



EXHIBIT 18-A

Final Minutes Legislative Advocacy Committee of the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District Monday, September 30, 2024 at 3:00 p.m.

The meeting was conducted via Teleconference - by Zoom.

Call to Order

Chair Adams called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Committee members present:

Mary Adams, Chair
Ian Oglesby
Alvin Edwards

Committee members absent:

None

Staff members present:

David J. Stoldt, General Manager
Sara Reyes, Sr. Office Specialist

District Counsel present:

Michael Laredo with De Lay and Laredo

Legislative Consultant:

John Arriaga, JEA & Associates
Laurie Johnson, JEA & Associates
Roger Gwinn, The Ferguson Group
Chris Kearney, The Ferguson Group

Comments from the Public:

Chair Adams opened the public comment period; however, no comments were made.

Action Items

1. Consider Adoption of the April 24, 2024 Committee Meeting Minutes

Chair Adams introduced the item and opened the public comment period; however, no comments were made.

A motion to approve the April 24, 2024 Committee meeting minutes was offered by Director Oglesby and seconded by Director Edwards. The motion passed on a roll-call vote with 3 Ayes (Edwards, Adams and Oglesby), and 0 Noes.

Discussion Items

2. Report from The Ferguson Group on Federal Legislative and Regulatory Activities

Chair Adams introduced the item. Roger Gwinn with The Ferguson Group (TFG) provided an

advocacy update on some of the District's pending priorities, including but not limited to:

- Further Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2024: This “minibus” bill was signed into law on March 23, 2024, and closed out the Fiscal Year 2024 Appropriations process
- Energy and Water Development Appropriations Bill: This bill provides extra funding for the Corps of Engineers' Section 219/Environmental Infrastructure account. The District will use this account to fund projects under the Monterey Peninsula Stormwater Diversion and Recycling Program
- Community Project Funding/Congessionally Directed Spending Requests: TFG worked with the District to submit two requests:
 1. Monterey Peninsula Stormwater Diversion and Recycling Project (\$650,000)
 2. Feasibility and Design of Other Diversion and Recycling Projects (\$350,000)The requests did not receive funding for FY25.

Chris Kearney from TFG highlighted Washington News and referred to the Federal Legislative Report memo prepared by TFG. Mr. Kearney made the following points, including but not limited to:

- New House Appropriations Chairman Named
- Senate Appropriations Announces New Chairs
- EPA Sets Strict Limits for Six Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) in Drinking Water
- EPA Launches New Website to Improve Transparency in Permitting
- EPA Defends ‘Adjacent’ Wetlands Definition as Critics Attack WOTUS Rule in Texas Case
- Biden White House Approves Endangered Species Act Rulemaking Reversing Trump Revisions
- Biden Administration Discusses Water Sector Cybersecurity Concerns with State/Local Officials

3. Report from JEA & Associates on Legislative Status and Bill Tracking

Chair Adams introduced the item. John Arriaga from JEA & Associates provided a state legislative update, noting some high-profile packages, such as the Pro-Tem's clean energy bills.

Laurie Johnson from JEA & Associates made the following points, including but not limited to:

- Budget Update
- Legislative Updates
 - AB 2257 – ACWA Sponsored / JEA recommends Support
 - AB 2302 – Signed by the Governor / JEA recommends Support
 - AB 2561 – Signed by the Governor / JEA recommends Oppose
 - SB 937 – Signed by the Governor / JEA has no position
 - Climate Bond – Referred to as Proposition 4 and scheduled to be on the November 2024 ballot

Other Items

4. Suggest Items to Place on a Future Committee Agenda

Chair Adams introduced the item. The committee discussed future topics of interest, but no items were formally suggested.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Chair Adams adjourned the meeting at 3:58 p.m.

/ s/ Sara C. Reyes

Sara C. Reyes, Committee Clerk to the
MPWMD Legislative Advocacy Committee

Approved by the MPWMD Legislative Committee on March 20, 2025
Approved by the MPWMD Board of Director's on April 21, 2025

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