

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
WATER REPLENISHMENT DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
4040 PARAMOUNT BLVD., LAKEWOOD, CALIFORNIA 90712
12:00 P.M., FRIDAY, JUNE 10, 2016**

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.

- 1. DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM**
- 2. PUBLIC COMMENT**
Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.3.
- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF APRIL 6, 2016**
Staff Recommendation: Approve as submitted.
- 4. LEGISLATIVE REPORT**
Staff Recommendation: For discussion and possible action.
- 5. SENATE BILL 163**
Staff Recommendation: For discussion and possible action.
- 6. ECO GARDENER RFQ PROPOSALS**
Staff Recommendation: For discussion and possible action.
- 7. 2016 GROUNDWATER FESTIVAL**
Staff Recommendation: For discussion and possible action.
- 8. DEPARTMENT REPORT**
Staff Recommendation: For discussion and possible action.
- 9. DIRECTORS REPORTS, INQUIRIES, AND FOLLOW-UP OF DIRECTIONS TO STAFF**
- 10. ADJOURNMENT**
Due to the July 4th holiday, the External Affairs Committee will adjourn and reschedule for a future date and time.

Agenda posted by Scott M. Ota, Chief Financial Officer, June 9, 2016. In compliance with ADA requirements, this document can be made available in alternative formats upon request.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), if special assistance is needed to participate in the Board meeting, please contact the Chief Financial Officer 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.

EXHAUSTION OF ADMINISTRATIVE REMEDIES – If you challenge a District action in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the Chief Financial Officer at, or prior to, the public hearing. Any written correspondence delivered to the Chief Financial Officer before the District's final action on a matter will become a part of the administrative record.

**MINUTES OF APRIL 6, 2016
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
WATER REPLENISHMENT DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**

A special meeting of the External Affairs Committee of the Board of Directors of the Water Replenishment District of Southern California was held on Wednesday, April 6, 2016 at 2:10 P.M., at the District Office, 4040 Paramount Boulevard, Lakewood, California 90712. Committee Chairperson Willard H. Murray, Jr. called the meeting to order and presided thereafter. Acting Deputy Secretary Sherri Brown recorded the minutes.

1. DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

Committee: Willard H. Murray, Jr. and Rob Katherman (Alternate)
Staff: Robb Whitaker, Ken Ortega, Scott Ota, Brett Glasscock, Esther Rojas, Monica Serrano, and Tracey Burke

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT
PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54954.3**

None.

3. LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Bob Reeb of Reeb Government Relations provided the state legislative update via teleconference. Mr. Reeb stated that California Natural Resources Secretary John Laird announced that WRD was one of 37 appointments to the new Lower Los Angeles River Working Group, which was created by recent legislation to develop a revitalization plan for the Lower Los Angeles River and its tributaries. He also provided an update on Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund.

Tammy Lindenberg of Pacific Atlantic Partners provided the federal legislative update via teleconference. Ms. Lindenberg stated that Congress was back today from the winter recess. She informed every one the status of Senator Feinstein's drought relief bill. Regarding the Washington, D.C. trip, Tammy added that in light of tight schedules, she can arrange meeting dates here with local officials.

4. ASSEMBLY CALIFORNIA AMENDMENT (ACA) - 8

ACA 8 amends Proposition 13's requirement that local "special taxes" (taxes intended for a specific purpose or purposes) be approved by a two-thirds vote. Instead special taxes imposed for the repayment of bonded indebtedness would be reduced to 55%. Funds can only be used for the construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, or replacement of wastewater treatment facilities. West Basin Municipal Water District supports amendment and asks the WRD to also take a support position. The District may have to amend the Water Code to reflect the change in the law if ACA 8 passes.

The Committee unanimously recommended the Board of Directors support Assembly Constitutional Amendment No. 8.

5. CALIFORNIA CONTRACT CITIES SPRING MUNICIPAL SEMINAR

Ken Ortega provided the staff report stating that the California Contract Cities Association Spring Seminar provides a new opportunity to educate the community about relevant water issues and specifically provide the status of the Groundwater Reliability Improvement Project (GRIP) Advanced Water Treatment Facility (AWTF). The cost of sponsorship is for an amount not to exceed \$3,500.

The Committee unanimously recommended that the Board of Directors approved a conference sponsorship not to exceed \$3,500.

6. GROUNDWATER FESTIVAL UPDATE

Ms. Monica Serrano and Ms. Tracey Burke provided an update of the groundwater festival. Discussion followed.

In 2015 the District obtained its highest level of sponsorship at \$19,500. In comparison, to date, there are 38 sponsors and currently \$48,000 in sponsorship funds. There will be several different attractions and booths provided for the attendees.

Additionally, there will be several honorees awarded as part of the festival: Stacey Michaels, a teacher from 232nd Street Elementary School who assisted the District with its WRD calendar and art contest; Councilman Gustavo V. Camacho of Pico Rivera; and Councilman Isaac Galvan of the City of Compton.

7. DEPARTMENT REPORT

Ken Ortega informed the Committee that staff had a “Meet Your Neighbor” event held on Saturday, April 2, 2016. The event was held to explain the various construction activities at the Groundwater Reliability Improvement Project (GRIP) in Pico Rivera to the surrounding community.

He also reminded the Committee that there would be a press conference to be held at the GRIP site on Thursday, April 7, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. highlighting the joint WRD and Los Angeles County Fire Department project; allowing the Los Angeles County Fire Department to utilize the buildings for training purposes prior to demolition. Mr. Ortega showed the Committee a live feed of the GRIP construction site via a webcam mounted by WRD so staff can monitor the progress of the project.

Ms. Esther Rojas stated the District has the opportunity to apply for an education grant for \$10,000 – \$30,000 which will help fund the District’s education program, specifically the District’s Water Science Day that we host a various schools within the District boundaries. In order to be competitive in the process, the District is partnering with Katherine Edwards Middle School and Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) Academy.

8. ADJOURNMENT

President Murray requested that the next External Affairs Committee meeting scheduled for May 2, 2016 be moved to a Special External Affairs Committee Meeting on May 10th at 2:00 p.m.; and all the regular External Affairs Committee

meetings held on the first Monday of each month be changed from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Director Katherman moved to adjourn; President Murray seconded. The meeting adjourned at 2:58 p.m.

Chair

ATTEST:

Member

Approved in minutes of:



MEMORANDUM

ITEM NO. 4

DATE: JUNE 10, 2016

TO: EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

FROM: ROBB WHITAKER, GENERAL MANAGER

SUBJECT: LEGISLATIVE REPORT

SUMMARY

State Legislative Calendar

June Deadlines

June 3 Last day for each house to pass bills introduced in that house
June 6 Committee meetings may resume.
June 15 Budget Bill must be passed by midnight.
June 30 Last day for a legislative measure to qualify for the Nov. 8 General Election ballot.

July Deadlines

July 1 Last day for policy committees to meet and report bills. Summer Recess begins.
July 4 Independence Day observed.

August Deadlines

Aug. 1 Legislature reconvenes from Summer Recess.
Aug. 12 Last day for fiscal committees to meet and report bills.
Aug. 15-31 Floor Session only. No committee may meet for any purpose except Rules Committee and Conference Committees.
Aug. 19 Last day to amend on the Floor.
Aug. 31 Last day for each house to pass bills, except bills that take effect immediately or bills in Extraordinary Session. Final Recess begins upon adjournment.

FISCAL IMPACT

None.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

For discussion and possible action.



MEMORANDUM

ITEM NO. 5

DATE: JUNE 10, 2016

TO: EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

FROM: ROBB WHITAKER, GENERAL MANAGER

SUBJECT: SENATE BILL 163

Staff will provide an oral report.

FISCAL IMPACT

None.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

For discussion and possible action.



MEMORANDUM

ITEM NO. 6

DATE: JUNE 10, 2016

TO: EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

FROM: ROBB WHITAKER, GENERAL MANAGER

SUBJECT: ECO-GARDENER RFQ PROPOSALS

SUMMARY

WRD recently issued an RFQ for its Eco Gardening Education programs which include Eco-Gardener and Eco-Pro. The Water Wise Consulting, Inc. contract expired on December 31, 2015. The contract had been amended five times since it was originally approved in 2010. Issuing a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) was timely because it opened the field for other programs to compete and ultimately provide WRD with more options to choose from, and more robust education curriculum. The RFQ was circulated for five weeks. The 2016-17 budget for Eco-Gardner has been approved by the Board of Directors.

Staff will provide a review of submitted responses.

FISCAL IMPACT

Not to exceed \$50,000.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

For discussion and possible action.



MEMORANDUM

ITEM NO. 7

DATE: JUNE 10, 2016

TO: EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

FROM: ROBB WHITAKER, GENERAL MANAGER

SUBJECT: 2016 GROUNDWATER FESTIVAL

SUMMARY

On Saturday, May 21, 2016, the Water Replenishment District of Southern California hosted its' 9th Annual Groundwater Festival. This year WRD raised a record \$65,500 in sponsorship money. This year's Groundwater Festival attracted an estimated 2,500 attendees.

Staff secured rentals, entertainment, food and raffle prizes for the festival. All expenses were covered by funds from sponsorships. Staff received positive feedback and reviews for its new festival activities which included music, a petting zoo, face painting, popcorn booth, sponsored raffle prizes, photo-booths and social media outreach efforts.

WRD also had volunteers from the local high school Key Clubs. Students came and volunteered their time to help set-up, and clean-up throughout the duration of the festival.

Staff will provide additional information.

FISCAL IMPACT

None.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

For discussion and possible action.