

Bighorn-Desert View Water Agency

Board of Directors

Judy Corl-Lorono, President
J. Dennis Staley, Vice President
Terry Burkhart, Secretary
Michael McBride, Director
J. Larry Coulombe, Director

Marina D West, P.G., General Manager



A Public Agency

Agency Office

622 S. Jemez Trail
Yucca Valley, CA 92284-1440

760/364-2315 Phone
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www.bdvw.org

SPECIAL PLANNING/LEGISLATIVE/ENGINEERING GRANT & SECURITY STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

Board Meeting Office
1720 N. Cherokee Trail, Landers, CA 92285
Wednesday, December 17, 2014 - 9:15 a.m.

Committee Members: Director Corl-Lorono & Director Burkhart

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. Hazard Mitigation Plan

7. Dissolution of CSA 70/W-1 and Annexation to BDVWA

8. Ames/Reche Groundwater Storage Program

9. 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. PLEGS Committee Meeting Report, October 21, 2014

10. 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.

11. Verbal Reports

- a. Committee Members' Comments/Report
- b. General Manager's Report

12. Items for Next Agenda

13. 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.bdvwva.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

December 17, 2014

09:30 a.m.

- 1. Approve Agenda**

- 2. Approve Meeting Summary from the Legal, Legislative, and Public Information Committee Meeting of October 21, 2014**
 -  Meeting Summary

- 3. Update by State Advocate of Issues at the State Level (teleconference)**
 -  Staff Report

- 4. Update by Federal Advocate of Issues at the Federal Level (teleconference)**
 -  Staff Report

- 5. Public Information Update**

- 6. Strategic Partners Program Update**

7. General Manager's Report

8. Public Participation

9. Comments/Discussion Items for Next or Future Agendas

10. 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>



TO: Legal, Legislative and Public Information Committee

FROM: Ed Manning
Carolyn Jensen

RE: KP Public Affairs Agenda

1. Legislative Update

- a. New Members Sworn In
- b. New Assembly Committee Chairs
- c. Bill Introductions
- d. Legislature Reconvenes January 5, 2015

2. Water Budget Update

- a. Governor's Budget Released January 10, 2015

3. SWRCB

- a. Safe Drinking Water Program Update
- b. Drought Update

12/08/14

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MEMORANDUM

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

From: Letitia White and Heather Hennessey

Date: November 25, 2014

Re: November Monthly Legislative Update

After the upheaval of the November elections, Congress got back to work during the latter half of the month. With leadership assignments and committee chairmanships mostly decided for the new Congress, the rest of the committee rosters will be filled in the coming weeks. Other than those housekeeping items, not much was resolved during the month of November as Congress focused on the President's immigration announcement and plotted its course for next year.

Spending Resolution Must be Reached During December

The current Continuing Resolution (CR) that is funding all departments of the federal government will expire on December 11th. Congress must either enact a new CR or pass an omnibus spending package by then or risk a government shutdown. During November, there was increased chatter about a possible hybrid approach that would fully fund some of the spending bills while enacting a CR for others. Nicknamed a "CROmbius," such an approach might be the easiest way to put FY 2015 spending issues to bed this year. It would enable Congress to start next year with a clean slate, an idea that holds much appeal for policy makers. The most likely bills to receive full legislative approval are Defense, Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Homeland Security. The bills that fund the domestic federal agencies are more likely to be funded under the CR portion.

While we usually argue that a CR is not ideal for federal spending, this year might be the exception to that rule. Funding levels for the domestic federal agencies would remain level, and no policy changes would be enacted for those agencies covered under the CR. This treatment would provide a stable and predictable funding environment for those agencies. On the other hand, if the bills were re-opened in the early months of next year, it is likely that the new Republican majority in the Senate would agree with funding cuts that had been proposed by the House earlier in the bills' negotiations. Given a choice between the certainty of a CR in December and the unpredictability of future actions in 2015, those of us at IFS are inclined to support the CR approach!

Having said all of this, the ultimate end game on federal spending remains very murky. The biggest question is whether Congressional Republicans will try to use the FY 2015 spending bills to force changes to the President's recent Executive Action on immigration. Announced on the day that Congress left DC for the Thanksgiving holiday, the President's actions have infuriated

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Congressional Republicans. But the fury has not coalesced into any plan. Truly, Republican options are limited because the office that will carry out the President's new orders is funded by fees generated by applicants rather than by Congressional appropriations. In the absence of a clear path forward, House leadership may instead settle for a CR that would punt the spending debates into early next year. Also, the President has promised to veto any legislation that undoes his Executive Action.

Last Gasp of the California Drought Bill?

It was a frantic mid-November push to finalize the California drought bill, but the effort ultimately fell short. Truthfully, the negotiations were a long shot from the start, and none of the existing barriers that had prevented its passage for the past several years had been cleared. Environmentalists opposed any efforts to loosen state or national environmental standards, and regional factions had hardened over time in opposition to provisions that would have favored the Central Valley over other parts of the state. Meanwhile, the secrecy surrounding the final negotiations worked to undermine confidence in the process. And rumors that the bill was swelling from a small legislative package to one of 50 or 60 pages left everyone wondering what the negotiators were including that had not seen the light of day. If Senator Feinstein had been successful, the bill likely would have been attached to the FY 2015 appropriations package discussed above. You may recall that the Senator included placeholder report language in her Energy and Water Appropriations bill that was released over the summer.

The question now becomes what is next for California drought legislation in the new Congress? With Republicans taking control of the Senate, they will be able to align with the House to propose major changes to the Endangered Species Act and other laws that they think are contributing to the California drought. Will those national efforts overshadow any California specific bills? Also, the state water bond is now enacted, meaning a very different set of circumstances exist at the state level. At the end of last week, Senator Feinstein promised to renew her efforts next year under "regular order." But regular order on Capitol Hill has been an enemy to the California drought bills up to this point. Press reports that emerged during November indicated a clear division between haves and have-nots, with some large agriculture groups and water agencies included in the negotiations while others were excluded. The secrecy of the negotiations and exclusions of so many stakeholders have left a bad taste in many mouths both in DC and California. It is also important to note that Senator Boxer has taken a very different stance than Senator Feinstein, and Boxer is much less inclined to work with Republicans to try and reach a deal.

Outlook for December

December will be a short month on Capitol Hill, with the House only scheduled to be in session for two weeks. In addition to the FY 2015 spending resolution, Congress must also pass the FY 2015 National Defense Authorization Act during December. We may also see movement on the Senate's proposal for two additional years of the tax extenders. In addition to those items, Democratic leadership in the Senate will also try to push through more of President Obama's outstanding judicial and executive branch nominations.

Bighorn-Desert View Water Agency



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Planning/Legislative/Engineering Grant & Security Committee Special Meeting Report

Board Meeting Office
1720 N. Cherokee Trail, Landers, CA 92285
Wednesday, October 21, 2014 - 9:15 a.m.

Committee Members: Director Corl-Lorono & Director Burkhart

Call to Order

Director Corl-Lorono called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Led by Larry Coulombe

Roll Call

Directors: Director Corl-Lorono
Director Burkhart

Staff: Marina West
Michelle Corbin

Approval of the Agenda

Director Corl-Lorono and Director Burkhart approved the agenda as presented.

Adjourned for a Break at 9:17 a.m. - Reconvened from Break at 9:30 a.m.

Conference Call with Mojave Water Agency's Legal/Legislative and Public Information Committee

Carolyn Jensen of KP Public Affairs spoke about the legislative leadership changes which include Senate President pro Tempore Kevin de Leon, Assembly Speaker Toni Atkins and Assembly Republican Leader Kristin Olsen.

Ed Manning spoke about proposition 1 and proposition 2 and how they are expected to succeed in the 2014 November elections.

Heather Hennessey of Innovative Federal Strategies spoke about the potential changes within sub-committees of jurisdiction as well as the volatility of the Senate and the potential for run-offs in some states. The Environmental Protection Agency delayed its filing deadline for comments until November

Public comment: Anonymous commented on water imported into California.

Consent Items

- a. Regular PLEGS Meeting Report, August 6, 2014

No public comment

Director Corl-Lorono and Director Burkhart approved the report.

Public Participation

No public comment.

Verbal Reports

COMMITTEE MEMBERS' COMMENTS/REPORTS

Director Burkhart gave a brief report on social media literature she recently obtained at the SDRMA/CSDA conference.

Director Corl-Lorono reported on the Ames/Reche Recharge project which is currently accepting water.

General Manager Report

General Manager West reported on the Ames/Reche Recharge and Recovery program and the possibility of purchasing water as well as the status of the final judgment. West also report on the Dissolution of CSA 70/W-1 and its Annexation to Bighorn-Desert View Water Agency. West stated the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) hearing is expected to be held January 21, 2015 and LAFCO may also grant a categorical exemption as part of the California Environment Quality Act (CEQA) process.

Items for Next Agenda

Adjournment - Director Corl-Lorono adjourned the meeting at 10:26 a.m.