



FINAL MINUTES
Legislative Advocacy Committee of the
Monterey Peninsula Water Management District
July 10, 2013

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:35 pm in the MPWMD conference room.

Committee members present: David Potter, Chair
Judi Lehman
Robert S. Brower, Sr.

Staff members present: David J. Stoldt, General Manager
Larry Hampson, Planning and Engineering Division Manager
Arlene Tavani, Executive Assistant

District Counsel present: David C. Laredo

Consultant present: John Arriaga, JEA and Associates

Comments from the Public: No comments.

Action Items

1. Adopt Minutes of April 24, 2013 Committee Meeting

On a motion of Brower and second by Potter, the minutes of the April 24, 2013 Committee meeting were approved on a vote of 2 – 0. Brower and Potter voted in favor of the motion. Lehman abstained.

2. Develop Strategy for IRWM Grant Funding

The committee agreed that staff should work with Arriaga on development of a strategy for contacting the Department of Water Resources to promote the need to revise grant program guidelines before 2014 when the draft guidelines are distributed for comment. Hampson explained that under the grant scoring system, 5 points out of 80 can be given for geographic preference. He suggested that points for geographic preference should be increased, so that the local area would be eligible for grant funds. Hampson presented information to the committee that described how little grant funding has been awarded for local projects, due to the small size of our region compared to others in California.

Discussion Items

3. Legislative Status Report from John Arriaga

Arriaga stated that the priority for water legislation is the Clean Water Act and AB21 that would provide funds to develop safe water systems in disadvantaged communities. The 2014 Water Bond is moving through the legislature and should be presented on the November 2014 ballot. The Water Management District should identify areas of the proposed water bond that would be beneficial to this area and outline them in a letter to our legislators.

4. Update on Status of Legislation re Public Contribution Towards Financing Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project

Stoldt recounted his conversation with Assembly Member Mark Stone who suggested that AB850 would provide the vehicle for the Ratepayer Relief Financing plan proposed for funding the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project. Stoldt stated that AB850 would not provide for Ratepayer Relief Financing and that new legislation must be submitted to the legislature. Stone said that he would only support new legislation if it required a public vote on the financing plan. The committee agreed that Stone should be contacted again about supporting new legislation, and that in lieu of a public vote, we should propose a District-wide public outreach campaign to educate the community about the legislation. A website dedicated to the legislation/Ratepayer Relief Financing plan could be developed. The District could also utilize Survey Monkey to determine if there is local public support for the legislation. Arriaga reviewed a draft timeline for the legislation. It was agreed that staff will set up meetings with Stone and Senator Anthony Cannella re sponsoring legislation that would facilitate Ratepayer Relief Financing. There was consensus that a public information plan should be developed related to the proposed legislation.

Other Items: There were no other items brought forward for discussion.

Set Next Meeting Date

No meeting date was set.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 pm.

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