

Government and Public Affairs Committee Notes March 16, 2023

Attendees:

Committee members: Director Kevin Kenley (Chair) and Vice-President Mark Gibboney

Staff members: Eduardo Espinoza, Rob Hills, Taya Victorino, Eric Grubb, Erin Morales, Elizabeth Becker, and Evette Ounanian

Members of the Public: Beth Olhasso (West Coast Advisors)

Call to Order: 5:00 p.m.

Public Comment: None

Additions/Deletions to Agenda: None

1. Legislative Conference Call

- Beth Olhasso provided an update on current snowpack, reservoir conditions and State Water Project allocations.
- She also provided an update on future legislation pertaining to PFAS, water rights, lead, and water quality standards.
- The Department of Water Resources will release their final State Water Project Allocations for the year after April 1. It is anticipated that the allocation will increase from its current 35%.
- Two natural resource bonds have been released for consideration for the November 2024 ballot. Language for both bonds will be finalized in Summer 2024.
- The State Water Resources Control Board recently released the proposed regulatory framework for “Making Conservation a California Way of Life.” This new framework proposes challenging water use efficiency goals for each urban retail water supplier, including urban water use efficiency standards, variances, an urban water use objective, and commercial, industrial, and institutional (CII) performance measures. Staff will work with Beth and ACWA to provide comments on the draft framework.
- Beth exited the call at 5:25 p.m.

2. Education and Outreach Update

- Staff provided an update on outreach efforts and events for the community and schools in our service area.
- The Government and Public Affairs Team is working in preparation for our spring events including the 5th Grade Poster Contest, Open House and Earth Day, Water Savvy Landscape Contest, Water Fix a Leak Week, Awareness Month, and landscape workshops.
- The Environmental Learning Center continues to thrive along with our partnerships with the City of Rancho Cucamonga, and the Inland Empire Resource Conservation District.

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Meeting adjourned at 5:32 p.m.