Hi-Desert Water District approved the AMES Agreement at their December 14, 2011 Special Board of Directors Meeting. General Manager West has been in touch with San Bernardino County to agendaize it on their calendar as soon as possible; the correspondence with San Bernardino County has been positive.

ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Johnson Valley Infrastructure Improvements.

ADJOURNMENT - President Burkhart adjourned the meeting at 10:40 a.m.

Pending Committee Approval