

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
WATER REPLENISHMENT DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
4040 PARAMOUNT BLVD., LAKEWOOD, CALIFORNIA
4:00 P.M., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2009**

AGENDA

THE EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE IS A STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE ENTIRE BOARD OF DIRECTORS. PURSUANT TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, ANY DECISIONS OF THE EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE SHALL BE SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY THE FULL BOARD.

- 1. DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM**
- 2. PUBLIC COMMENT**
- 3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 16, 2009**
Staff Recommendation: Approve as submitted.
- 4. THE CALIFORNIA FOUNDATION ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE ECONOMY (CFEE)**
Staff Recommendation: Join the California Foundation on the Environment and the Economy at the general membership contribution level of \$18,000.
- 5. RFP FOR FEDERAL ADVOCACY SERVICES**
Staff Recommendation: For discussion.
- 6. DEPARTMENT REPORT**
Staff Recommendation: For information.
- 7. DIRECTORS' REPORTS, INQUIRIES, AND REVIEW OF DIRECTIONS TO STAFF**
- 8. ADJOURNMENT**

Posted by Abigail C. Andom, Deputy Secretary, December 15, 2009.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), if special assistance is needed to participate in the Board meeting, please contact Deputy Secretary Abigail Andom at (562) 921-5521 for assistance to enable the District to make reasonable accommodations.

All public records relating to an agenda item on this agenda are available for public inspection at the time the record is distributed to all, or a majority of all, members of the Board. Such records shall be available at the District office located at 4040 Paramount Boulevard, Lakewood, California 90712.

Agendas and minutes are available at the District's website, www.wrd.org.

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MINUTES

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**MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 16, 2009
MEETING OF THE EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
WATER REPLENISHMENT DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**

A meeting of the External Affairs Committee of the Board of Directors of the Water Replenishment District of Southern California was held on November 16, 2009 at 12:25 p.m. at the District Office, 4040 Paramount Boulevard, Lakewood, California. President Albert Robles called the meeting to order. Deputy Secretary Abigail C. Andom recorded the minutes.

1. DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

Committee: Sergio Calderon, Rob Katherman, Albert Robles.
Directors Lillian Kawasaki and Willard H. Murray, Jr.
were excused.

Staff: Elsa Lopez, Adeline Yoong, Olga Quiñones

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF OCTOBER 21, 2009

The minutes were approved as submitted.

The agenda items were taken out of order.

6. NOMINATION OF LAFCO REPRESENTATIVE AND ALTERNATE

Discussion followed and the Committee recommended nominating WRD Director Lillian Kawasaki for the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) Alternate position. The Committee further recommended that the Board pledge its support and provide reasonable assistance to her candidacy as needed.

7. CABRILLO MARINE AQUARIUM

General Manager Robb Whitaker stated that since 2007, the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium has partnered with the District in its watershed education initiative to increase public awareness about water pollution and its impact on groundwater and coastal areas. Mr. Whitaker noted that the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium has been an effective tool to disseminate watershed and groundwater information to over 150,000 students and thousands more from the general public. He stated that Cabrillo has requested an additional funding of \$25,000 for fiscal year 2009-10 for a total amount of \$75,000. Mr. Whitaker explained that the additional funding would enhance the "Treasure Beneath Our Feet" education program as well as after-school programs.

Discussion followed and the Committee recommended that the Board approve the additional funding of \$25,000, for a total funding amount of \$75,000 for fiscal year 2009-10.

The Committee also recommended the Board returning to the \$50,000 level for fiscal year 2010-11.

4. LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Scott Aliferis of KL Gates provided an update on federal legislative activities. Mr. Aliferis stated that the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee met to review timelines for the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) bill. He noted that staff will coordinate with Pacific Atlantic Partners to meet deadlines on the project request forms. Mike Evans, also of KL Gates, gave a report on the status of the climate change bill. Mr. Evans stated that the House passed a version and the bill is now scheduled to go to the Senate. He did note that there may not be much activity because of the health care reform bill.

Mr. Evans also indicated that no action has yet been taken on the resolution introduced by Congresswoman Linda Sanchez commending WRD on its 50th anniversary.

Tammy Lindenberg of Pacific Atlantic provided additional federal legislative information. Ms. Lindenberg stated that staff has been following legislation regarding climate change and will continue to work with Senator Barbara Boxer's office at the next available opportunity for inclusion of proposed amendment language to expand the grant criteria to include local agencies such as WRD.

Bob Reeb of Millennium Advocates provided an update on state legislative activities. Mr. Reeb gave a report on SB x7 1, SB x7 6, SB x7 7 and SB x7 8. He also discussed the effect of the water bond bill recently passed by the State Legislature which will, if approved by the voters in November 2010, provide funding for water recycling, conservation, groundwater clean-up and protection, and water storage projects among others.

Discussion followed. The Committee recommended District Counsel draft guidelines regarding activities that WRD can pursue in support of the water bond measure.

5. EDIFY NETWORK DEMONSTRATION

Mike Martinez of SpeechPhone gave a presentation on his company's "Air2Water" proposal. Mr. Martinez stated that the technology would involve atmospheric water generation (AWG) which uses air to produce water.

The Committee reviewed the cost for each of the models presented and requested that staff schedule a field trip to SpeechPhone's facilities in Lake Forest for a demonstration of the products offered.

8. DEPARTMENT REPORT

Manager of External Affairs Elsa Lopez provided an update on the External Affairs Department's activities. Ms. Lopez gave a report on the final arrangements for WRD's 50th anniversary event to be held Thursday, November 19, at the California Science Center.

The Committee also reviewed the District's Technical Bulletin and requested that staff poll stakeholders for suggestions on future issues.

The Committee also discussed the District's newsletter and requested to review the mailing list. It was also suggested that an electronic pumper newsletter be produced separately.

9. DIRECTORS REPORTS, INQUIRIES, AND REVIEW OF DIRECTIONS TO STAFF

None.

10. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Chair

ATTEST:

Director



MEMORANDUM

ITEM NO. 4

Prepared by: Scott Ota
Reviewed by: Elsa Lopez
Approved by: Elsa Lopez

DATE: DECEMBER 16, 2009
TO: EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
FROM: ROBB WHITAKER, GENERAL MANAGER
SUBJECT: THE CALIFORNIA FOUNDATION ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE ECONOMY (CFEE)

SUMMARY

The California Foundation on the Environment and the Economy (CFEE) is an independent, nonprofit institution dedicated to educating public and private sector decision makers on, and developing creative solutions to, California's complex economic, environmental and social issues. Recognized as a highly effective public policy forum, the Foundation brings together senior executives from California's major corporations, statewide labor leaders, and the leading advocates from environmental and consumer organizations to meet with legislators and regulatory officials in an atmosphere of non-adversarial cooperation. The Foundation seeks full exploration of controversial issues in a manner that transcends adversarial relationships by encouraging the development of common interests and workable policies rather than institutionalized conflict.

Created in 1979 to advance consensus among those on the frontier of decision-making, the Foundation accelerates the process for developing collaborative and innovative approaches to critical issues. The Foundation develops and conducts public policy discussion forums as well as study travel projects abroad to educate California leadership on issues and gain insights from the experience of other states and nations.

CFEE's discussion forums and travel projects put a diverse cross-section of California leadership into direct contact with their counterparts from around the world. This sharing of views and experiences leads not only to a broader understanding of complex issues, but encourages the exchange of policy and technology options, as well as business and trade opportunities.

FISCAL IMPACT

California Foundation on the Environment and the Economy 2010 General Membership Contribution is \$18,000. This amount is not budgeted in the 2009/10 budget.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Join the California Foundation on the Environment and the Economy at the general membership contribution level of \$18,000.



MEMORANDUM

ITEM NO. 5

Prepared by: Adeline Yoong

Reviewed by: Elsa Lopez

Approved by: Robb Whitaker

DATE: DECEMBER 16, 2009

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FROM: ROBB WHITAKER, GENERAL MANAGER

SUBJECT: RFP FOR FEDERAL ADVOCACY SERVICES

SUMMARY

On October 26, 2009, WRD issued a request for proposal for federal advocacy support services. A total of five proposals was received in response and evaluated based on factors including the following:

- Demonstrated relationships with WRD federal delegation
- Demonstrated relationships with California federal delegation
- Demonstrated relationships with key Committees
- Demonstrated relationships with United States Bureau of Reclamation, Army Corps of Engineers, and United States Geological Survey
- Demonstrated success in securing federal funds and grant knowledge
- Size and depth of firm, background/experience of assigned principle staff, presence of Los Angeles or California office
- Water knowledge/experience

FISCAL IMPACT

WRD has budgeted \$15,000 per month for federal legislative advocacy in the FY 2009-2010 budget.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

For discussion.