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Legislative Advocacy Committee Members:
Andrew Clarke, Chair
Robert S. Brower, Sr.
Molly Evans

Alternate:
David Pendergrass

Staff Contact
Dave Stoldt,
General Manager

After staff reports have been distributed, if additional documents are produced by the District and provided to the Committee regarding any item on the agenda, they will be made available at 5 Harris Court, Building G, Monterey, CA during normal business hours. In addition, such documents may be posted on the District website at mpwmd.dst.ca.us. Documents distributed at the meeting will be made available in the same matter.

AGENDA
Legislative Advocacy Committee
Of the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District

Wednesday, February 8, 2017, 9:15 am
District Conference Room, 5 Harris Court, Building G, Monterey, CA

Call to Order

Comments from Public

The public may comment on any item within the District's jurisdiction. Please limit your comments to three minutes in length.

Action Items -- Public comment will be received on all Action Items

1. Adopt Minutes of December 12, 2016 Committee Meeting

Discussion Items -- Public comment will be received on all Discussion Items

2. Report from John Arriaga on Legislative Status and Tracking
3. Development of 2017-18 Legislative Advocacy Plan

Other Items

Set Next Meeting Date

Adjournment

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LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

ITEM: ACTION ITEM

1. ADOPT MINUTES OF DECEMBER 12, 2016 COMMITTEE MEETING

Meeting Date: February 8, 2017

From: David J. Stoldt,
General Manager

Prepared By: Arlene Tavani

SUMMARY: Attached as **Exhibit 1-A** are draft minutes of the December 12, 2016 Legislative Advocacy committee meeting.

RECOMMENDATION: The Committee should review the draft minutes and approve them by motion.

EXHIBIT

1-A Draft Minutes of the December 12, 2016 Committee Meeting



EXHIBIT 1-A

DRAFT MINUTES **Legislative Advocacy Committee of the** **Monterey Peninsula Water Management District** *December 12, 2016*

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:25 pm in the MPWMD conference room.

Committee members present: David Potter, Chair
Robert S. Brower, Sr.
Andrew Clarke

Committee members absent: None

Staff members present: David J. Stoldt, General Manager
Arlene Tavani, Executive Assistant

District Counsel present: David C. Laredo

Comments from the Public: No comments.

Action Items

- 1. Adopt Minutes of March 18 and March 29, 2016 Committee Meetings**
On a motion by Brower and second of Clarke, the minutes were approved as presented on a vote of 3 – 0 by Brower, Clarke and Potter.
- 2. Develop Recommendation to the Board of Directors on Retention of Federal Legislative Consultant**
Brower offered a motion that was seconded by Clarke, to recommend that the Board of Directors authorize a contract with The Ferguson Group for up to \$40,000 to be paid at an hourly rate. The General Manager will work with the contractor on development of a scope of work for services through June 30, 2017. The goal will be to develop a full scope of work and contract with The Ferguson Group under retainer for the next fiscal year. The committee also suggested that the General Manager speak with Nossaman LLP about services it might provide related to grant funding.

Discussion Items

- 3. Report from John Arriaga on Legislative Status and Tracking**
John Arriaga reviewed a report titled, 2016 Budget and Legislative Report: Highlights and Emerging Issues that is on file at the Water Management District website. He stated that during that 2015 and 2016 legislative sessions, water legislation addressed the continuing drought. He noted that transportation and housing will be the focus in the upcoming legislative session, and that one of Governor Brown's priority projects is the proposed Delta water tunnel. Arriaga expressed concern that the California legislature will not be focused on water issues, instead it will be responding to edicts from the incoming Federal administration.

4. Development of Legislative Platform

The committee members agreed that a state and federal legislative agenda must be developed for the upcoming two-year legislative session. There should be a focus on educating regulatory and policy agency managers about Water Management District priorities, and developing relationships with legislators.

5. Update on State Water Bond

Stoldt reported the following. (a) The City of Salinas received a \$10 million grant from the Proposition 1 Water Bond that will facilitate construction of a return pipeline from the Salinas industrial ponds, so that stormwater could accumulate in the winter and be transmitted for treatment in the summer and utilized in the dry months. This will benefit the Pure Water Monterey project. (b) The Central Coast planning regions involved in the Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) program agreed that any money awarded to the regions would be split based on an agreed upon formula. When funds are awarded, it is unknown if the Department of Water Resources will allow the “formulaic” distribution because the first round of funding was set aside for “disadvantaged communities.” Negotiations are underway regarding distribution of those funds. (c) A financing package to qualify for \$15 million in grant funding for Pure Water Monterey should be submitted by the January 15, 2017 deadline.

6. Discuss Status of Feinstein Rider to Water Resources Development Act

Stoldt stated that at the request of ACWA, the Water Management District sent letters of support for passage of the Water Resources Development Act of 2016 to Senators Feinstein and Boxer, and Representative Sam Farr. The Act was approved and sent to President Obama for signature. The Act includes \$550 million for California water projects. Of that amount, \$30 million is set aside for desalination. However, distribution is limited to 25 percent of costs and may only fund “state sponsored” projects. Funding is available in the Act for water recycling projects, so Pure Water Monterey may be eligible. The Act also includes de-authorization of previously funded projects that have not been developed. The amount that would be available for California is less than \$100 million.

7. ACWA Washington DC Conference/Meet with Sacramento Legislators

No discussion.

Other Items: No other items were discussed.

Set Next Meeting Date

No meeting scheduled.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 pm.

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

ITEM: DISCUSSION ITEM

3. DEVELOP 2017-18 LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY PLAN

Meeting Date: February 8, 2017 **Budgeted:** N/A

From: David J. Stoldt,
General Manager **Program/
Line Item No.:** N/A

Prepared By: David J. Stoldt **Cost Estimate:** N/A

General Counsel Review: N/A

Committee Recommendation: Discussed by Legislative Advocacy Committee on February 8, 2017 and

CEQA Compliance: N/A

SUMMARY: Attached as **Exhibit 3-A** is a draft 2017-18 Legislative Advocacy Plan. The Legislative Advocacy Committee reviewed last year's plan on March 18, 2016, and the full Board adopted it at its April 18, 2016 meeting.

The primary change from last year's plan is the successful execution of a solicitation of a federal lobbying firm, which is reflected in the federal activities of this proposed 2017-18 Draft Plan.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends that the Committee provide comments and recommend the Board of Directors review the Legislative Advocacy Plan and adopt it by motion.

EXHIBIT

3-A Draft 2017-18 Legislative Advocacy Plan



DRAFT
2017-18 Legislative Advocacy Plan

This plan establishes the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District legislative and government affairs priorities for FY 2017-18.

Federal Strategy

1) Develop relationship and full scope of services for The Ferguson Group

Consider development of a scope of work, including but not limited to:

- Identifying legislation or proposed regulatory changes that may impact the District.
- Track opportunities from Feinstein bill
- Track Title XVI Reform, Funding for Unauthorized Water Reuse Projects
- Track New Water Act/RIFIA, H.R. 434
- Track Trump Administration budget actions and Infrastructure Funding/Financing Proposals
- Consult with staff to develop positions on relevant legislation.
- Advocate the District's position on bills and matters of interest.
- Identify funding opportunities and notify of timing, requirements, and advocate on behalf of District or District's partners
- Direct contact with associations including ACWA, WaterReuse, etc.
- Prepare materials for briefing – talking points, briefing books, letters, as necessary
- Coordinate with other water district lobbyists and organizations
- Maintain close relationships with Monterey legislative delegation

2) Maintain Washington DC profile:

- Work with The Ferguson Group to organize timely trips as needed, but at least once a year separate from ACWA trip (May?)
- Both Congressional delegation and regulatory departments related to water, including but not limited to BLM, NOAA (NMFS), USBR, USDA, and EPA. Emphasis on developing staff relationship with Senator Harris
- Attend ACWA trip each year
- Consider ACWA Legislative Affairs Committee

3) Provide support for relevant legislation.

- 4) Expedite Pure Water Monterey/CSIP Annexations.
- 5) Perform on existing federal grants:
 - Drought Contingency Plan (\$200,000 USBR 2-year project)
 - Salinas and Carmel Rivers Basin Study (\$900,000 USBR 3-year project)

State of California Strategy

- 1) Pure Water Monterey: Effort already started to ensure successful execution, especially as it relates to State Revolving Fund loan(s).
- 2) Prop 1 Funding:
 - IRWM: The Department of Water Resources (DWR) was receptive to agreements among hydrologic regions about how Prop 1 funds for the Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) program are shared among individual planning regions. Important to ensure the mutually adopted allocation agreement is honored by DWR.
 - Storm water: Funds are available for multi-benefit storm water management projects which may include, but shall not be limited to: green infrastructure, rainwater and storm water capture projects and storm water treatment facilities. Storm Water Resource Plans, or functionally equivalent plan(s), are required to obtain grant funds for storm water and dry weather capture projects. Pure Water Monterey return pipeline for the Salinas Industrial Ponds will be a candidate.

A Storm Water Resource Plan (SWRP) is required to be eligible for implementation or project-specific planning funding. The SWRP will be due within 90 days of award of an implementation grant. The District's Local Project Grant to the City of Monterey will lay groundwork for this plan which MRWPCA will prepare.
 - Pure Water Monterey: The project has already qualified for a 30-year State Revolving Fund Loan, but a potential \$15 million grant hangs in the balance. District will work with MRWPCA to ensure eligibility and timeliness.
- 3) Maintain Sacramento profile:
 - Work with JEA Associates to organize timely trips as needed, but at least once a year separate from needs-based visits.
 - Meet legislative team locally
 - Attend CSDA, ACWA, and/or WaterReuse legislative days
- 4) Provide support for relevant legislation.

- 5) Monitor and pursue grant opportunities.
- 6) Develop helpful relationships: ACWA, WateReuse, Latino Water Coalition

Local Strategy

- 1) Maintain District role in regional water issues related to:
 - Pure Water Monterey – CSIP expansion and expansion for MCWD
 - Los Padres Dam and Reservoir studies
 - Funding plan for portion of desal project
- 2) Participate in County-wide efforts (CEQA, OES, Water planning, Carmel River/Lagoon)
- 3) Maintain outreach to local associations government affairs committees (Chambers, MCAR, MCHA, Coalition of Peninsula Businesses, jurisdictions' mayors and councils)
- 4) Better articulate CPUC activities to local ratepayer groups