

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE INTER-AGENCY COMMITTEE  
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
WATER REPLENISHMENT DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA  
12621 E. 166th Street (Corner, Bloomfield & 166th), Cerritos, California  
10:00 A.M., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2003**

**AGENDA**

EACH ITEM ON THE AGENDA, NO MATTER HOW DESCRIBED, SHALL BE DEEMED TO INCLUDE ANY APPROPRIATE MOTION, WHETHER TO ADOPT A MINUTE MOTION, RESOLUTION, PAYMENT OF ANY BILL, APPROVAL OF ANY MATTER OR ACTION, OR ANY OTHER ACTION. ITEMS LISTED AS "FOR INFORMATION" MAY ALSO BE THE SUBJECT OF AN "ACTION" TAKEN BY THE BOARD OR A COMMITTEE AT THE SAME MEETING.

- I. DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM**
- II. PUBLIC COMMENT**
- III. MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF OCTOBER 23, 2003**  
*RECOMMENDATION:* That the Committee approve the minutes.
- IV. LEGISLATIVE REPORT**  
*RECOMMENDATION:* For information.
- V. DEPARTMENT REPORT**  
*RECOMMENDATION:* For information.
- VI. ADJOURNMENT**

Posted by Tracey A. Burke, Acting Deputy Secretary, December 15, 2003.

**MINUTES OF OCTOBER 23, 2003  
A REGULAR MEETING OF THE INTER-AGENCY COMMITTEE  
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
WATER REPLENISHMENT DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**

A regular meeting of the Inter-Agency Committee of the Board of Directors of the Water Replenishment District of Southern California was held on October 23, 2003, at 10:19 a. m. at the District Office, 12621 E. 166<sup>th</sup> Street, Cerritos, California. Chairperson Pat Acosta called the meeting to order and presided thereover. Acting Deputy Secretary Abigail C. Andom recorded the minutes.

**I. DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM**

Attendees included:

Committee: Directors Pat Acosta and Willard Murray, Jr.

Staff: Kavous Emami, Albert Frias, Sheryll Petty, and  
Scott Ota

**II. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**III. MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 25, 2003**

The minutes were approved as submitted.

**IV. FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY SUPPORT**

Assistant General Manager Kavous Emami stated that staff has been directed to explore firms that provide lobbyist services in Washington D.C. Possible candidate firms have been contacted and staff would like guidance on how the Committee would like to proceed.

Director Acosta stated that she felt it was a good idea to schedule one on one interviews with the potential candidates. Discussion followed.

The Committee directed staff to schedule the interviews in November, before the holidays.

**V. LEGISLATIVE REPORT – SB 906**

Mr. Emami stated that staff is recommending that the Committee remove support for SB 906 (Alarcon). The bill was originally a bill on water districts by Senator Escutia and has since been replaced with new language on labor issues.

The Committee concurred with the staff recommendation and requested Board approval.

**VI. DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Public Affairs Representative Albert Frias reported on the District's public affairs activities. He provided an update on the District's

educational partnership program, the groundwater tour program, and the speakers bureau.

Director Murray invited everyone to the Metropolitan Water District (MWD) tour of the California water projects, October 31- November 2, 2003.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

With no other business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned.

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Chair

ATTEST:

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Director



**MEMORANDUM**

**ITEM NO. IV**

*Prepared by:* Adeline M.L. Yoong

*Reviewed by:*

**DATE: DECEMBER 18, 2003**  
**TO: INTER-AGENCY COMMITTEE**  
**FROM: ROBB WHITAKER, GENERAL MANAGER**  
**SUBJECT: LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

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**SUMMARY**

Staff will provide a verbal update on federal and state matters.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

None.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

For information.



**MEMORANDUM**

**ITEM NO. V**

*Prepared by:* Adeline M.L. Yoong

*Reviewed by:*

**DATE: DECEMBER 18, 2003**  
**TO: INTER-AGENCY COMMITTEE**  
**FROM: ROBB WHITAKER, GENERAL MANAGER**  
**SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT REPORT**

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**SUMMARY**

Staff will provide an update of department activities.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

None,

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

For information.



## Government and Public Affairs Report – November/December

Compiled December 11, 2003

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### Government Affairs

- Briefing presentation provided to LA City Councilmember Bernard Parks
- Coordinated tour of Vander Lans facility with the Sanitation District for the city officials at Signal Hill
- Attended Senate Local Government Committee hearing on special districts
- Prepared for and met with USBR Commissioner Keyes
- Coordinated interview meetings with potential federal advocates
- Attended ACWA Legislative Planning meeting
- WRD presentations made to the following cities:
  - Bell
  - Lomita
  - Signal Hill
  - Redondo Beach
  - Lawndale
  - Manhattan Beach
  - Hawaiian Gardens
- Upcoming WRD presentations to cities:
  - Cudahy
  - Rancho Palos Verdes
  - Gardena
  - Norwalk

### Public Outreach

- *the Source* newsletter
  - Newsletter is being printed and will be mailed shortly.
- WRD Groundwater Tour Program
  - Another successful groundwater tour was held on Dec. 9. Participants visited the spreading grounds, Vander Lans Water Treatment Facility and the Goldsworthy Desalter. A staff member for Assemblyman Nakano and the public works director for the city of Gardena were among the people on the tour.
  - Staff is working for the next tour, which will be held in late January or early February.
- Educational Partnership Program
  - Most schools in program will be closed for the next two weeks for the winter break and several of our schools that are on year-round schedules will not return until early March.
  - Division 1: Made classroom presentations to students in Inglewood. Working with educators to set up date for student field trip after the holidays. Also working with teachers to set up poster drawing contests for kids.
  - Division 2: Teachers at Lawndale environmental school are working to set up date for student field trip when they return from winter break. Staff has already made classroom presentations at Lawndale. Educators in Torrance are still working to set up dates for staff to make classroom presentations, probably sometime in January.

Staff visited Harbor City school earlier this month and made a classroom presentation to three classrooms, about 105 students in all. We originally scheduled a field trip for December, but teachers had to postpone the trip. We are now looking to take the students on a field trip next year. Teachers have also agreed to have their students participate in poster drawing contests.

- Division 3: Staff made classroom presentations to students in Long Beach. Educators at another Long Beach schools are working to set up dates for WRD to speak to the students
- Division 4: Staff made classroom presentation to students at South Gate Middle School, about 69 students in all. On Dec. 8, 59 students, two teaches and three parents attended field trip. At the spreading grounds, Hydrogeologist Benny Chong demonstrated to kids how he takes water samples and tested some water that the children brought from their homes. Teacher has agreed to participate in a poster drawing contest when the students return from the winter break. About 75 students, two teachers and five parents from Florence Elementary school in Los Angeles attended a field trip.
- Division 5: Classroom presentation have been made to students in Pico Rivera and a field trip will be scheduled when teachers can fit it in his schedule. Still working with educators in Carson and Compton to set up dates for classroom visits.
- WRD Speakers Bureau
  - Staff received many calls after letters were mailed to more than 250 elected officials, non-profit groups and senior organizations.
  - Presentations have been made to the following organizations
    - San Gabriel Valley Lions Club
    - Santa Fe Springs Rotary
    - Long Beach Elks
    - La Mirada Rotary
    - Rio Hondo Kiwanis
    - Artesia Lions
    - Lakewood Rotary
    - Industry Lions Club
    - Norwalk Chamber of Commerce
  - Upcoming presentations scheduled for the following organizations:
    - Covina Lions
    - Downtown Long Beach Lions
    - Hacienda Heights Lions

### Press Relations

- Processed press inquiries
- Press release issued
  - “Board Appoints Robb Whitaker New General Manager”
- WRD in the news
  - “Desalination in Nevada & California” – *Source* (Fall issue)
  - “Water board gives itself a raise” – *Press Telegram* (11/2/03)
  - “Whitaker named general manager of water district” – *Whittier Daily News* (11/05/03)
  - “WRD appoints Robb Whitaker its new general manager” – *Wave* (11/6/03)
  - “WRD receives \$2,000 grant from MWD” – *Artesia’s Community News* (December 2003 – January 2004)

- “WRD Offers Free Tours to the Public” – *Artesia’s Community News* (December 2003 – January 2004)

Miscellaneous

- Attended meetings of the Whittier Narrows Nature Center
- Completed Groundwater Tour brochure
- Ongoing activities
  - Monitor legislation
  - Monitor county and council meetings
  - Press clippings