



## BIGHORN-DESERT VIEW WATER AGENCY

*Our Mission - "To provide a high quality supply of water and reliable service to all customers at a fair and reasonable rate."*

### Planning/Legislative/Engineering & Grant Standing

### Committee SPECIAL Meeting Agenda

Committee Members: President Burkhart & Director Close-Dees

BOARD MEETING OFFICE  
1720 N. CHEROKEE TR.  
LANDERS, CALIFORNIA 92285

August 16, 2023  
Time – 9:30 A.M.

PUBLIC AND BOARD WISHING TO PARTICIPATE REMOTELY

**\*\*TELECONFERENCE LINE THRU ZOOM 669-900-6833\*\***

OR

Join Zoom Meeting

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89542141568?pwd=OWdjWIZLbzI6TVZkK0ljdGhIVGNz09>

Passcode: 742562

Or Dial:

1-669-900-6833

Webinar ID: 895 4214 1568

Passcode: 742562

#### CALL TO ORDER

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

#### ROLL CALL

#### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**Discussion and Action Items** - The Committee Directors and Staff will discuss the following items, and the Committee will consider taking action, 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.

1. **Status Report of Activities of the Community Water Systems Alliance**
2. **Status Report Goat Mountain Replacement Well (Prop. 1/ Rnd. 1 Grant)**
3. **Status Report Water Meter Replacement Program (Drought Grant)**

4. **Status Report System Interconnection at Winters & Rainbow Road (Prop. 1/Rnd 2 Grant)**
5. **Status Report Potable Water Systems Improvements Consolidation of Water Systems (\$11M PI/C Project Grant)**
6. **Discuss Alternative Schedule for Future Planning/Legislative/Engineering & Grant Standing Committee Meetings**
7. **Consent Items** – The following items are expected to be routine and non-controversial and will be acted on by the Committee at one time without discussion, unless a member of the Public or member of the Committee requests that the item be held for discussion or further action.
  - a. PLEGS Committee Meeting Minutes, **June 20, 2023.**
  - b. Grant Status Reports **August 7, 2023**

Recommended Action:

Approve as presented (Item a-b):

**8. 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.

**9. Verbal Reports - Including Reports on Courses/Conferences/Meetings**

1. Committee Members' Comments/Reports
2. General Manager's Report

**10. 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 have been prepared or organized with respect to each item of business listed on the agenda.

Copies of these materials and other disclosable 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](http://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.



**Policy Committee Meeting**

**July 26, 2023**

**8:30\* – 9:30 am**



**Join Zoom Meeting**

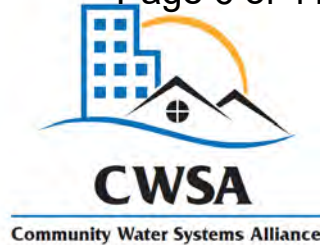
<https://zoom.us/j/96929922266?pwd=eTF2WVo4SVQwSmpiTy8xVXloNit4UT09>

**Meeting ID: 969 2992 2266 || Passcode: 585511**

**AGENDA**

\*The Policy Committee will begin following the Steering Committee, but not before 8:30 am.

1.	Call to order	Pg.	Marina West
2.	Roll call		Tim Worley
3.	Changes or additions to the agenda	1	
4.	Approval of minutes of June 28, 2023 meeting	2	Marina West
5.	Chromium 6 MCL <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Questions and extension request</li><li>• SWRCB agenda with public hearing</li></ul>	5	Tim Worley
6.	California Water Commission drought workshops	12	Tim Worley
7.	Senate PFAS bill		Tim Worley
8.	Member comments or announcements		Marina West
	Adjourn		Marina West



## **CWSA Policy Committee**

The June 28, 2023 meeting of the Policy Committee was called to order at 8:30 am by Chair Marina West.

### **Attendance**

Managing Director Tim Worley recorded the meeting participants.

#### **Members Present**

Marina West, Bighorn-Desert View Water Agency  
Victoria Llorca, Coachella Valley Water District  
Dan Ferons, Santa Margarita Water District  
Jim Leach, Santa Margarita Water District  
Stacy Taylor, Mesa Water District  
Jennifer Cusack, Hi-Desert Water District  
Brett Barbre, Yorba Linda Water District  
David Shook, Joshua Basin Water District  
Joe Basulto, Pico Water District  
Jackie McCloud, City of Watsonville

#### **Staff and Guests**

Tim Worley, CWSA Managing Director  
Adán Ortega, CalMutuals Executive Director  
Jim Ciampa, Partner, Lagerlof LLP  
Susan Allen, CalMutuals/CWSA  
Yasmeen Nubani, CalMutuals/CWSA  
Karina Cervantes, CalMutuals/CWSA  
Oracio Gonzalez, Ollin Strategies  
Nate Adams, Santa Margarita Water District

### **Minutes**

Minutes of the May 24 ,2023 meeting were **moved, seconded (Leach/Taylor)**, and approved.

### **Legislative Report**

#### **AB 1008 (Bauer-Kahan): support if amended**

Jennifer Cusack commented that this bill could be used as a vehicle to clean up some other thing, since the budget trailer bill with provisions for the Joshua Tree has already passed.

Tim Worley said that the Alliance will still communicate our concerns with the author and the committee. The bill is scheduled for hearing on July 10. The budget trailer bill passing puts a question mark on what they are going to do with the actual policy bill now.

Comments will center around the design build, CEQA issues, permitting, and affordability.

SB 3 (Dodd): Oppose unless amended

In the Assembly, the bill passed out of the first policy committee and is now in Appropriations. CalMutuals will be communicating their concerns and seeing if they can make any headway. The author has been making small tweaks but not enough to fully address the concerns on costs to comply. The amendments that have been made seem to be satisfying enough to the legislators to move forward.

Stacy Taylor mentioned that ACWA is now engaging on this issue. The two issues that ACWA is concerned about are the proposed broadening of the deferred payment schedule and the attorney general's enforcement authority. There will be an ACWA workgroup on this and Ms. Taylor anticipates that they will move into an oppose unless amended position based on those two issues.

Adan Ortega added that the costs of implementing SB 998 were already higher than original estimates and this bill will likely result in even higher costs than SB 998.

Tim Worley will follow up with how to engage with ACWA on this bill.

**Regulatory Issues (Oral Report)**

Chromium 6 MCL @ 10 ppb

Tim Worley reported that the only slight improvement with the regulation is that they are offering a longer compliance period. Everything else remains as what they previously stated. Mr. Worley would like to ask for an extension of two weeks for the deadline for comments, stating that the OneWater Econ team would benefit from having the extra time to look at the affordability question. The Alliance has scheduled a Chromium-6 webinar for tomorrow morning and anyone is welcome to join. The webinar boils the MCL down to key issues and provides more helpful information for smaller systems. Tim will work on comments for the State Water Resources Control Board and would like input from the committee as he pulls together a draft.

Susan Allen mentioned that the Board is not providing assistance to systems that they are trying to consolidate. CalMutuals is surveying systems that are undergoing consolidation and in all cases the State Water Resources Control Board is leaving everybody with few answers and long wait times. Mrs. Allen will pursue a meeting with Wade, Karla Nemeth, Yana Garcia, and Joaquin Esquivel and will ensure Jim Ciampa and others are present to help guide the discussion. There is a lack of a plan to implement both consolidation and Chromium-6 regulations for small systems and disadvantaged communities who have no real ability to comply.

SAFER came up with a decision tree to allocate funding alongside their priorities, with the first question asking if the system is a candidate for consolidation. They are getting aggressive in pushing consolidation. Funding requests in the system are supposed to have rules criteria from the year the application was submitted, but now systems are finding that is not the case. The money that is theoretically there is not available to the systems that need it since the Board is trying to push consolidation for everybody first.

Outdoor residential water use efficiency standards

Nate Adams from Santa Margarita Water District detailed the proposed urban water efficiency regulation that the State Water Resources Control Board is considering. Santa Margarita has made significant investments in their communities and educational programs to promote water efficient measures both inside and outside residential homes, and sees compliance with the proposed regulatory policies as infeasible.

AB 1668 and SB 606 passed in 2018, which set annual water use objectives and standards for both indoor and outdoor water use. As a part of implementing both bills, SWRCB staff is advising the Board to further lower the water allocation for outdoor use from the current 0.8 efficiency factor number used to formulate outdoor water use per household to 0.5 by 2035.

Mr. Adams stressed that Santa Margarita's strides to compliance came primarily from their community partnerships and the large amount of resources available to them. For smaller systems and disadvantaged communities, there is neither staffing nor budget in most cases to invest or incentivize outdoor water conservation like the larger systems can. He is asking the Community Water Systems Alliance to evaluate how this regulation will affect disadvantaged and smaller communities and express comments to the State Water Board to ensure they are taken into consideration.

Jennifer Cusack added that the Hi-Desert Water Agency wrote comments but they weren't received well. Their community has already done well in reducing outdoor water use, with much of the turf removed.

Stacy Taylor said that if this is the first time CWSA will be weighing in on an issue like this, it may be best to get comments in soon before the rule officially comes out. The Hertzberg bill that was passed last year will be cracking down on the indoor water use efficiency part of the formula.

**Other Business**

With no further business, Chair West adjourned the Policy Committee at 9:14 am.





Date July 20, 2023  
To Policy Committee  
From Tim Worley, Managing Director  
Subject Hexavalent chromium MCL

I expect to submit comments from CWSA on the state's proposed regulation of Cr(VI) as a primary drinking water contaminant. This cover memo is simply to identify the different moving parts on this issue.

1. Potential topics of our comment letter. This list is the start of an outline of the comments we would want to make. I would like to solicit other broad areas or specific comments that Policy Committee members want to include.
2. Request for information and extension of comments period. The letter and list of questions was submitted today to the Executive Director of the State Water Resources Control Board and Darrin Polhemus, Deputy Director and head of the Division of Drinking Water.
3. Agenda for August 2 SWRCB meeting. The public hearing is scheduled on the attached agenda. We will want impacted CWSA members to speak at the hearing.

# CWSA Comments – Draft List of Topics

## **Capacity Issues**

- Laboratories to handle testing
- Certified operators for systems newly installing treatment

## **Financial Impacts**

- Affordability – conclusions and information gaps from OneWater Econ/Raucher study
  - What is the basis for DDW to conclude that household budgets can absorb \$30/month
- Economic Feasibility – implications from OneWater Econ/Raucher study
- Availability – short-term and long-term – of financial assistance is unclear
- Access to funding without insurmountable barriers for small systems

## **Treatment Issues**

- RCF has not been the preferred treatment, representing a flaw in the cost estimation
  - RCF appears to artificially underestimate compliance cost
- POU/POE is not a proven compliance alternative, only temporary, and no plan if not workable

## **Compliance Options**

- Consolidation is not a cost-effective alternative in many situations, and DDW may leave an unknown number of systems with no feasible option for compliance
- Consolidation takes way too long, and with a high administrative burden even when desired
- Compliance period is appreciated but likely too short for systems of any size

## **Other Issues**

- Note that the MCL is going ahead of the PHG review, with considerable information submitted showing the PHG may be incorrect



July 21, 2023

State Water Resources Control Board  
Eileen Sobeck, Executive Director  
Darrin Polhemus, Deputy Director  
1111 I Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Executive Director Sobeck and Deputy Director Polhemus,

Re: SWRCB-DDW-21-003 (Hexavalent Chromium MCL)  
Request for Information and Extension of Comment Period

The Community Water Systems Alliance (CWSA) respectfully writes to request several pieces of information needed to understand and thoughtfully comment on the Proposed Rulemaking to set a Maximum Contaminant Level for Hexavalent Chromium (Cr(VI)). In addition, and related to the request for information, we request the State Water Resources Control Board (Water Board) to extend the deadline for submitting comments on this matter from 45 days to 60 days. As a practical matter, since an extra 15 days would put the deadline on a Saturday, we ask for a new deadline to be set for August 21 (the following Monday).

CWSA, a project of CalMutuals, has members that are drinking water suppliers significantly affected by the proposed regulation, some of which serve disadvantaged communities and/or households that experience affordability challenges with their water bills. To gain a better understanding of the affordability issue presented by the proposed Cr(VI) regulation, CWSA has undertaken a deeper review of the costs and the State's commitment to financial assistance for all those who will need it.

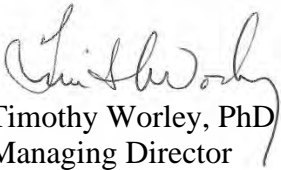
Our initial review of the proposed regulation has been hindered by some missing information; information that is essential to follow the calculations and logic leading to conclusions of the proposed regulation. I have attached a list of questions and clarifications that will greatly assist our analysis. We would appreciate your diligent efforts to provide the requested information as promptly as possible.

Considering the nature and extent of the information required for our review, and with our intent to submit comments on questions of affordability and economic feasibility of the proposed regulation, we believe the requested extension of the deadline for comments is warranted. We also note that comments may be made during the public hearing on August 2. With a proposed regulation as important as this one, some comments may be made in public testimony that would deserve to be investigated and possibly change our written comments. However, a period of just two days from the hearing until the deadline gives insufficient time for further investigation,

resulting in an incomplete record and potentially important information not made available to the Water Board for its decision-making process.

In summary, we request your diligent effort to provide the information detailed in the attached document. Please advise me of an expected timeframe to provide this information. Further, we ask for an extension to August 21 of the public comment period on this very important rulemaking. Please inform us of your decision on this request at your earliest opportunity. If you have any questions, or to reply to this request, I can be reached by email at [tim@ostrategiesgroup.com](mailto:tim@ostrategiesgroup.com).

Sincerely,



Timothy Worley, PhD  
Managing Director  
Community Water Systems Alliance

Attachment

c: Honorable Joaquin Esquivel  
Honorable Dorene D'Adamo  
Honorable Laurel Firestone  
Honorable Sean Maguire  
Honorable Nichole Morgan

## STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD BOARD MEETING



Wednesday, August 2, 2023 – 9:30 a.m.

Sierra Hearing Room – Second Floor

Joe Serna Jr. - CalEPA Building

1001 I Street, Sacramento

**And via Video and Teleconference**

**(For Public Commenters)**

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**Video and Teleconference Options:** *This meeting will occur with both a physical meeting location and an option for the public to participate from a remote location.*

- *For those who only wish to watch the meeting, the webcast remains available at either <https://www.youtube.com/user/BoardWebSupport/> or <https://video.calepa.ca.gov/> (closed captioning available) and should be used UNLESS you intend to comment.*
- *For members of the public who wish to comment on an agenda item or are presenting to the Board, additional information about participating telephonically or via the remote meeting solution is available here: [https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board\\_info/remote\\_meeting/](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/remote_meeting/)*

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### **DECLARATION OF A QUORUM**

E. Joaquin Esquivel, Chair; Dorene D'Adamo, Vice Chair; Sean Maguire, Member; Laurel Firestone, Member; Nichole Morgan, Member

### **BOARD MEETING**

***Public comments on agenda items will be limited to 5 minutes  
or otherwise at the discretion of the Board Chair***

### **PUBLIC FORUM**

***(Approximately 30 minutes at the beginning of Board Meeting and any remaining speakers at the call of the Chair)***

Any member of the public may address and ask questions of the Board relating to any matter within the State Water Resources Control Board's jurisdiction provided the matter is not on the agenda or pending before the State Water Board or any California Regional Water Quality Control Board.

### **BOARD BUSINESS**

1. The Board will consider adoption of the July 18, 2023 Board Meeting minutes.

### **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

2. Drought Update and Current Hydrologic Conditions.
3. Department of Transportation Public Awareness Campaign regarding Stormwater Pollution to water ways.
  - [Agenda Item](#)
4. Update on the Clear Lake hitch emergency.
  - [Agenda Item](#)

### **PUBLIC HEARING- WILL NOT BEGIN BEFORE 1:00 P.M.**

### **DIVISION OF DRINKING WATER**

5. Administrative Procedure Act Public Hearing to receive comments on a proposed Maximum Contaminant Level for Hexavalent Chromium and Draft Environmental Impact Report.
  - [Agenda Item](#)
  - [Revised Public Notice](#)
  - Written Comments (due by noon on August 4, 2023)

### **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

6. Board Member Reports.
7. Executive Director's Report.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION!!**

Unless otherwise specified, submittal of written comments **must be received by 12:00 p.m. (Noon) on July 27, 2023 and will not be accepted after that time.**

Submittal of electronic PowerPoint presentations **must be received by 12:00 p.m. (Noon) on July 27, 2023 and will not be accepted after that time.**

Submittals are to be sent via e-mail to the Clerk to the Board at [commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov). Please indicate in the subject line, **08/02/2023 BOARD MEETING – ITEM # (fill in bolded subject from appropriate item)**. If you have questions about the agenda, contact the Clerk to the Board at (916) 341-5600.

If you would like to request a copy of public comments submitted on an agenda item, please send a request to [commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov), identifying the Board meeting date, and agenda item by name and number.

Agenda and items will be available electronically at:  
[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board\\_info/calendar/index.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/calendar/index.shtml)

\* Items on the uncontested items calendar may be removed at the request of any Board member or person. If an item is removed from the uncontested items calendar, it will only be voted on at this meeting if the Board accepts the staff recommendation for the agenda item. Otherwise, the item will be continued to a subsequent board meeting to allow input by interested persons.

Video broadcast of meetings will be available at: <https://video.calepa.ca.gov/>. An alternate live-stream broadcast will also be available at: <https://www.youtube.com/user/BoardWebSupport/>

## LANGUAGE SERVICES

For oral interpretation, written translation, or sign language services, please call (916) 341-5254 or e-mail: [opp-languageservices@Waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:opp-languageservices@Waterboards.ca.gov) (at least 10 business days before the date of the Board meeting).

## ACCESSIBILITY

Telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) users may contact the California Relay Service at: (800) 735-2929 or voice line at (800) 735-2922.



Date July 21, 2023  
To Policy Committee  
From Tim Worley, Managing Director  
Subject Drought Preparations Workshop – California Water Commission

I attended a workshop hosted by the California Water Commission on July 19. It is not certain that this and two more workshops scheduled for July 25 and 27 will result in desirable policy changes, they are an opportunity to raise issues about the residential water standards, benefits and challenges of more water recycling, or other issues.

I have included a flyer about the workshops and a workbook that is provided to participants. I encourage CWSA members to have someone participate to voice the issues of importance to your agency.



INVITATION TO ATTEND DROUGHT STRATEGIES WORKSHOP:

# Preparing for Drought in a Non-Drought Year

California's changing hydrology has led to increased instances of drought in the state. Extreme weather patterns affect the amount of rain and snow we get, impacting how we can capture and distribute water. To ensure California's communities and environment have sufficient water during times of drought, the state will need to adapt to this new normal of ongoing weather extremes.

In support of Action 26.3 in California's Water Resilience Portfolio, the California Water Commission is developing proposed strategies to protect communities and wildlife in the event of drought.

**The Commission is seeking your input at three virtual public workshops.**

## WORKSHOP DATES

- Wednesday, July 19  
Noon to 3 p.m. Register [here](#)
- Tuesday, July 25  
2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Register [here](#)
- Thursday, July 27  
9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Register [here](#)

All workshops will be offered in English and Spanish

Following three years of severe drought, California experienced a winter of extreme wet weather this year. Being able to endure the next severe drought is dependent upon making smart, preemptive water management decisions during non-drought years.

## Let your voice be heard!

In addition to attending a workshop, the Commission encourages you to share your opinion in our **Drought Strategies Survey** [here](#). The survey will be open through July 12, 2023.

## CALIFORNIA IS A DROUGHT-PRONE STATE

We are experiencing hotter, drier weather, which leaves less water to meet our needs and leads to more intense droughts. These modern “hot droughts” are particularly notable for creating conditions that lead to large wildfires. Periods of drought will continue on top of shifts in California’s hydrologic baseline wrought by climate change.

Drought conditions are not experienced uniformly across the state. While the impacts of severe and/or prolonged drought will undoubtedly be felt across all sectors of California, small, rural communities and the environment are particularly vulnerable to drought. Small, rural communities often suffer from insecure water systems and wells that go dry or are at increased risk of contamination. For fish and wildlife species, lack of water during drought threatens to push them to the brink. Frequently, due to how water is managed, species do not have time to recover between droughts.

As part of its work on drought, the Commission talked to experts working in California, the Western United States, and other countries. The Commission’s interviews and reading illuminated the following overarching themes:

- Leverage drought crisis to take bold action.
- Plan, prepare, and manage for drought during non-drought years.
- Make systemic adaptations to climate change.
- Advance a portfolio approach.
- Collect and use data for drought management.
- Engage the public to shift cultural norms.
- Bring the environment into drought management.

For more on the effects of drought on California and internationally, review the Commission’s report: **Long-term Drought in California: Overview and Global Context.**

For details on how to take part in the Commission’s drought work, visit [cwc.ca.gov/Water-Resilience-Portfolio](http://cwc.ca.gov/Water-Resilience-Portfolio).

If you require translation of any materials, please call (916) 835-0278 or email [cwc@water.ca.gov](mailto:cwc@water.ca.gov).

The Commission would like to thank the following organizations for their help convening workshops:







***Preparing for Drought  
in a Non-Drought Year***  
**WORKBOOK**  
**July 2023**

The Water Resilience Portfolio (Portfolio), guided by Governor Newsom’s Executive Order N-10-19, calls for a “set of actions to meet California water needs through the 21st century.” Within the Portfolio, Action 26.3 relates to protecting communities and species during drought.

Being able to endure the next severe drought will be dependent upon making smart, preemptive water management decisions during non-drought years. The Commission, at the request of the Secretaries for Natural Resources, Environmental Protection, and Food and Agriculture, is gaining a wide perspective about the potential strategies for managing drought in order to develop a set of investments and policies that would better position the State to prepare for and respond to drought (more information is available at <https://cwc.ca.gov/Water-Resilience-Portfolio>).

Commission staff has interviewed experts from both the United States and abroad, convened a working group of agencies and organizations with special knowledge and interest in the topic, and, with this input, developed a set of preliminary drought strategies. The Commission is now holding three public workshops to hear from interested parties about their views on potential actions the State should be considering.

## AGENDA

### Preparing for Drought in a Non-Drought Year

**Wednesday, July 19, Noon to 3 p.m.**

**Tuesday, July 25, 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.**

**Thursday, July 27, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**

#### Session Goals:

1. Share the Commission's deliberation process and introduce preliminary drought strategies.
2. Collect feedback from diverse participants on the strategies.
3. Identify areas of regional interest/concern and any additional considerations.
4. Hear how strategies could impact or benefit interested parties.
5. Create opportunities for Commissioners to hear directly from interested parties.

#	Item
1.	Login, Handouts, and Meeting Logistics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Where are you from?</li> <li>• Welcoming remarks</li> <li>• Agenda Review</li> </ul>
2.	Drought Overview
3.	Introduction to Drought Strategies Effort
4.	Breakouts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional Drought Impacts and Approaches</li> <li>• Report Back</li> </ul>
5.	Presentation & Group Discussion: Preliminary Drought Strategies
6.	Group Discussion: Additional Considerations
7.	Next Steps and Adjourn

## Workshop Order of Discussions

### Agenda Item 1 – Where are you from?

Please take a minute and introduce yourself using the chat function. Please give your name and using the map below, the region you are connected with.



## Agenda Item 2 – Drought Overview

### Introduction

California is a drought-prone state. Since 2000, more than half of the state's water years have been dry or drought years. In addition to California's cyclic droughts, the state's hydrology is changing, intensifying severe weather as we swing from extreme dry to extreme wet situations. Extreme weather patterns not only affect the amount of rain and snow, but also the intensity and timing of precipitation, impacting natural and human systems' ability to capture, store, and distribute water. These changes necessitate modifications to how California prepares for and responds to droughts.

Our warming climate means that a greater share of the rain and snowfall we receive will be absorbed by dry soils, consumed by thirsty plants, and evaporated into the air. This leaves less water to meet our needs. These modern "hot droughts" are particularly notable for creating conditions that lead to large wildfires.

Periods of drought will continue on top of shifts in California's hydrologic baseline. To ensure California's people and environment have sufficient water during times of drought, the State will need to adapt to a new normal of weather extremes.

Drought conditions are not experienced uniformly across the state. While the impacts of severe and/or prolonged drought will undoubtedly be felt across all sectors of California, small, rural communities and the environment are particularly vulnerable to drought, frequently experiencing impacts earlier and longer than other water users. Small, rural communities often suffer from insecure water systems and wells that go dry or are at increased risk of contamination. For fish and wildlife species, lack of water during drought threatens to push them to the brink. Frequently, due to how water is managed, species do not have time to recover between droughts.

In modern California history, droughts have been treated as episodic emergencies: decision-makers, practitioners, and the public have been reactive instead of proactive. There are two timeframes for considering drought: in advance of drought (drought preparedness) and during drought (drought response); taken together, these constitute "drought management." Being able to endure a severe drought is dependent upon making smart, preemptive water management decisions during non-drought years.

### Drought Management Themes

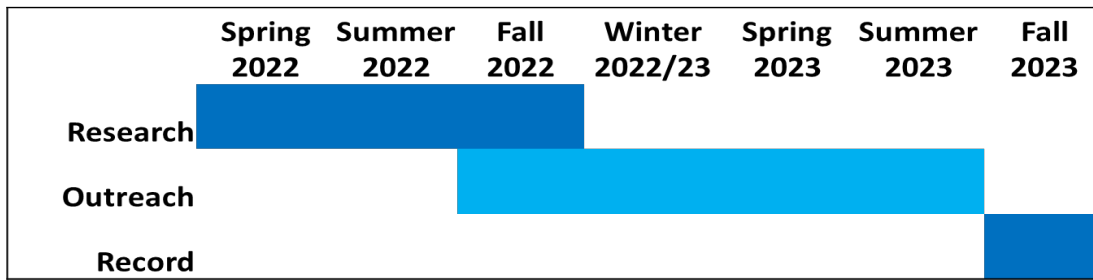
As part of its work on drought, the Commission talked to experts working in California, the Western United States, and other, drought-prone countries. The Commission's interviews and reading illuminated the following overarching themes:

- Leverage drought crisis to take bold action.
- Plan, prepare, and manage for drought during non-drought years.
- Make systemic adaptations to climate change.
- Advance a portfolio approach.
- Collect and use data for drought management.
- Engage the public to shift cultural norms.
- Bring the environment into drought management.

These themes inform the actions the State may consider in responding to drought.

**Agenda Item 3 – Drought Strategies Effort****The Commission's Work**

To meet the request of the Agency Secretaries, the Commission developed a high level workplan that began with research, has now moved on to outreach, and will conclude with the Commission informing State decision-makers on the results of their investigation and support development of policies and decisions regarding financial investments.



During the first phases of work, Commission staff conducted a small-scale literature review and reached out to thought leaders and practitioners about drought preparedness and response. Over the course of several months, Commission staff spoke with professionals from academia, agriculture, community-based organization, State government, environmental non-profits, think tanks, Tribes, and water management to better understand droughts impacts to communities and species and how to frame drought management given California's changing hydrology. Commission staff also spoke with multiple representatives from Australia, Israel, and Chile about how they have confronted prolonged drought.<sup>1</sup>

Commission staff then assembled a working group comprised of California-based interested parties and partner agencies. The working group's vision was to "produce bold, actionable, consensus-driven drought strategies that reflect the needs of California's diverse communities and natural resources, as well as the long-term, overarching needs of the State." The working group vetted several proposed drought strategies, which were then synthesized, refined, and shared via outreach presentations to a diverse suite of interested parties.

The Commission is now collecting additional feedback via these workshops. Feedback will be used to refine the preliminary strategies the Commission is considering before producing a white paper for the Secretaries that describes a set of strategies to protect communities and fish and wildlife in the event of drought.

<sup>1</sup> For more on the effects of drought on California and internationally, review the Commission's report: [Long-term Drought in California: Overview and Global Context.](#)

During this agenda item, we will move into geographically based breakout groups formed using information provided during registration. You will have a few minutes to make introductions, then answer the following questions and prepare a small report to share with the other groups.

Discussion Questions	Notes
1. How is your region impacted by drought?	
2. What is already happening to protect communities & species?	



Agenda Item 5 – Preliminary Strategies and Discussions

### Preliminary Strategies

1. Increase Capacity & Information Needed to Manage Drought
2. Scale Up Groundwater Recharge
3. Conduct Watershed-level Planning to Reduce Ecosystem Impacts of Drought
4. Better Position Communities to Respond to Drought Emergencies

During the workshop, we will have time to discuss what participants like about these strategies and what is missing. Use the information below to understand more about each strategy and to consider how to provide feedback to the Commission.

**Strategy 1 – Increase Capacity & Information Needed to Manage Drought**

**Climate change is making droughts more intense. Attention to drought – by the State and the public – needs to be consistent, not sporadic. Drought needs to be dealt with as a chronic problem and not an occasional emergency.**

This strategy proposes sustained drought staffing at State agencies, and State support of data development and communication to help prepare for and respond to drought, support other entities that play a critical role in drought response actions, and increase California’s public awareness of water availability.

To effectively address drought the State must have on-going capacity to:

- Prepare for and respond to drought.
- Invest in on-going drought collaboration between State agencies, with local agencies, and with other interested parties.
- Improve and augment seasonal forecasting – precipitation forecasts that look out two to six months in the future. [By knowing when to expect precipitation, decision-makers can better prioritize and balance water use during times of constrained water supply.]
- Provide State support of other entities that play a critical role in drought response – particularly Tribes, local governments, and NGOs to ensure regions have the “boots on the ground” needed to respond to drought emergencies and protect species and communities.
- Clearly and consistently communicating about current water availability.

Ensuring proper staffing levels allows the State to adaptively managing the State’s drought response – by identifying lessons learned, creating plans in advance of drought, and identifying and responding to communities and species in crisis – and will help address the chronic and evolving nature of droughts in California, better positioning the State to communicate with the public about water.

Communication is a critical component of triggering individual behavioral changes during drought emergencies and will augment efforts to prepare for a more water scarce future. By better communicating water supply and demand in real time during all water year types, the State can foment

a deeper water ethic that will help to leverage support for drought-related policies, investments, and emergency responses. All the above creates a foundation for public support of bold action to protect species and communities from the impacts of drought, as well as individual and collective commitments to sustainable water use.

### Key Actions

- Develop dedicated drought capacity at State agencies to coordinate between agencies and across sectors, to identify lessons learned and generate drought plans, and to collect and share consistent information on communities and species in crisis.
- Support seasonal forecasting to anticipate drought.
- Support Tribes, local government, and NGOs to increase drought response capacity.
- Develop consistent public information campaign by building on work already being done, creating indicators to signal drought status, engaging experts to change water behaviors in California.

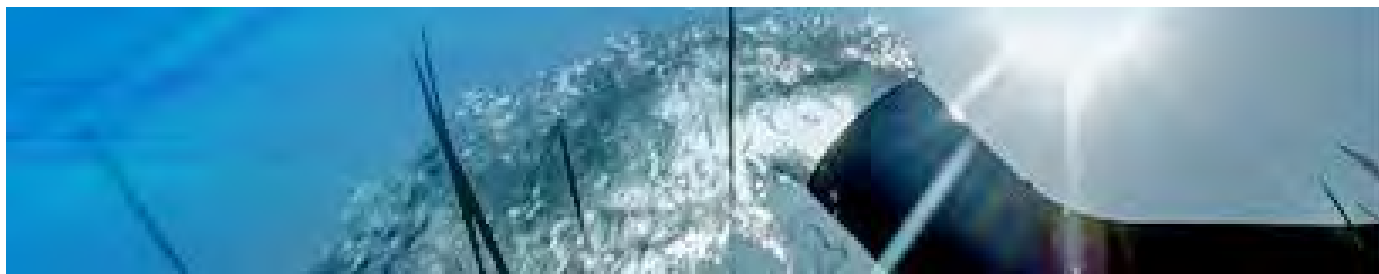
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A survey was conducted June 19, 2023 through July 12, 2023 asking participants' views regarding the key actions. Information regarding their responses is being shared during the session.

### Discussion Questions

- Do survey responses resonate?
- What do you like about the strategies and actions?
- What needs to be changed?
- What's missing?

*Notes:*



## Strategy 2 – Scale up Groundwater Recharge

**Making use of groundwater recharge during wet periods augments groundwater supply, and, when paired with sustainable groundwater management, provides water resilience during dry periods.**

Protecting communities and species during times of drought requires looking beyond dry-year emergency relief actions: it requires wisely managing water during wet periods to better provide for communities and species during dry periods. During times of drought – when snowpack is minimal, and reservoirs are low and rivers are dry – California’s people and wildlife increase their reliance on groundwater. Groundwater basins store large amounts of water underground, and that water becomes particularly important when surface water is in short supply. Healthy groundwater basins allow people to use groundwater during times of drought, diverting less from streams and leaving more for ecosystems. When sited thoughtfully, recharge can aid floodplain restoration, improve groundwater levels near drinking water wells at risk of going dry, support groundwater-surface water connections for streams and rivers, and tap into vast, underground storage potential.

The recent succession of atmospheric rivers has spurred support for groundwater recharge, building on past efforts, and creating a wave of momentum for moving on-the-ground projects forward. 2023 will be a critical period for piloting groundwater recharge and extracting lessons to apply to future efforts.

To scale up groundwater recharge, this strategy proposes identifying the physical places where recharge is most efficient, increasing participation in recharge efforts through education, outreach, and financial incentives, streamlining permitting, making investments in retrofitting and constructing physical infrastructure to move water to recharge areas, and developing an adaptive process to learn from current recharge activities. This will ensure that all areas are ready for groundwater recharge in high water events; allow for significant groundwater recharge during flood to support regional water supply, increase baseline groundwater basin support, increase baseflows for aquatic ecosystems, and reduce the need for imported water in dry years.

## Key Actions

- Prepare for recharge by identifying where recharge provides the greatest benefit and where it is possible.
- Promote recharge efforts through on-going education, outreach, and incentives.
- Support efficient permitting to maximize groundwater recharge by clarifying flood triggers, considering impacts to drinking water, and completing timely, comprehensive environmental review.
- Support infrastructure connected to groundwater recharge, including fish screens, conveyance, and surface storage projects that can store water for recharge.
- Review recent actions to clarify lessons learned and identify on-going improvements and efficiencies.

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A survey was conducted June 19, 2023 through July 12, 2023 asking participants' views regarding the key actions. Information regarding their responses is being shared during the session.

## Discussion Questions

- Do survey responses resonate?
- What do you like about the strategies and actions?
- What needs to be changed?
- What's missing?

*Notes:*

**Strategy 3 – Conduct Watershed-level Planning to Reduce Ecosystem Impacts of Drought**

**Drought stress on native species and the ecosystems that support them is contributing to the decline in native biodiversity.** This is due to a loss of ecological resilience stemming from current and historic water and land use practices, exacerbated by increasing drought intensity. Further, most wildlife management is driven by single-species management. Increasing species' resilience to drought requires looking at ecosystems rather than single species.

Improving ecosystem management during drought requires significant advanced planning at a watershed scale. Multiple types of advanced planning are needed: planning for water management (environmental watering plan), future-looking planning for priority physical habitat restoration and conservation (habitat planning), and planning to abate wildfire impacts (forest management). Marrying water management with habitat conservation will create conditions for species to weather the stress of drought. To protect species – and communities – from wildfire will require integrating forest management into water and habitat planning.

The purpose of this strategy is to move away from ad hoc species protections during drought and to rely instead on coordinated advanced planning. Importantly, planning sets priorities for actions, rather than attempting to meet all objectives all the time. Funding constraints will always be present, and this strategy helps the State set priorities and decide where to focus limited resources. Strategic investments in environmental water, physical habitat, and forest management will make the best use of available resources, given drought intensification.

### Environmental Watering Plans

An “environmental watering plan” anticipates the potential for drought conditions during the coming water year. This plan, which is fully vetted with regulators, the water user community, and other interested parties, describes and prioritizes ecological objectives for the coming water year, identifying important contingencies. This plan should be structured like a decision tree in which an array of actions (e.g., functional flow timing and magnitude, triggered water trading or curtailment agreements, hatchery actions, species translocations, etc.) are to be taken depending upon existing and projected hydrologic conditions.

The goal of environmental watering plans is to anticipate actions that might take place and to communicate these potential actions in advance. An environmental watering plan allows for negotiating key agreements in advance, clearly identifying regulatory options, evaluating the scientific basis for actions before action is needed, and informing the water user and stakeholder community of actions that could be taken depending on hydrologic conditions. The latter reduces uncertainties for all interested parties since actions are planned in advance and there are fewer controversial surprises. Since this approach is guided by a decision tree based on real-time hydrologic conditions, it is much nimbler and responds to changes that occur on biologically meaningful time scales.

## Key Actions

- Develop environmental watering plans by working at the watershed-scale to identify and plan for ecosystem water needs.
- Conduct watershed-scale habitat planning that inventories, prioritizes, and identifies funding mechanisms for habitat restoration and conservation projects.
- Integrate fire/forest management into drought planning.

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A survey was conducted June 19, 2023 through July 12, 2023 asking participants' views regarding the key actions. Information regarding their responses is being shared during the session.

## Discussion Questions

- Do survey responses resonate?
- What do you like about the strategies and actions?
- What needs to be changed?
- What's missing?

*Notes:*

**Strategy 4 – Better Position Communities to Respond to Drought**

**California’s Human Right to Water law declares that “every human being has the right to safe, clean, affordable, and accessible water adequate for human consumption, cooking, and sanitary purposes.” Small, rural communities suffer from insecure water systems and wells that go dry or are at increased risk of contamination during drought.**

Communities often rely on local government, local water agencies, and local organizations to help prepare for and respond to drought emergencies. When disaster strikes, local entities need resources to help community members respond to drought, and these resources need to be deployed efficiently to prevent a delay. Additionally, communities need long-term solutions to water supply reliability problems. This strategy details actions the State can take to ensure communities’ viability during drought by improving the efficient deployment of resources to help communities, expediting long-term water supply reliability solutions, and supporting integrated land and water use planning.

### Recent Responses to Community Drought Impacts

During the five-year drought that ended in 2016 and the recent three-year drought, some rural and small communities saw their wells go dry. As an emergency response to the existing community crises, the State, counties, and other local assistance providers offered bottled water and installed large water storage tanks for homes without water.

In 2018, Assembly Bill (AB) 1668 passed into law, requiring the identification of small suppliers and rural communities at risk of drought and water shortage vulnerability and improvements to water conservation and water shortage planning. In addition to identifying at-risk communities, the new statute (Section 10609.42 of the California Water Code) directed the Department of Water Resources (DWR) to develop recommendations for improving drought contingency planning for those areas.

[DWR’s Recommendations for Drought and Water Shortage Contingency Plans for Small Water Systems and Rural Communities](#) were issued in March 2021. Developed in coordination with multiple State agencies and vetted through an extensive stakeholder process, DWR developed recommendations that would allow small water suppliers and rural communities to meet their drought and water shortage planning needs. One critical recommended action was to provide technical assistance for small community water systems, noncommunity, school water systems, and self-supplied households, to improve the reliability of their water supply. A related recommendation allowed for assistance for Tribes consistent with other government to government considerations.

[The Safe and Affordable Funding for Equity and Resilience \(SAFER\) program](#), administered by the Water Board, has defined processes for the provision of technical assistance that is responsive to many of the AB 1668 recommendations; however, for a variety of reasons, the process to deploy assistance can be lengthy. Many stakeholders have identified delays as a significant barrier to accessing support during emergency situations.

### Key Actions

- For small and/or rural, disadvantaged communities, allow delegation of funding management to local assistance providers with expedited State sign-off for pre-approved categories of activities and dollar thresholds to nimbly address system needs.
- Ramp up efforts to improve water system resiliency and actions to increase supply reliability for communities.
- Support integrated land and water planning, such as multi-benefit land repurposing, at the local level and encourage regional approaches to water resource management.

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A survey was conducted June 19, 2023 through July 12, 2023 asking participants' views regarding the key actions. Information regarding their responses is being shared during the session.

### Discussion Questions

- Do survey responses resonate?
- What do you like about the strategies and actions?
- What needs to be changed?
- What's missing?

*Notes:*



### Agenda Item 6 – Additional Considerations

A variety of additional drought management concepts have been offered including:

- Water Recycling
- Stormwater capture
- Desalination
- Protection of Tribal cultural and ceremonial purposes

#### **Discussion Questions**

1. What, if anything, would you change?

*Notes:*



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### Agenda Item 7 – Next Steps

See: <https://cwc.ca.gov/Water-Resilience-Portfolio>



The attached errata sheet was received upon Community Water Systems Alliance (CWSA) inquiry to the State Water Resources Control Board regarding a perceived problem with the calculations for “cost of compliance and estimates for assistance across system size categories”.

We believe that CWSA’s inquiry led to the discovery of the error but the SWRCB says it doesn’t change the overarching recommendation for 10 ppb MCL.



**ERRATA SHEET FOR THE INITIAL STATEMENT OF REASONS (ISOR)  
for the Hexavalent Chromium MCL Regulation**

**July 31, 2023**

The corrections listed in this errata sheet apply to the Initial Statement of Reasons (ISOR) for the proposed Hexavalent Chromium Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) Regulation, which can be found in the [online rulemaking file](#). Additions are shown as **underline** and deletions are shown as **~~strikethrough~~**.

**Page    Erratum**

- |    |   |
|----|---|
| 44 | The State Water Board then compared the amount of financial assistance necessary to cover those costs of compliance with the amount of financial assistance funding available from the State Water Board's Division of Financial Assistance. The result shows that less than <del>49</del> % of available funding would be required to cover these costs of compliance with the proposed MCL. |
| 47 | The total financial assistance needed for systems in this size category with a \$30 or more increase in monthly household costs (all DAC systems) and all systems with a medium or high affordability burden would be <del>\$1,583,749</del> <b><u>19 million</u></b> per year to cover the 51,021 affected households.   |
| 48 | Total financial assistance needed for systems in this category whose monthly household compliance costs exceed \$30 and all systems with a medium or high affordability burden would be <del>\$1,178,990</del> <b><u>14 million</u></b> per year to cover all costs for the 29,038 affected households.   |
| 48 | The total financial assistance needed for all systems within this size category with monthly household compliance costs higher than \$30, for all systems with a medium or high affordability burden, and for systems on the HR2W list would be <del>\$2,513,146</del> <b><u>30 million</u></b> per year to cover all costs for the 49,648 affected households.                               |
| 49 | The total financial assistance needed for systems in this size category with monthly household compliance costs higher than \$30, for all systems with a medium or high affordability burden, and for systems on the HR2W list would be <del>\$322,579</del> <b><u>3.9 million</u></b> per year to cover all costs for the 4,884 affected households.   |
| 49 | The total financial assistance needed for systems in this size category with monthly household compliance costs higher than \$30, for all systems with a medium or high affordability burden, and for systems on the HR2W list would be <del>\$143,883</del> <b><u>1.7 million</u></b> per year to cover all compliance costs for the 2,030 affected households.                              |

- 50 The total financial assistance needed for all systems in this size category is **\$393,1744.4 million** per year, which would cover all compliance costs for the 2,664 affected households.
- 50 As described in previous sections, if financial assistance was needed for all systems with increased monthly household costs higher than \$30, any systems with a medium or high affordability burden, and any systems on the HR2W list, a total of **\$6,135,52173 million** per year would cover all compliance costs for the 139,285 affected households (averaging **\$45526** per household per year). This value is less than **49%** of the available state grant, DWSRF principal forgiveness, and SADW funding for the 2022-23 State Fiscal Year (\$823 million), indicating that this is not an unreasonable amount when considering financial assistance to treat hexavalent chromium (SWRCB, 2022b; SWRCB 2022e).
- 51 As noted previously, the median monthly cost increases for 94% of the 5.3 million people affected by a hexavalent chromium MCL of 10 µg/L were calculated to be less than \$20. This increase in costs is considered economically feasible to the State Water Board, while acknowledging the household compliance costs for some systems may be challenging. In other words, regardless of whether any particular PWS is eligible for funding, because there is the capacity to cover the costs for all of the identified troubled systems for whom compliance may be a challenge with less than **49%** of the available state grant and DWSRF principal forgiveness funding, the implementation of the MCL at 10 µg/L is “capable of being done.”
- 61 As the Third District Appellate Court has concluded, “[R]egulations are not ‘infeasible’ because they impose financial burdens on businesses or consumers.” (California Manufacturers and Technology Association, *supra*, 64 Cal.App. 5th at p. 282). Though a small percentage of systems may have difficulty with compliance, nonetheless, to demonstrate the economic feasibility of the regulation for the PWS the State Water Board identified as likely being most challenged in meeting the requirements, the State Water Board considered the amount of financial assistance needed for all CWS with increased monthly household costs higher than \$30, for any CWS with a medium or high affordability burden, and for any CWS on the HR2W list. The Board concluded that a total of **\$6,059,09773 million** per year would cover all compliance costs for the 135,760 affected households (averaging **\$45526** per household per year). This value is less than **49%** of the available state grant, DWSRF principal forgiveness, and SADW funding, indicating that regardless of whether any particular PWS is eligible for funding, because there is the capacity to cover the costs for all of the identified troubled systems for whom compliance may be a challenge the implementation of the MCL at 10 µg/L is “capable of being done” and financing compliance costs for systems at or near this scale is “capable of being done,” and considered economically feasible.



## BIGHORN-DESERT VIEW WATER AGENCY

*Our Mission - "To provide a high quality supply of water and reliable service to all customers at a fair and reasonable rate."*

### Planning/Legislative/Engineering & Grant Standing Committee Meeting Minutes

Committee Members: President Burkhart & Director Close-Dees

**BOARD MEETING OFFICE  
1720 N. CHEROKEE TR.  
LANDERS, CALIFORNIA 92285**

**June 20, 2023  
Time – 9:30 A.M.**

**PUBLIC AND BOARD WISHING TO PARTICIPATE REMOTELY  
\*\*TELECONFERENCE LINE THRU ZOOM 669-900-6833\*\***

**OR**

**Join Zoom Meeting**

**Please click the link below to join the webinar:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82327700623?pwd=VUJhaFhrbXJCRCXhQOHRwVnNpNU0ydz09>

Passcode: 876336

Or Dial:

1-669-900-6833

Webinar ID: 823 2770 0623

Passcode: 876336

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Burkhart called the meeting to order at 9:31 am.

#### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Led by David Chapman.

#### **ROLL CALL**

Directors Present: Chair Burkhart  
Director Close-Dees

Staff Present: Marina West

Public Present: 0 member(s) of the public indicated they were participating via teleconference. 0 members of the public were present in the meeting room. Director Chapman attended as an observer.

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The Committee approved the Agenda as presented.

#### **Discussion and Action Items -**

##### **1. Status Report Goat Mountain Replacement Well (Prop. 1/ Rnd. 1 Grant)**

GM West reported that the Agency has issued the initial limited Notice to Proceed. In the meantime, the contractor has indicated a possible start date in early July. At this time, staff

has not identified any specific grant offering that could be used for this project and really does not have the resources to continue in that direction but instead must focus on bringing the project to completion. Staff was able to get the well abandonment element removed but those did not reduce the overall cost by much. Staff will use the direct procurement method to acquire the well pump and utilize in-house labor and various contractors to install the pump and energize the electrical to avoid additional engineering design work and large public works contracting procedures.

GM West answered questions of the Committee as well as a comprehensive review of the grant application, competition and award processes.

**2. Status Report Water Meter Replacement Program (Drought Grant)**

GM West reported that the grantor approved our change in scope requesting reimbursement for in-house labor and direct procurement of materials for the project. The procurement documents are “out for bid” and staff expects to award the procurement contracts at the July 11, 2023 Board of Directors’ meeting. GM West noted that the project will include an inventory of customer side service line materials as part of the Lead Service Line Inventory requirement imposed by the state.

GM West answered questions of the Committee.

**3. Status Report System Interconnection at Winters & Rainbow Road (Prop. 1/Rnd 2 Grant)**

GM West met with GM Peshel and AGM Culver of Hi-Desert Water District regarding the intertie agreement for water exchanges. HDWD would like to have the “cost of service” reviewed during their upcoming rate study before committing to a price to serve through the intertie. Staff also discussed the possibility of utilizing HDWD pipeline construction crews to install the pipeline and in-house resources to construct the pump station. HDWD responded positively to this proposal. To that end, 29 Palms Water District also viewed this as an opportunity for training their staff. Even if paying overtime rates, those costs would be similar to the full burden rate on regular time. Meaning, burden is not paid on overtime, since it is covered in the regular work hours.

GM West answered questions of the Committee.

**4. Status Report Potable Water Systems Improvements Consolidation of Water Systems (\$11M PI/C Project Grant)**

GM West reported that the Request for Proposals to acquire the remaining easements for the pipeline alignments has been circulated and several firms have expressed an interest in this project. Bids are due late June and staff is planning to award that contract at the July 11, 2023 Board of Directors’ meeting. GM West recently inquired about the land transfer from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and was informed that a request for update had been sent. GM West has sent a follow-up email.



**5. Consent Items**

- a. PLEGS Committee Meeting Minutes, **April 18, 2023.**
- b. Grant Status Reports June 20, 2023

Recommended Action:

Approve as presented (Item a-b):

Committee approved the Consent Item(s) as presented.

**6. Public Comment Period**

None

**7. Verbal Reports - Including Reports on Courses/Conferences/Meetings**

- 1. Committee Members' Comments/Reports – None.
- 2. General Manager's Report GM West reported on the status of activities within the Community Water Systems Alliance (CWSA). She noted that the legislation concerning the Joshua Tree is still active and a comment letter was prepared in collaboration with several local water districts. She also reported that the State Water Resources Control Board has released the revised recommendation for setting the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for Chromium 6 at 10 ppb. The CWSA members have funded a study on economic feasibility expected to counter the claims made by the state. While Cr6 does not appear to be an issue for BDVWA, other local water districts will be forced to remove it from their drinking water, the long-term cost of which will be borne by the consumer.

**8. Adjournment**

Chairman Burkhart adjourned the meeting at 10:58 am.

Approved by:

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John Burkhart, Committee Chair

**Official Seal**