Bighorn-Desert View Water Agency

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

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Agency <u>www.bdvwa.org</u>

A Public Agency

Planning/Legislative/Engineering Grant & Security Standing Committee Regular Meeting Agenda

June 21, 2016 – 9:15 a.m.

Board Meeting Office 1720 N. Cherokee Trail, Landers, CA 92285

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. Bureau of Land Management Lease Update

7. Status of Grant Applications

- 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, April 19, 2016

9. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Any person may address the Committee on any matter within the Agency's jurisdiction on items <u>not</u> 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. 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.

AGENDA ITEM # 5



Legal, Legislative and Public Information Committee

AGENDA

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

June 21, 2016

09:30 a.m.

- 1. Approve Agenda
- 2. Approve Meeting Summary from the Legal, Legislative, and Public Information Committee Meeting of May 17, 2016
 - Meeting Summary
- Update by State Advocate of Issues at the State Level (teleconference)
 - State Report
 - Attachment 1
- Update by Federal Advocate of Issues at the Federal Level (teleconference)
 - Federal Report
 - Federal Matrix

- 5. Public Information Update
- 6. General Manager's 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 Managers 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 May 17, 2016

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairperson Doug Shumway called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

ATTENDANCE:

- Committee Chairperson Doug Shumway, Director Kimberly Cox, and Ex-officio Member Beverly Lowry
- ♣ Absent Director Richard Hall
- Staff General Manager Kirby Brill, Community Liaison Officer Yvonne Hester, and Public Information Specialist Gloria Golike
- Consultants State Advocates Ed Manning and Carolyn Jensen, KP Public Affairs and Federal Advocates Letitia White, Jean Denton, and Drew Tatum, Innovative Federal Strategies LLC joined by teleconference
- Others Four guests were in the audience and four were online

1. Approve Agenda

The agenda was agreed upon as presented.

2. Approve Meeting Summary from the Legal, Legislative, and Public Information Committee Meeting of April 19, 2016

The meeting summary was agreed upon as presented.

3. Update by State Advocate of Issues at the State Level

Ms. Jensen spoke briefly about the legislative calendar including the budget. She gave a legislative update on a few water bills that may be of interest to the Agency. She also mentioned the Governor's executive order on water use and conservation. The "water world" is changing drastically from the past.

4. Update by Federal Advocate of Issues at the Federal Level

Mr. Tatum stated that the Senate recently passed the Energy and Water Appropriations bill. He spoke on the latest version of Senator Feinstein's drought bill and he briefly mentioned the Western Water Supply bill and the Water Resources Development Act.

5. Public Information Update

Ms. Hester gave a PowerPoint presentation summarizing the recent messaging to the public, public outreach opportunities, sponsorships, local partnerships, and concluded with upcoming events.

Legal, Legislative,	and	Public	Information
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6.	General	Manager's	Report
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No report.

7. Public Participation

None.

8. Comments/Discussion Items for Next or Future Agendas

None mentioned.

9. Adjournment

Chairperson Shumway adjourned the meeting at 10:19 a.m.

Submitted by:		
	Gloria Golike	
	Public Information Specialist	

Attachments on-file:

Item No. 5 - Public Information Report - PowerPoint Sign-in sheet



TO:

Legal, Legislative and Public Information Committee

FROM:

Ed Manning and Carolyn Jensen

RE:

KP Public Affairs Agenda

1. Legislative Update:

- A. Legislative Calendar
- B. Legislative Update (Attachment 1)

2. State Budget Update:

A. Highlights of 2016-2017 State Budget Package



State Legislative Update as of 6/15/2016

AB 1588 (Mathis R) Water and Wastewater Loan and Grant Program.

Current Text: Amended: 5/31/2016 pdf html

Introduced: 1/6/2016 Last Amend: 5/31/2016

Status: 6/9/2016-Referred to Com. on E.Q.

Location: 6/9/2016-S. E.Q.

Calendar: 6/29/2016 9:30 a.m. - Room 3191 SENATE ENVIRONMENTAL

QUALITY, WIECKOWSKI, Chair

Summary: Would require the State Water Resources Control Board to establish a program to provide funding to counties to award low-interest loans and grants to eligible applicants for specified purposes relating to drinking water and wastewater treatment. This bill would authorize a county to apply to the board for a grant to award loans or grants, or both, to residents of the county, as prescribed. This bill would create the Water and Wastewater Loan and Grant Fund and provide that the moneys in this fund are available, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to the board to administer and implement the program.

AB 1713 (Eggman D) Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta: peripheral canal.

Current Text: Introduced: 1/26/2016 pdf html

Introduced: 1/26/2016

Status: 5/27/2016-Failed Deadline pursuant to Joint Rule 61(b)(8), (Last location was

APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 4/27/2016)

Location: 5/27/2016-A. DEAD

Summary: Current law requires various state agencies to administer programs relating to water supply, water quality, and flood management in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. The bill would prohibit the construction of a peripheral canal, as defined, unless expressly authorized by an initiative voted on by the voters of California on or after January 1, 2017, and would require the Legislative Analyst's Office to complete a prescribed economic feasibility analysis prior to a vote authorizing the construction of a peripheral canal.

AB 1755 (Dodd D) The Open and Transparent Water Data Act.

Current Text: Amended: 6/13/2016 put him

Introduced: 2/2/2016 Last Amend: 6/13/2016

Status: 6/13/2016-From committee chair, with author's amendments: Amend, and rerefer to committee. Read second time, amended, and re-referred to Com. on N.R. & W.

Location: 6/13/2016-S. N.R. & W.

Calendar: 6/28/2016 9 a.m. - Room 112 SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES AND

WATER, PAVLEY, Chair

Summary: Would enact the Open and Transparent Water Data Act. The act would require the department, by January 1, 2018, to create, operate, and maintain a statewide integrated water data platform that, among other things, would integrate existing water and ecological data information from multiple databases and provide data on completed water transfers and exchanges. This bill contains other existing laws.

AB 2087 (Levine D) Regional conservation frameworks.

Current Text: Amended: 5/31/2016 pdl html

Introduced: 2/17/2016 Last Amend: 5/31/2016

Status: 6/9/2016-Referred to Com, on N.R. & W.

Location: 6/9/2016-S, N.R. & W.

Calendar: 6/28/2016 9 a.m. - Room 112 SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES AND

WATER PAVLEY, Chair

Summary: Would authorize the Department of Fish and Wildlife, or any other public agency, to propose a regional conservation framework that would be required to contain specified information, including a regional conservation assessment. The bill would authorize the department to approve a regional conservation framework, or approve the framework with amendments, for a period of up to 5 years after certain public meetings and a public comment period regarding the proposed framework have been held and after it finds that the framework meets certain requirements.

AB 2304 (Levine D) California Water Market Clearinghouse.

Current Text: Amended: 5/11/2016 pdf html

Introduced: 2/18/2016 Last Amend: 5/11/2016

Status: 5/27/2016-Failed Deadline pursuant to Joint Rule 61(b)(8). (Last location was

APPR. on 5/12/2016)

Location: 5/27/2016-A. DEAD

Summary: Would require the clearinghouse, on or before December 31, 2018, to create a centralized water market platform on its Internet Web site that provides ready access to information that has been provided about water available for transfer or exchange and information about the process for transferring or exchanging water. The bill would require the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency to convene a Water Market Clearinghouse Task Force, composed as prescribed, and would require the task force to make recommendations to the clearinghouse, as specified.

AB 2446 (Gordon D) State Water Resources Control Board: judicial review.

Current Text: Amended: 5/10/2016 pot html

Introduced: 2/19/2016 Last Amend: 5/10/2016

Status: 6/2/2016-Referred to Coms. on E.Q. and JUD.

Location: 6/2/2016-S. E.Q.

Calendar: 6/15/2016 9:30 a.m. - Room 3191 SENATE ENVIRONMENTAL

QUALITY, WIECKOWSKI, Chair

Summary: The Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, within 30 days of any action or failure to act by a California regional water quality control board under specified law, authorizes an aggrieved person to petition the State Water Resources Control Board to review that action or failure to act. Current law authorizes the state board, in the case of such a review, upon notice and hearing, if a hearing is requested, to stay in whole or in part the effect of the decision and order of a regional board or of the state board. This bill would expand that provision to authorize the state board to issue a stay in the case of review by the state board of a decision or order issued under authority delegated to an officer or employee of the state board where the state board by regulation has authorized a petition for reconsideration by the state board.

AB 2480 (Bloom D) Source watersheds: financing.

Current Text: Amended: 6/13/2016 pdf html

Introduced: 2/19/2016 Last Amend: 6/13/2016

Status: 6/13/2016-From committee chair, with author's amendments: Amend, and rerefer to committee. Read second time, amended, and re-referred to Com. on N.R. & W.

Location: 6/13/2016-S. N.R. & W.

Calendar: 6/28/2016 9 a.m. - Room 112 SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES AND

WATER, PAVLEY, Chair

Summary: Would declare it to be state policy that source watersheds are recognized and defined as integral components of California's water infrastructure. The bill would state the particular importance to maintaining the reliability of California's water supply of the source watersheds that supply the State Water Project and the federal Central Valley Project and, to the extent feasible, would require the maintenance and repair of these watersheds to receive financing consideration on the same basis with other water collection and treatment infrastructure, and would specify that the maintenance and repair activities that are eligible are limited to certain forest ecosystem management activities.

AB 2583 (Frazier D) Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Reform Act of 2009.

Current Text: Amended: 3/17/2016 pdf html

Introduced: 2/19/2016 Last Amend: 3/17/2016

Status: 4/22/2016-Failed Deadline pursuant to Joint Rule 61(b)(5). (Last location was A.

W.,P. & W. on 3/28/2016) Location: 4/22/2016-A. DEAD

Summary: Would add a definition of the California Water Fix to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Reform Act of 2009. This bill would eliminate certain provisions applicable to the BDCP and would revise other provisions to instead refer to a new Delta water conveyance project for the purpose of exporting water. This bill would require new Delta water conveyance infrastructure to be considered as interdependent parts of a system and to be operated in a way that maximizes benefits for each of the coequal goals. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

ACA 8 (Bloom D) Local government financing: water facilities and infrastructure: voter approval.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/18/2016 and ham

Introduced: 2/18/2016

Status: 2/19/2016-From printer. May be heard in committee March 20.

Location: 2/18/2016-A. PRINT

Summary: Would create an additional exception to the 1% limit for a rate imposed by a city, county, city and county, or special district to service bonded indebtedness incurred to fund the construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, or replacement of wastewater treatment facilities and related infrastructure, potable water producing facilities and related infrastructure, nonpotable water producing facilities and related infrastructure, and stormwater treatment facilities and related infrastructure, that is approved by 55% of the voters of the city, county, city and county, or special district, as applicable, if the proposition meets specified requirements, and would authorize a city, county, city and county, or special district to levy a 55% vote ad valorem tax. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

SB 163 (Hertzberg D) Wastewater treatment: recycled water.

Current Text: Amended: 6/8/2016 pdf him

Introduced: 2/4/2015 Last Amend: 6/8/2016

Status: 6/14/2016-Action From E.S. & T.M.: Remains in E.S. & T.M..

Location: 6/14/2016-A. E.S. & T.M.

Summary: Would declare that, except in compliance with the bill's provisions, it is a waste and unreasonable use of water to discharge treated wastewater from an ocean or bay outfall, or for a water supplier or water replenishment district to not take treated wastewater made available for certain purposes. The bill would require the State Water Resources Control Board to promulgate regulations, on or before January 1, 2020, that would require each NPDES permitholder, on or before January 1, 2023, to submit to the state board the permitholder's plans to achieve beneficial reuse, to the maximum extent possible, of treated wastewater that would otherwise be discharged through ocean or bay outfalls.

SB 1262 (Pavley D) Water supply planning.

Current Text: Amended: 5/11/2016 pdf html

Introduced: 2/18/2016 Last Amend: 5/11/2016

Status: 6/6/2016-Referred to Coms. on W., P., & W. and L. GOV.

Location: 6/6/2016-A. W., P. & W.

Calendar: 6/28/2016 9 a.m. - State Capitol, Room 437 ASSEMBLY WATER, PARKS

AND WILDLIFE, LEVINE, Chair

Summary: the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, requires all groundwater basins designated as high- or medium-priority basins by the Department of Water Resources that are designated as basins subject to critical conditions of overdraft to be managed under a groundwater sustainability plan or coordinated groundwater sustainability plans by January 31, 2020, and requires all other groundwater basins designated as high- or medium-priority basins to be managed under a groundwater sustainability plan or coordinated groundwater sustainability plans by January 31, 2022, except as specified. This bill would require a city or county that determines a project is subject to the California Environmental Quality Act to identify any water system whose service area includes the project site and any water system adjacent to the project site.

SB 1263 (Wieckowski D) Public water system: permits.

Current Text: Amended: 6/8/2016 pdf html

Introduced: 2/18/2016 Last Amend: 6/8/2016

Status: 6/14/2016-Action From E.S. & T.M.: Do pass.To W.,P. & W..

Location: 6/14/2016-A. W.,P. & W.

Summary: Would require an application for a permit for a proposed new public water system to first submit a preliminary technical report to the State Water Resources Control Board at least 6 months before initiating construction of any water-related improvement, as defined.

SB 1298 (Hertzberg D) Local government: fees and charges.

Current Text: Amended: 6/13/2016 and hard

Introduced: 2/19/2016 Last Amend: 6/13/2016

Status: 6/13/2016-From committee with author's amendments. Read second time and

amended. Re-referred to Com, on L. GOV.

Location: 6/13/2016-A. L. GOV.

Summary: Articles XIII C and XIII D of the California Constitution generally require that assessments, fees, and charges be submitted to property owners for approval or rejection after the provision of written notice and the holding of a public hearing. Would define the terms "proportional cost of the service attributable to the parcel" and "sewer service," and would recast the definition of "water" to mean "water service," for these purposes. The bill would additionally specify that one vote per parcel may be counted in determining whether a proposed fee or charge is approved by a majority vote, as specified. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

SB 1317 (Wolk D) Groundwater extraction permit.

Current Text: Amended: 5/27/2016 and him

Introduced: 2/19/2016 Last Amend: 5/27/2016

Status: 6/9/2016-Referred to Coms. on W., P., & W. and L. GOV.

Location: 6/9/2016-A. W., P. & W.

Calendar: 6/28/2016 9 a.m. - State Capitol, Room 437 ASSEMBLY WATER, PARKS

AND WILDLIFE, LEVINE, Chair

Summary: Would prohibit a groundwater extraction facility in a high- or medium-priority basin from being developed without a valid groundwater extraction permit, with certain exceptions. The bill would not require a city or county overlying a medium- or high-priority basin to have a process for the issuance of a groundwater extraction permit for the development of a groundwater extraction facility on or after January 31, 2022, or once the department has evaluated a groundwater sustainability plan for the basin the city or county overlies and determined the plan to be adequate and likely to achieve the sustainability goal for the basin, whichever comes first.

SB 1318 (Wolk D) Local government: drinking water infrastructure or services: wastewater infrastructure or services.

Current Text: Amended: 6/1/2016 pdf html

Introduced: 2/19/2016 Last Amend: 6/1/2016

Status: 6/9/2016-Referred to Coms. on L. GOV. and E.S. & T.M.

Location: 6/9/2016-A. L. GOV.

Summary: The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 governs the procedures for the formation and change of organization of cities and special districts. This bill would additionally authorize a local agency formation commission to initiate a proposal by resolution of application for the annexation of a disadvantaged unincorporated community, as specified. This bill contains other related provisions and other current laws.

SB 1340 (Wolk D) Water Conservation in Landscaping Act.

Current Text: Amended: 6/8/2016 pdf html

Introduced: 2/19/2016 Last Amend: 6/8/2016

Status: 6/14/2016-June 14 set for first hearing. Failed passage in committee. (Ayes 6.

Noes 8.) Reconsideration granted. **Location:** 6/8/2016-A. W.,P. & W.

Summary: Would, on or after July 1, 2018, require a local agency to require a permit for the installation of specified automatic irrigation systems, or the expansion of the same specified automatic irrigation systems to increase the irrigated area by 25% or more, for a landscape project. The bill would allow the governing body of a local agency to adopt an ordinance prescribing fees for filing an application for the permit, subject to the restrictions that the fees not exceed the amount reasonably required to review applications and issue the permits and that the fees not be levied for general revenue purposes.

SB 1386 (Wolk D) Resource conservation: working and natural lands.

Current Text: Amended: 5/2/2016 pdf html

Introduced: 2/19/2016 Last Amend: 5/2/2016

Status: 5/19/2016-Referred to Com. on NAT. RES.

Location: 5/19/2016-A. NAT. RES.

Calendar: 6/27/2016 2:30 p.m. - State Capitol, Room 447 ASSEMBLY NATURAL

RESOURCES, WILLIAMS, Chair

Summary: Would declare it to be the policy of the state that the protection and management of natural and working lands, as defined, is a key strategy in meeting the state's greenhouse gas reduction goals, and would require all relevant state agencies, departments, boards, and commissions to consider this policy when revising, adopting, or establishing policies, regulations, expenditures, or grant criteria relating to the protection and management of natural and working lands.

Innovative Federal Strategies u.c.

Comprehensive Government Relations

MEMORANDUM

To:

Mojave Water Agency Legal, Legislative and Public Information

Committee

From:

Letitia White

Date:

May 31, 2016

Re:

May Monthly Legislative Update

As House Starts Appropriations Process, Amendments Stall Progress

While House Republican lawmakers hoped to advance a budget at the beginning of the month, they were unsuccessful in bringing a budget to the floor during the month of May. Republicans in the House have yet to resolve a dispute regarding the increased budget caps agreed to in the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015. That agreement raised the discretionary spending accounts by roughly \$30 billion in FY15 and FY16 by extending budget sequestration for an additional two fiscal years. Conservatives have insisted on marking a budget resolution at the original spending levels agreed to in the 2011 budget law that put sequestration in place.

In an effort to satisfy conservatives, Republican leaders offered \$30 billion in cuts to entitlement programs during the next two fiscal years. Since the entitlement cuts have been introduced as standalone legislation, many fear the legislation would not advance in the Senate, where Republicans do not have enough votes to overcome a filibuster.

Due to the impasse on the budget resolution, the House was unable to bring any appropriations bills to the floor before May 15. The House Appropriations Committee readied bills for the floor throughout April and the beginning of May in anticipation of floor action in the later part of May. The first bill that went to the floor was the Military Construction-VA bill, which is traditionally a non-controversial bill that traditionally receives bipartisan support. Chaos erupted on the floor when an amendment barring LGBT discrimination by federal contractors was narrowly defeated. The presiding officer held the vote open when it appeared that the amendment would pass, allowing time for Members to change their vote to defeat the amendment.

In addition to funding level disputes, appropriators expected that a number of controversial amendments could surface this year to threaten progress on the annual spending bills. Last year, an amendment barring the display of the Confederate flag at national cemeteries ended work on individual appropriations bills in the House.

After considering the Military Construction-VA Appropriations bill, the House moved to the Energy and Water Appropriations bill. That legislation contains controversial provisions from a

House-passed bill by Representative David Valadao (R-CA) that would loosen environmental protections to allows additional water to be pumped from the delta to the Central Valley and municipalities in southern California. Democrats attempted to remove the language at the Committee level, and they attempted again via a floor amendment. The vote to strip the language on the floor went down along party lines in a 169-247 vote. Lawmakers took on a number of controversial subjects during amendment votes on wide-ranging topics like the Iran nuclear agreement, sanctuary cities, the North Carolina transgender bathroom law and protections for LGBT individuals in federal contracting.

The House ultimately voted overwhelmingly to reject the Energy and Water spending bill on a 112-305 vote, with 130 Republicans voting against the measure with nearly all Democrats. The House's overwhelming rejection Thursday of the legislation casts some doubt on the future of the fiscal 2017 appropriations process. House members left for a one-week recess following the vote, which will give members time to discuss how to move ahead and allow temperatures to cool.

House Appropriations bills are generally brought to the floor with an open rule for amendments, allowing the minority party to make the majority party take politically sensitive votes. Republicans were already considering changing rules for appropriations floor work so that amendments had to be pre-filed in the Congressional Record, so that leadership wouldn't be caught off guard. The turmoil that ensued after the Energy and Water bill failed will likely amplify the need for some form of a closed rule in order to continue the appropriations process.

Republicans have made returning to regular order a theme this year. While there is no clear path for the appropriations process in June, Republicans will likely take the recess to chart a path forward for the FY17 cycle.

Senate Moves Forward with First Three Appropriations Measures

The Senate relied on a provision in the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015 to deem spending levels rather than passing a budget resolution to begin the process of bringing appropriations bills to the floor. Additionally, since all appropriations bills were packaged together in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016, the Senate had six legislative vehicles to move appropriations bills before they received any new spending bills from the House this year without the threat of their legislation being blue-slipped in the House.

The first appropriations bill to move in the Senate was the Energy and Water Appropriations bill. The Senate originally began consideration of the legislation before the end of April, but an amendment offered by Senator Tom Cotton (R-AZ) that would have prohibited the administration from purchasing heavy water—a byproduct of the creation of nuclear energy—from Iran stalled consideration. After two failed attempts to cut off debate on the Energy and Water Bill, the Senate successfully passed its first appropriations measure once it dispensed with the Cotton amendment. After the amendment failed on a procedural vote, Senator Cotton agreed to withdraw it. Lawmakers then agreed to yield back the remaining debate time on the legislation, quickly passing its first appropriations bill of the year.

Using another FY16 legislative vehicle, the Senate then moved to consideration of two appropriations measures, the Military Construction-VA bill and the Transportation-HUD bill. Additionally, the Senate attached a \$1.1 billion supplemental appropriations bill to combat the Zika virus to the legislative vehicle. With little controversy, the Senate voted 89-8 to pass the second and third regular appropriations bills along with the Zika package.

While the House traditionally uses an open rule for amendments on appropriations measures, Senate leaders are able to use complex procedural maneuvers to block controversial amendments. The Senate did not bring up an appropriations bill during the final week of the month, instead opting to begin consideration of the National Defense Authorization Act.

House, Senate to Conference on Supplemental Zika Legislation

The House agreed to go to conference with the Senate to work out major differences in each chamber's proposal to combat the Zika virus, a step toward talks as Democrats in Congress and the president push hard for fast action on the mosquito-borne virus that has been linked to birth defects in newborns. House members voted 233-180 for a rule that would allow the chamber to go to conference with the Senate over differences in the two chambers' versions of their fiscal 2017 Military Construction-VA appropriations measures and legislation to address the Zika virus. The House then agreed by voice vote to go to conference.

The Senate will also need to agree to go to conference, and that agreement could come before lawmakers leave town for the Memorial Day recess. Democrats urged Republican leaders to cancel the Memorial Day recess to stay in town and quickly send a final Zika bill to the president. The Obama administration in February requested \$1.9 billion in emergency spending to develop vaccines, combat mosquito populations and more. The House opted for a much smaller package, advancing a \$622 million package that was fully offset and that expires at the end of the current fiscal year. The Senate passed a \$1.1 billion package that was neither offset nor expires.

House Republicans have argued that additional funding can be provided through the fiscal year 2017 appropriations process. They contend that a supplemental package should only run through the end of the fiscal year so that spending can be controlled. The Senate considered several measures before settling on the \$1.1 billion package that provided the funding without offsets. Once both chambers agree to a conference, Republican leaders and appropriators will have to bridge a wide spending disparity between each chamber's proposal.

House Votes to Conference Energy Legislation with Drought Provisions

After completion of the Energy Policy Modernization Act in the Senate during the month of April, the House took up the legislation and substituted in its own package. The amendment contains a number of bills that have passed the House but have not advanced in the Senate, including H.R.8—the energy bill that passed the House in 2015 along party lines. The House substitute amendment also includes a slew of land, water, wildlife and conservation bills as well as a section on energy research and development.

Among the controversial provisions included in the substitute amendment passed by the House on May 25 is the drought legislation introduced by Representative David Valadao (R-CA) that

passed the House last year. California Republicans—who are eager to pass a drought bill after negotiations broke down with Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-CA)—have been attaching the legislation to bills moving to the House in order to bring the Senate to the negotiating table.

"We'll just keep trying, we're not giving it up," said Representative Jim Costa (D-CA). Costa is one of the few Democrats aligned with Republicans in favor of the drought legislation. He indicated it was too early to know which legislative vehicle would successfully carry drought legislation to final passage, but indicated renewed hope that California Democrats and Republicans would negotiate a final package this year. Republicans have been attempting to create as many opportunities to conference the drought legislation as possible, attaching the legislation to high-profile or must pass bills.

Senate Holds Western Drought Hearing

The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Water and Power Subcommittee held a hearing on several drought bills at the end of May, including Senator Feinstein's California Long-Term Provisions for Water Supply and Short-Term Provisions for Emergency Drought Relief Act. The hearing was the first on Senator Feinstein's latest drought package. In testifying in support of her legislation, Senator Feinstein noted that this is the second iteration of her legislation this Congress. She noted that her offices have continued to solicit feedback from federal, state, and local stakeholders. She also mentioned the support from ACWA and 104 local water agencies and individuals who have written letters of support for the legislation.

Four other Western water bills were also reviewed, foreshadowing the strategy proposed by Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee Chairwoman Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) of advancing a west-wide drought bill later this year. Also making an appearance before the subcommittee was new legislation introduced by Senator Jeff Flake (R-AZ) and several Western-state Republicans that contains many Republican priorities to deal with drought conditions in their home states. While the Bureau of Reclamation was generally supportive of Feinstein's legislation, they indicated they had some concerns with the Flake bill.

Subcommittee Chairman Mike Lee (R-UT) indicated that details for a west-wide package are still being negotiated, but that this hearing was part of the first steps for the Committee to move forward. In addition to the requirement that the bill support west-wide drought mitigation, Chairman Lee also mentioned that the bill would need to be fully paid for through offsets or new revenue provisions.

FAA Deadline Looms

With the FAA reauthorization deadline looming in mid-July, the House has been slow to consider a long-term reauthorization. In April, the Senate Commerce Committee advanced legislation to reauthorize the agency through the end of fiscal year 2017. With broad bipartisan support, the Senate cleared the legislation on a vote of 95-3. The Senate legislation does not include the controversial provisions to privatize air traffic control operations championed by House Transportation and Infrastructure Chairman Bill Shuster (R-PA).

With no action in the House on its own legislation or the Senate-passed bill, Senate Commerce Committee leaders have sent a letter to Representatives Bill Shuster (R-PA) and Peter DeFazio

(D-OR) urging the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee to take up the Senate's FAA reauthorization bill and pass it before the July 15 expiration date of current FAA authority. Highlighting the 95-3 approval the Senate bill got on the floor, Sens. John Thune (R-SD) and Bill Nelson (D-FL) took a diplomatic approach, nodding to the merits in Shuster's embattled proprivatization bill, but argued that the only realistic path to avoiding another short-term extension would be to take up the Senate's more middle-of-the-road bill.

Although there are some six weeks remaining before the FAA's current authorization expires, there are only 23 legislative days remaining.

Outlook for June

Both the House and Senate will be in recess for the final week of May/first week of June for the Memorial Day recess.

The House schedule for June is very unclear after the Energy and Water Appropriations bill failed on the floor. Lawmakers will likely use the recess to chart a path forward on the fiscal year 2017 bills, including looking at changing the way bills are brought to the floor. With the FAA deadline pending, lawmakers may opt to spend time on competing FAA proposals to either dispense with the legislation or conference with the Senate.

The Senate will continue consideration of the National Defense Authorization Act upon returning from recess. Additionally, the Senate still has legislative vehicles to pass additional appropriations bills.

If a compromise can be reached on supplemental Zika appropriations legislation, both chambers could pass a compromise conference report during the month of June.

Federal Legislation of Significance

Bill Number	Sponsor	Title and/or Summary	Summary/Status
H.R.5055 /	Rep. Mike	FY 17 Energy and	The President's budget request to Congress was released on February 9, 2016.
S.2804	Simpson / Sen. Lamar Alexander	Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations bill	President' Budget Request for priority programs: Title XVI: \$21.5 million WaterSMART: \$23.4 million
			House Energy and Water Appropriations Committee Report: Title XVI: \$24 million WaterSMART: \$24 million
			Senate Energy and Water Appropriations Committee Report: Title XVI: \$21.5 million WaterSMART: \$23.4 million Western Drought: \$100 million
			The Senate Energy and Water Appropriations bill has passed the Senate. The Senate's legislation included additional funding, but no authorization for western drought.
			The House Energy and Water Appropriations bill failed to passed the House on a vote of 112-305, with 130 Republicans voting against the measure with nearly all Democrats. While the House legislation did not include additional funding for western drought, language has been included to provide additional pumping flexibility in the delta (the Valadao bill). A number of contentious amendments were added to the legislation, alienating both Republicans and Democrats. Amendments included wideranging topics like the Iran nuclear agreement, sanctuary cities, the North Carolina transcender hathroom law and protections for I GRT individuals in federal contracting
S.2533	Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-CA)	California Long-Term Provisions for Water Supply and Short-Term Provisions for	Senator Feinstein's latest drought bill received its first hearing in the Water Subcommittee of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee along several other bills, including a western package introduced by Senator Jeff Flake (R-AZ).
		Emergency Drought Relief Act	In testifying in support of her legislation, Senator Feinstein noted that this is the second iteration of her legislation this Congress. She noted that her offices have continued to solicit feedback from federal, state, and local stakeholders. She also mentioned the support from ACWA and 104 local water agencies and individuals who have written letters of support for the legislation.

Senator Flake introduced his legislation less than a week before the Water Subcommittee of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee held a hearing along other drought bills, including Senator Feinstein's drought package. Senator Flake's bill is cosponsored by several western state Republicans and contains many Republican priorities to deal with drought conditions in their home states. Included in the legislation are reforms at the Bureau of Reclamation along with provisions relating to the Colorado River.	House Republicans have inserted the Valado bill into several pieces of legislation currently moving through the House. Several provisions from his bill have been included in the Energy and Water Appropriations bill that failed in the House during the last week of May. The legislation was also included in the House Amendment to the Energy Policy Modernization Act. Republicans hope to place the language in several bills in order to conference with the Senate on a drought package before the end of 2016.	The Energy Policy Modernization Act has passed both the House and Senate in different forms, setting up a possible conference committee between the two chambers. The original Senate bill was the first broad energy reform policy bill in eight years considered by the Senate. The bill includes a number of policy priorities from both Republicans and Democrats and came as a result of months of negotiations, meetings outreach and other activities aimed at a truly bipartisan bill. The bill instead on fossil fuels and infrastructure: natural gas pipeline permitting, authorizing the main federal conservation fund, job training, updating the grid, as well as a push on energy efficiency. The legislation was brought back to the floor in April after an agreement was reached on amendments. While originally a target for energy tax breaks, those amendments were not added to the legislation. The House took up the legislation during the final week of the month. The House inserted its own substitute amendment that included a number of bills that have passed the House but have not advanced in the Senate, including H.R.8—the energy bill that passed the House in 2015 along party lines. The substitute amendment also contains the Valadao drought bill passed by the House in 2015. After passing the substitute amendment, the House voted to go to conference with the Senate. The Senate is expected to vote to go to conference either before the recess or upon returning.
Western Water Supply and Planning Enhancement Act of 2016	Western Water and American Food Security Act of 2015	Energy Policy Modernization Act of 2015
Sen. Jeff Flake (R-AZ)	Rep. David Valadao	Sen. Lisa Murkowski
S.2902	H.R.2898	S.2012

IFS is working with ACWA on language included in the legislation establishing a WaterSense program. We are seeking to add report language that would require the EPA to consider impacts to wastewater when considering equipment for the WaterSense label. The WaterSense language is included in the Senate bill, but not the House substitute amendment.	The House has approved legislation to clarify the Environmental Protection Agency's authority to notify the public about danger from lead in their drinking water. The bill is the first approved by Congress to respond to the water crisis in Flint, Michigan. The legislation requires the Environmental Protection Agency to notify the public when concentrations of lead in drinking water rise above mandated levels and to create a plan to improve communication between the agency, utilities, states, and consumers. While the bill's authors admit that the new legislation will not prevent future water contamination, they contend that it will prevent the situation from dragging out as has happened in Flint. The legislation has not been taken up in the Senate, but it is expected to receive binaries.	Directs the Department of Energy (DOE) to establish and carry out a smart energy and water efficiency management pilot program to award grants to three to five eligible entities (authorities that provide water, wastewater, or water reuse services) to demonstrate advanced and innovative technology-based solutions that will: (1) increase and improve the energy efficiency of water, wastewater, and water reuse systems to help communities make significant progress in conserving water, saving energy, and reducing costs; (2) support the implementation of innovative processes and the installation of advanced automated systems that provide real-time data on energy and water; and (3) improve energy and water conservation, water quality, and predictive maintenance of energy and water systems, through the use of Internet-connected technologies, including sensors, intelligent gateways, and security embedded in hardware. The legislation was referred to the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Hearings have also been held.	The Senate Environment and Public Works Committee has advanced its Water Resources Development legislation for consideration by the Senate. IFS is working with ACWA on language included in the legislation establishing a WaterSense program. We are seeking to add report language that would require the EPA to consider impacts to wastewater when considering equipment for the WaterSense label.
	Safe Drinking Water Act Improved Compliance Awareness Act	Smart Energy and Water Efficiency Act of 2015	Water Resources Development Act of 2016
	Rep. Dan Kildee (D-MI) / Rep. Fred Upton (R- MI)	Rep. Jerry McNerney (D- CA) / Sen. Tom Udall (D-MN)	Rep. Bill Shuster (R-PA) /Sens. Jim Inhofe (R- OK) and Barbara Boxer (D-CA)
	H.R.4470	H.R.3143 / S.886	H.R.5303 / S.2848

The House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee marked up their version of the Water Resources Development Act and ordered it to be reported by voice vote.
Both the House and Senate hope to complete consideration of the WRDA bill this year, putting the legislation back on to an every other year reauthorization.

AGENDA ITEM #6



United States Department of the Interior Office of Hearings and Appeals

Interior Board of Land Appeals 801 N. Quincy St., Suite 300 Arlington, VA 22203

703-235-3750

703-235-8349 (fax)

February 17, 2016

IBLA 2016-54)	CACA 5232
BIGHORN-DESERT VIEW WATER AGENCY)	Right of Way
)	Decision Affirmed;
)	Petition for Stay Denied as Moot

ORDER

Bighorn-Desert View Water Agency (appellant)¹ has appealed from, and petitioned to stay the effect of, a November 30, 2015, Annual Rent Bill issued by the Barstow Field Office (California), Bureau of Land Management (BLM) for calendar year 2016. BLM charged appellant rent of \$14,408.88 for a 32.88-acre linear ROW, serialized by BLM as CACA 5232.

On December 31, 2015, appellant filed with BLM its notice of appeal (NOA), including its statement of reasons. BLM transmitted the administrative record (AR) to the Board on January 14, 2016. On January 29, 2016, appellant filed a supplemental statement of reasons (SSOR). After receiving an extension of time to do so, BLM filed a Response to Petition for Stay and Answer to Statement of Reasons (Answer) on February 8, 2016.

Because appellant has not shown that BLM issued the 2016 rental fee assessment in error, we affirm BLM's decision and deny the petition for stay as moot.

¹ Appellant provides water service to over 2,500 customers within a 51-square-mile area in San Bernardino County. BLM granted to appellant a right-of-way (ROW) across public lands so that it could install and maintain pipelines, and transport and distribute water to its customers. AR, Tab 8. The ROW area encumbers approximately 32.88 acres (40' x 35,692.8') of public lands all within San Bernardino County, California. *Id*.

The issue in this appeal is whether BLM's 2016 rental assessment is erroneous as a matter of fact or law. The appellant bears the burden of demonstrating that BLM erred in its calculations or did not properly apply the rental schedule to appellant's ROW. See Treasure Valley Broadcasting Co., 165 IBLA 113, 119 (2005). In this case, appellant does not challenge BLM's calculations. Instead, appellant claims the rental fee is excessive because it is approximately \$11,000 more than the amount BLM charged for the same ROW in 2015. According to appellant, the rental increase "is facially unreasonable and bears no relationship to economic reality." NOA at unpaginated (unp.) 1. Appellant also claims BLM's rental schedule is flawed because the basis for local market value is "simply unjustified and defies reality for the Bighorn service area." SSOR at unp. 2. These arguments do not satisfy appellant's burden of proof.

While appellant's 2016 rental amount increased substantially, the Department's governing regulations explicitly explain the basis for such an increase. BLM is required by law to charge fair market value for rental of an ROW. *See* 43 U.S.C. § 1764(g) (2012), 43 C.F.R. §§ 2806.20, 2806.23(a). As mandated by regulation, BLM calculates a linear ROW holder's rental fee based on a preestablished rental schedule. 43 C.F.R. § 2806.20(a). The rental schedule for linear ROWs contains an annual per-acre rent figure for particular zones. BLM has adopted the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) Census to determine zone designations. *See* 43 C.F.R. § 2806.21; *see also* 73 Fed. Reg. 65,040 (Oct. 31, 2008) (explaining BLM's rental fee methodology); *see also* Instruction Memorandum No. 2016-008, "Calendar Year 2016 - 2025 Linear Right-of-Way Rental Schedule." Thus, BLM calculates an annual linear ROW rental fee by multiplying the per-acre rent for the appropriate zone by the number of acres contained in the ROW. 43 C.F.R. § 2806.23(a). BLM posts annual ROW rental rates, fee explanations, and other ROW rental-related information on its website.

From 2011 to 2015, San Bernardino County fell into zone 6, as determined by data contained in the 2007 NASS Census. 43 C.F.R. § 2806.21. Beginning in 2016, however, BLM applied the 2012 NASS Census data to its annual per-acre fee schedule for linear ROWs across public lands. *See* 43 C.F.R. §§ 2806.20(a), 2806.22(b). The

³ BLM uses the NASS data because it is reflective of the types of lands BLM administers. The annual per-acre rental for linear ROWs is the product of 80% of the NASS Census data per-acre zone value, multiplied by a 50% encumbrance factor, multiplied by a 5.27% rate of return, multiplied by an annual 2.1% adjustment factor, which represents the average annual change in the Implicit Price Deflator-Gross Domestic Product.

2012 NASS Census provides that the County was re-assigned to zone 9. *Id.* Consequently, the per-acre value in San Bernardino County increased by about \$335 between 2015 and 2016, which, when multiplied by 32.88 acres, results in an \$11,000 rental increase.

We conclude that BLM's 2016 rental assessment was based upon the appropriate rental schedule, which follows duly-promulgated regulations, and therefore the \$335-per-acre increase was properly imposed by BLM. While appellant may disagree with BLM's assessment, such disagreement, without more, is insufficient to render BLM's determination invalid. *See Treasure Valley Broadcasting Co.*, 165 IBLA at 119.

Appellant also argues that it should only have to pay for lands it actually occupies within the ROW grant and its rental should never exceed zone 1 value. See NOA at unp. 2 ("The rent charged by BLM should not be for the entire 40 foot wide ROW but only for that portion occupied by the Bighorn water pipeline.

... [Moreover,] Bighorn, as a not-for-profit, local public agency, that provides a vital public service . . . should only pay rents in the BLM Zone 1 range."). Since there is no indication that appellant raised these concerns with BLM and because the agency did not address these arguments in its Annual Rent Bill, appellant's concerns do not fall within the scope of this appeal and are not properly before us at this time. See Nevada Outdoor Recreation Association, Inc., 153 IBLA 8, 11 (2000). To the extent appellant seeks a waiver or reduction in rent because of alleged hardship caused by zone reassignment, BLM, not the Board, has the delegated authority to first consider waiver or reduction proposals. See 43 C.F.R. § 2806.15.4

Therefore, pursuant to the authority delegated to the Board of Land Appeals by the Secretary of the Interior, 43 C.F.R. § 4.1, the decision is affirmed and the petition for stay is denied as moot.

Eileen Jones

Chief Administrative Judge

⁴ BLM states in its Answer that appellant has submitted a request to the BLM California State Director for a fee waiver. *See* Answer at 6 n.7.

I concur:

Janus F. Roberts
Administrative Judge

APPEARANCES:

Marina D. West, General Manager Bighorn-Desert View Water Agency 622 S. Jemez Trail Yucca Valley, CA 92284-1440 mwest@bdvwa.org

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AGENDA ITEM #8

Bighorn-Desert View Water Agency

Board of Directors

J. Larry Coulombe, President Michael McBride, Vice President Judy Corl-Lorono, Secretary J. Dennis Staley, Director Terry Burkhart, Director ORN-DESERVATION OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERT

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

> 760/364-2315 Phone 760/364-3412 Fax

Marina D West, P.G., General Manager

A Public Agency

www.bdvwa.org

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

Board Meeting Office 1720 N. Cherokee Trail, Landers, CA 92285 April 19, 2016 - 9:15 a.m.

Committee Members: Director Corl-Lorono & Director Burkhart

Call to Order

Director Corl-Lorono called the meeting to order at 9:16 a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Led by John Burkhart

Roll Call

Directors:

Judy Corl-Lorono

Terry Burkhart

Staff:

Marina West

Approval of the Agenda

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

Improvement District Goat Mountain Well No. 3: Pump and Motor Replacement
General Manager West reported on the number of power outages this year. During a
recent outage one Agency well pump and motor were destroyed. West discussed the
needed repairs as well as funding to cover the costs.

Anonymous asked about the capacity of the tanks within the Goat Mtn. Territory.

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

Carolyn Jenson of KP Public Affairs reported on AB 1713 (Eggman) and AB 1755 (Dodd). Ms. Jenson also discussed SB 1317 (Wolk) which would require a conditional use permit for new water wells. This is perceived as an unfunded mandated.

Ms. Jenson reported on drought workshops being held by the State Water Resources Control Board. She also reported on the State Water Resources Control Boards desire to propose permanent drought regulations with regards to water conservation limits.

Leticia White of Innovative Federal Strategies reported on the Senate Water and Energy Bills including Senator Feinstein's Bill S.2533 which added 100 million dollars to the California Drought. Ms. White also reported on H.R. 2898 a bill presented by Representative David Valadao.

No public comment.

Adjourned for a Break at 10:10 a.m. - Reconvened from Break at 10:17 a.m.

Review Draft Rules and Regulations for Water Service - Ordinance No. 160-XX

General Manager West gave the staff report. Changes within the Draft Rules and Regulations for Water Service include new rules on customer deposits, the water service applications and various definitions changes such as those pertaining to high risk accounts. West also discussed the high cost of replacing customer valves on the 2 inch bulk meters. She is proposing the implementation of a monthly fee to help with costs.

Sections of the draft rules and regulations also reviewed include real estate transactions, water service to tenants, bad debt, lock-offs for non-payment, business development and service to other parcels.

West also reported on a system-wide back flow prevention program, service line variance limits, and public fire protection.

Public comment:

Anonymous asked about a particular piece of property within the Agency boundaries.

Overview of Short-Term Proposed Capital Projects and Status of Various Grant Funding Opportunities

General Manager West gave the staff report. Within the Desert View water system, Well 4 has been identified as the well to repair and put back online long term. Once repaired, the Agency would then inactivate Well 3 and also keep Well 2 inactive. West stated the next goal is to put the engineering designs together and then look for construction grants.

West discussed the possibility of enclosing each well facility within the Agency, a storm water capture project that would have provided flood protection and gave an update on the transfer switches.

The Agency would like to continue with service line replacements throughout the Goat Mountain Service Area. Replacing the service lines appears to help with water loss. West also said the Agency will continue with also replacing meters within the Goat Mountain Service Area.

West also reviewed where the Agency stands on the SCADA (supervisory control and data acquisition) system upgrade, equipment needs and gave a brief update on grant funding.

No public comment.

Consent Items

a. Regular PLEGS Meeting Report, February 16, 2016

No public comment.

Director Corl-Lorono and Director Burkhart approved the report.

Public Participation

No public comment.

Verbal Reports

Committee Members' Comments/Reports No reports.

General Manager's Report No report.

Items for Next Agenda

Adjournment - Director Corl-Lorono adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m.