

# CALAVERAS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT Legal Affairs Committee Meeting

# MINUTES AUGUST 1, 2023

The following Committee Members were present:

Director Ratterman
Director Thomas

#### Staff Present:

Michael Minkler, General Manager Brad Arnold, Water Resources Manager Kate Jesus, Engineering Coordinator Mark Rincon-Ibarra, District Engineer Kevin Williams, Senior Civil Engineer Stacey Lollar, Human Resources Manager

#### Others Present:

Mia O'Connell, O'Connell & Dempsey Ralph Copeland

#### CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

## 1. ROLL CALL

Director Ratterman called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Director Ratterman and Davidson were both present.

# 2. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

## 3. <u>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</u>

Approval of Minutes for January 31, 2023 and April 21, 2023 Committee Meetings (Rebecca Hitchcock, Clerk to the Board)

Directors Ratterman/Davidson approved Minutes from the Legal Affairs Committee meetings of January 31, 2023 and April 21, 2023.

## 4. **NEW BUSINESS**

Federal Legislative Update
(Mia O'Connell, O'Connell & Dempsey and Michael Minkler, General Manager)

<u>Discussion:</u> Mia O'Connell from O'Connell & Dempsey gave an update on the following items: 1) Senate Appropriations committee approved the Energy and Water Appropriations Bill with Senator Feinstein's request for \$11 million for the Copper Cove Project; 2) Army Corps of Engineers Section 7001 funding and WRDA Funding; 3) discussed dates for the Washington, D.C. legislative visit; and 4) the new Hydropower legislation.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Ralph Copeland addressed the Committee regarding the support from Congressman McClintock. He appreciates Mia O'Connell's detailed efforts for the District.

5. California Water Use Efficiency Standards (Brad Arnold, Water Resources Manager)

<u>Discussion:</u> Brad Arnold discussed the Water Use Efficiency Standards which are due to the state in January. He discussed the potential for fines depending on the results and alternative pathways for agencies that will find it difficult to meet these standards.

- 6. State Legislative Update (Michael Minkler, General Manager)
  - 6a Assembly Bill (AB) 460 State Water Resources Control Board: water rights and usage
  - 6b Senate Bill (SB) 389 State Water Resources Control Board: investigation of water right.
  - 6c Assembly Bill (AB) 676 Water: general state policy
  - 6d Assembly Bill (AB) 1337 State Water Resources Control Board: water diversion curtailment

<u>Discussion:</u> Mr. Arnold updated the Committee on the potential Water rights legislation listed above. He stated that AB 460 and SB 389 were defeated, and AB 676 was sent back to Committee, and AB 1337 was amended. There was discussion between staff and the Committee regarding the various legislation and potential for future legislation.

Mr. Minkler discussed the potential for AB 338 Prevailing Wage to pass and several upcoming bills for bond funding in early 2024.

Director Ratterman discussed the Carb requirements for rural counties and efforts to make water agencies first responders.

## 7. GENERAL MANAGER COMMENTS

Mr. Minkler reported on the Bureau of Reclamation meeting.

## 8. <u>DIRECTOR COMMENTS OR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS</u>

<u>Director Ratterman</u> had nothing to report.

Director Davidson had nothing to report.

#### 9. **NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING**

Tuesday October 3, 2023, 1:00 p.m.,

#### 10. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:54 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Clerk to the Board