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, MAY 27, 2004

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 APRIL 22, 2004
STAFF RECOMMENDATION: That the Committee approve the minutes as submitted.

IV. NAME CHANGE OF COMMITTEE
STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff does recommend that some change be made so as to provide a clear understanding of the range of what this committee covers. For that reason, Communications, Outreach and Legislation Committee or Communications and Legislative Committee are preferred.

V. LEGISLATIVE REPORT
STAFF RECOMMENDATION: For information.

VI. DEPARTMENT REPORT
STAFF RECOMMENDATION: For information.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Posted by Abigail C. Andom, Deputy Secretary, May 24, 2004.
MINUTES OF APRIL 22, 2004
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 April 22, 2004, at 10:19 a.m. at the District Office, 12621 E. 166th Street, Cerritos, California. Chairwoman Pat Acosta called the meeting to order and presided thereover. Deputy Secretary Abigail C. Andom recorded the minutes.

I. DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM
Attendees included:
Committee: Directors Pat Acosta and Willard Murray, Jr.
Staff: Mario Garcia, Evelyn Fierro, Adeline Yoong, Albert Frias, Hoover Ng
Guest: Jennifer Carbuccia, Hatch and Parent

II. PUBLIC COMMENT
None.

III. MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 20, 2004 AND MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF MARCH 8, 2004
The minutes were approved as submitted.

IV. AWARD OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR PROFESSIONAL DESIGN, PRINTING, REPRODUCTION AND MAILING SERVICES CONTRACT FOR WRD’S NEWSLETTER
Public Affairs Representative Albert Frias stated that on February 20, 2004, the Committee authorized staff to prepare a Request for Proposal (RFP) to procure professional services for the design, production, printing and mailing of the newsletter for 2004-2005. The RFP was issued in accordance with the procurement provisions of the District’s Administrative Code.

Mr. Frias explained that the WRD received 13 proposals. The lowest bidder was from AMS Response of Paramount, which submitted a proposal of $46,901.52 for four newsletter issues. AMS is the current printer of the WRD newsletter and staff has been pleased with their performance. The proposal does not include postage.

The Committee concurred with staff’s recommendation that the Board award a contract for the printing services to AMS Response.
V. PROPOSED PROPOSITION 50 IMPLEMENTATION GUIDELINES ALLOWING INVESTOR OWNED UTILITIES ACCESS TO STATE GRANTS AND LOANS
Ms. Jennifer Carbuccia, Hatch and Parent, stated that the West Basin Water Association (WBWA), Central Basin Water Association (CBWA), Southern California Water Company (SCWC), and various cities have expressed support for Proposition 50. Ms. Carbuccia explained that there exists a potential benefit to the communities and that there will be no competition from private water companies or investor owned utilities (IOUs) for the state grants and loans.

Senior External Affairs Representative Adeline Yoong stated that critics say that this major change of public financing policy would allow private water companies, including those owned by international corporations, to receive money and profit from water bonds paid for by California taxpayers. Opponents include the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA), the California Municipal Utilities Association (CMUA), and State Treasurer Phil Angelides.

Discussion followed. The recommended that two options be presented to the WRD Board. The first option involves sending a letter to the Governor opposing the expansion of Prop. 50 eligibility to private water companies. The second option is an alternative that entails a public-private partnership scenario and is a compromise being considered by the Metropolitan Water District (MWD). WRD staff was instructed to obtain information on the potential MWD alternative and present it to the Board for consideration.

VI. SB 1272 (ORTIZ) – SPECIAL DISTRICTS
Senior External Affairs Representative Adeline Yoong stated that SB 1272 was recently amended by Senator Ortiz on April 12, 2004. It passed out of the Senate Local Government Committee with a vote of 5/2.

Discussion followed. The Committee recommended that the Board take an “Oppose” position on SB 1272.

VII. AB 2528 (LOWENTHAL) – PUBLIC WATER SYSTEMS
Ms. Yoong stated that AB 2528 (Lowenthal) would replace the term “action level” with the terms “notification level” and “response level.” It would also require the operator of wholesale or retail public water systems, as defined, to provide notice relating to contamination of any drinking water source, as defined, that exceeds the maximum containment level, a response level, or a notification level, as
defined. Ms. Yoong explained that staff has been working with the bill sponsor, Metropolitan Water District, on amendment language.

Ms. Jennifer Carbuccia, Hatch and Parent, stated that the Groundwater Resources Association has taken a “Support” position on AB 2528. She explained that the Association felt that AB 2528 provides equity in the definition of sources and that it does not change the regulatory standards by makes the public more aware.

Discussion followed. The Committee unanimously voted to recommend that the WRD Board take a “support if amended” position on AB2528.

VIII. TORRANCE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
The Committee recommended that the Board approve WRD’s Membership to the Torrance Chamber of Commerce.

IX. TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE RESOLUTION
Assistant General Manager/Chief Engineer Mario Garcia stated that in light of the scheduled expiration of the TAC in current state law, Director Acosta had requested that District staff draft a resolution that would extend the existence of the TAC by recognizing it through the WRD Administrative Code. Mr. Garcia stated that staff drafted the resolution using the current language in the Water Code be incorporated in the District’s Administrative Code.

Ms. Jennifer Carbuccia, Hatch and Parent, stated that the West Basin Water Association (WBWA) had recently sent a letter to the Board President regarding the TAC resolution. She explained that WBWA would like the Board to adopt an Administrative Code revision recognizing the TAC in lieu of a legislative extension of the TAC. Ms. Carbuccia also stated that it would have been helpful if the draft resolution was forwarded in advance for review.

Director Murray stated that he is not prepared to discuss the draft resolution today. However, he recommended that the Board express an intent to extend the existence of the TAC through the WRD Administrative Code with specific language to be determined later by the Administrative Committee.

Director Acosta stated that she is prepared to discuss the draft resolution and she further recommended that the Board review the language of the draft resolution for possible adoption and subsequent inclusion of the resolution language in the WRD Administrative Code.
The Committee recommended that this item go to the Board with a split vote.

X. LEGISLATIVE REPORT
Senior External Affairs Representative Adeline Yoong gave an update on state and federal legislative issues. Ms. Yoong presented the state and federal legislative calendar. She also referred to the matrix of legislative bills the District is following.

XI. DEPARTMENT REPORT
Ms. Yoong stated that staff has been coordinating groundwater tours for various city councilmembers and city officials. Overview WRD presentations were also made to the Torrance Water Commission, Rancho Palos Verdes, and Hermosa Beach. Ms. Yoong also noted that staff participated at the Long Beach Area Chamber Business Conference with a booth and exhibit.

Public Affairs Representative Alber Frias provided an update on the District’s educational partnership program, the groundwater tour program, and the speakers bureau.

Mr. Frias stated that staff will participate at various events planned for the month. Cabrillo High School will be having a science fair on April 22 and staff with participate with a booth. Senior Hydrogeologist Nancy Matsumoto and Assistant GIS Specialist Wanjiru Njuguna are also expected to attend. Mr. Frias also noted that May 22 has been scheduled as the San Gabriel River Clean-up Project Day. Lastly, Mr. Frias stated that Cerritos College will be hosting a mega-mixer on May 4. This will be an opportunity to network work with elected officials and business community.

XII. ADJOURNMENT
With no other business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

__________________________
Chair

ATTEST:

__________________________
Director
DATE: MAY 27, 2004
TO: INTER-AGENCY COMMITTEE
FROM: ROBB WHITAKER, GENERAL MANAGER
SUBJECT: NAME CHANGE OF COMMITTEE

SUMMARY
There have been some informal discussions that in order to better reflect the oversight and guidance provided by the committee that the name of the committee should be reviewed. Some suggestions include: 1) External Affairs Committee 2) Communications 3) Communications, Outreach and Legislation 4) Communications and Legislative Committee.

FISCAL IMPACT
None.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION
Staff does recommend that some change be made so as to provide a clear understanding of the range of what this committee covers. For that reason, Communications, Outreach and Legislation Committee or Communications and Legislative Committee are preferred.
DATE: MAY 27, 2004

TO: INTER-AGENCY COMMITTEE

FROM: ROBB WHITAKER, GENERAL MANAGER

SUBJECT: LEGISLATIVE REPORT

SUMMARY

Legislative Calendar
May 28 – Last day for bills to be passed out of the house of origin.
June 1 – Committee meetings may resume.
June 15 – Budget bill must be passed by midnight.
June 25 – Last day for policy committees to meet and report bills.
July 2 – Summer Recess begins upon adjournment, provided Budget Bill has been enacted.
August 2 – Legislature reconvenes from Summer Recess.

Update
Staff will provide a verbal update on federal and state matters, including the state budget and CalFED.

FISCAL IMPACT
None.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION
For information.
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<th>Bill No./Author</th>
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<th>Position</th>
<th>Comments</th>
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<td>AB 83 Corbett</td>
<td>Bottled water. Transfers regulations and licensure of bottled water from the Sherman Food, Drug and Cosmetic Law to the California Safe Drinking Water Law. Requires bottled water licensees to comply with provisions similar to those imposed on public water systems regarding emergency notification plans, consumer confidence reports, and annual inspections. Also requires the labeling on bottled water sold at retail or wholesale in a plastic beverage container to include specified information. Creates the Safe Bottled and Vended Water Account.</td>
<td>Int. 01/06/03 Location: Sen Approps Status: Re-referred to Sen Approps (01/12/04)</td>
<td>Staff Rec: Support ACWA: Favor CMUA: Support</td>
<td>Comments: Supported by NRDC, East Bay MUD, and Clean Water Action. Would require bottled water companies, like Coca Cola and Pepsi who market their own branded water, to comply with more stringent requirements listed in Consumer Confidence Reports.</td>
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<td>AB 107 Corbett</td>
<td>Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Act of 2002. Appropriates Water Security funds from Prop 50 to DHS for grants to local agencies. Requires DHS to develop guidelines for awarding grants in consultation with the Office of Emergency Services, the state Office of Homeland Security, and public water agencies. Prevents DHS from awarding grants to reimburse projects costs incurred prior to the adoption of the criteria and from awarding grants to supplant funding for the routine responsibilities or obligations of any state, local, or regional drinking water system. Establishes preferences for grant awards to projects that produce the greatest regional public benefit for the least cost, projects that help to achieve regional equity in the distribution of grant funds, and eligible projects that are consistent with any regionally based water resources management plan that has been planned through a public process. Requires the completion of a security vulnerability assessment and the completion of an emergency response plan that incorporates the results of the security vulnerability assessment.</td>
<td>Int. 01/10/03 Location: Sen Agriculture and Water Status: Amended on 03/17/03, 04/21/03, 06/02/03, 06/24/03; Hearing cancelled by author (07/01/03)</td>
<td>Staff Rec: Watch ACWA: Oppose unless amended CMUA: Watch</td>
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<td>AB 1522 Parra</td>
<td>Water rights: permits. Expands the authority of the Regional Water Quality Control Board’s executive officers to include the ability to issue National Pollutant Discharge Elimination Systems (NPDES) permits without regional board action, and makes technical corrections to and deletes obsolete provisions of the Water Code.</td>
<td>Int. 02/21/03 Location: Sen. Ag &amp; Water Resources Status: Amended on 04/22/03; Passed Asm Water, Parks &amp; Wildlife (04/24/03); Passed Asm Approps (05/15/03); Passed</td>
<td>Staff Rec: Oppose ACWA: Oppose</td>
<td>ACWA’s Comments: Existing law provides that state laws that address the loss of water rights by nonuse, abandonment, prescription, and lack of diligence shall not apply to water rights appurtenant to, or for use on, any trust land under certain conditions.</td>
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<td>AB 2528</td>
<td>Public water systems. This bill would replace the term “action level” with the terms “notification level” and “response level.” It would also require the operator of wholesale or retail public water systems, as defined, to provide notice relating to contamination of any drinking water source, as defined, that exceeds the maximum containment level, a response level, or a notification level, as defined.</td>
<td>Asm Floor (06/04/03); Hearing canceled at author’s request (06/25/03)</td>
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<td>AB 2603</td>
<td>Urban water management plans. Makes technical, nonsubstantive change requiring urban water supplier to prepare and adopt an urban water management plan.</td>
<td>Int. 02/20/04 Staff Rec: Support if Amended ACWA: Oppose unless Amended WRD Board: Support if Amended (05/03/04)</td>
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<td>AB 2605</td>
<td>Water storage districts. Makes technical, nonsubstantive change authorizing the board of a California Water Storage District to acquire property.</td>
<td>Int. 02/20/04 Staff Rec: Watch ACWA: Watch</td>
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<td>SB 117</td>
<td>Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Act of 2002: Colorado River Quantification Settlement Agreement. Establishes the Colorado River Quantification Settlement Agreement Account and transfers $200 million from an unspecified fund into the account for the purposes of facilitating the QSA transfers. Modifies the implementation guidelines of Prop. 50 to exclude reference to</td>
<td>Int. 02/03/03 Staff Rec: Watch ACWA: Watch CMUA: Watch</td>
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This bill would delete all of the above provisions. Allows a regional water quality control board’s executive officer to issue, without a specific board action, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits and make several technical and corrective changes to statutes governing water rights and waste discharge violations.

Comments: ACWA opposes the section of the bill that would expand the notification requirement to include surface source water. The Association contends that much of the information regarding source water quality is already contained in the annual Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) provided to customers. It is also concerned that notifying local agency governing bodies about untreated surface water quality could undermine public confidence in drinking water when the water can be treated downstream and made safe to drink.

Comments: According to ACWA, there is no sponsor for this bill. Staff will closely monitor this bill given the subject matter.

Comments: According to ACWA, there is no sponsor for this bill. Staff will closely monitor this bill given the subject matter.
provisions relating to the use of a matching fun requirement, the use of existing guidelines, and the provision of technical assistance. Requires the responsible agencies, to the maximum extent feasible, to provide outreach to disadvantaged communities to promote access to relevant grant application and award information.

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<td>SB 318</td>
<td><strong>Urban water suppliers: desalinated water.</strong> Requires a plan to describe the opportunities for development of desalinated water, including but not limited to ocean water, brackish water, and groundwater, as a long-term supply.</td>
<td>Int. 02/19/03 Location: Placed on Asm inactive file (09/08/03) Status: Amended on 04/08/03; Passed Sen Floor (05/08/03); Passed Asm Water, Parks, and Wildlife (07/01/03); Passed Asm Aprops (08/21/03); Placed on inactive file (09/08/03)</td>
<td>Staff Rec: Watch ACWA: Watch CMUA: Watch</td>
<td>Under current law, every urban water supplier must prepare and adopt an urban water management plan and update that plan at least once every 5 years. This bill would add desalination as a required element of the plan. Opponents argue that desalination should not be added until the Desalination Task Force submits its recommendations due by July 1, 2004.</td>
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<td>SB 543</td>
<td><strong>Water rights: groundwater cleanup operations.</strong> With certain exceptions, this bill prohibits the water produced from a groundwater cleanup operation from being used by the operator of a groundwater cleanup operation or from being transferred, assigned, or conveyed to a third party for use, until a replacement water supply has been provided to every public water system injured by the contamination. Provides that no right shall vest in the operator of a groundwater cleanup operation solely by virtue of its extraction, treatment, and discharge of water from that operation. Exempts discharges from groundwater cleanup operation that is under 25 acre-feet in the counties of Riverside, San Bernardino, Los Angeles, and Ventura or under 50 gallons per minute in an other county, if the discharge is not for recharge.</td>
<td>Int. 02/21/03 Location: Asm Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials Status: Amended on 03/28/03, 04/21/03, 05/22/03, 06/26/03, 07/24/03, 08/18/03, 08/25/03, 09/12/03; Passed Sen (06/02/03)</td>
<td>Staff Rec: Watch CMUA: Oppose unless Amended</td>
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<td>SB 909</td>
<td><strong>Public water systems: mutual water companies.</strong> Allows grants of state bond funds to be made to public water utilities and mutual water companies.</td>
<td>Int. 02/21/03 Location: Asm Water, Parks &amp; Wildlife Status: Passed Sen Ag &amp; Water (04/02/03); Passed Sen Aprops (04/28/03); Passed Senate Floor (05/08/03); Ref. to Asm Water, Parks &amp; Wildlife (05/19/03); Amended by author (06/23/03); Hearing cancelled at</td>
<td>Staff Rec: Oppose ACWA: Oppose</td>
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| SB 922 | **Cleanup or abatement orders: contaminated drinking water supplies.** Clarifies existing law by explicitly authorizing the State Water Resources Control Board or a regional board to require the provision of, or payment for, uninterrupted replacement water service, which may include wellhead treatment, to affected public water suppliers or private well owners. Authorizes the regional board or state board to request a water replacement plan from the discharger prior to the provision of the replacement water. The bill would provide for mediation of replacement water claims. | **Int.** 02/21/03  
**Location:** Asm Water, Parks and Wildlife  
**Status:** Amended on 05/06/03, 06/02/03 07/21/03, 08/18/03; 09/02/03; Passed Asm Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials (07/02/03); Hearing canceled at author's request (07/08/03); Amended on 07/21/03, 08/18/03, 09/02/03 | **Staff Rec:** Watch  
**ACWA:** Watch  
**CMUA:** Support |
|---|---|---|---|
| SB 1165 | **Local Government Omnibus Act of 2004.** This bill contains provisions applying to a variety of non-controversial local governance issues. | **Int.** 02/02/04  
**Location:** Asm Local Government (04/012/04)  
**Status:** Amended (03/18/04); Passed by Sen Local Govt (03/24/04), Passed by Senate (03/30/04); Hearing on 06/09/04 | **Staff Rec:** Support  
**ACWA:** Support |
| SB 1251 | **State Water Project.** This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to set conditions for bodies of water that are directly connected to, and affected by, the State Water Resources Development System. **Diamond Valley Reservoir: recreational use.** Allows recreational use activity in Diamond Valley Reservoir and establishes standards including water treatment, monitoring, and | **Int.** 02/12/04  
**Location:** Sen Environmental Quality  
**Status:** Amended (04/12/04); Hearing cancelled at author's request (04/19/04) | **Comments:** This is a spot bill.  
**Staff Rec:** Watch  
**ACWA:** Watch |
| SB 1272  | Special districts. This bill would require annual audits of special districts to be performed in accordance with General Accounting Office standards for financial and compliance audits and would impose various other requirements on these audits. The bill would require the Controller to review the audits under specified procedures. This bill also criminalizes violations of conflicts of interest and incompatible activities provisions by making them a misdemeanor. It requires annual legal and ethical orientation sessions that governing board members would be required to attend. It establishes whistle-blower protections and limits director compensations to $100 per day for no more than 6 meetings or days per month for small districts and no more than 10 meetings or days per month for large districts. It sets the travel and per diem expenses to that authorized for state employees and restricts retirement benefits to directors who take office on or after January 1, 2005. These directors are allowed to participate in life insurance and health and welfare benefits on a self-pay basis. | Int. 02/18/04 Location: Sen Approp Status: Amended (03/23/04, 04/12/04, 04/27/04); Passed Sen Local Govt as amended; Placed on Approp. suspense file (05/10/04); Suspension hearing on 05/20/04 | Staff Rec: Support if Amended ACWA: Support if Amended WRD Board: Oppose (05/03/04); opposition letter forwarded on 05/06/04 | Comments: This is the special district reform legislation. |
| SB 1374  | Water transfers: third-party impacts. This bill would require that the State Water Resources Control Board also consider third-party impacts in its consideration of a water transfer petition. With regard to that determination, the bill would prohibit the board from approving the petition unless it finds that the petitioners have met prescribed conditions relating to potential third-party impacts. The bill would require the board to accept and consider evidence that the proposed transfer neither avoids nor mitigates all likely significant negative third-party impacts. The bill would authorize the board to develop and adopt an abbreviated process to approve long-term transfers that it determines are least likely to negatively affect third parties. | Int. 02/13/04 Location: Sen Approp Status: Passed Sen Ag & Water (04/20/04); Placed on Sen Approp suspense file (05/03/04); Suspension hearing on 05/20/04 | Staff Rec: Watch ACWA: Support/Amend | Comments: The bill takes the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) model for identifying, evaluating and mitigation potential significant effects on the environment and would apply it to the analysis of the potential third-party impacts that could result from a long-term water transfer. ACWA believes that the bill potentially opens a Pandora’s box by creating a new litigation tool to be used against water transfers. |
| SB 1479  | California regional water quality control boards: membership. This bill would reduce the membership of a regional board to from 9 to 5 by combining the representations of irrigated agriculture and industrial water use into one seat and eliminating the requirement for 3 persons not specifically associated with prescribed categories. | Int. 02/19/04 Location: Assembly Water, Parks & Wildlife Status: Passed Sen Env Quality (04/15/04); Passed Sen Approp (05/04/04); Passed Sen Floor (05/10/04) | Staff Rec: Watch ACWA: Oppose | Comments: Combining the representations of irrigated agriculture and industrial water use into one seat on the board could decrease the representation from the water industry |
DATE: MAY 27, 2004
TO: INTER-AGENCY COMMITTEE
FROM: ROBB WHITAKER, GENERAL MANAGER
SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT REPORT

SUMMARY
Staff will provide an update of department activities.

FISCAL IMPACT
None.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION
For information.
Government, Community and Media Relations Report (April-May)
Compiled May 17, 2004

Government Relations
- Letter opposing SB 1272 (Ortiz) drafted and transmitted to the Senate Appropriations Committee members and to Senator Ortiz.
- Letter supporting the expansion of Proposition 50 eligibility to private water companies drafted and distributed.
- Worked with MWD staff on compromise clarifying amendment to AB 2528 (Lowenthal).
- Participation at the Annual Contract Cities Conference
- Conducted WRD groundwater tour for Compton Councilmember Barbara Calhoun. Tour for Compton Councilmember Isadore Hall was cancelled for the second time. Still awaiting dates from Mayor Eric Perrodin, and Councilmembers Yvonne Arceneaux and Lillie Dobson.
- Coordinating tour for the city officials at Signal Hill.
- Coordinating tour for city officials at Lynwood
- Awaiting dates from Inglewood to schedule briefing and/or tour.

Community Outreach
- the Source newsletter
  - Staff is working on articles for next edition. Will be sent to printer ASAP.
- WRD Groundwater Tour Program
  - The next groundwater tour is set for June 22, with Director Goldsworthy attending. A tour was held May 6, with 50 people attending.
- Educational Partnership Program
  - Division 1: Monroe Middle School students recently attended a field trip with Director Murray attending. Classroom presentations to more than 230 students were made prior to students going on field trip.
  - Division 2: Teachers at Lawndale school decided not to take students on field trip. Classroom presentations by staff were done in April.
  - Division 3: Powell School students will go on field trip on June 17. Staff will make classroom presentation to students prior to field trip date. Staff attended a Long Beach citywide science fair for students on Saturday, April 24. More than 2,000 parents and students attended, along with Director Ryan. Tech staff members Nancy Matsumoto explained the groundwater process to students using the WRD groundwater model and Wanjiru Njuguna explained the GIS program to students.
  - Division 4: A classroom presentation and a field trip for students at San Antonio School was conducted. They toured a wellhead facility in Huntington Park, the spreading grounds and the Vander Lans facility.
- **Division 5:** Students at South Ranchito School in Pico Rivera attended a field trip in April. Also, staff made a presentation to a school parent/teacher group. Director Robles attended and spoke to the group.

- **WRD Speakers Bureau**
  - Presentations have been made to the following organizations
    - Manhattan Beach Kiwanis
    - Bellflower Rotary
  - Upcoming presentations scheduled for the following organizations
    - Palos Verdes community group

**Media Relations**
- **News Release**
  - “WRD Board Approves New 2004-2005 Assessment Rate and Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan” (5/03/04)

- **WRD in the News**
  - “Water agency raises rate 11.5%” – Whittier Daily News (5/03/04)
  - “Quenching thirst will cost more in Long Beach” – Press Telegram editorial (5/03/04)
  - “Grumbling about the WRD” – Press Telegram editorial (5/10/04)
  - “WRD responds” – Press Telegram, WRD response letter on 5/10 Press Telegram editorial (5/16/04)
  - “More about the WRD” – Press Telegram editorial (5/16/04)

- **Submitted response letter to Whittier Daily News 5/4/04 article “Water agency raises rate 11.5%”**
- **Meeting with Whittier Daily News**
- **Meeting with Long Beach Press Telegram**

**Miscellaneous**
- **Participated with a WRD exhibit at the annual Cerritos College Mega Mixer. More than 600 individuals, along with nine area Chambers of Commerce were in attendance. The chambers attending were from Artesia, Bellflower, Cerritos, Downey, Lakewood, La Mirada, Norwalk, Paramount and Santa Fe Springs.**
- **Participated in San Gabriel River Clean-up Day at the Whittier Narrows Nature Center.**
- **WRD groundwater tour for Central Basin Municipal Water District Directors Gonzalez and Cole, and West Basin Municipal Water District Director Fernandez to be rescheduled.**
- **Staff attended a two-day water education conference in Northern California.**
- **Coordinating joint WRD-Central and West Basin Municipal Water Districts elected officials’ reception for July 9 and a joint staffs picnic on June 11.**
- **Continued support provided on state audit**
- **Website review and consideration of redesign and content enhancement**
- **Ongoing activities**
  - Monitor legislation
  - Monitor county and council meetings
  - Press clippings