BOARD MEETING AGENDA
Monday, May 9, 2016
Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.
Union Sanitary District
Administration Building
5072 Benson Road
Union City, CA 94587

Directors
Manny Fernandez
Tom Handley
Pat Kite
Anjali Lathi
Jennifer Toy

Officers
Paul R. Eldredge
General Manager/
District Engineer
Karen W. Murphy
Attorney

1. Call to Order.
2. Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Roll Call.

Motion
4. Approve Minutes of the Special Meeting of April 19, 2016.

Motion
5. Approve Minutes of the Meeting of April 25, 2016.

6. Written Communications.

7. Oral Communications.
The public may provide oral comments at regular and special Board meetings; however, whenever possible, written statements are preferred (to be received at the Union Sanitary District office at least one working day prior to the meeting). This portion of the agenda is where a member of the public may address and ask questions of the Board relating to any matter within the Board’s jurisdiction that is not on the agenda. If the subject relates to an agenda item, the speaker should address the Board at the time the item is considered. Oral comments are limited to three minutes per individual, with a maximum of 30 minutes per subject. Speaker’s cards will be available in the Boardroom and are to be completed prior to discussion.

Motion
8. Presentation of Alameda County Science and Engineering Fair Excellence in Water Research Awards to Junior and Senior Division First-Place Winners.

Board to Take a Recess for a Reception Honoring Science Fair Winners and Their Projects
Please join us for a reception in the Boardroom.
(15 minutes approximately)

Motion
9. Legislative Update on Regional, State, and National Issues of Interest to the Board (to be reviewed by the Legislative Committee).

Motion
10. Review and Approve Proposed Changes to Policy No. 3060, Communication by Members of the Board of Directors (to be reviewed by the Personnel Committee).

Motion
11. Review and Approve Proposed Changes to Policy No. 3030, Boardmember Business Expense (to be reviewed by the Personnel Committee).
Motion 12. Review and Approve Proposed Changes to Policy No. 3045, Board Education and Training Budget *(to be reviewed by the Personnel Committee).*

Motion 13. Select Board Members to Represent USD on External Committees for FY17 *(to be reviewed by the Personnel Committee).*

Motion 14. Consider a Resolution to Authorize Staff to Specify Hydro International as a Sole Source Equipment Manufacturer for the Sludge Degritter System Project *(to be reviewed by the Construction Committee).*

Information 15. Information Items:
   a. Check Register.
   b. Reclaimed Water Alternatives *(to be reviewed by the Legal/Community Affairs Committee).*
   c. Status of Priority 1 Capital Improvement Program Projects *(to be reviewed by the Construction Committee).*
   d. Third Quarterly Report on the Capital Improvement Program for FY16 *(to be reviewed by the Construction Committee).*

Information 16. Committee Meeting Reports. *(No Board action is taken at Committee meetings):*
   a. Construction Committee – scheduled for Wednesday, May 4, 2016, at 10:30 a.m.
   b. Legislative Committee – scheduled for Thursday, May 5, 2016, at 3:30 p.m.
   c. Legal/Community Affairs Committee – scheduled for Friday, May 6, 2016, at 9:15 a.m.
   d. Personnel Committee – scheduled for Friday, May 6, 2016, at 11:00 a.m.
   e. Budget & Finance Committee – will not meet.
   f. Ad Hoc Subcommittee for Communications Strategy.

Information 17. General Manager’s Report. *(Information on recent issues of interest to the Board).*

18. Other Business:
   a. Comments and questions. *Directors can share information relating to District business and are welcome to request information from staff.*
   b. Scheduling matters for future consideration.

19. Adjournment – The Board will adjourn to the next Regular Meeting in the Boardroom on Monday, May 23, 2016, at 7:00 p.m.

The Public may provide oral comments at regular and special Board meetings; however, whenever possible, written statements are preferred *(to be received at the Union Sanitary District at least one working day prior to the meeting).*

If the subject relates to an agenda item, the speaker should address the Board at the time the item is considered. If the subject is within the Board’s jurisdiction but not on the agenda, the speaker will be heard at the time “Oral Communications” is calendared. Oral comments are limited to three minutes per individual, with a maximum of 30 minutes per subject.* Speaker’s cards will be available in the Boardroom and are to be completed prior to discussion of the agenda item.

The facilities at the District Offices are wheelchair accessible. Any attendee requiring special accommodations at the meeting should contact the General Manager’s office at (510) 477-7503 at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting.

THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND
NOTICE OF
COMMITTEE MEETING

BOARD MEETING OF MAY 9, 2016

Committee Membership:
Budget and Finance Directors Manny Fernandez and Pat Kite (Alt. – Jennifer Toy)
Construction Committee Directors Tom Handley and Jennifer Toy (Alt. – Pat Kite)
Legal/Community Affairs Directors Pat Kite and Anjali Lathi (Alt. – Tom Handley)
Legislative Committee Directors Manny Fernandez and Tom Handley (Alt – Pat Kite)
Personnel Committee Directors Manny Fernandez and Jennifer Toy (Alt. – Anjali Lathi)
Audit Committee Directors Anjali Lathi and Jennifer Toy (Alt. Manny Fernandez)

Construction Committee, Wednesday, May 4, 2016, at 10:30 a.m.
14. Consider a Resolution to Authorize Staff to Specify Hydro International as a Sole Source Equipment Manufacturer for the Sludge Degritter System Project.
15c. Status of Priority 1 Capital Improvement Program Project.

Legislative Committee, Thursday, May 5, 2016, at 3:30 p.m.
9. Legislative Update on Regional, State, and National Issues of Interest to the Board.

Legal/Community Affairs Committee, Friday, May 6, 2016, at 9:15 a.m.
15b. Reclaimed Water Alternatives.

Personnel Committee, Friday, May 6, 2016, at 11:00 a.m.
10. Review and Approve Proposed Changes to Policy No. 3060, Communication by Members of the Board of Directors.
12. Review and Approve Proposed Changes to Policy No. 3045, Board Education and Training Budget.
13. Select Board Members to Represent USD on External Committees for FY17.

Committee meetings may include teleconference participation by one or more Directors.
(Gov. Code Section 54953 (b))
Committee Meetings are open to the public. Only written comments will be considered. No action will be taken.
CALL TO ORDER

President Toy called the special meeting to order at 11:30 a.m.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Jennifer Toy, President
         Tom Handley, Vice President
         Pat Kite, Secretary
         Anjali Lathi, Director
         Manny Fernandez, Director

STAFF:    Paul Eldredge, General Manager
         Michelle Powell, Communications and Intergovernmental Relations Coordinator
         Regina McEvoy, Assistant to the General Manager/Board Secretary

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

BOARD WORKSHOP – NEWSLETTER DRAFT LAYOUT AND CONTENT REVIEW

Staff presented a draft newsletter for Board review and responded to Board questions. Boardmembers provided feedback regarding the content of the newsletter. Staff will incorporate Boardmember edits.

ADJOURNMENT:

The special meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:30 p.m. to the next Regular Board Meeting in the Boardroom on Monday, April 25, 2016, at 7:00 p.m.

SUBMITTED: ATTEST:

_________________________   __________________________
REGINA McEVOY     PAT KITE
SECRETARY TO THE BOARD   SECRETARY

APPROVED:

__________________________
JENNIFER TOY
PRESIDENT

Adopted this 9th day of May, 2016
CALL TO ORDER

President Toy called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Jennifer Toy, President
Tom Handley, Vice President
Pat Kite, Secretary
Anjali Lathi, Director
Manny Fernandez, Director

STAFF: Paul Eldredge, General Manager
Karen Murphy, District Counsel
Armando Lopez, Treatment & Disposal Services Manager
James Schofield, Collection Services Manager
Robert Simonich, Fabrication, Maintenance, and Construction Manager
Sami Ghossain, Technical Services Manager
Pamela Arends-King, Business Services Manager/CFO
Mitchell Costello, Treatment & Disposal Services Coach
Regina McEvoy, Assistant to the General Manager/Board Secretary

VISITOR: Alice Johnson, League of Women Voters

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING CLOSED SESSION OF APRIL 4, 2016

It was moved by Secretary Kite, seconded by Vice President Handley, to approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting Closed Session of April 4, 2016. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF APRIL 11, 2016

It was moved by Vice President Handley, seconded by Director Fernandez, to approve the Minutes of the Meeting of April 11, 2016. Motion carried unanimously.

MONTHLY OPERATIONS REPORT FOR MARCH 2016

This item was reviewed by the Budget & Finance Committee. General Manager Eldredge reported the following:
• Odor Complaints:  The District received two odor complaints in March 2016.  One complaint received from a Fremont resident was investigated by staff and no odor was found.  The other complaint was received from a Union City resident who heard a loud noise just before smelling a foul odor inside their home.  A District hydro crew was cleaning in the area and had sucked water out of the resident’s P-Traps.  The resident was advised to fill her p-traps with water, flush the toilets in the home, and contact the District if the odor returned.

• Safety:  Two employees who had been out due to injury returned to full duty in March 2016.  One employee experienced a minor injury while working in the treatment plant and declined medical treatment.  A contractor at the Patterson Ranch development spilled diesel fuel into a District manhole.  Staff was able to pump out the diesel fuel before it traveled to the Plant.

Business Services Manager/CFO Arends-King reported the following:

• Revenues:
  o The District received approximately $6 million in capacity fees including $223,000 from Mission Linen, and $137,000 from two Fremont developments.
  o The District also received $227,000 in SERF loan proceeds for the thickener project.

• Expenses:
  o The District spent $1 million in Capital expenditures

General Manager Eldredge reported the following:

• Collection Services:
  o There were no spills in March 2016.

• Treatment & Disposal:
  o The Co-Gen engines generated 73% of power consumed during month of March 2016.

• Technical Services:
  o 51 new lateral permits were issued in March 2016.

• FMC:
  o Work orders continue to be completed on target.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

There were no written communications.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

There were no oral communications.

CONSIDER ADOPTING THREE RESOLUTIONS:  1) ADOPT, AMEND, AND RESTATE ICMA-RC 401(a) PLAN #109522; 2) ADOPT, AMEND, AND RESTATE ICMA-RC 401(a) PLAN #109568; AND 3) ADOPT, AMEND, AND RESTATE ICMA-RC 401(a) PLAN #109569

This item was reviewed by the Budget & Finance Committee.  Business Services Manager/CFO Arends-King stated the IRS has a six-year review schedule for the plan.
documents ICMA-RC makes available to its clients. The new documents incorporate amendments for legislative and regulatory changes which have been enacted. Per instructions from the IRS, each plan sponsor using the ICMA-RC plan document is required to execute a new adoption agreement by April 30, 2016. Adopting the restated plan document will ensure the plans are updated in accordance with current IRS regulations. Staff recommended the Board adopt the three proposed resolutions.

It was moved by Vice President Handley, seconded by Director Lathi, to Adopt Resolution No. 2776 to Amend and Restate the Qualified Retirement Plan Number 9522, Adopt Resolution No. 2777 to Amend and Restate the Qualified Retirement Plan Number 9568, and Adopt Resolution No. 2778 to Amend and Restate the Qualified Retirement Plan Number 9569. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDER A RESOLUTION TO TERMINATE THE EMERGENCY ACTION TO REPAIR THE 33-INCH SEWER ON ALVARADO BOULEVARD AND FINAL UPDATE ON THE REPAIRS

This item was reviewed by the Construction Committee. Technical Services Manager Ghossain stated curb, gutter, and sidewalk areas were restored on April 7, 2016, and street paving at the site was completed on April 12, 2016. The street was re-opened and normal traffic operations resumed on April 14, 2016. Traffic striping and markers were installed on April 21, 2016. Staff recommended the Board adopt a resolution declaring the end of the emergency action, pursuant to Public Contract Code Section 22050.

It was moved by Director Fernandez, seconded by Vice President Handley, to Adopt Resolution No. 2779 Terminating the Emergency Action to Repair 33-Inch Sewer on Alvarado Boulevard, Union City. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDER ADOPTING AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE COLLECTION OF CAPACITY CHARGES FOR CONNECTION TO THE MAIN SEWERS OF UNION SANITARY DISTRICT

This item was reviewed by the Budget & Finance Committee. General Manager Eldredge stated the Board last discussed increasing capacity charges at a Capacity Charge Update Board Workshop in October 2015. At the workshop, the Board directed staff to incrementally increase the capacity charges over a four year period and present the matter for approval at a Board meeting in the spring of 2016. Capacity fees are one-time fees imposed when a user makes a new or expanded connection to the District’s system and are governed by the Mitigation Fee Act. The District provided notice of the proposed increase in capacity fees and made data supporting the proposed increase available to the public as required by law. Staff also conducted public outreach which included the following: notification to each City we serve, publishing a notice of public meeting in a Bay Area News Group newspaper, notification to the District’s industrial customers, notification to each Chamber of Commerce, notification to the Homebuilders Association (BIA), and correspondence with developers who expressed interest in District fees previously. Capacity fees are governed by various California Government Codes requiring the fees not exceed the estimated reasonable cost of providing the service. General Manager Eldredge provided an overview of the answers to questions received from the BIA, and stated hard copies were available for those in attendance. A copy of
the BIA questions and District responses was added to the Board meeting packet. The District last reviewed capacity fees in 2010, and it was recommended at that time to increase the fees. During the October 2015 Capacity Charge Update Workshop, the Board asked if it made sense to have an inflation factor built into the Ordinance to increase fees annually by that amount. It was not feasible to have an inflation factor built in, partially due to the Board’s decision to phase in new fees over a four year period. The District should complete a new study every five years. Staff recommended the Board adopt an ordinance providing for the collection of capacity charges for connection to the main sewers of the District.

Vice President Handley requested staff explore the possibility of building in an inflationary factor for the District’s next study.

Director Lathi asked when the BIA questions were received via email and when staff sent a response. General Manager Eldredge stated the BIA email was received on April 21, 2016, and staff sent a response the following day.

Director Lathi asked if staff had contacted the BIA and asked if they would like further information. General Manager Eldredge stated staff reached out to the BIA who indicated they did not need any further information.

There was no public comment for this item.

It was moved by Director Fernandez, seconded by Vice President Handley, to Adopt Ordinance 35.22 Providing for the Collection of Capacity Charges for Connection to the Main Sewers of Union Sanitary District. Motion carried unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

Check Register
All questions were answered to the Board’s satisfaction.

Cal-Card Quarterly Activity Report
This item was reviewed by the Budget & Finance Committee. The third quarter, which began January 25, 2016 and ended March 22, 2016, included 231 transactions totaling $67,667.84. All questions were answered to the Board’s satisfaction.

Board Expenditures for the 3rd Quarter of 2016
This item was reviewed by the Budget & Finance Committee. There were no questions regarding this item.

COMMITTEE MEETING REPORTS:
The Construction and Budget & Finance Committees met.

GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORT:
General Manager Eldredge reported the following:
General Manager Eldredge expressed gratitude to all who were involved with the Alvarado Boulevard sinkhole, and commended staff for working together across teams to accomplish the necessary repairs.

The California Water Environment Association conference was held in Santa Clara the week of April 25, 2016. The conference was attended by several District staff members and Director Lathi.

The District received the vehicle incident report from a recent traffic accident. Staff will review the report and District Counsel will provide an update to the Board via email.

The District will be providing a recognition lunch for employees in celebration of completion of the sinkhole repairs and the lowest X-Mod in District history. General Manager Eldredge stated the Board and all staff are invited to the event, which will be called the SinkMod BBQ, at the District beginning at 11:30 a.m. on June 8, 2016.

One of the General Manager’s goals on the most recent evaluation was to schedule a retreat for the Executive Team. The Executive Team retreat will be held off-site May 10 & 11, 2016. Though work group managers will be off-site, they will be available via email or phone in the event of an emergency. The facilitator for the retreat has interviewed the work group managers separately in preparation for the event, and will complete personality assessments to determine how each person thinks and makes decisions.

General Manager Eldredge welcomed Mitchell Costello, recently promoted as the new Wastewater Operations Night Coach.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Director Kite stated she had heard the Town of Moraga would be seeking State reimbursement for its recent sinkhole expenditures and asked if the District would qualify for State reimbursement. General Manager Eldredge stated the Moraga sinkhole was tied to an El Nino rainstorm during a period in which the area had been declared a state of emergency. The District’s recent sinkhole would not be eligible for State reimbursement as it did not originate during a natural event, and there was no state of emergency in our area at that time.

Secretary Kite stated she attended the recent public information meeting regarding the Newark Backyard Sanitary Sewer Relocation Project – Phase 3, and commended staff for a comprehensive presentation.

Vice President Handley inquired about the possibility of running reclaimed water purple pipe to new developments to be built in relative proximity to the District. General Manager Eldredge stated the District is not currently equipped to treat wastewater to the level necessary for it to be used as reclaimed water. General Manager Eldredge further stated information regarding the potential for the District to produce reclaimed water would be presented at a future meeting. Vice President Handley requested staff prepare information regarding the costs associated with potential reclaimed water projects.
ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m. to the FY17 Operating Budget Board Workshop to be held in the Boardroom Room on Wednesday, April 27, 2016, at 5:30 p.m.

The Board will then adjourn to the next scheduled Regular Board Meeting to be held in the Boardroom on Monday, May 9, 2016, at 7:00 p.m.

SUBMITTED: ATTEST:

_________________________   __________________________
REGINA McEVOY     PAT KITE
SECRETARY TO THE BOARD   SECRETARY

APPROVED:

__________________________
JENNIFER TOY
PRESIDENT

Adopted this 9th day of May, 2016
DATE: April 28, 2016

MEMO TO: Board of Directors - Union Sanitary District

FROM: Paul R. Eldredge, General Manager/District Engineer
Sami Ghossain, Technical Services Manager
Michelle Powell, Communications and Intergovernmental Relations Coordinator

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 8 - Meeting of May 9, 2016
PRESENTATION OF ALAMEDA COUNTY SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING FAIR EXCELLENCE IN WATER RESEARCH AWARDS TO JUNIOR AND SENIOR DIVISION FIRST-PLACE WINNERS

Recommendation

Recognize and award prizes to the Alameda County Science and Engineering Fair’s Excellence in Water Research Award first-place winners and their teachers.

Background

Union Sanitary District is one of ten Alameda County water and wastewater agencies that have combined efforts and funds for four years to create annual Excellence in Water Research Awards for the Alameda County Science and Engineering Fair. These special awards, which include cash prizes, are given to participants whose projects focus on water or wastewater issues. First and second place awards are bestowed in both junior and senior divisions, and the winners’ teachers are also recognized. A member of USD’s Laboratory staff has served as a judge for these special prizes every year since their inception.

Staff is pleased to report that three of the four awards for the 2016 Alameda County Science and Engineering Fair Excellence in Water Research prizes were won by students in USD’s service area. The District recognizes the following junior and senior division first-place winners and their teachers at this Board meeting:
Senior Division First-Place Award:
Student: Pranshu Chaturvedi
Project: “A Novel Technique for Water Desalination Using the Diamagnetic Properties of Water”
School: Mission San Jose High School
Teacher: Gabriele Estabrook

Junior Division First-Place Award:
Student: Shreya Ramachandran
Project: “Effect of Soap Nut Greywater on Soil and Plants”
School: The Stratford School
Teacher: Fe Marie Bustos

Staff requests that the Board present awards to students for the outstanding results of their rigorous scientific inquiry into water and wastewater issues, and to their teachers for their encouragement of future scientists and engineers. A brief reception will follow the award presentation to honor participants and hear information about their projects.
DATE: April 28, 2016

MEMO TO: Board of Directors - Union Sanitary District

FROM: Paul R. Eldredge, General Manager/District Engineer
      Sami Ghossain, Technical Services Manager
      Michelle Powell, Communications and Intergovernmental Relations Coordinator

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 9 - Meeting of May 9, 2016
LEGISLATIVE UPDATE ON REGIONAL, STATE, AND NATIONAL ISSUES OF INTEREST TO THE BOARD

Recommendation

Information only

Background

The Board indicated that it wishes to receive periodic reports on legislation and other information that may impact or be of interest to the District. If there are is any additional information or a different format desired by the Board, Staff will incorporate feedback into future reports.

Following are summaries of information staff believes would be most significant to the Board. Attached are more comprehensive lists of state and federal legislation currently tracked by industry associations. The attached are the most updated lists available as of the publishing date of this staff report.

Regional News:

Alameda County Water District (ACWD) – ACWD’s recent customer bills included its Winter/Spring 2016 newsletter, which note that it has scheduled a series of financial workshops
to discuss rate design concepts, drought surcharges, and other financial topics. The public is invited to attend and offer input. Also noted is the ongoing development of a bill-payment assistance program for low-income residential customers, which is anticipated to launch in late 2016. USD received a letter from ACWD notifying the District that ACWD will be reviewing its Urban Water Management Plan and considering amendments and changes to the plan. USD is invited to participate in the process.

City of Newark – The City is embarking on a comprehensive “overhaul” of its Zoning Ordinance. Three public Planning Commission work sessions and a community meeting will be held to gather input from residents, property owners and businesses. The first of the Planning Commission Work Sessions was scheduled for April 26, 2016 at 7:30pm in City Council Chambers.

City of Union City – The City continues its General Plan Update activities, with a workshop to receive input from business and property owners on preferred land uses held on April 27, 2016. Topics included the Union City Boulevard corridor, Horner-Veasy area, and Greater Station District area. The General Plan Advisory Committee met on May 4, 2016 to receive information regarding land use alternatives. The Committee will meet on June 1, 2016 to provide feedback on preferred alternatives for the focus areas.

Alameda County – Supervisor Scott Haggerty (District 1) represents Alameda County on the Bay Area Air Quality Management District Board of Directors. The Air District recently announced allocation of more than $90 million toward grant programs that will provide funding in phases from July 2016 through June 2017 for projects that help to improve air quality in the region. The projects include installing electric vehicle charging stations, deploying electric vehicles in public and private fleets, and replacing or repowering diesel engines in trucks, buses, and other equipment.

State Legislation:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SB 163</th>
<th>(Hertzberg D)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Position:</strong></td>
<td>CASA - Oppose, work w/author; CSDA – Watch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Summary:</strong></td>
<td>Would declare that the discharge of treated wastewater from ocean outfalls, except in compliance with the bill's provisions, is a waste and unreasonable use of water in light of the cost-effective opportunities to recycle this water for further beneficial use. This bill, on or before January 1, 2026, would require a wastewater treatment facility discharging through an ocean outfall to achieve at least 50% reuse of the facility's actual annual flow, as defined, for beneficial purposes.</td>
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<tr>
<th>SB 1069</th>
<th>(Wieckowski D)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>An act to amend sections 65582.1, 65583.1, 65589.1, 65852.150, 65852.2, and</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 66412.2 of the Government Code, relating to land use

**Summary:** Authorizes a local agency to provide by ordinance for the creation of 2nd units in single-family and multifamily residential zones, as specified. That law makes findings and declarations with respect to the value of second units to California's housing supply. This bill would replace the term "second unit" with "accessory dwelling unit" throughout the law. As introduced, the bill states that accessory dwelling units shall not be considered new residential uses for the purposes of calculating private or public utility connection fees, including water and sewer service.

### SB 1213  
(Wieckowski D)

**Renewable energy: biosolids: matching grants.**

**Position:** CASA - Support; CSDA - Watch

**Summary:** Would require the State Energy Resources Conservation Commission to develop and implement the Biosolids to Clean Energy Grant Program to provide 50% matching funds to local wastewater agencies for biosolids to clean energy capital projects. The bill would continuously appropriate $20,000,000 annually from the fund to the commission for purposes of the program.

### SB 1229  
(Jackson D)

**Pharmacies: secure drug take-back bins.**

**Position:** CASA – Support

**Summary:** Would require a pharmacy that owns or operates a secure drug take-back bin in a publicly accessible location to take reasonable steps to ensure the proper disposal of the pharmaceutical waste contained in the bins. The bill would provide that the owner or operator is not liable for civil damages arising from the use of the secure drug take-back bin if the owner or operator takes reasonable steps to ensure the health and safety of consumers and employees and the proper disposal in the waste stream of the pharmaceutical waste contained in the bins.

### AB 1661  
(McCarty D)

**Local government: sexual harassment training and education.**

**Position:** CASA – Watch; CSDA - Watch

**Summary:** This bill would add requirements of local agency officials, as defined, to receive sexual harassment training and education if the local agency provides any type of compensation, salary, or stipend to those officials, and would allow a local agency to require employees to receive sexual harassment training or information.

### AB 2257  
(Maienschein R)

**Local agency meetings: agenda: online posting.**

**Position:** CASA – Watch; CSDA - Oppose

**Summary:** This bill would add to requirements of the Ralph M. Brown Act regarding
posting of agendas for meetings by requiring an online posting of an agenda by a local agency to have a prominent direct link to the current agenda itself.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AB 2754</th>
<th>(Grove R) Public employment: employee bargaining representatives: financial information.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Position:</strong></td>
<td>CASA - Watch Close; CSDA - Watch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Summary:</strong></td>
<td>Would require an organization that provides representation to public employees in labor negotiations with a state or local public employer to hold an election every 2 years to determine if the current labor union should continue to represent those members of the organization. This bill grants members the right during that election to affirmatively select another public employee organization to represent them.</td>
</tr>
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<tr>
<th>AB 2890</th>
<th>(Assembly Committee on Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials) Drinking Water and Wastewater Operator Certification Programs</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Position:</strong></td>
<td>CASA – Watch, work with author</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Summary:</strong></td>
<td>This bill would require the State Water Resources Control Board to appoint an advisory committee to assist it in carrying out its responsibilities to examine and certify people to operate water treatment plants and water distribution systems.</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACA 8</th>
<th>(Bloom D) Local government financing: water facilities and infrastructure: voter approval.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Position:</strong></td>
<td>CASA – Support; CSDA – Support if Amended</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Summary:</strong></td>
<td>Would create an additional exception to the 1% limit for a rate imposed by a city, county, city and county, or special district to service bonded indebtedness incurred to fund the construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, or replacement of wastewater treatment facilities and related infrastructure, or other types of facilities and infrastructure, that is approved by 55% of the voters of the city, county, city and county, or special district, as applicable, if the proposition meets specified requirements, and would authorize a city, county, city and county, or special district to levy a 55% vote ad valorem tax. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.</td>
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**Federal Legislation:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S 1248</th>
<th>Water Resources Development Act of 2016 (WRDA)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Introduced:</strong></td>
<td>April 25, 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Summary:</strong></td>
<td>Includes many significant provisions for the clean water sector. These include creation of a clean water trust fund, proposed changes to affordability guidelines, codification of integrated planning, reauthorization of a wet weather grant program, creation of an EPA</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
municipal Ombudsman to assist communities in their interaction with EPA, and more.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bill Number</th>
<th>Sponsor(s)</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Summary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S 1894</td>
<td>Feinstein D-CA</td>
<td>A bill to provide short-term water supplies to drought-stricken California</td>
<td>CASA – Statement of support provided and submitted to Committee on Energy</td>
<td>Providing comprehensive approach to address drought emergencies, including funding of water recycling, desalination, storage, and expedited water transfers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.R. 1278/S 741</td>
<td>Capps D-CA, Cardin D-MD</td>
<td>Water Infrastructure Resiliency and Sustainability Act of 2015</td>
<td>CASA - Support</td>
<td>Authorizes EPA to establish grant program for owners and operators of water systems to increase resiliency to any ongoing or forecasted changes to the hydrologic conditions of a region of the United States.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.R. 1634</td>
<td>Graves R-MO</td>
<td>To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to increase the length of time for a certain permit</td>
<td>CASA - Support</td>
<td>Provides for extended NPDES Permit Terms of 20 years.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.R. 1705</td>
<td>Latta R-OH</td>
<td>Clean Water Affordability Act of 2015</td>
<td></td>
<td>Assists municipalities and regional sewer authorities that would experience significant hardship raising necessary revenue to finance projects and activities for the construction of wastewater treatment works, and for other purposes.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Attachments: CASA 2016 State Bill Tracking List
CASA Federal Legislation Tracking List
AB 45  
(Mullin D)  Household hazardous waste.  
Last Amend: 1/21/2016  
Status: 2/4/2016-Referred to Com. on E.Q.  
Location: 2/4/2016-S. E.Q.  
Summary: Would require the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery to adopt one or more model ordinances for a comprehensive program for the collection of household hazardous waste and would authorize a local jurisdiction that provides for the residential collection and disposal of solid waste that proposes to enact an ordinance governing the collection and diversion of household hazardous waste to adopt one of the model ordinances adopted by the department.  
Organization | Position  
--- | ---  
CASA | Watch Close  

AB 581  
(Gomez D)  Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014.  
Last Amend: 1/4/2016  
Status: 2/4/2016-Referred to Com. on N.R. & W.  
Location: 2/4/2016-S. N.R. & W.  
Summary: The Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 provides that it is the intent of the people that, to the extent practicable, a project supported by the funds made available by the act will include signage informing the public that the project received funds from the act. This bill would require certain recipients of funding pursuant to the act to post signs acknowledging the source of funds in accordance with guidelines that the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency would be required to develop.  
Organization | Position  
--- | ---  
CASA | Watch Close  

AB 1103  
(Dodd D)  Solid waste: organic waste.  
Last Amend: 7/16/2015  
Status: 7/17/2015-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(10). (Last location was E.Q. on 7/16/2015)  
Location: 7/17/2015-S. 2 YEAR  
Summary: Would require a person who transports a certain amount of food waste to be registered by the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery, except as specified. The bill would require a registered transporter to maintain a record of food waste transported that contains specified documents and information, and to certify, under penalty of perjury, to the accuracy of the record. By expanding the application of the crime of perjury, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.  
Organization | Position  
--- | ---  
CASA | Watch, as amended  

AB 1463  
(Gatto D)  Onsite treated water.  
Last Amend: 9/4/2015  
Status: 9/11/2015-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(14). (Last location was E.Q. on 9/4/2015)  
Location: 9/11/2015-S. 2 YEAR  
Summary: Would require the State Water Resources Control Board, in consultation with the State Department of Public Health, the California Building Standards Commission, and stakeholders, to establish water quality standards and distribution, monitoring, and reporting requirements for onsite water recycling systems prior to authorizing the use of onsite treated water in internal plumbing of residential and commercial buildings. This bill would require onsite treated water to be considered the same as recycled water that is produced on site.  
Organization | Position  
--- | ---  
CASA | Oppose  

AB 1555  
(Gomez D)  Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund.  
Status: 3/17/2016-Referred to Com. on NAT. RES.  
Location: 3/17/2016-A. NAT. RES.  
Summary: Would state the intent of the Legislature to enact future legislation that would appropriate $1,700,000,000 from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund for the 2015-16 fiscal year that would be allocated to different entities in amounts to be determined in the future legislation for purposes including low carbon transportation and infrastructure, clean energy communities, and community climate improvements, wetland and watershed restoration, and carbon sequestration.  
Organization | Position  
--- | ---  
CASA | Watch Close
**AB 1588**  
**Mathis R**  
**Water and Wastewater Loan and Grant Program.**

Last Amend: 3/16/2016  
Status: 3/17/2016-Referred to Com. on W., P., & W.  
Location: 3/17/2016-A. W.,P. & W.  

**Summary:** Would require the State Water Resources Control Board to establish a program to provide funding to counties to award low-interest loans and grants to eligible applicants for specified purposes relating to drinking water and wastewater treatment. This bill would authorize a county to apply to the board for a grant to award loans or grants, or both, to residents of the county, as prescribed. This bill would create the Water and Wastewater Loan and Grant Fund and provide that the moneys in this fund are available, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to the board to administer and implement the program.

**Organization Position**  
CASA Approve

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**AB 1590**  
**Mathis R**  
**State Water Resources Control Board: appointments.**

Last Amend: 3/10/2016  
Status: 3/16/2016-In committee: Set, first hearing. Hearing canceled at the request of author.  
Location: 3/14/2016-A. W.,P. & W.  

**Summary:** Would require that an additional 4 members be appointed to the State Water Resources Control Board by the Legislature. The bill would require that one member each be appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly, the Assembly Minority Leader, the President pro Tempore of the Senate, and the Senate Minority Leader. The bill would require that vacancies be immediately filled by the appointing power.

**Organization Position**  
CASA Watch Close

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**AB 1598**  
**Weber D**  
**Budget Act of 2016.**

Status: 2/1/2016-Referred to Com. on BUDGET.  
Location: 2/1/2016-A. BUDGET  

**Summary:** This bill would make appropriations for the support of state government for the 2016-17 fiscal year. This bill contains other related provisions.

**Organization Position**  
CASA Watch

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**AB 1661**  
**McCarty D**  
**Local government: sexual harassment training and education.**

Last Amend: 3/17/2016  
Status: 3/17/2016-From committee chair, with author's amendments: Amend, and re-refer to Com. on L. GOV. Read second time and amended.  
Location: 3/17/2016-A. L. GOV.  

**Summary:** Current law requires all local agency officials to receive training in ethics, at specified intervals, if the local agency provides any type of compensation, salary, or stipend to those officials. This bill would additionally require local agency officials, as defined, to receive sexual harassment training and education if the local agency provides any type of compensation, salary, or stipend to those officials, and would allow a local agency to require employees to receive sexual harassment training or information.

**Organization Position**  
CASA Watch

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**AB 1707**  
**Linder R**  
**Public records: response to request.**

Status: 3/8/2016-In committee: Set, first hearing. Hearing canceled at the request of author.  
Location: 2/25/2016-A. JUD.  

**Summary:** The California Public Records Act requires state and local agencies to make public records available for inspection, unless an exemption from disclosure applies. The act requires a response to a written request for public records that includes a denial of the request, in whole or in part, to be in writing. This bill instead would require that response to be in writing regardless of whether the request was in writing. The bill would require that written response additionally to include a list that contains the title or other identification of each record requested but withheld due to an exemption and the specific exemption that applies to that record.

**Organization Position**  
CASA Oppose

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**AB 1738**  
**McCarty D**  
**Building Standards: Dark Graywater.**

Status: 2/18/2016-Referred to Com. on E.S. & T.M.  
Location: 2/18/2016-A. E.S. & T.M.  

**Summary:** Would define "dark graywater" as a specified wastewater that comes from kitchen sinks
This bill would require the Department of Housing and Community Development, at the next triennial building standards rulemaking cycle, to adopt and submit for approval building standards for the construction, installation, and alteration of dark graywater systems for indoor and outdoor uses. This bill contains other existing laws.

Organization  Position
CASA  Oppose, Seek Amendments

**AB 1749** *(Mathis R)*  California Environmental Quality Act: exemption: recycled water pipelines.

Status: 3/14/2016-In committee: Set, first hearing. Hearing canceled at the request of author.

Location: 2/18/2016-A. NAT. RES.

Summary: CEQA exempts from its requirements projects consisting of the construction or expansion of recycled water pipeline and directly related infrastructure within existing rights of way, and directly related groundwater replenishment, if the project does not affect wetlands or sensitive habitat, and where the construction impacts are fully mitigated, and undertaken for the purpose of mitigating drought conditions for which a state of emergency was proclaimed by the Governor on a certain date. CEQA provides that this exemption remains operative until the state of emergency has expired or until January 1, 2017, whichever occurs first. This bill would extend that date to January 1, 2022.

Organization  Position
CASA  Approve

**AB 1812** *(Wagner R)*  Public employees' retirement.

Status: 2/25/2016-Referred to Com. on P.E., R., & S.S.

Location: 2/25/2016-A. P.E., R. & S.S.

Summary: Would prohibit the retirement benefit paid to a member of any public retirement system whose service is not included in the federal social security system from exceeding $100,000. The bill would prohibit the retirement benefit paid to a member of any public retirement system whose service is included in the federal social security system from exceeding $80,000. The bill would require that those amounts be adjusted annually by each public retirement system using the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers. This bill contains other related provisions.

Organization  Position
CASA  Disapprove

**AB 1832** *(Dahle R)*  California Renewables Portfolio Standard Program

Status: 2/10/2016-From printer. May be heard in committee March 11.

Location: 2/9/2016-A. PRINT

Summary: The California Renewables Portfolio Standard Program requires the Public Utilities Commission to direct each electrical corporation to annually prepare a renewable energy procurement plan to satisfy its procurement requirements pursuant to the program. To the extent feasible, the renewable energy procurement plan is to be proposed, reviewed, and adopted as part of, and pursuant to, the general procurement plan process. This bill would make a nonsubstantive revision to the provision that requires, to the extent feasible, that the renewable energy procurement plan be proposed, reviewed, and adopted as part of, and pursuant to, the general procurement plan process.

Organization  Position
CASA  SPOT BILL - Watch Close

**AB 1842** *(Levine D)*  Water: pollution: fines.

Status: 2/25/2016-Referred to Com. on W., P., & W.

Location: 2/25/2016-A. W., P., & W.

Summary: Current law imposes a maximum civil penalty of $25,000 on a person who discharges various pollutants or other designated materials into the waters of the state. This bill would impose an additional civil penalty of not more than $10 for each gallon or pound of polluting material discharged. The bill would require that the civil penalty be reduced for every gallon or pound of the illegally discharged material that is recovered and properly disposed of by the responsible party.

Organization  Position
CASA  Oppose, Work with Others

**AB 1866** *(Wilk R)*  High-speed rail bond proceeds: redirection: water projects.

Status: 2/25/2016-Referred to Coms. on TRANS. and W., P., & W.

Location: 2/25/2016-A. TRANS.

Summary: Would provide that no further bonds shall be sold for high-speed rail purposes pursuant to the Safe, Reliable High-Speed Passenger Train Bond Act for the 21st Century, except as specifically provided with respect to an existing appropriation for high-speed rail purposes for early improvement projects in the Phase 1 blended system. The bill, subject to the above exception, would require...
redirection of the unspent proceeds received from outstanding bonds issued and sold for other high-speed rail purposes prior to the effective date of these provisions, upon appropriation, for use in retiring the debt incurred from the issuance and sale of those outstanding bonds.

**AB 1926**  
*(Cooper D)*  
**Public works: prevailing wage: apprentices.**  
**Last Amend:** 3/15/2016  
**Status:** 3/16/2016-Referred to Com. on L. & E.  
**Location:** 3/16/2016-A. L. & E.  
**Summary:** Would require, when a contractor requests the dispatch of an apprentice to perform work on a public works project, that the apprentice be paid the prevailing rate for the time spent on a required activity, as specified. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

**AB 1989**  
*(Jones R)*  
**Water, energy, and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.**  
**Last Amend:** 3/14/2016  
**Status:** 3/15/2016-Referred to Com. on W., P., & W.  
**Location:** 3/15/2016-A. W., P. & W.  
**Summary:** Would require the State Water Resources Control Board, in coordination with the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission, the Public Utilities Commission, and the Department of Water Resources, to develop and implement a grant and low-interest loan program for water projects that result in the net reduction of water-related greenhouse gas emissions. The bill would continuously appropriate $200,000,000 annually from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund to the State Water Resources Control Board to develop and implement the grant and low-interest loan program.

**AB 2022**  
*(Gordon D)*  
**Advanced purified demonstration water.**  
**Status:** 2/29/2016-Referred to Com. on E.S. & T.M.  
**Location:** 2/29/2016-A. E.S. & T.M.  
**Summary:** Would authorize the operator of a facility producing advanced purified demonstration water, as defined, to cause that water to be bottled and distributed as samples for educational purposes and to promote water recycling. The bill would prohibit the advanced purified demonstration water from being distributed unless the water meets or is superior to all federal and state drinking water standards. The bill would authorize advanced purified demonstration water to be bottled at a licensed water-bottling plant in compliance with specified provisions.

**AB 2076**  
*(Garcia, Cristina D)*  
**Water recycling: beer and wine.**  
**Status:** 2/29/2016-Referred to Com. on E.S. & T.M.  
**Location:** 2/29/2016-A. E.S. & T.M.  
**Summary:** Current law requires the State Water Resources Control Board to establish uniform statewide recycling criteria for each varying type of use of recycled water where the use involves the protection of public health. This bill would require the board to adopt uniform water recycling criteria for the use of recycled water in the manufacture of beer and wine.

**AB 2118**  
*(Jones-Sawyer D)*  
**Meyers-Milius-Brown Act: regulations.**  
**Status:** 2/18/2016-From printer. May be heard in committee March 19.  
**Location:** 2/17/2016-A. PRINT  
**Summary:** The Meyers-Milius-Brown Act, among other things, authorizes local public agencies to adopt reasonable rules and regulations after consultation in good faith with representatives of a recognized employee organization or organizations for the administration of employer-employee relations under the act, which may include specified provisions. This bill would make nonsubstantive changes to this provision.
**AB 2139** (Williams D) State Water Resources Control Board: California Ocean Plan.

**Status:** 2/29/2016-Referred to Com. on E.S. & T.M.

**Location:** 2/29/2016-A. E.S. & T.M.

**Summary:** The Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act requires the State Water Resources Control Board to formulate and adopt state policies for water quality control and to formulate and adopt, and review at least every 3 years, a water quality control plan for the ocean waters of the state known as the California Ocean Plan. This bill would require the state board, on or before January 1, 2018, to either amend the plan or adopt separate standards to address water quality objectives and effluent limitations that specifically relate to carbon dioxide and pH levels within the state's coastal waters.

**Organization**  
CASA  
**Position**  
Work w/ Author, Seek to Amend

**AB 2223** (Gray D) Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund: manure digesters.

**Status:** 3/3/2016-Referred to Coms. on NAT. RES. and AGRI.

**Location:** 3/3/2016-A. NAT. RES.

**Summary:** Would continuously appropriate $100,000,000 annually from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund to the State Air Resources Board to make manure digester market development payments for electricity produced from California-generated manure by California-based manure digesters. This bill contains other existing laws.

**Organization**  
CASA  
**Position**  
Refer to Energy Subcommittee

**AB 2257** (Maienschein R) Local agency meetings: agenda: online posting.

**Status:** 3/3/2016-Referred to Com. on L. GOV.

**Location:** 3/3/2016-A. L. GOV.

**Summary:** The Ralph M. Brown Act requires the legislative body of a local agency to post, at least 72 hours before the meeting, an agenda containing a brief general description of each item of business to be transacted or discussed at a regular meeting, in a location that is freely accessible to members of the public and to provide a notice containing similar information with respect to a special meeting at least 24 hours prior to the special meeting. This bill would require an online posting of an agenda by a local agency to have a prominent direct link to the current agenda itself.

**Organization**  
CASA  
**Position**  
Watch

**AB 2389** (Ridley-Thomas D) Special districts: district-based elections: reapportionment.

**Status:** 3/8/2016-Referred to Coms. on E. & R. and L. GOV.

**Location:** 3/8/2016-A. E. & R.

**Summary:** Would authorize a governing body of a special district, as defined, to require, by resolution, that the election of the members of its governing body be elected using district-based elections without being required to submit the resolution to the voters for approval.

**Organization**  
CASA  
**Position**  
Watch Close

**AB 2413** (Thurmond D) Sea level rise preparation.

**Status:** 3/8/2016-Referred to Com. on NAT. RES.

**Location:** 3/8/2016-A. NAT. RES.

**Summary:** Current law, until January 1, 2018, requires the Natural Resources Agency to create, biannually update, and post on an Internet Web site a Planning for Sea Level Rise Database, as specified, and requires specified entities to provide to the agency certain sea level rise planning information for inclusion in the database. This bill would require the agency, on or before January 1, 2019, to complete a study outlining the potential impact of sea level rise on low-income and at-risk communities and public projects and infrastructure. The bill would require the agency, based on the study, to make recommendations on preparing for sea level rise, as specified.

**Organization**  
CASA  
**Position**  
Refer to Energy Subcommittee

**AB 2438** (Waldron R) California Environmental Quality Act: exemption: recycled water pipelines.

**Status:** 3/8/2016-Referred to Com. on NAT. RES.

**Location:** 3/8/2016-A. NAT. RES.

**Summary:** Would, until January 1, 2020, additionally exempt from CEQA a project for the construction and installation of a new pipeline or the maintenance, repair, restoration, reconditioning, relocation, replacement, removal, or demolition of an existing pipeline, not exceeding 8 miles in length, for the
distribution of recycled water within a public street, highway, or right-of-way and would require the lead agency to undertake specified activities, including the filing of a notice of exemption for the project with the Office of Planning and Research and the office of the county clerk of each county in which the project is located.

**Organization**  
CASA  
**Position**  
Watch

**AB 2446**  
**Gordon D**  
State Water Resources Control Board: judicial review.

**Last Amend:** 3/17/2016  
**Status:** 3/17/2016-From committee chair, with author's amendments: Amend, and re-refer to Com. on W., P., & W. Read second time and amended.

**Location:** 3/17/2016-A. W., P. & W.

**Summary:** The Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, within 30 days of any action or failure to act by a California regional water quality control board under specified law, authorizes an aggrieved person to petition the State Water Resources Control Board to review that action or failure to act. Current law authorizes the state board, in the case of such a review, upon notice and hearing, if a hearing is requested, to stay in whole or in part the effect of the decision and order of a regional board or of the state board. This bill would expand that provision to authorize the state board to issue a stay in the case of review by the state board of a decision or order issued under authority delegated to an officer or employee of the state board where the state board by regulation has authorized a petition for reconsideration by the state board.

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<th>Organization</th>
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<td>Watch</td>
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**AB 2470**  
**Bigelow R**  
Water quality: organization and membership of regional boards.

**Status:** 3/17/2016-Referred to Coms. on L. GOV. and NAT. RES.

**Location:** 3/17/2016-A. L. GOV.

**Summary:** Current law requires the State Water Resources Control Board and the 9 California regional water quality control boards to prescribe waste discharge requirements in accordance with the federal national pollutant discharge elimination system permit program established by the federal Clean Water Act and the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (state act). The state act requires regional boards to consist of 7 members appointed by the Governor, 6 of them on the basis of demonstrated interest or proven ability in the field of water quality and one as a public member not specifically associated with any enumerated qualification. This bill would make nonsubstantive changes to these provisions.

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<th>Organization</th>
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<td>CASA</td>
<td>Oppose, work w/author</td>
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**AB 2511**  
**Levine D**  
Fertilizing materials: auxiliary soil and plant substances: biochar.

**Status:** 3/8/2016-Referred to Com. on AGRI.

**Location:** 3/8/2016-A. AGRI.

**Summary:** Would include biochar, as defined, as a product intended to be used for influencing soils, plant growth, or crop or plant quality for the purposes of the definition of auxiliary soil and plant substances. The bill would remove soil amendments as a substance excluded from the definition of auxiliary soil and plant substances.

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<td>CASA</td>
<td>Refer to Energy Subcommittee</td>
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**AB 2523**  
**Mullin D**  
Local elective offices: contribution limitations.

**Last Amend:** 3/17/2016  
**Status:** 3/17/2016-From committee chair, with author's amendments: Amend, and re-refer to Com. on E. & R. Read second time and amended.

**Location:** 3/17/2016-A. E. & R.

**Summary:** Would prohibit a person from making to a candidate for local elective office, and would prohibit a candidate for local elective office from accepting from a person, a contribution totaling more than the amount set forth for limitations on contributions to a candidate for elective state office. This bill would authorize a county, city, special district, or school district to impose a limitation that is equal to or lower than that limitation, except as specified. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

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<td>Watch/seek info</td>
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**AB 2585**  
**Williams D**  
California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006: market-based compliance
AB 2601  (Eggman D) Building standards: residential property: graywater.
Status: 3/10/2016-Referred to Com. on H. & C.D.
Location: 3/10/2016-A. H. & C.D.
Summary: Would require the Department of Housing and Community Development, on or after January 1, 2017, to adopt and submit to the California Building Standards Commission for approval amendments to the building standards adopted pursuant to specified provisions that require that all new single-family and duplex residential dwelling units include specified components to allow the separate discharge of graywater for direct irrigation and that all new single-family residential dwelling units include a segregated building drain for lavatories, showers, and bathtubs to allow for future installation of a distributed graywater system.

AB 2617  (Mayes R) Water efficiency measures.
Status: 3/10/2016-Referred to Coms. on NAT. RES. and W., P., & W.
Location: 3/10/2016-A. NAT. RES.
Summary: Would require the Energy Commission to develop and solicit comments on a proposed report, in consultation with certain subject matter experts, by December 1, 2017, and, by July 1, 2018, to issue a final report that contains, among other things, the projected benefits of recommended voluntary water efficiency measures and an analysis of any unintended adverse environmental impacts that would result from various water efficiency measures.

Status: 2/22/2016-Read first time.
Location: 2/19/2016-A. PRINT
Summary: Under current law, the State Water Resources Control Board and the California regional water quality control boards prescribe waste discharge requirements in accordance with the federal Clean Water Act and the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (state act). The state act defines various terms for its purposes. This bill would make nonsubstantive changes to these definitions.

AB 2753  (Grove R) Public employment: employee bargaining representatives: financial information.
Status: 3/10/2016-Referred to Com. on P.E., R., & S.S.
Location: 3/10/2016-A. P.E., R. & S.S.
Summary: Would require an organization that provides representation to public employees in labor negotiations with a state or local public employer to place an itemized version of its budget on its Internet Web site and to provide each member of the organization easy access to it. The bill would require the budget to be updated on an ongoing basis. The bill would also require a public employee organization to provide its members a means of asking questions about financial issues related to the organization and would grant members the right to receive responses to their questions, in writing if requested, within a reasonable time.

AB 2754  (Grove R) Public employment: employee bargaining representatives: financial information.
Status: 3/10/2016-Referred to Com. on P.E., R., & S.S.
Location: 3/10/2016-A. P.E., R. & S.S.
Summary: Would require an organization that provides representation to public employees in labor
negotiations with a state or local public employer to hold an election every 2 years to determine if the current labor union should continue to represent those members of the organization. This bill grants members the right during that election to affirmatively select another public employee organization to represent them.

### AB 2801

**Gallagher, R.** Civil procedure: validation actions.

**Status:** 3/14/2016- Referred to Com. on JUD.

**Location:** 3/14/2016- A. JUD.

**Summary:** Current law authorizes a public agency to bring an action in court to determine the validity of certain matters within 60 days of the existence of the matter, as specified. If the public agency does not bring this action, current law authorizes any interested person to bring the same action in court to determine the validity within 60 days of the existence of the matter, as specified. This bill would delete the prohibition on a contest of any thing or matter under these provisions being made other than within the specified time and manner, except by the public agency or its officer or agent.

### AB 2853

**Gatto, D.** Public records.

**Last Amend:** 3/18/2016

**Status:** 3/18/2016- From committee chair, with author's amendments: Amend, and re-refer to Com. on JUD. Read second time and amended.

**Location:** 3/18/2016- A. JUD.

**Summary:** Would authorize a public agency that posts a public record on its Internet Web site to refer a person that requests to inspect or obtain a copy of the public record to the public agency's Internet Web site where the public record is posted.

### AB 2890

**(Committee on Environmental Safety and Toxic Materi)** Drinking water and wastewater operator certification programs.

**Status:** 3/1/2016- From printer. May be heard in committee March 31.

**Location:** 2/29/2016- A. PRINT

**Summary:** Would require the State Water Resources Control Board to appoint an advisory committee to assist it in carrying out its responsibilities to examine and certify people to operate water treatment plants and water distribution systems. This bill would require the advisory committee to review all proposed regulations and make recommendations to the board. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

### ACA 8

**(Bloom, D)** Local government financing: water facilities and infrastructure: voter approval.

**Status:** 2/19/2016- From printer. May be heard in committee March 20.

**Location:** 2/18/2016- A. PRINT

**Summary:** Would create an additional exception to the 1% limit for a rate imposed by a city, county, city and county, or special district to service bonded indebtedness incurred to fund the construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, or replacement of wastewater treatment facilities and related infrastructure, potable water producing facilities and related infrastructure, nonpotable water producing facilities and related infrastructure, and stormwater treatment facilities and related infrastructure, that is approved by 55% of the voters of the city, county, city and county, or special district, as applicable, if the proposition meets specified requirements, and would authorize a city, county, city and county, or special district to levy a 55% vote ad valorem tax. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

### SB 163

**(Hertzberg, D)** Wastewater treatment: recycled water.

**Last Amend:** 9/3/2015

**Status:** 9/11/2015- Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(14). (Last location was RLS. on 9/8/2015)

**Location:** 9/11/2015- A. 2 YEAR

**Summary:** Would declare that the discharge of treated wastewater from ocean outfalls, except in compliance with the bill's provisions, is a waste and unreasonable use of water in light of the cost-
effective opportunities to recycle this water for further beneficial use. This bill, on or before January 1, 2026, would require a wastewater treatment facility discharging through an ocean outfall to achieve at least 50% reuse of the facility’s actual annual flow, as defined, for beneficial purposes.

**Organization**  
CASA  
**Position**  
Oppose, work  
w/author

**SB 286**  
(Hertzberg D)   
**Electricity: direct transactions.**  
**Last Amend:** 3/1/2016  
**Status:** 3/1/2016-From committee with author's amendments. Read second time and amended. Referred to Com. on APPR.  
**Location:** 3/1/2016-A. APPR.  
**Summary:** Would require the Public Utilities Commission to adopt and implement a schedule that implements a 2nd phase-in period for expanding direct transactions for individual retail nonresidential end-use customers over a period of not more than 3 years, raising the allowable limit of kilowatthours that can be supplied by other providers in each electrical corporation's distribution service territory by that electrical corporation's share of an aggregate of 8,000 gigawatthours, apportioned as specified.

**Organization**  
CASA  
**Position**  
Support

**SB 661**  
(Hill D)   
**Protection of subsurface installations.**  
**Last Amend:** 1/4/2016  
**Status:** 1/26/2016-In Assembly. Read first time. Held at Desk.  
**Location:** 1/26/2016-A. DESK  
**Summary:** Current law requires every operator of a subsurface installation, except the Department of Transportation, to become a member of, participate in, and share in the costs of, a regional notification center. Current law requires any person who plans to conduct any excavation to contact the appropriate regional notification center before commencing that excavation, as specified. Current law defines a subsurface installation as any underground pipeline, conduit, duct, wire, or other structure. This bill, the Dig Safe Act of 2016, would declare the need to clarify and revise these provisions. The bill would define and redefine various terms relating to a regional notification center.

**Organization**  
CASA  
**Position**  
Watch Close

**SB 885**  
(Wolk D)   
**Construction contracts: indemnity.**  
**Status:** 1/28/2016-Referred to Com. on JUD.  
**Location:** 1/28/2016-S. JUD.  
**Summary:** Would specify, for construction contracts entered into on or after January 1, 2017, that a design professional, as defined, only has the duty to defend claims that arise out of, or pertain or relate to, negligence, recklessness, or willful misconduct of the design professional. Under the bill, a design professional would not have a duty to defend claims against any other person or entity arising from a construction project, except that person or entity's reasonable defense costs arising out of the design professional's degree of fault, as specified.

**Organization**  
CASA  
**Position**  
Oppose, Work  
with  
Subcommittee

**SB 919**  
(Hertzberg D)   
**Water supply: creation or augmentation of local water supplies.**  
**Last Amend:** 3/7/2016  
**Status:** 3/9/2016-Set for hearing March 29.  
**Location:** 3/7/2016-S. E. U., & C.  
**Summary:** Would require the Public Utilities Commission, before July 1, 2017, in consultation with the Independent System Operator, to address the oversupply of renewable energy resources through a tariff or other economic incentive for electricity purchased by customers operating "facilities that create or augment local water supplies," as defined, to reduce the cost of electricity to those facilities. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

**Organization**  
CASA  
**Position**  
Support/work  
w/author

**SB 954**  
(Hertzberg D)   
**Public works: prevailing wage: per diem wages.**  
**Status:** 3/18/2016-Set for hearing April 6.  
**Location:** 2/18/2016-S. L. & I.R.  
**Summary:** Would require per diem wages to include industry advancement and collective bargaining
agreements administrative fees, provided that the employer is required by a collective bargaining agreement to make those payments. The bill would also exclude from per diem wages, employer payments for other purposes similar to certain apprenticeship or other training programs, worker protection and assistance programs or committees established under the federal Labor Management Cooperation Act of 1978, and industry advancement and collective bargaining agreements administrative fees. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

**Organization** | **Position**
--- | ---
CASA | Disapprove

**SB 970**

**Leyva D** (Organic food waste diversion.)

**Status:** 3/15/2016-Set for hearing April 6.

**Location:** 2/18/2016-S. E.Q.

**Summary:** Current law requires the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery to cooperate with local jurisdictions and industry to provide assistance for increasing the feasibility of organic waste recycling and to identify certain state financing mechanisms and state funding incentives and post this information on its Internet Web site. This bill would require, by June 1, 2017, the department, in consultation with the State Air Resources Board and the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission, to develop a pilot program that encourages cost-effective and efficient integrated organic food waste diversion projects.

**Organization** | **Position**
--- | ---
CASA | Support
Concept/Work
w/Author

**SB 1043**

**Allen D** (Renewable gas: biogas and biomethane.)

**Status:** 3/17/2016-Set for hearing April 5.

**Location:** 2/25/2016-S. E. U., & C.

**Summary:** Would require the State Air Resources Board to consider and adopt policies to significantly increase the sustainable production and use of renewable gas, as defined, and, in so doing, would require the state board, among other things, to ensure the production and use of renewable gas provides direct environmental benefits and identify barriers to the rapid development and use of renewable gas and potential sources of funding.

**Organization** | **Position**
--- | ---
CASA | Refer to Energy
Subcommittee

**SB 1096**

**Berryhill R** (Waste discharge requirements.)

**Status:** 2/25/2016-Referred to Com. on RLS.

**Location:** 2/25/2016-S. RLS.

**Summary:** Current law, the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, requires each California regional water quality control board, after any necessary hearing, to prescribe waste discharge requirements to implement relevant water quality control plans, and authorizes the State Water Resources Control Board, after any necessary hearing, to prescribe waste discharge requirements, as specified. This bill would make technical, nonsubstantive changes to these provisions.

**Organization** | **Position**
--- | ---
CASA | SPOT BILL -
Watch Close

**SB 1153**

**Cannella R** (Energy: gas: biomethane: California Renewable Natural Gas Act.)

**Status:** 3/17/2016-Set for hearing April 5.

**Location:** 3/3/2016-S. E. U., & C.

**Summary:** Would require the Public Utilities Commission to consider and adopt policies to increase the production and availability of in-state pipeline biomethane significantly. The bill would require the commission to adopt a biomethane feed-in tariff program and to open a proceeding to consider making recoverable as part of the rate base gas corporation capital investments that facilitate pipeline biomethane development and injection at in-state projects. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

**Organization** | **Position**
--- | ---
CASA | Refer to Energy
Subcommittee

**SB 1170**

**Wieckowski D** (Public contracts: water pollution prevention plans: delegation.)

**Status:** 3/10/2016-Set for hearing March 30.

**Location:** 3/3/2016-S. GOV. & F.

**Summary:** Would prohibit a public entity, charter city, or charter county from delegating to a contractor the development of a plan, as defined, used to prevent or reduce water pollution or runoff on a public
works contract, except as provided. The bill would also prohibit a public entity, charter city, or charter county from requiring a contractor on a public works contract that includes compliance with a plan to assume responsibility for the completeness and accuracy of a plan developed by that entity.

**Organization** | **Position**
--- | ---
CASA | Oppose

**SB 1173** (Hertzberg D) *Water-conserving plumbing fixtures.*
**Status:** 3/3/2016-Referred to Coms. on T. & H. and JUD.
**Location:** 3/3/2016-S. T. & H.
**Summary:** Current law requires the replacement of plumbing fixtures that are not water conserving, defined as "noncompliant plumbing fixtures," in residential and commercial real property built and available for use on or before January 1, 1994, as specified. Current law defines "commercial real property," "multifamily residential real property," and "water-conserving plumbing fixture" for purposes of these provisions. This bill would amend the definition of specified noncompliant plumbing fixtures to lower water usage thresholds.

**Organization** | **Position**
--- | ---
CASA | Watch/seek info

**SB 1213** (Wieckowski D) *Renewable energy: biosolids: matching grants.*
**Status:** 3/9/2016-Set for hearing March 29.
**Location:** 3/3/2016-S. E. U., & C.
**Summary:** Would require the State Energy Resources Conservation Commission to develop and implement the Biosolids to Clean Energy Grant Program to provide 50% matching funds to local wastewater agencies for biosolids to clean energy capital projects. The bill would continuously appropriate $20,000,000 annually from the fund to the commission for purposes of the program. The bill would, for the 2016-17 fiscal year, appropriate an additional $12,000,000 from the fund to the Bay Area Biosolids to Energy Coalition for the design and construction of a regional biosolids to clean energy project located in the San Francisco Bay Area.

**Organization** | **Position**
--- | ---
CASA | Support/work w/author

**SB 1229** (Jackson D) *Pharmacies: secure drug take-back bins.*
**Status:** 3/15/2016-Set for hearing April 6.
**Location:** 3/3/2016-S. E.Q.
**Summary:** Would require a pharmacy that owns or operates a secure drug take-back bin, as defined, in a publicly accessible location to take reasonable steps to ensure the proper disposal of the pharmaceutical waste contained in the bins. The bill would provide that the owner or operator is not liable for civil damages arising from the use of the secure drug take-back bin if the owner or operator takes reasonable steps, as specified, to ensure the health and safety of consumers and employees and the proper disposal in the waste stream of the pharmaceutical waste contained in the bins.

**Organization** | **Position**
--- | ---
CASA | Support

**SB 1301** (Hertzberg D) *Natural gas: greenhouse gas allowance: allocation.*
**Status:** 3/9/2016-Set for hearing March 29.
**Location:** 3/3/2016-S. E. U., & C.
**Summary:** Would require the Public Utilities Commission, no later than June 1, 2017, to require 25% of revenues received by a gas corporation as a result of the auction of greenhouse gas allowances to be used for clean energy and energy efficiency projects or programs approved by the commission, as specified. The bill would require the commission to require each gas corporation to annually report and post on its Internet Web site all expenditures of these revenues and the quantified reductions in greenhouse gases from projects or programs funded under these provisions.

**Organization** | **Position**
--- | ---
CASA | Support

**SB 1318** (Wolk D) *Local government: drinking water infrastructure or services: wastewater infrastructure or services.*
**Status:** 3/10/2016-Set for hearing March 30.
**Location:** 3/3/2016-S. GOV. & F.
**Summary:** Would prohibit a local agency formation commission from authorizing a city or a district to extend drinking water infrastructure or services or wastewater infrastructure or services until it has extended those services to all disadvantaged communities within or adjacent to its sphere of influence, as specified, or has entered into an agreement to extend those services to those disadvantaged communities, unless specified conditions are met. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.
SB 1350  (Wolk D)  Agricultural lands: greenhouse gases: Healthy Soils Program.
Status: 3/15/2016-Set for hearing April 6.
Location: 3/3/2016-S. E.Q.
Summary: The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 requires the Secretary of Food and Agriculture to convene a 5-member Scientific Advisory Panel on Environmental Farming, as prescribed, for the purpose of providing advice and assistance to federal, state, and local government agencies on issues relating to air, water, and wildlife habitat, as specified. This bill would change the number of members on the panel from 5 to 7 members and would require that the secretary appoint 5 members, instead of 3, of these members.

SB 1383  (Lara D)  Short-lived climate pollutants.
Status: 3/15/2016-Set for hearing April 6.
Location: 3/10/2016-S. E.Q.
Summary: Would require the State Air Resources Board to approve and implement that comprehensive strategy to reduce emissions of short-lived climate pollutants to achieve a reduction in methane by 40%, hydrofluorocarbon gases by 40%, and anthropogenic black carbon by 50% below 2013 levels by 2030, as specified.

Status: 3/15/2016-Set for hearing April 6.
Location: 3/10/2016-S. E.Q.
Summary: Would exempt from the requirements of CEQA drought-oriented projects, as specified, proposed by one or more public agencies, or a combination of public agencies and private organizations, that have the purpose of mitigating drought conditions for which a state of emergency has been declared by the Governor pursuant to the California Emergency Services Act. This bill contains other existing laws.

SB 1436  (Bates R)  Local agency meetings: local agency executive compensation: discussion of final action taken.
Status: 3/10/2016-Referred to Com. on GOV. & F.
Location: 3/10/2016-S. GOV. & F.
Summary: Current law prohibits the legislative body from calling a special meeting regarding the salaries, salary schedules, or compensation paid in the form of fringe benefits, of a local agency executive, as defined. This bill would require the final action on the salaries, salary schedules, or compensation paid in the form of fringe benefits of a local agency executive to be made a separate discussion item and not placed on a consent calendar.

Total Measures: 61
Total Tracking Forms: 61
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bill No.</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Sponsor</th>
<th>Summary</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Cosponsors</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>H.R. 1668</td>
<td>Save our Water Act</td>
<td>Tom McClintock (R-CA)</td>
<td>To amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to provide for suspension of application of the Act to water releases by Federal and State agencies in river basins that are affected by drought, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>04/22/2015 Sponsor introductory remarks on measure.</td>
<td>Rep. Dana Rohrabacher (R-CA)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.R. 2029</td>
<td>Omnibus Appropriations</td>
<td>Charles Dent (R-PA)</td>
<td>Making appropriations for all federal agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>House and Senate pass and president signs into law 12/18/2015 P.L.#114-13</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Provides for full funding of SRF program and water recycling projects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.R. 291/ S. 176</td>
<td>W-21</td>
<td>Napolitano (D-CA)/Boxer (D-CA)</td>
<td>To provide for integrated water management programs and other purposes</td>
<td>Referred to the Subcommittee on Water, Power and Oceans./Senate Referred to Committee on Environment and Public Works</td>
<td>H.R.291: 29 cosponsors/ S.176: 2 cosponsors</td>
<td></td>
<td>Reintroduction of past legislation. (Boxer not expected to push for bill see S. 1894)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S. 1894</td>
<td>A bill to provide short-term water supplies to drought-stricken California</td>
<td>Dianne Feinstein (D-CA)</td>
<td>Bill provides for a comprehensive approach to address drought emergencies including funding of water recycling, desalination, storage, and expedited water transfers</td>
<td>07/29/2015 Committee on Energy and Natural Resources 10/8/2015 Hearing Held</td>
<td>Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA)</td>
<td></td>
<td>CASA statement of support provided to delegation and submitted to committee for the record</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.R. 2689</td>
<td>Eligible Projects Water Resources Reform and Development Act</td>
<td>Mimi Walters (R-CA)</td>
<td>To clarify the scope of eligible water resources projects under the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 and the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>06/10/2015 Referred to the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.R. 1705</td>
<td>Clean Water Affordability Act of 2015</td>
<td>Latta (R-OH)</td>
<td>To assist municipalities and regional sewer authorities that would experience a significant hardship raising the revenue necessary to finance projects and activities for the construction of wastewater treatment works, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>03/27/2015 Referred to the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment.</td>
<td>2 co-sponsors</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.R. 2993</td>
<td>Water Recycling Acceleration Act of 2015</td>
<td>Doris Matsui (D-CA)</td>
<td>To authorize funding for water recycling projects in areas experiencing severe, extreme, or exceptional drought</td>
<td>07/24/2015 Referred to the Subcommittee on Water, Power and Oceans. (Provisions incorporated into S. 1894)</td>
<td>None</td>
<td></td>
<td>Support</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ENS Resources, Inc. 1
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bill No.</th>
<th>Title</th>
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</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>H.R. 2983</td>
<td>Drought Recovery and Resilience Act of 2015</td>
<td>Jared Huffman (D-CA)</td>
<td>To provide drought assistance and improved water supply reliability to the State of California, other western States, and the Nation.</td>
<td>07/24/2015 Referred to the Subcommittee on Water, Power and Ocean</td>
<td>37 co-sponsors</td>
<td>Support</td>
<td>Many provisions incorporated into S. 1894</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAST Act</td>
<td></td>
<td>Barbara Boxer (D-CA) James Inhofe (R-OK)</td>
<td>Transportation Reauthorization</td>
<td>Signed into law 12/8/2015</td>
<td>No Position</td>
<td></td>
<td>Provide for the ability to use tax exempt bonds in conjunction with WIFIA assistance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.R. 625</td>
<td>Infrastructure 2.0 Act</td>
<td>John Delany (D-MD)</td>
<td>To eliminate the incentive for corporations to continue to hold accumulated earnings offshore, to invest in domestic infrastructure, to provide for international tax reform, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>02/02/2015 Referred to the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment.</td>
<td>18 cosponsors</td>
<td>Support</td>
<td>S. Rept. 114-48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S. 653</td>
<td>Water Resources Research Amendments Act of 2015</td>
<td>Benjamin Cardin (D-MD)</td>
<td>To amend the Water Resources Research Act of 1984 to reauthorize grants for and require applied water supply research regarding the water resources research and technology institutes established under that Act.</td>
<td>06/09/2015 Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate without amendment by Unanimous Consent</td>
<td>1 cosponsor</td>
<td>Support</td>
<td>S. Rept. 114-48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S. 896</td>
<td>Innovative Stormwater Infrastructure Act of 2015</td>
<td>Tom Udall (D-NM)</td>
<td>To establish centers of excellence for innovative stormwater control infrastructure, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>04/13/2015 Referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.</td>
<td>1 cosponsor</td>
<td>No Position</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.R. 1278 / S. 741</td>
<td>Water Infrastructure Resiliency and Sustainability Act of 2015</td>
<td>Lois Capps (D-CA) / Benjamin Cardin (D-MD)</td>
<td>To authorize the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to establish a program of awarding grants to owners or operators of water systems to increase the resiliency or adaptability of the systems to any ongoing or forecasted changes to the hydrologic conditions of a region of the United States.</td>
<td>03/23/2015 Referred to the House Subcommittee on Water, Power and Oceans. 03/16/2015 Referred to the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works</td>
<td>H.R. 1278: 12 cosponsors / S.741: 2 cosponsors</td>
<td>Support</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.R. 1705</td>
<td>Clean Water Affordability Act of 2015</td>
<td>Robert Latta (R-OH)</td>
<td>To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to assist municipalities and regional sewer authorities that would experience a significant hardship raising the revenue necessary to finance projects and activities for the construction of wastewater treatment works, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>03/27/2015 Referred to the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment.</td>
<td>1 cosponsor</td>
<td>No Position</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.R. 1710</td>
<td>Drought Resilience Investment Act of 2015</td>
<td>Jerry McNerney (D-CA)</td>
<td>To amend the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014 to provide additional financing options for water infrastructure projects carried out in States in which the Governor of the State has issued a state of drought emergency declaration, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>03/27/2015 Referred to the Subcommittee on Environment and the Economy.</td>
<td>3 cosponsors</td>
<td>Support</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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</table>

REGULATORY REFORM / LOCAL GOVERNMENT
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Position</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>H.R. 1634</td>
<td>To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to increase the length of time for a certain permit</td>
<td>Sam Graves (R-MO)</td>
<td>Provide for extended NPDES Permit Terms of 20 years</td>
<td>03/25/2015 Referred to Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure</td>
<td>6 Cosponsors</td>
<td>Support</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.R. 3353</td>
<td>To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to limit attorney fees and penalties in</td>
<td>Duncan Hunter (R-CA)</td>
<td>Provide for affirmative defenses under the Clean Water Act’s citizen suits provisions and to end frivolous litigation</td>
<td>7/29/2015 Referred to Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure</td>
<td></td>
<td>Support</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.R. 712</td>
<td>Sunshine for Regulatory Decrees and Settlements Act of 2015</td>
<td>Doug Collins (R-GA)</td>
<td>Provide for provisions to address sue and settle strategies initiated to secure outcomes desired by NGO’s</td>
<td>Passed House 1/7/2016 244-173</td>
<td></td>
<td>No Position</td>
<td>Consistent with CASA effort to address abusive practices by NGO’s but does not address citizen suits abuses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.R. 427</td>
<td>Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act of 2015 (REINS)</td>
<td>Todd Young (R-IN)</td>
<td>A bill to prohibit implementation of a proposed rule relating to the definition of the term &quot;waters of the United States&quot; under the Clean Water Act, or any substantially similar rule, until a Supplemental Scientific Review Panel and Ephemeral and Intermittent Streams Advisory Committee produce certain reports, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>7/28/2015 Passed House of Representative 243-165 Pending in Senate</td>
<td>171 cosponsors: Tom McClintock, David Valadao, Duncan Hunter, Doug LaMalfa, Devin Nunes, Stephen Knight, and Ken Calvert (R-CA)</td>
<td>No Position</td>
<td>S. 226 Identical bill. No action. Bill would require congressional approval of all &quot;major&quot; rules</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.R. 1732</td>
<td>Regulatory Integrity Protection Act of 2015</td>
<td>Bill Shuster (R-PA)</td>
<td>To preserve existing rights and responsibilities with respect to waters of the United States, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>05/12/2015 Passed/agreed to in House. Pending in Senate</td>
<td>70 cosponsors</td>
<td>No Position</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
DATE: May 2, 2016

MEMO TO: Board of Directors - Union Sanitary District

FROM: Paul R. Eldredge, General Manager/District Engineer
J. Leah Castella, Assistant General Counsel

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 10 - Meeting of May 9, 2016
Review and Approve Proposed Changes to Policy No. 3060, Communications by Members of the Board

Recommendation

Review policy and proposed changes; select one of the options identified below.

Background
On September 28, the Board considered options regarding revisions to communications policy for Board Members. At that meeting, the Board discussed a number of communications issues, including:

- Timely response to inquiries from the public;
- Protocol for distinguishing between the position of the District and the position of an individual Board Member, if different;
- Procedures for ensuring that the public has meaningful opportunities for engagement in Board decisions

The Board discussed a number of additional revisions to the Policy and requested that staff revise the Policy and bring it back for further consideration at a future Board meeting. The attached version incorporates the following revisions:

- Establishes a detailed set of protocols for Board members to adhere to when responding to communications from the public;
• Establishes best practices for ensuring that the public is informed of and able to meaningfully participate in Boardmember decision-making;
• Establishes a set of protocols for staff to adhere to when responding to communications sent to Boardmembers;
• Creates method for agendizing for discussion items raised in communications from the public.

On April 11, 2016, the Board considered a revised version of Policy 3060 that attempted to address the issues raised at the September meeting. The Board had a few additional suggestions about the policy, and directed that those suggestions be incorporated into the draft. Those changes are designed to make it clear that the policy is not intended to in any way to limit the freedom of individual Boardmembers to communicate on their own behalf with the public, media representatives, or other publicly elected officials in the way they see fit; and=

Staff recommends the Board take one of the following actions on the proposed policy:

a. Approve the policy as drafted  
b. Approve the policy with amendments 

Attachments: Redline version of policy 3060 indicating changes since the April, 2013 version  
Clean version of policy 3060
Communication by Members of the Board of Directors

Policy

Boardmembers are to seek prior approval from a majority of the Board of Directors prior to expressing a point of view on behalf of the Board. When Boardmembers want to express their own personal opinions on matters, Boardmembers are not required to seek prior approval when they communicate with member of the public, media representatives, or other publicly elected officials on their own behalf. However, when Boardmembers communicate on their own behalf on issues pertaining to USD, they should take steps to make sure that their communications are not construed to represent the “Board” or “Union Sanitary District” when written or communicated as an “individual.”

Boardmembers are required to seek prior approval from a majority of the Board of Directors before expressing a point of view on behalf of the Board.

Purpose

The Board recognizes that individual Boardmembers are also members of the public and may want to express their own personal opinions on issues pertaining to USD, or correspond with the public, media representatives, or publicly-elected officials. The intent of this policy is to clarify the procedure for “individual” contact so that it is not mistaken as representing the view of the entire Board and ensure that communications by Boardmembers in their individual capacities are not mistaken for the views of the entire Board. The policy is not intended to in any way to limit the freedom of individual Boardmembers to communicate on their own behalf with the public, media representatives, or other publicly elected officials in the way they see fit. Furthermore, the intent of this policy is not to limit a Boardmember’s ability to speak on behalf of the District pertaining to items that have been approved by the Board, so long as the position is consistent with the Board’s action; or pertain to factual or details that would be considered common knowledge (e.g. number of employees, operating budget). The policy is also meant to address issues regarding compliance with the Ralph M. Brown Act, California Government Code section 54950 et seq. in such communications.

Definitions

Individual refers to a Boardmember acting as an “individual,” not as an official “District Representative.”
**District Representative** refers to a Boardmember acting in his/her role as a “member of the Board of Directors of Union Sanitary District”; i.e., the majority of the Board has formally authorized the Boardmember to speak on behalf of the Board of Directors.

**Media** refers to newspapers, magazines, television stations, or electronic news outlets, including on-line newspapers, blogs or social media sites.

**Procedure**

1. Letters, e-mails or other electronic correspondence, or other communications to the public, media or other publicly-elected officials representing or on behalf of the Board of Directors must be approved by a majority of the Board before being sent. Further, the use of any District letterhead or e-mail masthead, which implies that the communication is being sent by a District representative, must be approved by a majority of the Board.

2. As a courtesy to other Boardmembers, a Boardmember writing in his/her capacity as an individual, should request the General Manager to let other Boardmembers know of any pending communication with the media or publicly-elected officials via an informational email.

3. Correspondence by a Boardmember with the public, media or publicly-elected officials as an “individual” should adhere to the following guidelines:

   a. Correspondence written by an “individual,” should not be signed as “Boardmember.”

   b. The communication should note that it is not being sent on behalf of the entire Board, but by an individual Boardmember.

   c. If the communication expresses a viewpoint contrary to the majority position of the Board, the communication should so note.

   d. Boardmembers should not copy the rest of the Board on communications, in order to avoid an inadvertent Brown Act violation.

   e. Boardmembers should be cautious about opining on future actions by the Board and should not opine on the Board’s position on an item that has not been before the Board.
In certain instances, such as communications regarding broad policy concerns or future agenda items, a Boardmember should consider referring questions or communications to staff for a response on behalf of the District.

Boardmembers may request as a future agenda item that the full Board consider responding to or communicating with the public, media or publicly-elected officials, in which case the communication would be on behalf of the Board and not an individual.

Email communications to individual Board Members, or the entire Board of Directors, on District business and directed to official email addresses are public records and subject to disclosure.

4. Boardmembers may endorse a candidate for political office, or a ballot measure, and indicate their affiliation with the USD Board of Directors without obtaining prior approval of the Board when they endorse a candidate for political office, or a ballot measure, and when they sign onto letters of support. However, an individual Board Member may not make an endorsement on behalf of the entire Board or the District without prior approval.

5. Public meetings are one of the best ways for the Board to communicate with the public. Therefore, Boardmembers should use opportunities that arise at Board meetings during discussion of agenda items to articulate reasons for their decisions to the public.

Management Responsibility

The General Manager will be responsible for keeping all Boardmembers informed of media contacts made by Boardmembers when they are acting as a “District Representative.”

Management will respond to any inquiries or questions by the media, public or other publicly-elected officials to individual Boardmembers that are forwarded by a that Boardmember to Management for response. Boardmembers may also request that the General Manager will place item they feel require a response on a future agenda pursuant to Board policies for the Board’s full consideration. Agendizing the item will provide the public with the with the opportunity to meaningfully engage with the Board on any issues raised by the inquiry or question.

Management is also responsible for ensuring staff reports clearly articulate the reasons for their recommendations. In order to provide members of the public with the opportunity to inform themselves on issues being discussed by the Board, these staff reports are provided to the public in advance of the Board meeting via the District’s website.
This revision supersedes the versions listed below, which are no longer effective.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Communication with the Media and Publicly Elected Officials by Members of the Board of Directors</td>
<td>30503060</td>
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Author/owner: General Manager
Approved by: Reviewed and Approved by Board __, 2016
Reviewers: Board of Directors, General Manager
Notify Person: General Manager
Review Frequency: Every 5-2 years
Next Review: April 2021, May 2018
Policy

Boardmembers are not required to seek prior approval when they communicate with member of the public, media representatives, or other publicly elected officials on their own behalf. However, when Boardmembers communicate on their own behalf on issues pertaining to USD, they should take steps to make sure that their communications are not construed to represent the “Board” or “Union Sanitary District”.

Boardmembers are required to seek prior approval from a majority of the Board of Directors before expressing a point of view on behalf of the Board.

Purpose

The Board recognizes that individual Boardmembers are also members of the public and may want to express their own personal opinions on issues pertaining to USD, or correspond with the public, media representatives, or publicly-elected officials. The intent of this policy is to ensure that communications by Boardmembers in their individual capacities are not mistaken for the views of the entire Board. The policy is not intended to in any way to limit the freedom of individual Boardmembers to communicate on their own behalf with the public, media representatives, or other publicly elected officials in the way they see fit. Furthermore, the intent of this policy is not to limit a Boardmember’s ability to speak on behalf of the District pertaining to items that have been approved by the Board, so long as the position is consistent with the Boards action; or pertain to factual or details that would be considered common knowledge (e.g. number of employees, operating budget). The policy is also meant to address issues regarding compliance with the Ralph M. Brown Act, California Government Code section 54950 et seq. in such communications.

Definitions

**Individual** refers to a Boardmember acting as an “individual,” not as an official “District Representative.”

**District Representative** refers to a Boardmember acting in his/her role as a “member of the Board of Directors of Union Sanitary District”; i.e., the majority of the Board has formally authorized the Boardmember to speak on behalf of the Board of Directors.
Media refers to newspapers, magazines, television stations, or electronic news outlets, including on-line newspapers, blogs or social media sites.

Procedure

1. Letters, e-mails or other electronic correspondence, or other communications to the public, media or other publicly-elected officials representing or on behalf of the Board of Directors must be approved by a majority of the Board before being sent. Further, the use of any District letterhead or e-mail masthead, which implies that the communication is being sent by a District representative, must be approved by a majority of the Board.

2. As a courtesy to other Boardmembers, a Boardmember writing in his/her capacity as an individual, should request the General Manager to let other Boardmembers know of any pending communication with the media or publicly-elected officials via an informational email.

3. Correspondence by a Boardmember with the public, media or publicly-elected officials as an “individual” should adhere to the following guidelines:
   a. The communication should note that it is not being sent on behalf of the entire Board, but by an individual Boardmember.
   b. If the communication expresses a viewpoint contrary to the majority position of the Board, the communication should so note.
   c. Boardmembers should not copy the rest of the Board on communications, in order to avoid an inadvertent Brown Act violation.
   d. Boardmembers should be cautious about opining on future actions by the Board and should not opine on the Board’s position on an item that has not been before the Board.
   e. In certain instances, such as communications regarding broad policy concerns or future agenda items, a Boardmember should consider referring questions or communications to staff for a response on behalf of the District.
   f. Boardmembers may request as a future agenda item that the full Board consider responding to or communicating with the public, media or publicly-elected officials, in which case the communication would be on behalf of the Board and not an individual.
g. Email communications to individual Board Members, or the entire Board of Directors, on District business and directed to official email addresses are public records and subject to disclosure.

4. Boardmembers may indicate their affiliation with the USD Board of Directors without obtaining prior approval of the Board when they endorse a candidate for political office, or a ballot measure, and when they sign onto letters of support. However, an individual Board Member may not make an endorsement on behalf of the entire Board or the District without prior approval.

5. Public meetings are one of the best ways for the Board to communicate with the public. Therefore, Boardmembers should use opportunities that arise at Board meetings during discussion of agenda items to articulate reasons for their decisions to the public.

Management Responsibility

The General Manager will be responsible for keeping all Boardmembers informed of media contacts made by Boardmembers when they are acting as a “District Representative.”

Management will respond to any inquiries or questions by the media, public or other publicly-elected officials to individual Boardmembers that are forwarded by that Boardmember to Management for response. Boardmembers may also request that the General Manager will place item they feel require a response on a future agenda pursuant to Board policies for the Board’s full consideration. Agendizing the item will provide the public with the opportunity to meaningfully engage with the Board on any issues raised by the inquiry or question.

Management is also responsible for ensuring staff reports clearly articulate the reasons for their recommendations. In order to provide members of the public with the opportunity to inform themselves on issues being discussed by the Board, these staff reports are provided to the public in advance of the Board meeting via the District’s website.

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DATE: May 2, 2016

MEMO TO: Board of Directors - Union Sanitary District

FROM: Paul R. Eldredge, General Manager/District Engineer

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11 - Meeting of May 9, 2016
       Review and Approve Proposed Changes to Policy No. 3030, Boardmember Business and Travel Expense Policy

Recommendation

Review policy and proposed changes, provide additional recommendations for revisions, and approve policy 3030.

Background

Board policy 3030 establishes a uniform method for payment/reimbursement of business expenses incurred by Boardmembers in the performance of their duties. Staff is recommending changes to this policy ranging from revisiting the distance requirement for overnight lodging, changes to the parking reimbursement requirement, adding information pertaining to car rentals, and providing clarification on unauthorized expenses to make. This policy was last reviewed and approved by the Board in October of 2013.

Staff recommends the Board adopt the changes shown in red on the attached and set the date for the next review for May of 2019.

Attachment
Redline version of policy 3030
Clean version of policy 3030
Policy

Boardmembers shall be compensated/reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties, subject to applicable Federal, State, and local laws and procedures established by the Board of Directors. Official expenses are limited to those which would be deductible business expenses under IRS regulations. If Boardmembers accept meals or gifts, the member must report them as gifts to elected officials in accordance with the state regulations Political Reform Act of 1974.

Purpose

To establish a uniform method for payment/reimbursement of business expenses incurred by Boardmembers in the performance of their duties.

Reimbursable occurrences

As indicated in Board Policy No. 3045, events qualifying for expense reimbursement include meetings, seminars, workshops, or conferences conducted by CASA, CSDA, NACWA, CWEA, WEF, WaterReuse, or EPA-CWEA, BACWA, California Water, APWA, East Bay Economic Development Alliance, EPA, NACWA, Special District and Local Government Institute, WEF, the Chamber of Commerce for each Tri-City (if the Board member is attending as a USD Boardmember not a chamber member) or WaterReuse. In addition, attendance at State or Regional Water Quality Control Board meetings and ethics classes as required by the California Government Code § 53235 are qualifying events. Attending a USD-sponsored school outreach event generally qualifies as a compensable meeting. If the function is conducted by any other organization, attendance and qualification for reimbursement must be approved by the Board in open session. District Policy 3050 includes a list of what qualifies as a compensable meeting.

Costs which are reimbursable

Reimbursable business expenses include:

a) Lodging. One night’s lodging at the conference site or equal for each day’s attendance at a meeting, provided the site is at least 60 miles from the District’s Office. For alternate accommodations, if the conference room rate or the conference hotel is not available, Boardmembers will be reimbursed no more than the normal room rate for
the conference hotel plus 10% at another hotel site. Reimbursement in excess of this amount must be approved by the Board of Directors. 30 miles or a 60 minute drive time (whichever is greater) from the District’s Office. If a Boardmember is unable to meet one of these requirements, but overnight lodging is still desired, the Boardmember may verbally request an exception from the Board of Directors at the next meeting under “Other Business”. Lodging reimbursement will be based upon single occupancy rates. In instances where the conference room rate or the conference hotel is not available, every attempt to secure comparable rates at the nearest hotel should be made. Any lodging reimbursement in excess of 1.5 times the conference room rate will require approval of the Board of Directors prior to travel. Boardmembers are strongly encouraged to make every effort to secure travel arrangements far enough in advance to take advantage of conference room rates and to minimize staff time involved in facilitating last minute requests.

b) Meals. Meal reimbursement will be based on actual costs for which receipts are provided up to a maximum of $75 per day with no individual meal exceeding $40. Alcoholic beverages are not eligible for reimbursement.

c) Parking. Parking reimbursement for airport parking will be based on using the economy lot or off-site parking at the lowest available cost option. Valet parking at the conference venue will be reimbursed if no other parking option is available on site, or within one block of the hotel, or if there is a physical impediment requiring vehicle drop off at the hotel or conference site.

d) Rental Cars. Boardmembers will be reimbursed for all reasonable rental car expenses associated with travel to a conference or other qualifying event where personal vehicles are not used. Boardmembers will share rental car expenses wherever practical. Rental car expenses will be reimbursed for only the days of the conference and up to one additional day if required due to travel arrangements. The District has an account with Enterprise Rent-A-Car that should be used whenever possible when renting a car for District business. Rental car charges will be direct billed by Enterprise to the District. Boardmembers should not elect optional insurance coverages as they are included in the District’s rental rates.

e) If a different rental car company must be used due to unavailability of Enterprise, Vehicle Class Type (size) must be at the compact car rate or equivalent. The optional insurance coverages for Collision Damage Waiver and Supplemental Liability Protection should be elected. Instructions on renting a car from Enterprise are located on the Accounting/Travel Page on the Portal under “Rental Car Reservation Instructions/Booking State of California Business Travel Reservations Online.” Spouses or other non-District individuals may not drive rental cars that have been authorized for District business unless the Boardmember is incapacitated or there is an emergency rendering the Boardmember unable to drive.
e) **Personal Vehicle usage.** Where a personal vehicle is used in lieu of air travel, Board members will be reimbursed for actual mileage, or the sum of reasonable coach airfare + airport parking + shuttle or taxi to the event site + other transportation costs associated with air travel, whichever is less. Personal vehicle mileage will be reimbursed based on the “Map Quest” mileage or the IRS standard mileage rate based on the mileage as determined by Google Maps, Map Quest, or similar web based mapping function, or a reasonable alternate route.

f) **Air Fare and Other Transportation Costs.** Air fare reimbursement is restricted to reasonable, available “coach” class seating. Board members are encouraged to make travel plans early to take advantage of lower air fares. Other transportation costs will be reimbursed in accordance with existing policies for District employees.

g) **Non-Reimbursable Expenses.** The following items of a personal nature, even if they are incurred in conjunction with expenditures that are subject to reimbursement, are not reimbursable: movies, entertainment, premium television services, alcoholic beverages, dry-cleaning, spas, gyms, barber, magazines, shoe shines, travel insurance, purchase of clothing or toiletries, loss of tickets, fines or traffic violations, excess baggage costs, golf related expenses, personal losses incurred while on District business, spouse and/or guest expenses, meals or expenses for non-employees, valet parking (medical reasons excepted or if no other option exists), trip protection insurance, early boarding priority, repairs to personal vehicles, office equipment, and other items of a personal nature.

Optional tours, banquets or other activities not specifically related to professional development offered through the conference, but as an additional cost to registration, are solely at the discretion of the Board member and will be considered a personal expense and non-reimbursable.

**Procedure**

1. 1.——Boardmembers, or the Assistant to the General Manager at the request of a Boardmember, are to make arrangements for attending events, including but not limited to meetings and conferences.

2. 2.——Boardmembers are encouraged to obtain the lowest commercial coach airfare whenever possible.

3. 3.——If prepayment is desired for travel, lodging, and/or conference registration, the Boardmember should check the “prepayment” box of the Expense Report form.
and forward it to the General Manager for review and authorization two weeks prior to the deadline to allow for check processing.

4. Reimbursement claims will be submitted on the Expense Report form, to be reviewed and approved by the General Manager. Forms will be submitted within 45 days after the expense was incurred and will include detailed receipts documenting each expense. These Expense Report forms will be reviewed by the Board quarterly. Quarterly expenditure reports will be part of the public record.

5. Members of the Board will use government and group rates offered by a provider of transportation or lodging services when available. For rental cars, reservations should be made through Enterprise Car Rental where USD has obtained special reduced rates. The Assistant to the General Manager can make arrangements upon request.

6. Board members are responsible for reimbursing any expenses incurred by the District for cancellations that are for their convenience and not beyond their control.

7. Board members will provide a brief report on meetings attended (those paid for by the District) at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board.

Management Responsibility

The General Manager will be responsible for reviewing expense/reimbursement forms for consistency with the above policy. Any inconsistencies or irregularities shall be brought to the attention of the entire Board.

Supersedes Policy #3030 dated: 7/26/04, #3030.1 dated 1/23/06, 3030.2 dated 1/28/08, revised 9/13/10

Approved by Board of Directors: October 28, 2013
Reviewers: Board of Directors, General Manager, District’s Attorney
Notify Person: General Manager
Review Frequency: Every 3 years
Next Review: October 2016 May 2019
Policy

Boardmembers shall be compensated/reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties, subject to applicable Federal, State, and local laws and procedures established by the Board of Directors. Official expenses are limited to those which would be deductible business expenses under IRS regulations. If Boardmembers accept meals or gifts, the member must report them as gifts to elected officials in accordance with the state regulations Political Reform Act of 1974.

Purpose

To establish a uniform method for payment/reimbursement of business expenses incurred by Boardmembers in the performance of their duties.

Reimbursable occurrences

As indicated in Board Policy No. 3045, events qualifying for expense reimbursement include meetings, seminars, workshops, or conferences conducted by CASA, CSDA, CWEA, BACWA, California Water, APWA, East Bay Economic Development Alliance, EPA, NACWA, Special District and Local Government Institute, WEF, the Chamber of Commerce for each Tri-City (if the Board member is attending as a USD Boardmember not a chamber member) or WateReuse. In addition, attendance at State or Regional Water Quality Control Board meetings and ethics classes as required by the California Government Code are qualifying events. If the function is conducted by any other organization, attendance and qualification for reimbursement must be approved by the Board in open session. District Policy 3050 includes a list of what qualifies as a compensable meeting.

Costs which are reimbursable

Reimbursable business expenses include:

a) Lodging. One night’s lodging at the conference site or equal for each day’s attendance at a meeting, provided the site is at least 30 miles or a 60 minute drive time (whichever is greater) from the District’s Office. If a Boardmember is unable to meet one of these requirements, but overnight lodging is still desired, the Boardmember may verbally request an exception from the Board of Directors at the next meeting under “Other Business”. Lodging reimbursement will be based upon
single occupancy rates. In instances where the conference room rate or the conference hotel is not available, every attempt to secure comparable rates at the nearest hotel should be made. Any lodging reimbursement in excess of 1.5 times the conference room rate will require approval of the Board of Directors prior to travel. Boardmembers are strongly encouraged to make every effort to secure travel arrangements far enough in advance to take advantage of conference room rates and to minimize staff time involved in facilitating last minute requests.

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d) **Rental Cars.** Boardmembers will be reimbursed for all reasonable rental car expenses associated with travel to a conference or other qualifying event where personal vehicles are not used. Boardmembers will share rental car expenses wherever practical. Rental car expenses will be reimbursed for only the days of the conference and up to one additional day if required due to travel arrangements. The District has an account with Enterprise Rent-A-Car that should be used whenever possible when renting a car for District business. Rental car charges will be direct billed by Enterprise to the District. Boardmembers should not elect optional insurance coverages as they are included in the District’s rental rates.

If a different rental car company must be used due to unavailability of Enterprise, Vehicle Class Type (size) must be at the compact car rate or equivalent. The optional insurance coverages for Collision Damage Waiver and Supplemental Liability Protection should be elected. Instructions on renting a car from Enterprise are located on the Accounting/Travel Page on the Portal under “**Rental Car Reservation Instructions/Booking State of California Business Travel Reservations Online.**” Spouses or other non-District individuals may not drive rental cars that have been authorized for District business unless the Boardmember is incapacitated or there is an emergency rendering the Boardmember unable to drive.

e) **Personal Vehicle usage.** Where a personal vehicle is used in lieu of air travel, Boardmembers will be reimbursed for actual mileage, or the sum of reasonable coach airfare + airport parking + shuttle or taxi to the event site + other transportation costs associated with air travel, whichever is less. Personal vehicle mileage will be reimbursed at the IRS standard mileage rate based on the mileage as
determined by Google Maps, Map Quest, or similar web based mapping function, or a reasonable alternate route.

f) **Air Fare and Other Transportation Costs.** Air fare reimbursement is restricted to reasonable, available “coach” class seating. Boardmembers are encouraged to make travel plans early to take advantage of lower air fares. Other transportation costs will be reimbursed in accordance with existing policies for District employees.

g) **Non-Reimbursable Expenses.** The following items of a personal nature, even if they are incurred in conjunction with expenditures that are subject to reimbursement, are not reimbursable: movies, entertainment, premium television services, alcoholic beverages, dry-cleaning, spas, gyms, barber, magazines, shoe shines, travel insurance, purchase of clothing or toiletries, loss of tickets, fines or traffic violations, excess baggage costs, golf related expenses, personal losses incurred while on District business, spouse and/or guest expenses, meals or expenses for non-employees, valet parking (medical reasons excepted or if no other option exists), trip protection insurance, early boarding priority, repairs to personal vehicles, office equipment, and other items of a personal nature.

Optional tours, banquets or other activities not specifically related to professional development offered through the conference, but as an additional cost to registration, are solely at the discretion of the Board member and will be considered a personal expense and non-reimbursable.

**Procedure**

1. Boardmembers, or the Assistant to the General Manager at the request of a Boardmember, are to make arrangements for attending events, including but not limited to meetings and conferences.

2. Boardmembers are encouraged to obtain the lowest commercial coach airfare whenever possible.

3. If prepayment is desired for travel, lodging, and/or conference registration, the Boardmember should check the “prepayment” box of the Expense Report form and forward it to the General Manager for review and authorization two weeks prior to the deadline to allow for check processing.

4. Reimbursement claims will be submitted on the Expense Report form, to be reviewed and approved by the General Manager. Forms will be submitted within 45 days after the expense was incurred and will include detailed receipts documenting each expense. These Expense Report forms will be reviewed by the Board quarterly. Form and related documents are public records.
5. Members of the Board will use government and group rates offered by a provider of transportation or lodging services when available. For rental cars, reservations should be made through Enterprise Car Rental where USD has obtained special reduced rates. The Assistant to the General Manager can make arrangements upon request.

6. Boardmembers are responsible for reimbursing any expenses incurred by the District for cancellations that are for their convenience and not beyond their control.

7. Boardmembers will provide a brief report on meetings attended (those paid for by the District) at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board.

Management Responsibility

The General Manager will be responsible for reviewing expense/reimbursement forms for consistency with the above policy. Any inconsistencies or irregularities shall be brought to the attention of the entire Board.

Approved by Board of Directors:
Reviewers: Board of Directors, General Manager, District’s General Counsel
Notify Person: General Manager
Review Frequency: Every 3 years
Next Review: May 2019
DATE: May 2, 2016

MEMO TO: Board of Directors - Union Sanitary District

FROM: Paul R. Eldredge, General Manager/District Engineer

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 12 - Meeting of May 9, 2016
Review and Approve Proposed Changes to Policy No. 3045, Board Education, and Training Budget

Recommendation

Review policy and proposed changes, provide additional recommendations for revisions, and approve policy 3045.

Background

Board policy 3045 provides procedures and guidelines for the establishment and expenditures for annual training and education budgets. Staff is recommending minor changes to this policy in an attempt to add clarity and consistency between other policies. This policy was last reviewed and approved by the Board in July of 2012.

Staff recommends the Board adopt the changes shown in red on the attached and set the date for the next review for May of 2019.

Attachment

Redline version of policy 3045
Clean version of policy 3045
Policy

Boardmembers are responsible for using their own education and training budget to further their knowledge, provided the total spent does not exceed the annual budgeted dollar amount and the subject is relevant to the business of Union Sanitary District. The annual budget amount per Boardmember is $5,000.

Purpose

Recognizing that Boardmembers have differing areas of expertise, this policy provides for tailoring education and training needs to the individual.

Procedure

1. If the conference, meeting, seminar, or workshop is conducted by CASA, CSDA, CWEA, BACWA, California Water, APWA, East Bay Economic Development Alliance, EPA, NACWA, Special District and Local Government Institute, WEF, the Chamber of Commerce for Fremont, Union City or Newark (if the Board member is attending as a USD Boardmember not a chamber member) or WateReuse, Board approval is not required for reimbursement for expenses and compensation for attendance. If the function is provided by any other organization, attendance must be approved by the Board.

2. Follow procedures contained in Policy No. 3030 (Boardmember Business and Travel Expense) to make travel arrangements and obtain prepayment or reimbursement.

3. Any unexpended travel/conference funds at the end of the fiscal year will be returned to the District’s operating reserves.

Management Responsibility

The General Manager will be responsible for ensuring Boardmembers shall make every effort to ensure that reimbursable conference/seminar attendance is related to the business of Union Sanitary District and that the issue be discussed by the full Board at a regularly scheduled Board meeting. The General Manager will be responsible for ensuring that Boardmembers are notified of their "to date" expenditures on a quarterly basis. The General Manager will also be responsible for ensuring that any unexpended funds are dispersed in accordance with this policy.
This revision supersedes the versions listed below, which are no longer effective.

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<td>Board Education and Training Budget</td>
<td>3045</td>
<td>July 2009</td>
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Approved by: Board of Directors
Author/owner: General Manager
Reviewers: Board of Directors, General Manager, District’s General Counsel
Notify Person: General Manager
Review Frequency: 3 years
Next Review: 7/23/2015 May 2019
Policy

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Purpose

Recognizing that Boardmembers have differing areas of expertise, this policy provides for tailoring education and training needs to the individual.

Procedure

1. If the conference, meeting, seminar, or workshop is conducted by CASA, CSDA, CWEA, BACWA, California Water, APWA, East Bay Economic Development Alliance, EPA, NACWA, Special District and Local Government Institute, WEF, the Chamber of Commerce for Fremont, Union City or Newark (if the Board member is attending as a USD Boardmember not a chamber member) or WateReuse, Board approval is not required for reimbursement for expenses and compensation for attendance. If the function is provided by any other organization, attendance must be approved by the Board.

2. Follow procedures contained in Policy No. 3030 (Boardmember Business and Travel Expense) to make travel arrangements and obtain prepayment or reimbursement.

3. Any unexpended travel/conference funds at the end of the fiscal year will be returned to the District’s operating reserves.

Management Responsibility

Boardmembers shall make every effort to ensure that reimbursable conference/seminar attendance is related to the business of Union Sanitary District. Should there be any uncertainty, a Boardmember may confer with the General Manager or request that the issue be discussed by the full Board at a regularly scheduled Board meeting. The General Manager will be responsible for ensuring that Boardmembers are notified of their "to date" expenditures on a quarterly basis. The General Manager will also be responsible for ensuring any unexpended funds are dispersed in accordance with this policy.
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Approved by: Board of Directors  
Author/owner: General Manager  
Reviewers: Board of Directors, General Manager, District’s General Counsel  
Notify Person: General Manager  
Review Frequency: 3 years  
Next Review: May 2019
DATE: May 2, 2016

MEMO TO: Board of Directors - Union Sanitary District

FROM: Paul R. Eldredge, General Manager/District Engineer

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 13 - Meeting of May 9, 2016
SELECT BOARD MEMBERS TO REPRESENT USD ON EXTERNAL COMMITTEES FOR FY17

Recommendation

Select Board Members to serve the FY17 term as USD representatives on the Alameda County Water District Finance Authority (ACW DFA), East Bay Dischargers Authority (EBDA) Commission, Alameda County Chapter of California Special District Association (ACSDA), and the Southern Alameda County Geographic Information System (SACGIS) Joint Powers Authority.

Background

Policy No. 3070 calls for the Board to select representatives and alternates for four External Committees no later than the first meeting in May to enable representatives to be seated for the first meeting of the new committee or commission.

Currently, the representatives and alternates for the external committees are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Representative</th>
<th>Alternate</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACW DFA</td>
<td>Jennifer Toy</td>
<td>No Current Alternate</td>
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<tr>
<td>EBDA Commission</td>
<td>Tom Handley</td>
<td>Manny Fernandez</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACSDA</td>
<td>Pat Kite</td>
<td>Manny Fernandez</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SACGIS</td>
<td>Jennifer Toy</td>
<td>Anjali Lathi</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Pursuant to the Policy, members completed an external committee interest form and indicated the external committees they wished to serve on in order of preference.

Below is a table showing the preferences indicated by the Board with 1 being the committee in which they are most interested in serving and 4 being the committee in which they are least interested in serving:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Board Member</th>
<th>ACWDA</th>
<th>EBDA</th>
<th>ACSDA</th>
<th>SACGIS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Manny Fernandez</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tom Handley</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pat Kite</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anjali Lathi</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jennifer Toy</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Attachment: Board Policy 3070, Boardmember Officers and Committee Membership
Policy
Selection of Board Officers will be held annually at the first regular meeting in the month of July of each year. Internal Board committee memberships shall be established no later than the second regularly scheduled meeting in July of each year, following the selection of the Board Officers. External commissions/committees representatives shall be established no later than the first regularly scheduled meeting in May of each year.

Purpose
To provide a written record of the procedure approved by the Board for electing its Officers and establishing its committee memberships.

Procedure

Board Officers

1. The Officers are President, Vice President, and Secretary and the term of office shall be for one year.

2. The President shall preside over the meetings of the Board of Directors and be responsible for the following:

   a. maintaining order and following the published agenda
   b. ensuring Boardmembers are allowed to participate in discussions
   c. allowing the public to speak on agenda items
   d. facilitating dialog among the public, staff, and Boardmembers
   e. appointment of members of the Board of Directors to Committee assignments
   f. signing resolutions, ordinances, and construction contracts on behalf of the District
   g. representing the Board of Directors on issues or at events as designated by the full Board

The Vice President shall fulfill the duties of the President when the President is absent or otherwise unavailable.

The Secretary shall ensure the recording of the minutes of the Board of Directors meetings and sign the adopted Minutes, shall sign all Resolutions and Ordinances passed by the District, and shall serve as Vice President when the Vice President is absent or otherwise unavailable. If the President and Vice President are both absent, and a quorum is present, the Secretary shall preside over the meetings of the Board of Directors as the Board President.
3. At the first regularly scheduled Board meeting in July, or as soon thereafter as the item can be agendized at a regular Board meeting, the Board shall appoint its Board Officers. During election years, the newly elected Boardmembers shall be sworn in as the first item of business on the agenda followed immediately by the selection of the Board Officers. During non-election years, the selection of the Board Officers shall be considered after the last motion item on the agenda. The Board shall elect the President, Vice-President and Secretary for one year terms. The election or removal of the President, Vice-President or Secretary shall require a majority vote of the Board. The Board may choose to follow a rotation of officers.

The Board officers in office at the beginning of the meeting shall retain their positions until the adjournment of the meeting and the newly selected Board Officers shall assume their duties immediately following this meeting.

Internal Board Committee Memberships

1. Internal committees are: Budget and Finance; Construction; Legal/Community Affairs; Legislative; Personnel; and Audit Committee. There is no fixed schedule for meetings set by this policy and appointments are made by the President, as set forth below. Notwithstanding the above, meetings are noticed and open to the public.

2. Annually, following the election of Board officers, and at the same meeting as the election of the officers, Directors shall be provided a list of the internal committees along with an internal committee interest form. The internal committee interest form shall be completed in order of preference and provided to the General Manager, or designee, no later than 11 calendar days in advance of the next Board meeting.

3. The President is delegated the authority to appoint Directors to the internal committees. The President shall make every effort to rotate committee assignments and ensure a similar number of committee assignments for each Board member. Notice of internal committee membership appointments will be contained in an information item to the Board at the next regularly scheduled meeting following the selection of the Board Officers. The determination of the Board President on committee assignments shall be considered final.

4. Ad Hoc committees are called as needed by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

External Commissions / Committee Representatives (CCR)

1. External commissions/committees include: the EBDA Commission; the Joint Powers Authority for Geographic Information Systems; the Alameda County Water District Finance Authority (ACW DFA); and the Alameda County Chapter of the California Special Districts Association.
2. Membership on the EBDA Commission shall be a maximum of two consecutive years, with a possible three years in exceptional circumstances if approved by the Board.

3. The Board of Directors will elect the representatives for the External Committees no later than the first regularly scheduled Board meeting in May of each year in order to ensure that the representatives may be seated for the first meeting of the new committee or commission. At the prior meeting, Directors shall be provided a list of the external committees along with an external committee interest form. The external committee interest form shall be completed in order of preference and provided to the General Manager, or designee, no later than 11 calendar days in advance of the meeting. The committee interests shall be compiled in a staff report by the General Manager, or designee, and provided to the Board for consideration. The Board shall elect the CCRs for one year terms or as otherwise decided by the Board majority. The election or removal of CCRs shall require a majority vote of the Board.

Management Responsibility
The General Manager will be responsible for scheduling on the Board agenda, the election or appointment of Board officers and external commissions, pursuant to the schedule shown above. The General Manager, or designee, will provide the following to the new President, with copies to the Board: (1) a list of the last ten years and current committee memberships; (2) a copy of this policy; and (3) a list of internal committee interests. In consultation with the Board President, the General Manager will also be responsible for scheduling on the Board agenda the announcement of committee appointments.


Approved by: Board of Directors March 14, 2016
Reviewers: General Manager, Board of Directors, District’s attorney
Notify Person: General Manager
Review frequency: Every 3 years
Next Review: March 2019
DATE: May 2, 2016

MEMO TO: Board of Directors - Union Sanitary District

FROM: Paul R. Eldredge, General Manager/District Engineer
Sami E. Ghossain, Manager of Technical Services
Raymond Chau, CIP Coach
Kevin Chun, Associate Engineer

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 14 – Meeting of May 9, 2016
Consider a Resolution to Authorize Staff to Specify Hydro International as a Sole Source Equipment Manufacturer for the Sludge Degritter System Project

Recommendation

Staff recommends the Board consider a resolution to authorize staff to specify Hydro International as a sole source equipment manufacturer of the Eutek Slurry Cup grit separator and washing unit and the Eutek Grit Snail grit clarifier and dewatering escalator for the Sludge Degritter System Project.

Background

On August 24, 2015, the Board authorized the General Manager to execute Task Order No. 1 with West Yost Associates in the amount of $180,629 to provide design services for the Sludge Degritter System Project. Degritters are used to remove grit from the primary sludge process to minimize deposits in the anaerobic digesters and to reduce abrasive wear on pumps, centrifuges, and other downstream equipment. The removal of grit extends the life of downstream plant equipment which results in cost savings for the District.

The existing sludge degritter system consists of two degritters located on the second floor of the Degritter Building (Figure 1). The degritters receive sludge flow from the primary clarifiers and remove grit material from the sludge through a two-stage system. Each degritter first separates and washes the grit from the primary clarifier sludge using the Eutek Slurry Cup and then dewaterers the grit by utilizing the Eutek Grit Snail conveyor. The dewatered grit is then discharged into a hopper for removal by truck to a landfill for disposal, while the primary clarifier sludge is conveyed to the Thickener Building for further treatment. Figures 2 and 3 show the existing sludge degritter
equipment and Attachment 1 includes technical information on the Eutek Slurry Cup and Eutek Grit Snail equipment.

Both degritters are required to operate concurrently in order to handle the sludge flow from the primary clarifiers. When one of the degritters is out of service due to regular backwash cycle of the Slurry Cup or preventive maintenance, the other unit does not have the capacity to process all of the primary clarifier sludge flow. This results in additional sludge to accumulate in the primary clarifiers and the lower sludge flow rate could affect the ability of the thickeners to efficiently settle the solids. Therefore, operation staff determined that an additional degritter is needed to provide the needed capacity and redundancy to the system and to maintain the sludge flow rate that will improve the thickening process.

The Project’s scope of work includes the addition of a new sludge degritter, sludge piping modifications, equipment access platforms, and a lifting crane located on the building roof to facilitate degritter maintenance activities. The Project is currently in design and staff expects construction to start in September 2016.

**Standardized Equipment**

During design, staff and West Yost Associates identified that the new sludge degritter be provided by the same manufacturer of the two existing degritters in lieu of being open to bid by multiple equipment manufacturers. The District has been operating and maintaining the two existing degritters, manufactured by Hydro International, since 2001 with very few operational and maintenance issues. In fact, there has been no unscheduled repair to the equipment due to manufacturer defects over the past three years.

Staff evaluated the new degritter using the procedures outlined in Policy No. 2760 – Standardized Equipment Policy and determined the equipment meets the “Match Existing Equipment” selection criteria in order to be standardized or sole sourced. The Standardized Equipment Guidelines Policy is included as Attachment 2 for the Board’s reference.

Standardizing the degritter equipment to be manufactured by Hydro International in the Project to match the existing degritter equipment will minimize stocking of spare parts, facilitate efficient replacement of parts, and provide consistent and ease of operation and maintenance of the equipment. The degritter equipment will be procured by the Project’s contractor during construction and the approximate procurement cost for one (1) degritter unit is approximately $450,000. If authorized to specify Hydro International as a sole source manufacturer for the degritter equipment, staff will pre-negotiate the equipment cost and insert this amount into the final bid documents. This will ensure the manufacturer submits a cost that is in line with the estimate.
Legal Opinion

District’s legal counsel has previously offered a legal opinion on the District’s ability to sole-source equipment for a project. The Public Contract Code has exceptions which allow for sole source procurement or informal bidding under certain circumstances. Since the equipment is intended to match existing assets that is only available from one manufacturer, competitive bidding would be unavailing since there would only be one responsive bidder.

Staff recommends the Board consider a resolution to authorize staff to specify Hydro International as a sole source equipment manufacturer of the Eutek Slurry Cup grit separator and washing unit and the Eutek Grit Snail grit clarifier and dewatering escalator for the Sludge Degritter System Project.

PRE/SEG/RC/KC:ks

Attachments: Resolution
Figure 1 – Degritter Building Site Plan
Figures 2 & 3 – Photos of Existing Degritter Equipment
Attachment 1 – Eutek Slurry Cup and Eutek Snail Grit Equipment Information
Attachment 2 – Policy No. 2760 – Standardized Equipment Policy
RESOLUTION NO. _______

AUTHORIZE STAFF TO SPECIFY HYDRO INTERNATIONAL AS A SOLE SOURCE EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURER OF THE EUTEK SLURRY CUP GRIT SEPARATOR AND WASHING UNIT AND THE EUTEK GRIT SNAIL GRIT CLARIFIER AND DEWATERING ESCALATOR FOR THE SLUDGE DEGRIッTER SYSTEM PROJECT

WHEREAS, the UNION SANITARY DISTRICT staff has developed the scope of the Sludge Degritter System Project, which will install one new primary sludge degritter, which consists of a grit separator and washing unit and a grit clarifier and dewatering escalator; and

WHEREAS, staff has identified certain equipment which must be acquired from an identified manufacturer or vendor in order to match existing equipment, which is only available from one manufacturer; and

WHEREAS, District legal counsel has rendered an opinion regarding circumstances where specification of a single manufacturer for procurement or directly negotiated purchases may be utilized when formal, competitive bidding would be unavailing;

WHEREAS, District Policy 2760 provides that equipment may be standardized for a project if it either (a) matches existing equipment already used on District facilities or (b) is only available from one manufacturer source; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT:

RESOLVED that formal bidding procedures would be unavailing for the acquisition of the items set forth below, which items match existing equipment that is only available from one manufacturer; and

RESOLVED that District staff will pre-negotiate the equipment cost with the manufacturer; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the UNION SANITARY DISTRICT hereby authorizes staff to specify Hydro International as a sole source equipment manufacturer for the Eutek Slurry Cup grit separator and washing unit and the Eutek Grit Snail grit clarifier and dewatering escalator for the Sludge Degritter System Project; and
On motion duly made and seconded, this resolution was adopted by the following vote on May 9, 2016.

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

JENNIFER TOY
President, Board of Directors
UNION SANITARY DISTRICT

Attest:

PAT KITE
Secretary, Board of Directors
UNION SANITARY DISTRICT
Figure 2 – Existing Degritter Equipment

Figure 3 – Existing Degritter Equipment
Eutek SlurryCup™
Grit Washing and Sludge Degritting

Product Profile
The Eutek SlurryCup™ system is a highly efficient process used to capture, classify, and remove fine grit, sugar sand, high density fixed solids from grit slurries, and both primary and secondary sludge.

Applications
• Grit washing at WWTP headworks
• Primary and secondary sludge degritting
• Continuous grit discharge
• Pumped flow operation

Advantages
• Increasing performance as flows increase
• Boundary layer grit washing can retain grit as small as 75 micron
• No moving parts and no power needs
• Durable 304 or 316 stainless steel construction

How it Works
Flow enters the stainless steel vessel tangentially at a controlled rate and velocity. The flow regime established in the device forms an open free vortex which results in high centrifugal forces and a thin predictable boundary layer. Grit is forced to the outside perimeter or held in suspension until it falls by gravity into the boundary layer which sweeps the grit, but not volatile solids, into the collection chamber at the bottom of the unit.

The concentrated slurry exits the vessel through a hydraulic valve where a secondary wash occurs prior to discharge. Two levels of washing produces clean grit ready for dewatering. The water containing the volatile solids exits from the overflow through the discharge box for additional treatment by downstream processes.
Configurations
- Inlet and outlet can be oriented to accommodate many piping configurations.
- The system can be provided with an optional maintenance access platform

Eutek SlurryCup™ Performance
- Removes 95% of particles equal to or greater than 75 microns at the design flow rate
- Less than 15% volatile solids and greater than 60% total solids when used with a Hydro dewatering system

Design Notes
- Reduces downstream deposits and mechanical wear
- Increasing performance as flows increase
- All hydraulic design with no internal moving parts is simple to operate and ensures long component life
- Large diameter easily handles peak flow grit volumes
- Final grit slurry typically contains 60% total solids with less than 15% organic solids
- Hydraulic valve provides secondary grit washing

Capacity
- Handles flow of 150 to 1,000 GPM in a single unit
- Two Eutek SlurryCup™ units can be mounted on a single grit clarifier to increase capacity
- Solids concentrations up to 1.5%
- Sizes from 24”-56” diameter
Eutek Grit Snail®
High Performance Grit Dewatering Escalator

Product Profile
The Eutek Grit Snail® uses a slow moving cleated belt to gently escalate grit from the clarifier pool without re-suspending fine grit particles which will cause them to escape with the clarifier overflow.

Applications
• Grit dewatering for municipal WWTPs
• Dewater grit output from a Eutek SlurryCup™, Eutek TeaCup®, or Grit King® unit
• Sludge degritting or headworks dewatering applications
• Agricultural and industrial applications

Advantages
• Non-turbulent process retains the smallest grit particles
• Durable 304 or 316 stainless steel construction ensures a long product life
• Large clarifier with a low overflow rate provides sufficient time for grit to settle

How it Works
A washed grit slurry is discharged into the Eutek Grit Snail® clarifier. The clarifier is sized to provide sufficient area for particles as small as 75 micron to settle. Degritted effluent overflows a weir and goes on to the next process. The captured grit settles to the bottom of the clarifier and onto the belt. The slowly moving belt gently lifts accumulated grit from the clarifier bottom without re-suspending it, eliminating the potential for carry-over. The belt typically moves at 1-2 feet / minute which creates quiescent dewatering conditions. The grit settles onto the stepped cleats and is gently lifted out of the clarifier. Dewatering begins as the grit and fine abrasives are quiescently raised from the clarifier pool. The dewatered abrasives are carried to the top of the Eutek Grit Snail®, where they are discharged into a container for disposal. The lined belt housing, stepped rubber belt cleats, and no metal-to-metal contact ensures long component life and minimal wear. The variable frequency drive adjusts belt speed to match changing grit loads.
Configurations
- The Eutek SlurryCup™ (or TeaCup®) / Grit Snail® system can either be used for headworks degritting or to degrit concentrated slurry captured from a Eutek HeadCell® or a Grit King® separation system
- Multiple inlet and outlet arrangements are available to accommodate plant piping conditions
- The system can be provided with an optional maintenance access platform

Grit Snail® Performance
- Removes 95% of particles 75 microns and larger at the design flow rate when used with a Hydro washing system
- 60% total solids and less than 15% volatile solids when used with a Eutek SlurryCup™ or Eutek TeaCup®

Design Notes
- Large clarifier area allows even very fine grit to settle
- Slow moving belt eliminates grit carry over
- Belt housing is lined with abrasion resistant urethane for long service life

Capacity
- Dewatering capacity from 1-10 yd³/hr of grit
- Clarifier sizes from 48” to 96” diameter square
- Belt widths from 6” to 57.5”
- The Grit Snail® can be configured to match most applications as the clarifier is sized for flow while the belt is sized for grit load
Policy

This policy is established to provide the guidelines for maintaining and approving a Standardized Equipment List and the procedures for evaluating mechanical, electrical, and instrumentation equipment for inclusion in the list.

Purpose

The District’s operating and maintenance staff has standardized certain mechanical, electrical, and instrumentation equipment to single manufacturers for a variety of reasons. These include proven equipment reliability and quality; equipment capability to address specific operational or maintenance issues; substantial training costs invested by staff to operate and maintain the specialized equipment; matching existing equipment to reduce spare parts inventory and training on multiple equipment types; and availability of affordable parts.

The purpose of this policy is to:

- Set the guidelines for evaluating the mechanical, electrical, and instrumentation equipment to be included in the Standardized Equipment List.
- Provide a process for the District to review the current Standardized Equipment List and to update the list every three (3) years.
- Provide an approval process for the District’s Board of Directors to review staff’s recommendation for changes to the guidelines and the Standardized Equipment List.

Definitions

California Public Contract Code (PCC)  The California State Legislature enacted the PCC, which consists of all public contract law, to achieve the following objectives:

(a) To clarify the law with respect to competitive bidding requirements.
(b) To ensure full compliance with competitive bidding statutes as a means of protecting the public from misuse of public funds.
(c) To provide all qualified bidders with a fair opportunity to enter the bidding process, thereby stimulating competition in a manner conducive to sound fiscal practices.
(d) To eliminate favoritism, fraud, and corruption in the awarding of public contracts.

Project  Any construction, reconstruction, alteration, enlargement, renewal,
or replacement of District owned sewer facilities or property.

**Sole Source**  
A company contracted, without competition, to be the sole supplier of a product or service.

**Staff**  
The District’s Engineering and Operations and Maintenance Staff.

**Standardized Equipment List**  
The list of equipment approved by the Union Sanitary District that can be identified in a project’s technical specifications to a single manufacturer and/or equipment model or model family. This is often referred to as “sole sourcing” equipment.

**Standardized Equipment Selection Criteria**  
Two selection criteria developed by Staff to evaluate equipment that either (a) matches existing equipment already used on District facilities or (b) is only available from one manufacturer source.

**Procedure**

Staff shall utilize the following guidelines for evaluating the equipment to be included in the Standardized Equipment List:

1. The Standardized Equipment List was initially developed by Staff through evaluating the District’s equipment that met the Standardized Equipment Selection Criteria.

2. Every 3 years, Staff shall review the Standardized Equipment List and determine whether the equipment on the list continues to meet the standards set forth in the Standardized Equipment Selection Criteria and whether new equipment shall be considered to be included on the list.

3. If the evaluation determines that the equipment on the Standardized Equipment List no longer meets the standards in the Standardized Equipment Selection Criteria, Staff shall recommend the equipment be deleted from the list. If Staff determines that the equipment on the list still meets the standards in the Standardized Equipment Selection Criteria, no changes to the list shall be recommended.

4. If Staff requests to include new equipment on the Standardized Equipment List, they shall notify the Capital Improvement Project (CIP) Coach. The CIP Coach will evaluate the request to ensure compliance with Section 3400 of the California Public Contract Code and the Standardized Equipment Selection Criteria. If the equipment is eligible, the CIP Coach will include it on the list for review and approval by Management.

5. The CIP Coach will make final recommendations of the Standardized Equipment List to Management. After Management approves of the final version of the list, Staff will make a recommendation to the Board of Directors for approval consideration.

6. If the Board of Directors approves the Standardized Equipment List by resolution, Staff shall utilize the List for three (3) years, after which these guidelines shall be repeated.

7. During the three-year period, Staff may request new equipment to be standardized to accommodate project needs. The CIP Coach shall evaluate the request to ensure
compliance with Section 3400 of the California Public Contract Code and the Standardized Equipment Selection Criteria.

a. If the evaluation determines the request is viable, the CIP Coach shall recommend to Management whether to standardize the equipment for the current project only or to amend the Standardized Equipment List to include the new equipment. If Management agrees with the recommendation, Staff shall proceed with a recommendation to the Board of Directors for approval consideration.

b. If the evaluation determines the request to be not viable, the CIP Coach shall coordinate with the design consultant to ensure the specification is drafted with performance requirements that will meet the District’s needs and to include “or equal” in the specification. The CIP Coach will also ensure the specification is not proprietary in nature that could exclude all but one manufacturer.

Employee Responsibility

Employees are responsible for adhering to the procedures established by this policy and requesting Management approval whenever they have recommendations for changes to the guidelines and the Standardized Equipment List.

Management Responsibility

Management is responsible for ensuring that this policy is followed and that the Standardized Equipment List is reviewed and approved by the Board of Directors every 3 years.

References and Notes

Attachment A – 2014 Standardized Equipment List
Attachment B – California Public Contract Code Section 3400
Attachment C – Standardized Equipment Selection Criteria

This revision supersedes the versions listed below, which are no longer effective.

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<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Policy #</th>
<th>Effective Date</th>
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<td>N/A</td>
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Approved by: Board of Directors, December 8, 2014
Author/owner: CIP Coach
Reviewers: Executive Team
Notify Person: CIP Coach
Revision frequency: Every 3 years
Next Review: December 2017
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Equipment Description</th>
<th>Manufacturer</th>
<th>Type/Model/Series</th>
<th>Quantity of Units Installed at USD Facilities</th>
<th>Average Unit Cost, excludes sales tax</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Plug Valves (4-inch diameter and greater)</td>
<td>Dezurik</td>
<td>Eccentric Plug Valves (PEC)</td>
<td>640+</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
<td>Plug valves are used to isolate the flow of water, wastewater, sludge, and grit at District facilities. They have a simple operation and are typically more economical than other types of valves. Staff has previously used plug valves by other manufacturers but found the Dezurik plug valves to be more reliable and durable. Maintenance staff has also received very good customer support from the local sales representative.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air / Vacuum Relief Valves</td>
<td>Vent-O-Mat</td>
<td>RGX Series</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>The air / vacuum relief valves are important components in the operation and maintenance of the twin force main pipelines. Along with the surge towers located at Newark and Irvington Pump Stations, the air / vacuum relief valves reduce the effects of water hammer (sudden changes in the flow rate of wastewater) in the twin force main pipelines. Staff has previously used air / vacuum relief valves by other manufacturers but found the Vent-O-Mat units to function more reliably and are easier to maintain.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wastewater Centrifugal Pumps and Motors</td>
<td>Wemco</td>
<td>Wemco-Hidrostal Submersible Screw-Centrifugal Impeller Pump</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>$110,000</td>
<td>In 1998, staff conducted an in-depth analysis of the dry-pit submersible pumps and motors prior to the Alvarado Influent Pump Station Expansion Project to address problems, such as clogging, high vibrations, and limited operating range associated with the old line-shaft pumps. The analysis included a comparison of pumps from other manufacturers. Based on the results of the analysis, staff selected Wemco as the sole-source supplier for the raw wastewater pumps and motors for the Alvarado Influent Pump Station. Staff has subsequently standardized to the Wemco pumps at the Irvington Pump Station, Newark Pump Station, and Boyce Road Lift Station.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment Description</td>
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<td>Quantity of Units Installed at USD Facilities</td>
<td>Average Unit Cost, excludes sales tax</td>
<td>Comments</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Centrifugal Pumps and Motors (sludge mixing pumps)</td>
<td>Wemco</td>
<td>Wemco-Hidrostal Screw-Centrifugal Impeller Pump</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>$80,000</td>
<td>The original sludge mixing pumps did not perform well due to its inability to pass large clumps of rags. This resulted in a limited mixing operation, which increased the risk of a large mat formation in the digester and created operational problems with mixing and generation of methane gas. This also caused operations staff to frequently take the pumps out of service in order to remove the rags that are caught in the pumps. Based on the success with the non-clog capabilities of the Wemco-Hidrostal submersible screw-centrifugal impeller pumps at the wastewater pump stations, staff decided to replace the existing sludge mixing pump at Primary Digester No. 2 with the Wemco-Hidrostal Screw Centrifugal Impeller Pump in 2003. Due to this success, staff has standardized the sludge mixing pumps to the Wemco units.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recessed Impeller Pumps (sludge pumping)</td>
<td>Wemco Pump</td>
<td>Model C</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>The Wemco Model C recessed impeller pumps were first installed at the District during the 1991 Interim Improvements Project to pump primary sludge from the primary clarifiers. These pumps are still in operation. Due to the Wemco Model C's ability to pass fibrous and stringy materials with the sludge, good operational reliability, and ease of maintenance, staff also installed them as sludge recirculation pumps at the primary digesters.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment Description</td>
<td>Manufacturer</td>
<td>Type/Model/Series</td>
<td>Quantity of Units Installed at USD Facilities</td>
<td>Average Unit Cost, excludes sales tax</td>
<td>Comments</td>
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<tr>
<td>Motorized Valve Operators</td>
<td>Rotork</td>
<td>IQ Series</td>
<td>230+</td>
<td>$7,000</td>
<td>Typically, staff has installed motorized valve operators on all valves and gates that require many turns of the stem to fully open or close, are inaccessible, and / or require automatic control. The motorized valve operators allow staff to actuate the valves and gates much quicker and in a safe manner. Staff has previously used motorized valve operators by other manufacturers but found the Rotork units to be more reliable and the customer service more responsive and dependable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gas Monitoring Systems</td>
<td>Mining Safety Appliances Company (MSA)</td>
<td>Ultima Series</td>
<td>15+</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>Gas monitoring systems are required by the National Fire Protection Association and the National Electrical Code to be installed in areas where combustible gases may be present. Additionally, gas monitoring systems are installed in areas where staff may have exposure to hydrogen sulfide gases. The gas monitoring systems typically measure levels of combustible gases, hydrogen sulfide, and / or oxygen. The systems are critical to maintaining a safe environment for staff, equipment and processes. Staff has found the MSA units more reliable and the gas sensors easier to calibrate.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Programmable Logic Controllers (PLC)</td>
<td>Allen Bradley</td>
<td>Logix Series of Controllers, and Associated Support Hardware and Software</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>$10,000 to $20,000 (hardware cost only; does not include enclosures, installation, wire terminations, and programming)</td>
<td>PLCs are located at every plant process building and the remote pump and lift stations and are critical to the operation of the District’s facilities. They provide automatic controls of the equipment by continuously monitoring and adjusting the equipment’s operating parameters as flow or process conditions vary. The Allen Bradley PLC has advanced communication and networking technologies and is easier to program and troubleshoot. Staff has been extremely pleased with the Allen Bradley PLC. The Allen Bradley Logix series of controllers has seven models depending on the complexity of the system being monitored and controlled. The ControlLogix controller is the most robust and staff will utilize this controller in most of the District’s applications. However, there will be some small to mid-size applications where the CompactLogix controller system would serve the need and is more cost effective. PLCs from other manufacturers would require different programming and configuration software than those for the Allen Bradley units. It is important that the PLC’s are standardized to Allen Bradley since staff has already invested many training hours to learn the programming of the units.</td>
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(a) The Legislature finds and declares that it is the intent of this section to encourage contractors and manufacturers to develop and implement new and ingenious materials, products, and services that function as well, in all essential respects, as materials, products, and services that are required by a contract, but at a lower cost to taxpayers.

(b) No agency of the state, nor any political subdivision, municipal corporation, or district, nor any public officer or person charged with the letting of contracts for the construction, alteration, or repair of public works, shall draft or cause to be drafted specifications for bids, in connection with the construction, alteration, or repair of public works, (1) in a manner that limits the bidding, directly or indirectly, to any one specific concern, or (2) calling for a designated material, product, thing, or service by specific brand or trade name unless the specification is followed by the words "or equal" so that bidders may furnish any equal material, product, thing, or service. In applying this section, the specifying agency shall, if aware of an equal product manufactured in this state, name that product in the specification. Specifications shall provide a period of time prior to or after, or prior to and after, the award of the contract for submission of data substantiating a request for a substitution of "an equal" item. If no time period is specified, data may be submitted any time within 35 days after the award of the contract.

(c) Subdivision (b) is not applicable if the awarding authority, or its designee, makes a finding that is described in the invitation for bids or request for proposals that a particular material, product, thing, or service is designated by specific brand or trade name for any of the following purposes:

1. In order that a field test or experiment may be made to determine the product's suitability for future use.
2. In order to match other products in use on a particular public improvement either completed or in the course of completion.
3. In order to obtain a necessary item that is only available from one source.
4. (A) In order to respond to an emergency declared by a local agency, but only if the declaration is approved by a four-fifths vote of the governing board of the local agency issuing the invitation for bid or request for proposals.
   (B) In order to respond to an emergency declared by the state, a state agency, or political subdivision of the state, but only if the facts setting forth the reasons for the finding of the emergency are contained in the public records of the authority issuing the invitation for bid or request for proposals.
“Match Existing Equipment”

Does your proposed equipment match an existing piece of equipment in make and model (exact model not necessary but should be in the same model family)?

Yes

Is the proposed equipment intended to be installed at the same location or building and at a similar USD wastewater process as the existing equipment?

Yes

Has USD owned and operated the existing equipment for the past 3 years?

Yes

Did the existing equipment have any unscheduled repairs, due to manufacturer’s defects, in the past 3 years?

Yes

Have costs been evaluated indicating that operating or maintaining multiple equipment brands will result in significant additional costs that could offset the potential benefit from competitive bidding?

Yes

Equipment can be standardized

No

Equipment cannot be standardized

No

Equipment cannot be standardized

No

Equipment cannot be standardized

No

Equipment cannot be standardized

No

Equipment cannot be standardized

Yes

Equipment cannot be standardized

No

Equipment cannot be standardized

Yes

Equipment cannot be standardized

No

Equipment cannot be standardized
Has your research confirmed that no other manufacturer can supply equipment that can match the project performance constraints (e.g., operating conditions, dimensions)?

No

Equipment cannot be standardized

Yes

Has your research confirmed that the manufacturer has been operating in good standing (e.g., no bankruptcy, no recalls) for the past 5 years?

No

Equipment cannot be standardized

Yes

Has your research confirmed that other similar wastewater facilities have had success (e.g., no simplifying of operation due to equipment problem, no unscheduled repairs) in the past 3 years with operating and maintaining the equipment?

No

Equipment cannot be standardized

Yes

Has your research confirmed that there is a sales and repair service center located within the western United States?

No

Equipment cannot be standardized

Yes

Equipment can be standardized
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<th>28,666.50</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$0 - $1,000</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>44,471.10</td>
<td>$1,000 - $10,000</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>194,143.90</td>
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<tr>
<td>$1,000 - $10,000</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>252,530.12</td>
<td>$10,000 - $100,000</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>378,371.29</td>
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<tr>
<td>$10,000 - $100,000</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>353,521.21</td>
<td>Over $100,000</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>484,647.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over $100,000</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>484,647.96</td>
<td>Total:</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>1,085,829.65</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
DATE: May 2, 2016

MEMO TO: Board of Directors - Union Sanitary District

FROM: Paul R. Eldredge, General Manager/ District Engineer
Armando Lopez, Treatment and Disposal Services Manager
Tim Grillo, R&S Team Coach

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 15b - Meeting of May 9, 2016
Information Only: Reclaimed Water Alternatives

Recommendation

Information Only.

Background

Production of reclaimed water has become an increasingly popular trend in the wastewater industry in recent years. Historically, several of the EBDA agencies have supplied reclaimed water classified under Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations as disinfected secondary-23 reclaimed water (Secondary-23 water) to municipal uses including golf course irrigation. Secondary-23 water is relatively inexpensive to produce but has a limited number of uses under Title 22 and is not of sufficient quality for distribution to the public.

Some agencies including Dublin San Ramon Services District and Central Contra Costa Sanitary District have begun producing disinfected tertiary reclaimed water (Tertiary water) suitable for distribution to the public. Several agencies have installed residential filling stations as a drought relief measure which has become very popular with the public. Several of the EBDA agencies including Oro Loma Sanitary District, the City San Leandro, and the City of Hayward have plans for installing systems to produce and deliver Tertiary water in the near future. Between 1991 and 1993, the District owned and operated a demonstration plant that produced 0.25 million gallons per day (mgd) of Tertiary water.
Staff was asked to develop alternatives for producing reclaimed water including an approximate cost for implementation and operation. The alternatives presented in this item are intended to encompass a range of options that staff believes provides an opportunity to gauge the level of interest in the USD service area in the most cost effective manner possible.

**Reclaimed Water Alternatives and Costs**

The following costs are approximations based upon the attached conceptual designs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alternative 1</th>
<th>Alternative 2</th>
<th>Alternative 3</th>
<th>Alternative 3A</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Secondary-23 for municipal users only</td>
<td>Tertiary reclaimed water system and residential filling station</td>
<td>Mobile tertiary reclaimed water system and residential filling station</td>
<td>Mobile tertiary reclaimed water system and half sized filling station in an existing parking lot</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Project Costs**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Construction Cost</th>
<th>$497,000</th>
<th>$1,510,000</th>
<th>$335,000</th>
<th>$223,000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Design/Implementation</td>
<td>$149,000</td>
<td>$450,000</td>
<td>$103,000</td>
<td>$67,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Project Cost</strong></td>
<td><strong>$646,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,960,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>$448,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>$290,000</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating Costs</td>
<td>$12,000</td>
<td>$479,000</td>
<td>$422,000</td>
<td>$422,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Equipment Rental</strong></td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$173,000</td>
<td>$173,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Annual Operating Costs</strong></td>
<td><strong>$12,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>$479,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>$595,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>$595,000</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note 1** Operating costs for Option 2 originally prepared by RMC Water and Environment (RMC) were amended by staff to account for the known cost of chemicals, energy, lab services, and employee costs.

**Note 2** The Operating Costs for Option 2 does not include the cost of major maintenance, replacement of membranes or waste disposal. However, these items are included in the rental cost in alternatives 3 and 3A.

**Discussion of Alternatives**

**Alternative No. 1**

Alternative No.1 is a system designed to produce approximately 12,000 gallons per day (gpd) of Secondary-23 water. Secondary-23 water is treatment plant final effluent that has been subjected to an additional disinfection step to further reduce pathogens and indicator organisms. California Code of Regulations Title 22 (Title 22) restricts the use of Secondary-23 water to certain applications, which include irrigation of freeway landscaping, irrigation of restricted access golf courses, street sweeping, dust control, and certain construction uses. As a result of the restrictions on use and requirements for training and inspection of users, staff envisions that
Secondary-23 water would only be provided to municipal customers which is similar to the practice of the other EBDA agencies.

Staff has estimated that a cost of $646,000 would be required to construct additional treatment plant equipment to make Secondary-23 water. This construction cost includes a truck filling station for dispensing the reclaimed water to municipal customers. Staff has estimated that an annual operating cost of $12,000 would provide for the cost of additional power, chemicals and contract laboratory services. The operating cost assumes that existing staff would operate and maintain the equipment and provide permitting, reporting, customer training and inspections that are required under Title 22. The attached Figure 1 shows the approximate size and location of Alternative No. 1.

**Alternative No. 2**

Alternative No. 2 is based on RMC’s draft conceptual design of a tertiary reclaimed water treatment system and residential filling station that was developed as part of the ongoing Reclaimed Water Feasibility Study Update being conducted in conjunction with ACWD. This alternative provides for the production and distribution of approximately 100,000 gpd of Tertiary water to residential customers. RMC provided a draft conceptual level cost estimate of $1.96 million to construct a tertiary reclaimed water treatment system that incorporates ultrafiltration and ultra violet (UV) disinfection technologies and an extension to the northern portion of the overflow parking lot (Contractor parking area) with a residential filling station that accommodates up to eight vehicles at a time.

The draft conceptual level operating costs provided for this option by RMC was modified by staff to correct for the known cost of electricity, chemicals, employee costs and program requirements. Operating costs include the cost of power, chemicals and additional staffing to provide for the operation of tertiary treatment equipment and residential filling station, program coordination, permitting, reporting, training, outreach and limited inspection of residential users. For the purpose of estimation, staff has assumed that the residential filing station would be operated eight hours per day, seven days per week for 26 weeks each year. The operating cost does not include the cost of membrane replacement and disposal that would be required on a 5- to 7-year interval. The attached Figure 2 shows the approximate size and location of the equipment and residential filling station of Alternative 2.

**Alternative No. 3**

Alternative No. 3 provides for the production of Tertiary water using a rented mobile packaged tertiary treatment system and the same residential filling station that RMC developed for Alternative No.2. The alternative is based on the General Electric (GE) M-PAK system which includes two ultrafiltration trains that are capable of producing up to 700,000 gpd of Tertiary water.
water each. The residential filling station developed by RMC can dispense only 100,000 gpd. The M-PAK system is registered with the California Department of Health Services as an alternate technology to produce Title 22 compliant Tertiary water.

This alternative provides for a substantially reduced construction cost of $448,000 with the substitution of rental equipment for a permanently constructed tertiary treatment system. The construction includes the extension of an existing 4-inch reclaimed water pipeline located at the north east side of the treatment plant to a new residential filling station as described in Alternative No.2 that will be located in a new parking lot extension north of the existing Contractor parking area. A 6-inch submersible pump will supply water from the chlorine contact channel to the M-PAK trailer. The attached Figure 3 shows the approximate size and location of Alternative 3.

The annual operating cost of $595,000 includes an annual rental fee of $173,000 for one ultrafiltration train or half of the M-PAK trailer. The annual operating costs include the cost of power, chemicals, and additional staffing to provide for the operation of tertiary treatment equipment and residential filling station, providing program coordination, permitting, reporting, training, outreach and limited inspection of residential users. For the purpose of estimation, staff assumed that the reclaimed water system would operate 8 hours per day and 7 days per week for 26 weeks each year. The construction cost estimate assumes that the existing 4-inch reclaimed water line is intact and usable.

**Alternative No. 3A**

Staff has provided a fourth option to further reduce the cost for construction by siting a residential filling station that accommodates four vehicles in the existing overflow parking area. The construction cost was reduced to $290,000 by avoiding the parking lot extension. The Operating cost of $595,000 per year is identical to Alternative No. 3 as the treatment system, staffing and services required are the same. The attached Figure 4 shows the approximate size and location of Alternative 3A.

**PRE/AL/TG;IW**

**Attachments:**
- Figure 1 – Alternative 1
- Figure 2 – Alternative 2
- Figure 3 – Alternative 3
- Figure 4 – Alternative 3A
DATE: May 2, 2016

MEMO TO: Board of Directors - Union Sanitary District

FROM: Paul R. Eldredge, General Manager/District Engineer
       Sami E. Ghossain, Manager of Technical Services

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 15c – Meeting of May 9, 2016
       Information Only: Status of Priority 1 Capital Improvement Program Projects

Recommendation

Information Only.

Background

In July 2015, the Board approved the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) budget for FY16 in the amount of $15.08 million for the design and construction of 27 projects.

These 27 projects are further ranked as Priority 1, 2 and 3 projects based on a criteria prepared by staff and approved by the Executive Team. A copy of the criteria used to prioritize the projects is attached for your reference.

The status of the Priority 1 CIP projects is reviewed by the Executive Team at the end of each quarter and a copy of the status report is attached for the Board’s review. For FY16, ten (10) projects are ranked as Priority 1 projects and the remaining seventeen (17) are ranked as Priority 2 and 3 projects.

Also attached is a tabular summary of the number and nature of the ongoing CIP projects at the District during FY16.

PRE/SEG:ks

Attachments: Priority 1 CIP Projects for FY16 - Status Report
               Summary of CIP Projects for FY16
               Priority 1 CIP Project Criteria
               Priority 2 & 3 CIP Project Criteria
## Priority 1 Projects for FY 16 – Status Report

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Planned Milestones</th>
<th>Status after 1st Quarter</th>
<th>Status after 2nd Quarter</th>
<th>Status after 3rd Quarter</th>
<th>Status after 4th Quarter</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1</strong> Admin/Field Ops Bldg. Seismic Upgrade and Leak Repairs</td>
<td>Complete negotiations and approval of consultant contract for space needs assessment (with FMC Building) by Sep. 2015. Complete workshops with USD staff by Dec. 2015. Draft report in Feb. 2016. Final report in April 2016.</td>
<td>Completed negotiations and executed the agreement and Task Order No. 1 with Siegel &amp; Strain Architects in September 2015.</td>
<td>Workshops and meetings were completed in December. Draft report was received and review comments returned in December.</td>
<td>Consultant reviewed District’s comments and clarified the final report, which will be submitted in April.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2</strong> Alvarado-Niles Blvd. Sewer Rehab</td>
<td>Project scope presentation to City Council of Union City by January 2016. Bid Opening in March 2016. Award project in April 2016. Project construction starts in May, 2016.</td>
<td>Staff has been in communication with the Cities of Fremont and Union City on the schedule status of the Niles Blvd. bridge and Union City Blvd. pedestrian crossing projects.</td>
<td>Presentation to the City Council was delivered on January 12th. Staff plans to advertise for bids in February.</td>
<td>Staff opened bids on March 1st and awarded project to SAK Construction on March 14th.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3</strong> Cogen Project - Phase II</td>
<td>Complete final design submittal by January 2016. Bid Opening in Feb. 2016. Award in March 2016. Project Substantial Completion by June 2016.</td>
<td>Through September 2015, staff completed design of the Digester 1-3 isolation valve installation and Carollo is approximately 50% complete with the design of the ventilation improvements.</td>
<td>Carollo completed the 90% design submittal for the ventilation improvements in December.</td>
<td>Final design was completed in Feb and bids were opened in March. Due to the sole bid received, and at 50% higher than the Engineer’s Estimate, the bid will be rejected and project will be re-advertised in October.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Project</td>
<td>Planned Milestones</td>
<td>Status after 1st Quarter</td>
<td>Status after 2nd Quarter</td>
<td>Status after 3rd Quarter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Equalization Storage at Alvarado</td>
<td>Design Consultant Selection Process by August 2015. Predesign Report by December 2015. 100% design submittal by June, 2016.</td>
<td>Carollo Engineers was selected in September, 2015 as the design consultant. Negotiations for predesign services should be completed in October.</td>
<td>Staff inquired with the Alameda County and Flood Control District (ACFCD) regarding the use of their property near the treatment plant for equalization storage. Assessment will continue into February.</td>
<td>A wetlands assessment and delineation of the property east of the treatment plant to take place in April. Findings will be evaluated and shared with Alameda County and Flood Control District.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Fremont &amp; PP LS Internal Lift Pumps</td>
<td>Bid Opening and Award by October 2015. Deliver new screw pumps on site by August 2016. Project Substantial Completion by December 2016.</td>
<td>Staff opened bids and the Board awarded the project to Mountain Cascade, Inc. in September 2015.</td>
<td>Staff issued the Notice to Proceed on October 15th. Received the submittal for the screw pumps in November and staff returned comments to the contractor in December.</td>
<td>Contractor completed the fence replacement at the Fremont Lift Station.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Hypochlorite Tanks and PVC piping replacement at OCB and NPS.</td>
<td>Final design submittal by November 2015. Bid Opening in Dec. 2015. Award project in Jan. 2015. Begin construction in February 2016. Project Substantial Completion by Feb. 2017.</td>
<td>Staff completed review of the 50% design submittal in September 2015. Staff anticipates the 90% design submittal in October.</td>
<td>At the request of staff, the project will advertise for bids by April 2016. This will allow some of the construction work to occur during spring and summer of 2017 after wet weather subsides.</td>
<td>Plant staff requested additional scope to the project. The project will be advertised for bids in June.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project</td>
<td>Planned Milestones</td>
<td>Status after 1st Quarter</td>
<td>Status after 2nd Quarter</td>
<td>Status after 3rd Quarter</td>
<td>Status after 4th Quarter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>7 Newark Backyard Sewer Relocation</strong></td>
<td>Phase 2 construction Substantial Completion by November 2015. Phase 3 Final design submittal in March 2016. Phase 3 bid opening in April 2016. Phase 3 award in May 2016.</td>
<td>Phase 2 construction is approximately 95% complete. Phase 3 design is approximately 75% complete.</td>
<td>Phase 2 construction is complete. Phase 3 design is 90% complete.</td>
<td>Phase 3 bids opened on March 24th. Phase 3 will be awarded in April.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>8 Pine St. Easement</strong></td>
<td>Start final design and environmental review process in September 2015. 100% design submittal by January 2016</td>
<td>Environmental consultant determined the limits of the permitting agencies' jurisdictions. West Yost will prepare a detailed design task order in October.</td>
<td>Staff received the 75% design submittal and completed the review in Dec. Staff expects to receive the 90% design submittal in January and plans to advertise for bids in February.</td>
<td>Project was advertised and bids were opened on March 15th. Due to the non-responsive bids received, project will be re-advertised in April.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>9 Thickener Control Bldg Modifications Project</strong></td>
<td>Completion of Major Electrical Work by September 2015. Demolition of existing Thickener Control Building by January 2016. Construction of new Thickener Control Area Structure by July 2016. Startup and Testing of New Pumps and Grinders by October 2016. Project Substantial Completion by December 2016.</td>
<td>Major Electrical Work was completed in September 2015. Demolition of the existing building is scheduled to commence in December 2015. The construction work is approximately 55% complete.</td>
<td>The demolition of the mechanical and electrical equipment inside the existing Thickener Control Building was completed in December. The demolition of the existing building is scheduled to be completed in Jan. The construction work is approximately 62% complete.</td>
<td>Demolition of existing Thickener Control Building was completed in January 2016. Contractor began installation of steel reinforcement and formwork for the new Thickener Control Building. Construction work is approximately 68% complete.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project</td>
<td>Planned Milestones</td>
<td>Status after 1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; Quarter</td>
<td>Status after 2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt; Quarter</td>
<td>Status after 3&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt; Quarter</td>
<td>Status after 4&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Quarter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>10</strong> Wet Weather Flow Management</td>
<td>Complete Life-Cycle costs and Land acquisition strategy of the Site Use Study by March 2016.</td>
<td>Staff executed Task Order No. 2 with RMC to prepare the life-cycle costs and land acquisition strategy in September 2015.</td>
<td>Conducted workshop in December and continued to work with consultant on the life-cycle cost analyses and land acquisition strategy.</td>
<td>The final Land Acquisition Strategy report was submitted on February 23&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt;. The final Life Cycle Cost Analysis Technical Memorandum was submitted on March 10&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type of Project</td>
<td>Number of Projects</td>
<td>Names of Projects</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------</td>
<td>--------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Administration Facilities | Two               | 1. Admin/Field Ops Bldg. Seismic Upgrade and Leak repairs  
  2. FMC Bldg.                                                   |
| Collection System     | Five               | 1. Alvarado-Niles Blvd. Sewer Rehab  
  2. Newark Backyard Sewer Relocation, Phases II and III  
  3. Pine Street Easement Repair  
  4. Spot Repairs, Phase VI  
  5. Veasy Street Sewer Improvements Project                              |
| Transport System      | Five               | 1. Equalization Storage at Alvarado  
  2. Fremont & PP LS Internal Lift Pumps  
  3. Newark PS Waterline  
  4. Transport System Misc. Projects  
  5. Wet Weather Flow Management                                              |
| Treatment System      | Fifteen            | 1. 3rd Degritter System  
  2. Aeration System Rehab  
  3. Aeration Tank (East) Baffling  
  4. Aeration Tank (East) Roof  
  5. Cogeneration Project, Phase II  
  6. Diffuser Replacement  
  7. Generator Controls Upgrade  
  8. Hypochlorite Tanks and PVC piping replacement at OCB and NPS.  
  9. MCC Replacement Project, Phase III  
  10. Plant Facilities Improvements Project                                  |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Project</th>
<th>Number of Projects</th>
<th>Names of Projects</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Treatment System (cont.)</td>
<td></td>
<td>11. PLC Replacement, Phase III</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>12. Primary Effluent (60”) Pipe Rehab</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>13. Sludge Drying (BACWA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>14. Thickener Control Bldg. Improvements Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>15. Water Storage Tank and Well</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total: 27
Priority 1 Projects:

1. Project to repair or prevent an imminent critical infrastructure failure that could result in a threat to the public, or result in permit non-compliance.

2. A project designed to address public health and safety or employee health and safety.

3. Project to provide additional capacity in order to allow connection to the District system or to prevent a potential wet weather overflow from occurring.

4. Projects that have a deadline tied to receiving a loan or grant funding.

5. Projects where we have made a timeline commitment to a customer or other outside stakeholder.

6. A project in which the District may suffer financial losses or claims should the project be delayed.

7. A project which is part of a sequence of projects whose delay could result in delays to other projects at USD or other agencies.

8. A project in which an internal commitment has been made to provide a facility that significantly impacts another group from efficiently and effectively carrying out their core work. (Not a "nice to have" type project)

These criteria can apply to a study, design, or construction project.
PRIORITY 2 & 3 CIP PROJECT CRITERIA

Priority 2 Projects

1. These are planned projects related to the replacement of electrical and mechanical equipment identified by the Plant Master Plan – this equipment is not in imminent danger of failure but needs to be replaced at a future date.
2. These are planned pipeline rehab/replacement projects that are identified either by the Master Plan or by the Maintenance staff and need to be completed to improve the condition of existing sewers to safeguard against potential maintenance problems – these pipelines are not in imminent danger of failure.
3. These projects do not have any immediate negative impacts on either other agencies or other projects.

Priority 3 Projects

1. These are capacity projects identified by the master plans that will address future capacity needs of the District.
2. These projects are place holders and need to be defined at a future date.
3. The District will not suffer any financial loss or claim, if these projects are delayed.
4. Examples: Cedar Relief Sewer, Hetch Hetchy Relief Sewer, Digester No. 7, Secondary Clarifiers 7 & 8.
DATE: May 2, 2016

MEMO TO: Board of Directors - Union Sanitary District

FROM: Paul R. Eldredge, General Manager/District Engineer
Sami E. Ghossain, Manager of Technical Services

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 15d – Meeting of May 9, 2016
Information Only: Third Quarterly Report on the Capital Improvement Program for FY16

Recommendation:

Information only

Background:

In July 2015, the Board approved the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) budget for FY16 in the amount of $15.08 million for the design and construction of 27 projects. The third quarter expenditures for FY16 are shown on the attached budget projection graphs. These graphs depict actual expenditures versus approved budget for the Capacity Fund 900, the Renewal and Replacement Fund 800 as well as for both funds, combined.

The total CIP expenditure up to March 31, 2016 was below the projections for the third quarter by approximately $1,679,000. The main projects that incurred less than the projected expenditures are the Thickener Control Bldg., the Misc. Spot Repairs, Equalization Storage at Alvarado, and the Fremont and Paseo Padre Lift Stations (PP LS) projects.
These primary variances are tabulated as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Variance at the end of 3rd Quarter (x $1000)</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thickener Control Bldg. Modifications</td>
<td>-919</td>
<td>Contractor is 5 months behind schedule due to delays mainly associated with the Electrical Bldg. construction and complex bypass system installation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fremont &amp; PP LS\ Internal Lift Pumps</td>
<td>-375</td>
<td>Late construction start by contractor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equalization Storage at Alvarado</td>
<td>-225</td>
<td>Project design is delayed pending the selection of a suitable site for the pond.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misc. Spot Repairs Phase 6</td>
<td>-160</td>
<td>Project bid was $175K less than originally budgeted and the scope was further reduced.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Total Variance for the 3rd Qtr.              | -1,679                                      |                                                                           |

In addition to the four (4) projects listed above, the following projects will be either in design or in construction during FY16:

1. Admin/Field Ops Bldg. Seismic Upgrade and Leak Repairs
2. Alvarado-Niles Blvd. Sewer Rehab
3. Cogen - Phase 2
4. Hypochlorite Tanks and PVC piping replacement at OCB and NPS.
5. Newark Backyard Sewer Relocation – Phase 3
6. Pine St. Easement
7. Wet Weather Flow Management - Site Use Study

In addition, sixteen (16) other smaller projects will be either in design or in construction during FY16.

PRE/SEG:ks

Attachments: Budget Graphs
Capacity

- Fund 900 Budget
- Fund 900 Actual
- Fund 900 Projected

Fund 900 Budget:
- Jul 15: $0
- Sept-15: $834
- Dec-15: $1,729
- Mar-16: $2,574
- Jun-16: $4,523

Fund 900 Actual:
- Jul 15: $0
- Sept-15: $704
- Dec-15: $1,383
- Mar-16: $1,905
- Jun-16: $3,315

Fund 900 Projected:
- Jul 15: $0
- Sept-15: $1,000
- Dec-15: $2,000
- Mar-16: $3,000
- Jun-16: $4,000

Capacity range: $0 to $5,000

Timeline:
- Jul 15
- Sept-15
- Dec-15
- Mar-16
- Jun-16

Capacity progression from Jul 15 to Jun-16:
- Jul 15: $0
- Sept-15: $834
- Dec-15: $1,729
- Mar-16: $2,574
- Jun-16: $4,523

Overall, the budget, actual, and projected values for Fund 900 show a steady increase from July 2015 to June 2016, with the projected values consistently higher than the actual values, indicating a budget underutilization or spending below expectations.
Commissioners Dias, Handley, Johnson, Prola, and Peixoto were present.

The Consent Calendar was approved unanimously and included the Commission Meeting Minutes, List of Disbursements, and Treasurer’s Report.

The Commission unanimously approved the reports from the General Manager, Managers Advisory, Financial Management, Regulatory Affairs, Operations & Maintenance, and Ad Hoc committees. The following items were discussed:

- **General Managers Report** - The General Manager discussed his recent Fulbright Specialist project in Mauritius and what he learned about effective Board governance.

- **Managers Advisory Committee (MAC)** met with the Superintendent of Operations & Maintenance on April 20, 2016. The MAC discussed energy use and rates at the pump stations. The Committee discussed the two resolutions from the O&M staff report and expressed their support. Lastly, Superintendent Stoops advised that EBDA is moving forward with the motor control center replacement at the Hayward Effluent Pump Station. Late summer 2016, EBDA should receive 100% design from Todd Beecher.

  Commissioner Peixoto suggested staff research Community Choice Aggregation to procure alternative energy supplies for EBDA facilities. The item will be added to the O&M Committee agenda in May for further discussion.

- **Financial Management Committee** approved the March list of disbursements and Treasurer’s Report at the meeting of April 19, 2016. The Committee also reviewed the CSRMA Pooled Liability Program dividend received by EBDA. The General Manager will present the FY 2016/17 Draft Budget to the Finance Committee in May.

- **Regulatory Affairs Committee** met on April 19, 2016, and discussed permit compliance. The Committee was updated on the BACWA watershed nutrient permit. BACWA continues to review future strategy options that will gain support from the SF Water Board.

- **Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Committee** met on April 18, 2016, and was updated on EBDA’s performance. Superintendent of O&M David Stoops updated the Committee on the status of the O&M projects. The kick-off meeting for the AEPS VFD project was held on April 7. Todd Beecher is working on the 50% design of the HEPS motor control center project. The parts for the SLEPS No. 2 effluent pump are on back-order. The Pump
Repair Service Company, Inc. estimates that the pump will be ready for installation mid-April. San Leandro’s Operations staff is preparing to shut down the station to inspect the wet well. The remotely operated vehicle inspection of the Outfall Pipe is expected to take place in August.

The O&M Committee recommended adoption of a resolution authorizing a contract with Trihydro Corporation, in the amount of $26,790, for Phase 1 of the fuel storage tank replacement project at the Oro Loma pump station. EBDA has two underground storage tanks at the Oro Loma Pump Station. The State of California is requiring all underground storage tanks be removed from service by December 31, 2025. The Committee also expressed their support for a purchase order to D.W. Nicholson Corporation, in the amount of $29,229, for the fabrication of three custom clamps for the outfall pipe.

- **Items from the Commission and Staff** - The General Manager advised of upcoming changes to the Commission. Commissioner Handley will rotate off the EBDA Commission at the end of the 2015/16 fiscal year. Commissioner Prola’s appointment will end with the December 2016 Commission meeting.

The Commission unanimously passed the following:

- Commissioner Prola moved to authorize a contract with Trihydro Corporation in the amount of $26,790 for the fuel storage tank replacement project at the Oro Loma pump station. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Johnson and carried unanimously, 5-0.

  Ayes: Commissioners Handley, Johnson, Prola, Peixoto, and Chair Dias
  Noes: None
  Absent: None
  Abstain: None

- Commissioner Handley moved to authorize a purchase order to D. W. Nicholson Corporation in the amount of $29,229 for the fabrication of three custom clamps for the outfall pipe. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Peixoto and carried unanimously, 5-0.

  Ayes: Commissioners Handley, Johnson, Prola, Peixoto, and Chair Dias
  Noes: None
  Absent: None
  Abstain: None

- The Resolution Approving the Personnel Policy was referred back to Committee.
Failure of key water pipeline into Silicon Valley may have exposed wider problems

By Paul Rogers

Like a car owner whose transmission unexpectedly breaks down and results in a huge bill, Silicon Valley's largest water provider will have to spend at least $20 million to drain, test and repair a critical water pipeline that failed last summer and may have more hidden problems.

The 8-foot-high, 31-mile-long concrete pipe delivers up to 40 percent of the drinking water for 1.8 million Santa Clara County residents. It moves all of the water that the Santa Clara Valley Water District purchases from the federal Central Valley Project, pumping it from the massive San Luis Reservoir in Merced County through the Diablo mountain range to the Coyote Pumping Plant near Anderson Reservoir in Morgan Hill.
"It is a lifeblood for the valley," said Al Lindauer, division chief of operations and maintenance for the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, which owns the line. On Aug. 1, a section of the underground pipe suffered "catastrophic failure," sending 15 million gallons of water into a cow pasture near Casa de Fruta along Highway 152, according to water district staff reports.

At 5:30 that morning, water district technicians at the Rinconada Treatment Plant in Los Gatos noticed a sudden change in pressure. Realizing they had a break, they shut off valves and stopped the gusher within an hour.

The line, installed by the Bureau of Reclamation in 1985, was then shut down for a month while district repair crews dug up and fixed a 24-foot section. The district's conclusion: It failed because mortar on the outside cracked, allowing water to seep in and rust high-tension wires that wrap around the steel and concrete core. Water then rushed through the top of the structurally compromised pipe.

"This pipe is only 30 years old. I would not have expected it to fail so quickly," said Barbara Keegan, chairwoman of the Santa Clara Valley Water District board. "It's not like there was a unique situation. The fact that it cracked and the wires corroded, how extensive is this?"

Although the federal government installed the pipe, which was made by Ameron International in Rancho Cucamonga, the water district is responsible for maintaining it. After the break, district crews found two other sections near the broken part that were also damaged, which led to a $1.2 million repair bill.

During all of August, one of the most heavy months of the year for water use, the district's water system was perilously limited. Had there been a problem at the South Bay Aqueduct, the other key route for water from the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta to come into Santa Clara County, emergency water shortages could have resulted for homes and businesses. The break also disrupted water service to San Benito County, served by a spur line off the huge pipe.

Lindauer said the Bureau of Reclamation report, which had been expected this week, won't be finished for two months.

In the meantime, the water district has drawn up a $6.8 million plan to drain, inspect and perform possible repairs next year on 8 miles of the line known as the Pacheco Conduit. A similar plan to drain, inspect and repair the other 23 miles of line, known as the Santa Clara Conduit, in 2018 and 2019 is planned. The cost is not yet known, but if it is in the same general range as the first job, it could easily exceed $10 million or even $20 million.

Water district officials say the high-pressure pipe, which is 8 inches thick, may have been cracked at the factory more than 30 years ago or damaged during construction.

What may seem like a mundane piece of civil engineering is actually a key part of Silicon Valley's history. Construction of the pipeline, part of a wider project known as the San Felipe Division of the Central Valley Project, brought up to 152,500 acre feet of water --
enough for about 800,000 people a year -- into Santa Clara County starting in the 1980s. That allowed the valley to accommodate more homes, industry and population growth.

Without the Delta water from the Central Valley Project and the State Water Project, there is not enough water in the local creeks, rivers and underground aquifers to support the county’s population, farms and economy. National experts say the break is symbolic of aging dams, pipes, canals and other water infrastructure that are in distress in many communities.

"We have about 240,000 water main breaks a year in this country. That’s more than 600 every day," said Greg DiLoreto, past president of the American Society of Civil Engineers. "Pipes reach the end of their useful life. It’s like having a roof on your house. You can make repairs, but at some point, you have to replace it."

DiLoreto said it’s encouraging that the Santa Clara Valley Water District is launching a full inspection and repair plan for all 31 miles of the critical pipeline.

"We as Americans have to invest," he said. "If you compare your water bill to what you pay for cable TV or a cellphone and think about how important water is to your life, it begs the question: Are you willing to invest more?"

Paul Rogers covers resources and environmental issues. Contact him at 408-920-5045. Follow him at Twitter.com/PaulRogersSJMN.
California Water Districts Say Drought Emergency Has Ended, Expected to Suggest Relaxing Conservation Measures

By Associated Press

4/20/2016

California water districts large and small are expected to urge regulators on Wednesday to toss out or significantly relax emergency drought orders requiring residents to take shorter showers and let their lawns turn brown.

Strict orders remain in place, despite significantly more rain and snow this winter flowing into California reservoirs, easing five years of drought, local water officials say.

Continuing to ask Californians to sustain "heroic water conservation efforts" that don't reflect healthier water supplies today could erode the officials' credibility with residents when they're called upon next time to make sacrifices, David Bolland, special projects manager for the Association of California Water Agencies says in a letter to water regulators.

"It is time to end the State Water Board's mandatory water use restrictions statewide," says Bolland, who represents hundreds of urban, commercial and agricultural water districts.

The State Water Resources Control Board on Wednesday is holding an informational workshop to chart the future of urban water conservation measures. Dozens of water districts wrote letters to the board, which could adopt change in May.

Nearly a year ago, Gov. Jerry Brown ordered California's residents and businesses to conserve after calls for voluntary cutbacks failed to reap significant water savings in the state's driest four-year period on record.

Residents statewide used 23.9 percent less water over the nine months ending in February under orders to use 25 percent less water compared to the same months in 2013.

Residents are now under orders to cutback through October by at least 20 percent.

Guiding a discussion of how new conservation orders should look, water regulators asked if each region of the state should be treated differently given their individual water supplies and how each is recovering from drought.

Two High Sierra reservoirs that supply about 38,000 residents in Tuolumne County are expected to overflow, making the emergency regulations there "wholly unnecessary," Thomas Haglund, general manager of the Tuolumne Utilities District, wrote to the board.
Other districts say that if the emergency order isn't lifted, they should at least be eased to give them more credit for having invested in developing new sources of water and efficiency.

Tracy Quinn, a senior policy analyst for the National Resources Defense Council, in a letter submitted by several environmental organizations, cautioned against abandoning conservation measures in response to outcry from local districts.

There is no certainty of another wet winter to follow and much of the state remains in drought conditions, Quinn said. She added that some adjustment to the drought orders are warranted, but conservation should be a way of life for California.

"California's water challenges are immense and extend far beyond the current drought," Quinn wrote.
Oro Loma: Can Wastewater Save the Bay from Sea Level Rise?

by Ted Trautman on April 21, 2016

A rainbow frames Save the Bay's volunteers as they plant natives (raised on-site) in the gentle slope of the experimental "horizontal levee" at the Oro Loma wastewater treatment facility in San Lorenzo. (Photo by Andrea Laue, sparebeauty.com)

“Everything we’re doing here is illegal, infeasible, and unfundable,” Jeremy Lowe tells me with a rakish grin, as we watch a couple dozen volunteers, including several small children in galoshes, planting grasses in the mud. They’re working on an experimental levee near the Bay’s edge in San Lorenzo, just west of Hayward, innocently enough, and Lowe soon confesses that he and his colleagues aren’t outlaws after all. But this prototype levee, situated a half-mile from the Bay, is so innovative that building it on the shoreline is prohibited, even though it could help mitigate a looming environmental crisis: the rising sea levels brought on by global climate change.
Most levees are basically just walls separating water and land. (Indeed, the word levee comes from the French verb lever, “to raise.”) In contrast, we’re standing on a relatively rare horizontal levee, very wide and almost flat, dropping just five feet in elevation as one walks its 150-foot width. This small prototype stretches 700 feet along the “shoreline” (in this case, a trench), while a grown-up one might span as much as 14 miles. Lowe, a geomorphologist at the San Francisco Estuary Institute and one of the project’s chief architects, compares it to a layer cake: Underneath the loam we’re standing on is a layer of sand and wood chips where microbes break down nitrogen-containing waste, and beneath that a stratum of dense clay and a hardpan that keeps the water used in this experiment from seeping into the Bay. But since this layer cake sits on land owned by the Oro Loma Sanitary District, next door to its wastewater treatment plant and downwind of its aromas, I wish we’d talk about something other than food.

Bay water levels could rise by as much as three feet by 2050 and more than five feet by 2100—putting up to 270,000 Bay Area residents in flood zones, along with 1,800 miles of road, 15 power plants, 10 wastewater treatment plants, and all of the Bay Area’s major airports, predicts the National Research Council. Rather than attempting to hold back all this water behind taller and taller walls, a horizontal levee like Oro Loma’s uses the natural infrastructure of wetlands to absorb that water and the force of waves. For that reason, Peter Baye, an independent coastal vegetation ecologist and another mastermind behind this experiment, told me that he prefers the term “wetland levee.” (The Oro Loma site is also sometimes called a habitat levee.)
Whatever you call it, a horizontal levee is actually two levees in one: a wetland zone sloping gradually into the Bay, and a conventional vertical levee between that wetland and civilization. This interplay between old and new levees reinforces Baye’s frequent warning that wetland levees are not a panacea, but a tool to help the existing levee infrastructure handle the Bay’s water levels. Rather than replacing vertical levees, horizontal levees supplement them.

But before this potentially game-changing barrier can be constructed, its proponents must overcome a significant legal barrier. This is what Lowe means by an “illegal” project: building wetlands on the edge of the Bay can mean filling portions of it with soil if infrastructure already abuts the shoreline. “If someone started doing that right now,” Lowe explains, the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC), a regional watchdog agency, “would be saying, ‘Wait a minute! You can’t do that! That’s what we were set up to stop people from doing.’”

Indeed, BCDC was formed in 1965 as a direct response to the imminent threat of cities filling in vast tracts of the Bay for development. Since then, it has been a centurion standing watch to prevent reckless developers from impinging on the Bay. Ironically, it’s now impeding environmentalists and scientists. It will take some bureaucratic wrangling to square contemporary environmental science and unforeseen climate challenges with some arguably well-intentioned but now outdated regulations; to that end, BCDC policy is currently under revision with horizontal levees in mind. In the meantime, the Oro Loma experiment’s purpose is to test whether a habitat levee is as useful as its supporters hope and to document its value to convince potential allies.

The horizontal levee already has the support of Save the Bay, the organization formed in 1962 to halt the filling of the Bay. And not just on paper—most of the two dozen volunteers kneeling in the mud on a Saturday morning were recruited by the nonprofit, and habitat restoration director Donna Ball is on site as well, singing the project’s praises. “All we need to do is grow 70,000 plants,” she says, sighing theatrically, though she’s clearly eager for the challenge.

One plant at a time, the volunteers approach that target. Amy Ritchie, who works on an unrelated project at the San Francisco Estuary Institute, says she’s volunteered in part to support her colleagues. Also, she’s here to fight climate change with her bare hands. “It’s hard to have worry with no outlet. To know that the sea is rising, but with nothing you can do about it,” she says. “That’s why it’s nice to have things like this, that give you a way to address the problem yourself.”

Ritchie and the other volunteers are planting a variety of native plants—Baltic rush, iris-leaf rush, field sedge, and creeping wild rye. Bryan Derr, a Save the Bay trainer on hand to answer volunteers’ questions, explains that these water-loving rhizomatous species reproduce via their roots. They are excellent nitrogen absorbers, crucial in this man-made wetland because of a feature that makes the Oro Loma levee truly distinctive: the water flowing through it is treated wastewater.

Wastewater, which remains rich in nitrogen even after treatment, routinely causes harmful algae blooms in the Bay and elsewhere. But in the 1970s, the wastewater community adopted a new
slogan: “the solution to pollution is dilution,” encapsulating an effort to divide and conquer wastewater’s nutrient load by diluting it deep underwater before it could contribute to algae blooms on the Bay’s surface. This strategy is still largely in place today. Deepwater discharging, Peter Baye tells me, was embraced “before we had any understanding of how estuaries and floodplain wetlands denitrified nutrient loads. We just didn’t know how it worked.”

Oro Loma’s wetland levee is a potential alternative to the deepwater discharge model and would represent, if not a return to the Bay’s “natural” state, then at least a step in that direction. Running nutrient-rich water through a wetland levee and its absorbent sedges and rushes would prevent many of those nutrients from entering the Bay in the first place.

Conveniently, man-made wetlands like the Oro Loma levee are improved by treated wastewater just as much as that wastewater is improved by the wetlands. Ecologists can dump soil and plant the right grasses all they want, but for wetlands to be wet they need water, which no longer flows naturally to where it’s needed in urban spaces like San Lorenzo. One can pump the water in, of course, but thanks to the drought, water is in short supply. But Baye, Lowe, and their colleagues noticed a huge supply of water going completely unused—10 million gallons of treated wastewater, getting dumped uselessly into the Bay every single day.

In other words, Oro Loma’s horizontal levee looks like a win-win. Or rather, a win-win-win-win: improved water quality in the Bay, productive use of wastewater, habitat for a variety of birds and mice, and flood protection in the face of a rising sea. And even better, its funding is folded into the wastewater treatment fees that support the sanitary district. But scaling up such sea level rise mitigation projects will depend on additional sources of funding, such as the Measure AA parcel tax that comes before Bay Area voters on June 7. The measure will fund the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority to support projects such as Oro Loma for 20 years.

While sea level rise is not the only problem the levee addresses, it’s probably the most urgent—which has helped this project move along faster than it otherwise might have.

“People don’t understand,” Lowe says, “their house might not be in the low-lying area, but the wastewater facility is. And the power station, and the highway, and their airport is. So everybody in the Bay Area, all nine counties, has an interest in what happens on the shoreline. Because if we start having these big floods, you’re not going to go to work. You’re not even going to be turning your lights on.”

Massive Sinkhole Opens In Pacific Heights Street

April 22, 2016 7:51 AM

SAN FRANCISCO (CBS SF) — Work crews inspected a massive sinkhole early Friday that has created a gaping hole in a street in San Francisco's posh Pacific Heights neighborhood.

According to the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, a 17-foot by 22-foot area of Sacramento Street collapsed between Lyon and Baker streets around 5 p.m. Thursday.

Road crews were nearby filling in an indentation in the street when the collapse occurred. No injuries were reported.

The incident appears to have been caused by a sewer main break at the same location, although the cause of the break is not yet known. Water and sewer service has not been affected, however.

Crews have secured the scene and Sacramento Street was closed between Lyon and Baker. Muni lines have not been affected.
Earth Day brings visitors to 2-city treatment plant

By Susan Hiland | April 24, 2016

FAIRFIELD — Earth Day got celebrated in many ways this weekend with a cleanup in the Suisun Marsh and along area creeks, events at the Civic Center Park and a tour of the Fairfield-Suisun Sewer District's treatment plant.

The plant serves 135,000 residents in the Suisun City and Fairfield area. The amount of wastewater from homes, businesses and commercial users traditionally adds up to about 15 million gallons per day going through the system, but that’s not currently the case.

“It has actually gone down over the last year to about 11 million gallons per day,” said Helen Gaumann, director of administrative services. “That is because of the drought.”

While the plant serves everyone who lives and works in the two cities, its out-of-the-way location on Chanbourne Road gives it an out-of-sight, out-of-mind kind of existence. That’s something plant officials and staff sought to counter on a day set aside to bring awareness to the health of the planet.

“This is the first time we have had a grand opening tour of the plant for Earth Day,” said General Manager Greg Baatrup. “We wanted to get the public out so that they can see what we do.”

Baatrup has worked for nine years at the plant and said he loves his job. The Fairfield-Suisun Sewer District has been a local provider of steady work for many of the employees who can say that they have worked at the plant since getting out of college.

“I have been here 20 years and done probably every job imaginable,” Assistant General Manager Talyon Sortor said.

The plant is situated on several acres of grassy plain near the Suisun Marsh.

“People came out today to learn about what happens here,” Baatrup said. “I am really pleased how many people have come out.”
In addition to the sewer tour, plant workers also hosted a booth at the Fairfield Civic Center for the city’s Earth Day activities and went out for cleanup activities in Fairfield and Suisun City. Back at the plant, they offered visitors refreshments and drinks.

Robin and Mike Westfall of Fairfield have been residents since 1975 and have done tours of the Jelly Belly factory and Anheuser-Busch brewery, but this was their visit to the treatment plant.

“IT was a first-class operation,” said Mike Westfall. “It’s good to know instead of using chlorine they are using UV lights. It’s safer and not a target for terrorists.”

The wastewater disposal plant discontinued using chlorine because of safety issues for storage but also because releasing the treated wastewater into the marshlands with chlorine could harm the marsh, Sortor said.

“It’s good to know they are protecting the marsh,” said Robin Westfall.

*Reach Susan Hiland at 427-6981 or shiland@dailyrepublic.net.*
Conservationists say native species face extinction

EPA sued over Delta water

*Environmental groups go after state, U.S. regulators for relaxing standards*

By Denis Cuff

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4/26/2016

State and federal regulators have failed to protect Delta fish and the environment during the drought by repeatedly relaxing water-quality standards so as to keep water flowing to California cities and farms, three conservation groups argued in a federal lawsuit filed Friday.

The complaint against the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency mirrors a persistent one by conservationists: that California water managers have let the environment suffer disproportionately from the drought.

Wild fish, including the endangered Delta smelt and Sacramento winter-run salmon, have been hurt by a series of 20 state water board decisions over three years to relax Delta water flow and quality standards, according to the lawsuit by the National Resources Defense Council, the Bay Institute and Defenders of Wildlife.

The groups said the EPA should have reviewed and overruled the actions of the state Water Resources Control Board instead of quietly standing by.

“EPA cannot sit idly by while state regulators allow this great estuary, its fisheries and the thousands of jobs it supports to suffer death by a thousand cuts,” said Kate Poole, senior attorney for the Natural Resources Defense Council.

The relaxed standards, the three groups said, could lead to extinction of native species like

the Delta smelt, more common toxic algae blooms in rivers and the heavy loss of jobs connected to the commercial salmon industry.

Representatives for both the EPA and the state water board said Monday they would not comment on the lawsuit filed in U.S. District Court in San Francisco.

The state water board has broad powers to set Delta water flow, salinity and oxygen standards that determine how much water must be kept in the environment, and how much can be pumped from the Delta to 25 million Californians and a million acres of farmland.

In their defense, state board officials previously have said that relaxing fresh water flow standards at one time of year can provide more flexibility to use the water to help fish at other times.
In a decision earlier this month, the state board agreed to reduce San Joaquin River water flow standards in spring near Vernalis to keep water stored in New Melones Reservoir for release in fall and in 2017 for salmon.

Without the emergency order, officials said, New Melones water levels would be too depleted to offer much help to returning fall salmon.

“The modified flow levels with specified conditions strikes a reasonable balance between the need to provide flows for fish and wildlife in the spring and the need to maintain adequate storage to meet flow and other water-quality requirements later in the year and going into water year 2017,” the state water board wrote.

Environmentalists accuse state and federal water managers of leaving themselves with few good options to help fish because they allowed so much water to be pumped out of the Delta to farms and cities.
EBMUD board votes 7-0
Excess-use fines called off

District ends penalties for water guzzlers, disclosure of names of violators

By Denis Cuff
dcuff@bayareanewsgroup.com

April 27, 2016

OAKLAND — The East Bay’s largest water district is ending the fines and public embarrassment for households that use excessive amounts of water in the drought.

Saying it will have enough water this year, the East Bay Municipal Utility District board voted 7-0 to suspend its excessuse fines, which garnered widespread public attention because EBMUD was the first large supplier in California to limit household use and disclose the names of violators.

Since last summer, households that used more than about 1,000 gallons per day were fined $2 for each 748 gallons in excess of the limit. More than 5,600 homes, including those of sports stars and business titans, were penalized a cumulative total of $596,878 in fines, and publicly shamed for their water gluttony via numerous newspaper and television stories.

While the state hasn’t called off the drought emergency, East Bay water managers no longer see the need for levying the fines to discourage high use.

“It would be difficult to assess the penalties while our reservoirs are filling up,” said Sherri Hong, manager of customer services. The penalties will stop being assessed on May 3.

After four dry winters in a row, snow and rainfall have been 109 percent of average so far this year in the Mokelumne River basin, the central Sierra area that captures water piped to 1.4 million people in Contra Costa and Alameda counties.

Also, EBMUD customers have cut water use 24 percent, exceeding the state water board's mandate that the district cut back 16 percent.

“We know our reservoirs are going to be full,” said Alexander Coate, the district general manager.

Still, Coate recommended the board wait until May 24 before considering an end to the higher drought rates all customers pay, as the state water board considers whether to relax or drop its order to reduce water use by 16 percent.

Doug Linney, an EBMUD board member from Alameda, said the excessuse fines were the “loudest” economic signal the district sent to encourage conservation.

“It was the shot heard around the world,” Linney said in a reference to the media coverage of the penalties.
Most California water districts refuse to divulge the names or consumption of their highest users in the drought. The East Bay district, however, declared that using more than 1,000 gallons per day violated a district ordinance — an offense that must be released when the media or others file public records requests.

Frank Mellon, the EBMUD board president, agreed it was time to call off the penalties. “Ratepayers are saying, ‘How much longer are you going to beat us up,’” said Mellon, a Castro Valley resident.

EBMUD’s identification of the excess users came under fire because the district overstated how much water some of the violators had consumed.

The district issued apologies to 116 households for the snafu. However, the district said all of the customers publicly outed had consumed too much water.
Los Vaqueros expansion?
Plan to enlarge big East Bay reservoir gains momentum

April 27, 2016

By Paul Rogers
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For nearly two decades, Los Vaqueros Reservoir — a sprawling lake in eastern Contra Costa County nearly 3 miles long and 170 feet deep — has been a popular spot for boating, fishing, hiking and a key source of water for local residents.

But now, after years of drought and new money available from a 2014 state bond measure to fund water projects, a long-standing idea to dramatically enlarge the reservoir to help provide drought insurance to cities all the way to San Jose is gaining momentum.

Some environmentalists say the idea, which they support, also would reduce the need for Gov. Jerry Brown’s controversial $17 billion plan to build two huge water tunnels under the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta.

The reservoir plan, which would cost roughly $800 million, is simple: Raise the earthen dam by 51 feet to a height of 269 feet. That would make it the second-tallest dam in the Bay Area, eclipsed only by Warm Springs Dam, at 319 feet tall, on Lake Sonoma near Healdsburg.

The proposal would expand the size of Los Vaqueros, located in the rolling hills near the Alameda-Contra Costa county line, from its current 160,000 acre-feet capacity to 275,000 acre-feet, enough water when full for the annual needs of 1.4 million people.

Other water agencies — including the Santa Clara Valley Water District, the East Bay Municipal Utility District and the Alameda County Water District — are in early talks with the Contra Costa Water District, which owns the reservoir, over whether they would help pay to construct the project so they could draw water from the enlarged lake, particularly during dry years.

“There’s new interest because of the drought and the project’s benefits,” said Marguerite Patil, who oversees expansion studies for the Contra Costa Water District. “And there’s some opportunity to get state matching funds. It seems like good timing.”

The idea was first floated shortly after Los Vaqueros was built in 1998 with $450 million from the 500,000 customers of the Contra Costa Water District.

It surfaced again in 2010 when the district won an advisory vote from its customers to increase Los Vaqueros’ size by raising the dam 34 feet. But at the time, the economy was struggling, and there were few state matching funds. So Contra Costa officials could not find other agencies to help foot the bill for the larger, 275,000 acre-feet option.
Now times have changed again. Other agencies, particularly the Santa Clara Valley Water District, which provides water to 1.9 million people in Silicon Valley, are taking a fresh look.

“It’s a concept that’s worth exploring,” said Barbara Keegan, chairwoman of the district’s board. “We have to look at many options. I don’t think it’s wise to put all our eggs in one basket. It’s an interesting idea that requires additional study.”

Contra Costa officials are working on detailed environmental studies and a feasibility study with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. Both documents are scheduled to be finished next year.

The officials also have submitted a “concept paper” to the California Water Commission, a state panel that will decide how to hand out some of the $7.5 billion in Proposition 1 bond funding approved by voters in 2014.

“We’ll find out over the next year who is serious and who is ready to pursue it,” Patil said.

The project would require a pipeline to be built about 8 miles from Los Vaqueros to the South Bay Aqueduct, a series of pipes and canals that takes Delta water 40 miles to San Jose from Bethany Reservoir near Livermore.

Contra Costa says the benefits to Bay Area water agencies are clear. A bigger reservoir could be filled up in wet years, providing more water in dry years.

Another key issue: Los Vaqueros does not use the massive federal and state pumps near Tracy to divert water from the Delta into its storage. Those pumps are regularly slowed when endangered fish, such as salmon, smelt and steelhead, are nearby and at risk of being killed by them.

Instead, Los Vaqueros has two intakes, at Old River near Discovery Bay and on Victoria Island in the Delta. Those intakes draw water at a much slower rate than the state and federal pumps, and they have modern fish screens.

That feature could allow agencies such as the Santa Clara Valley Water District to more easily take water from the Delta, which makes up 40 percent of its supply, without as many headaches.

Supporters of Brown’s tunnels plan contend that the tunnels also would reduce reliance on the state and federal pumps by moving water through the Delta more easily. But environmental groups say that the project — which critics call a Southern California water grab — is almost certain to be tied up in court for years.

“This project could be a less expensive approach to getting greater water supplies, particularly in dry years when it is needed the most, without a decade of costly and unproductive litigation,” said Jonas Minton, a former deputy director at the state Department of Water Resources who is now with the Planning and Conservation League, a Sacramento environmental group.

Keegan said that fact isn’t lost on the Santa Clara Valley Water District.
“Development of alternative sources could help us in our decision-making process in terms of whether we support or don’t support the tunnels,” she said.
L.A.'s water wasters will soon face heavier fines and audits

By: Matt Stevens

April 27, 2016

As regulators mull softening the state’s drought restrictions amid outcry from some Northern California water districts, water wasters in Los Angeles will soon face stiffer fines and water audits under a plan approved this week by Mayor Eric Garcetti.

Under the city’s amended water conservation plan, which will take effect Tuesday, the Department of Water and Power will be able to fine residents between $1,000 and $40,000 a month for what it deems “unreasonable use” of water when the city is in an elevated phase of its emergency drought plan.

Currently, the department can fine only customers who violate a specific provision of the city’s water ordinance, such as watering at the wrong time of day or using a hose to wash down a driveway. The fines are relatively small, ranging from $100 to $300 while the city is in any phase of its conservation plan. Under the new proposal, fines for those types of violations will increase to as much as $1,200.

The customers who find themselves chronically in the highest water-use tier will also be subject to a water-use analysis by the DWP, in which utility staff members will need to be given access to a customer’s property.

Staff members will then prepare a conservation plan that spells out ways to reduce water waste, as well as the reasonable amount of use for the specific property. Failure to meet any of the requirements of the plan could result in a penalty.

DWP officials have said the first fines are not likely to appear until the middle of the summer. All the money generated by the fines would go back into the utility’s conservation programs, they said.

In a statement, Marty Adams, the DWP’s senior assistant general manager in charge of the water system, said the changes will “improve our ability to respond to ongoing drought conditions by reaching out to and working with our customers on the higher end of the water use spectrum.”

“These changes address our city’s highest users to ensure that we keep our momentum going during this historic drought,” Garcetti added in the statement from his office.
City officials became alarmed last fall when a report from the Center for Investigative Reporting disclosed that a Bel-Air homeowner had used 11.8 million gallons of water in a single year, even as the state battled a record drought. They called on the DWP to figure out how to combat such profligate water use and the utility unveiled its plan in March.

Garcetti’s decision to sign off on the tougher rules comes the same week that officials at the East Bay Municipal Water District in Northern California decided to suspend the agency’s “Excessive Water Use Penalty Ordinance,” citing “a wet winter that restored reservoirs to healthy levels.” The water agency had gained acclaim from some corners of the water world for publicly identifying some of the heavy users it fined under the ordinance.

Some water districts have publicly called on the State Water Resources Control Board to significantly soften California’s drought restrictions in response to improved hydrology. Water board staff members could publish a draft of proposed modifications as early as next week.

Garcetti's office also announced that he signed an ordinance that updates the city's Green Building Code. Effective June 6, the updates will require that new buildings, additions or alterations valued at more than $200,000 incorporate a variety of water conservation measures that have the effect of cutting indoor water use by 20%.
Environmentalists lose round
Judge rejects Hetch Hetchy lawsuit

Activists want to force city of San Francisco to drain reservoir in Yosemite National Park

By Paul Rogers
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A judge on Thursday dismissed a lawsuit seeking to force the city of San Francisco to drain Hetch Hetchy Reservoir, a key part of the water system for 2.6 million residents of Bay Area cities stretching from Hayward to San Jose to San Francisco.

The ruling, by Tuolumne County Superior Court Judge Kevin Seibert, is the latest setback for Restore Hetch Hetchy, an Oakland-based group that says construction of the reservoir in Yosemite National Park 93 years ago was a grievous crime against nature that can be undone, restoring the submerged valley.

The organization, which has the support of actor Harrison Ford, three former Yosemite park superintendents, the Sierra Club and the Environmental Defense Fund, also lost a ballot measure in a landslide in 2012, when 77 percent of San Francisco voters rejected studying the feasibility of draining the reservoir.

“Draining Hetch Hetchy Reservoir is a terrible idea that an overwhelming majority of San Francisco voters rejected in 2012,” San Francisco City Attorney Dennis Herrera said in a statement. “This lawsuit was a bid by the very same advocates to accomplish in a Tuolumne County courthouse what they couldn’t in a San Francisco election.”

Supporters say that water that flows from the Sierra Nevada, through the Tuolumne River and into the reservoir can be stored in Cherry Reservoir, Don Pedro Reservoir and others downstream.

As a result, the suit contends, San Francisco, which owns the Hetch Hetchy water system, is not following a key provision of the state constitution requiring that water in California “be put to beneficial use to the fullest extent possible” and be used in “reasonable” ways.

“We intend to capture every drop of Tuolumne River water we’re capturing now,” said Spreck Rosekrans, executive director of Restore Hetch Hetchy.

“People would still get the same amount of water; it would just be stored in other reservoirs.”

The judge rejected the group’s challenge, saying that the environmentalists’ arguments were pre-empted by federal law — specifically the Raker Act, a 1913 law signed by President Woodrow Wilson over the objections of Sierra Club founder John Muir.

It authorized construction of O’Shaughnessy Dam, submerging the spectacularly scenic Hetch Hetchy Valley under 300 feet of water.
Further, the judge noted in granting San Francisco’s motion to dismiss the case that the provision of the California Constitution that the environmentalists used to support their arguments, Article 10, Section 2, was not passed until 1928 — five years after the dam was built.

Rosekrans said his group’s efforts will go on.

“We think the court got it wrong,” he said, “and we intend to appeal.”

Paul Rogers covers resources and environmental issues.

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Reason behind big Moraga sinkhole explained

By Jenna Lyons

Updated 7:33 pm, Friday, April 29, 2016

Soil erosion from eight continuous days of rain caused a sinkhole to open up in Moraga in March, prompting evacuations of more than 400 people and disrupting gas service for around 2,600 Pacific Gas and Electric Co. customers, city officials said.

The city announced the results of a report on Thursday detailing the cause of the 15-foot wide by 20-foot long by 15-foot deep hole that swallowed a sidewalk on Rheem Boulevard near Center Street on March 13. A light pole fell into the hole and broke a 4-inch gas distribution line, temporarily leaving thousands without service.

City officials said persistent precipitation set off the erosion that led to the sinkhole. The water wore down the soil around a 96-inch corrugated metal pipe and washed it into offsets in the pipe joints. A lack of soil formed voids beneath the sidewalk, and those empty spaces ultimately gave way.

Financial assistance for repairs may come from the federal government after Gov. Jerry Brown declared a state of emergency for areas with storm-related damage to roads and highways on April 19. His proclamation included Contra Costa County, which would cover the sinkhole.

The town plans to repair the sinkhole by replacing the damaged metal pipe with a reinforced concrete pipe, backfilling, then reinstalling the pavement and traffic signal. Repairs will take two to three months, officials said. The town should begin the process of selecting construction contracts for repairs in June.

Moraga’s website now has a page on the sinkhole repair project for concerned residents. Jenna Lyons is a San Francisco Chronicle staff writer. Email: jlyons@sfchronicle.com Twitter: @JennaJourno
Napa Sanitation celebrates $50 million in recycled water projects

BARRY EBERLING beberling@napanews.com

May 3, 2016

Napa Sanitation District has extended its recycled water reach deep into the rural Coombsville and Carneros regions to help slake their summer irrigation thirsts.

“We made an effort to get the water to where it’s most needed,” said Napa Mayor Jill Techel, who is chairwoman of the district board of directors.

On Monday, the district and its partners celebrated the completion of almost $50 million in recycled water projects. A few dozen people gathered at the treatment plant along the Napa River near the county airport for the morning ribbon-cutting event.

Rep. Mike Thompson, D-St. Helena, told them the state will be in a drought for some time.

“I think it speaks highly of the folks in Napa County who recognized you have to do something substantial about it, something real about it,” Thompson said.

Napa Sanitation District cleans up sewage from the city of Napa and nearby unincorporated areas at its treatment plant. Last year, it piped 1,811 acre-feet of treated water to irrigate such places as local golf courses, a district-owned pasture and industrial area landscaping. The recycled water is not for drinking.

Now come these latest projects. Combined with past projects, they will allow the district to provide 3,700 acre-feet of recycled water annually for the area, more than twice the amount of unrecycled water held by Napa’s Milliken Reservoir at capacity.

The northernmost recycled water pipe used to end near Napa State Hospital. A new, $16 million, 5-mile extension passes by the vineyards and rural homes of Coombsville, where the Milliken-Sarco-Tulocay aquifer has long had falling groundwater levels.

County Supervisor Keith Caldwell said the county several years ago looked at how to solve a groundwater overdraft of 1,000 acre-feet to 2,000 acre-feet annually. The new pipeline will transport 700 acre-feet of water initially and is sized to someday increase the amount to 2,000 acre-feet, he said.

About 50 properties can connect to the pipeline. The first burst of recycled water traveled through the entire length of pipe in December 2015 to start filling a water hazard at the rural Napa Valley Country Club.

“Reasonably priced, drought-resistant irrigation water,” Caldwell called it.

Another new pipe crosses under the Napa River to the west of the treatment plant. This $18 million project extends for 9 miles into the Carneros area, with its vineyards and wineries on rolling hills that peter into San Pablo Bay. About 100 properties can connect to the line.

“Pretty much all the surface water and groundwater are spoken for,” Los Carneros Water District Board President John Stewart said.
The idea to bring recycled water to the Carneros area dates back to the 1970s. Stewart called it a multigenerational project.

An additional $15 million project ensures that the treatment plant can provide enough recycled water. Work included adding a sand filter and building an equalization water storage basin.

Money for the $50 million in projects came from recycled-water user fees and assessments and state and federal grants.

Steven Moore of the State Water Resources Control Board called recycled water a “water supply untapped in our midst.” The hard part is distributing this water, he said.
Modesto looks to ease watering restrictions, raise sewer rates

Bee Staff Reports

The Modesto City Council is expected Tuesday to consider easing outdoor watering restrictions and raising sewer rates.

The Utilities Department is recommending the council let homes, businesses and other city water customers increase their outdoor watering from one to two days a week as of May 1. The city went to once a week watering in December.

The city had allowed outdoor watering three days a week until May 2015, when it reduced it to two days a week because of California’s drought, which is now in its fifth year.

California mandated as of June a statewide 25 percent reduction in urban water use based on 2013 water consumption. The reduction was expected to end in February, but the state has extended it through October. The state also mandated varying reductions among cities based on their previous water use.

Modesto was required to reduce its water use 36 percent. Modesto Utilities Director Larry Parlin said the city has reduced its water use by 29 percent. The reductions are for potable – or drinkable – water.

If the council approves the new restrictions, water customers with odd-numbered addresses could water Wednesdays and Sundays; those with even-numbered addresses could water Tuesdays and Saturdays. All outdoor watering would be banned from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

The Utilities Department also will ask the council to raise sewer rates over five years.

The proposed increases mean that monthly sewer bills for single-family homes could increase by as much as 6 percent annually over the five years, from $31.92 to $42.45. Other sewer customers – such as stores, restaurants and businesses – also face increases.
If approved, the rate increases would take effect July 1. The council would set the sewer rates each year during the five years, with the potential that it may not seek the full increases in a given year.

Parlin said the higher sewer rates will help the city pay for roughly $190 million in projects that will rehabilitate or upgrade the sewer system. The city would borrow money for the projects and use the higher sewer rates to pay off the debt as well as spend down reserves.

Modesto also is looking at adjusting sewer rates to resolve lawsuits Stanislaus Food Products filed against it. The tomato cannery claimed the city overcharged it for the use of the city’s cannery segregation line, which handles process water from the city’s canneries, by charging it for services it did not receive or need.

A city consultant agreed with Stanislaus Food Products. As part of a deal to end the litigation, Modesto agreed to study its sewer rates and incorporate the findings in the rates. Modesto has until May 1 to do this under the terms of the deal.

The council will hold a public hearing on the sewer rate increases at which property owners and sewer customers can protest the proposed increases. Under Proposition 218 – the state law that governs sewer and water rates – a city cannot raise rates if more than 50 percent of the property owners or customers protest. About 300 of Modesto’s tens of thousands of customers and property owners have filed written protests with the city.

The council also will consider reducing what are called sewer capacity charges, which are one-time fees that new or expanded residential and commercial development pay to hook into the sewer system. The fee for a single-family home would fall from $5,146 to $2,643. Fees paid by other development also would fall. The fees are for providing sewer capacity for new development.

Parlin said the existing sewer capacity charges were adopted in 2007 and based on assumptions for new growth and development that essentially did not happen.

The council will meet at 5:30 p.m. in the basement chambers of Tenth Street Place, 1010 10th St.