

## Government and Public Affairs Committee Notes June 8, 2020

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### Attendees:

Committee members:	Luis Cetina (Chair) and Mark Gibboney
Staff members:	John Bosler, Carrie Guarino, Chad Brantley, Eric Grubb, Erin Morales, and Socorro Pantaleon
Members of the Public:	Michael Boccadoro and Beth Olhasso, West Coast Advisors

**Call to Order:** 6:00 p.m.

**Public Comment:** None

**Additions/Deletions to Agenda:** None

### Introductory Remarks by Chair Cetina

Chair Cetina announced for the record that this meeting was conducted by teleconference pursuant to the Brown Act waivers provided for under the Governor's Executive Orders in response to the COVID-19 State of Emergency. Further, the agenda stated that there was no public location for attending this meeting in person. The agenda stated that the public may listen and provide comment telephonically by calling the number listed on the agenda. Chair Cetina took a roll call of Committee members and staff present on the call as listed above.

### I. Legislative Conference Call

- Michael Boccadoro and Beth Olhasso from the West Coast Advisors provided an update on state legislation, regulations, and policy items.
- The House of Origin (HOA) deadline for both houses is June 26 and the State Budget deadline is June 15. It is projected that there will be a \$54 billion budget shortfall. The Legislature is not in agreement with Governor's recommended budget cuts and disagrees on which programs will be reduced.
- The Governor's climate resiliency bond is on hold; however, there are still two bonds active. It appears highly unlikely that either bond will proceed to the November ballot. The two active bonds are AB 2356 (E. Garcia) and SB 45 (Allen).
  - AB 2356 is a \$6.9 billion bond contains outdated, pre-COVID-19 language. Chapter 4 of AB 2356 contains water project funding, in which Chair Cetina questioned if any other chapters may be shifted to "brick and mortar" projects that will stimulate the economy.
  - If either bond moves forward, WCA believes they will need to be drastically different to reflect economic recovery efforts. The deadline for any ballot measure to get out the legislature is June 25.

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- General updates:
  - The housing package from Senator Atkins does not include any language that would hinder or prohibit cities and special districts from collecting connection fees like some of the housing bills in the recent past have.
  - SB 1099 (Dodd) is a PSPS bill, which proposes to create a run time limit exemption for generators during emergencies. Senator Dodd was required to take an undesirable amendment that would require agencies using the exemption to purchase new cleaner generators that are very expensive.
  - AB 2560 (Quirk) is an Orange County Water District sponsored bill on its way to the Senate. It would provide greater transparency to and clarification of the Notification Level and Response Level process for PFAS. The goal is to provide both water agencies and the general public clear and consistent information as these drinking water advisory levels are developed.
- Mr. Boccadoro and Ms. Olhasso exited the call at 6:27 p.m.

## 2. Outreach Projects and Program Changes (Verbal)

- Staff provided the committee with an update on changes to our Outreach Projects and Programming in light of COVID-19 public gatherings recommendations and social distancing requirements.
- We will hold a virtual Landscape Workshop this week and a virtual Water Treatment Plant Tour for our customers this fall. In addition to these events, we are looking ahead through the remainder of the calendar year to see how we can creatively provide events and programs including our ELC and the student classes and tours.
- Despite the current circumstances due to COVID-19 and unidentified ways schools will move forward in educating students during the 2020-21 school year, CVWD remains committed to educating students about the importance of water. Whether students will participate in virtual learning or return into the classroom, the GPA staff is exploring different ideas with collaborating agencies to continue our outreach efforts in teaching the younger generation about water. This time has allowed us to rethink how we facilitate educational activities and remain innovative in this new era of technology advances.
- In addition to our projects and programs, GPA staff is working with the customer service, facilities, and risk departments on a re-opening plan for the campus including our lobby and customer service counter.
- This re-opening plan tentatively includes outreach to our customers to let them know that we are re-opening through social media, our on-hold message, and through messaging on the bills. We will have signs in the parking lot, front door, and in the lobby requiring facemasks and social distancing. We have re-configured and marked the customer line to allow for social distancing. Some of the other actions we are taking include: a hand sanitizer station in the lobby, placing a barrier over the holes in the glass so the customers and staff will solely be using the microphones, a cash counting machine,

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and UV sanitizers to reduce the chance of spreading any germs and keeping our staff and customers safe. The UV sanitizer will be used for pens, customer's checks, and computer equipment.

- GPA staff is also working with engineering staff on ways to safely re-open the Engineering Counter. The Committee members and staff agreed that we need to proactively share the message through a wide variety of outreach methods about the re-opening of the campus.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:40 p.m.