

MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT OF ORANGE COUNTY
Jointly with the
PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
January 19, 2015, 8:30 a.m.
Conference Room 101

Committee:

Director Barbre, Chairman
Director Tamaribuchi
Director Hinman

Staff: R. Hunter, K. Seckel, J. Ouwerkerk,
K. Davanaugh, H. Baez, D. Burke

Ex Officio Member: L. Dick

MWDOC Committee meetings are noticed and held as joint meetings of the Committee and the entire Board of Directors and all members of the Board of Directors may attend and participate in the discussion. Each Committee has designated Committee members, and other members of the Board are designated alternate committee members. If less than a quorum of the full Board is in attendance, the Board meeting will be adjourned for lack of a quorum and the meeting will proceed as a meeting of the Committee with those Committee members and alternate members in attendance acting as the Committee.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Public comments on agenda items and items under the jurisdiction of the Committee should be made at this time.

ITEMS RECEIVED TOO LATE TO BE AGENDIZED - Determine there is a need to take immediate action on item(s) and that the need for action came to the attention of the District subsequent to the posting of the Agenda. (Requires a unanimous vote of the Committee)

ITEMS DISTRIBUTED TO THE BOARD LESS THAN 72 HOURS PRIOR TO MEETING --

Pursuant to Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt public records that relate to open session agenda items and are distributed to a majority of the Board less than seventy-two (72) hours prior to the meeting will be available for public inspection in the lobby of the District's business office located at 18700 Ward Street, Fountain Valley, California 92708, during regular business hours. When practical, these public records will also be made available on the District's Internet Web site, accessible at <http://www.mwdoc.com>.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES
 - a. Federal Legislative Report (Barker)
 - b. State Legislative Report (Townsend)
 - c. County Legislative Report (Lewis)
 - d. Legal and Regulatory Report (Ackerman)
2. SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA WATER ISSUES CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION BRIEFING LUNCHEON AND WATER AGENCIES OF THE INLAND EMPIRE AND ORANGE COUNTY STATE LEGISLATIVE RECEPTION

ACTION ITEMS

3. EXTENSION OF FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY CONTRACT WITH JAMES C. BARKER
4. ANNUAL REVIEW OF LEGISLATIVE POLICY PRINCIPLES
5. ISDOC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ELECTION FOR 3RD VICE PRESIDENT

INFORMATION ITEMS (THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY – BACKGROUND INFORMATION IS INCLUDED IN THE PACKET. DISCUSSION IS NOT NECESSARY UNLESS REQUESTED BY A DIRECTOR.)

6. UPDATE REGARDING WATER POLICY DINNER (FEBRUARY 5, 2015)
7. UPDATE REGARDING GOVERNOR'S 2015-2016 BUDGET
8. MEMBER AGENCIES WATER QUALITY-CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORTS
9. CALIFORNIA SPECIAL DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION GOVERNANCE CONFERENCE (JANUARY 22, 2015)
10. MET LEGISLATIVE STRATEGIES 2015
11. DROUGHT OUTREACH
12. 8TH ANNUAL ORANGE COUNTY WATER SUMMIT (MAY 15, 2015)
13. SCHOOL PROGRAM PARTICIPATION REPORT
14. PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTIVITIES REPORT

OTHER ITEMS

15. REVIEW ISSUES RELATED TO LEGISLATION, OUTREACH, PUBLIC INFORMATION ISSUES, AND MET

ADJOURNMENT

NOTE: At the discretion of the Committee, all items appearing on this agenda, whether or not expressly listed for action, may be deliberated, and may be subject to action by the Committee. On those items designated for Board action, the Committee reviews the items and makes a recommendation for final action to the full Board of Directors; final action will be taken by the Board of Directors. Agendas for Committee and Board meetings may be obtained from the District Secretary. Members of the public are advised that the Board consideration process includes consideration of each agenda item by one or more Committees indicated on the Board Action Sheet. Attendance at Committee meetings and the Board meeting considering an item consequently is advised.

Accommodations for the Disabled. Any person may make a request for a disability-related modification or accommodation needed for that person to be able to participate in the public meeting by telephoning Maribeth Goldsby, District Secretary, at (714) 963-3058, or writing to Municipal Water District of Orange County at P.O. Box 20895, Fountain Valley, CA 92728. Requests must specify the nature of the disability and the type of accommodation requested. A telephone number or other contact information should be included so that District staff may discuss appropriate arrangements. Persons requesting a disability-related accommodation should make the request with adequate time before the meeting for the District to provide the requested accommodation.

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Nicholas Crockett
Kate Blair

*Municipal Water District of Orange County, California
Washington Update
January 13, 2015*

The new Congressional session has begun in Washington with many new faces after a stunning set of Republican victories in November.

It is noteworthy to mention that the Democratic Party has its smallest share of House seats in almost ninety years— just 188 Members, or 43 percent. In reality, its disadvantage is even more pronounced. That’s because Republicans have continued with the custom that the party in control claims more than its fair share of the seats on committees, where the bulk of the House’s policy battles are effectively won or lost.

On the Senate side, the Republicans now control 54 seats, a significant increase over the 55-45 majority that the Democrats held in that body last year. Of course, this translates to the fact that Republicans control the Congress and are now very likely to pass many of the bills which have been stalled in the Senate--and these bills will now be sent to the President’s desk at the White House. Among other bills, the Keystone Pipeline bill is expected to be one of the first bills to hit the President’s desk in the near future.

As the year begins, Congress will be examining a number of significant issues—namely examination of the signature Obama Healthcare Insurance Law, Tax Reform and issues dealing with our national security.

Of note, it is significant to mention that our country is experiencing a very strong “economic growth rate” of around 5% (*which is significantly ahead of the 1-2% growth rates during the Great Recession*). Additionally, though many may dispute the underlying data here, the jobless rate in America is now officially at 5.6%, which on many levels is close to full employment. Our nation’s deficits are plunging downward and we are experiencing virtual little if any inflation. The American Dollar is again the strongest currency in the world. As a result, many foreign investors are investing again heavily in our country.

That said, there is great unrest in the Middle East and the rise of Islamic extremism was recently seen in Paris with the mass shooting at the Charlie Hebdo satirical publication's offices.

Acts of violence from Islamic extremism groups are now one of the primary concerns of the nation's Homeland Security related Departments and Agencies and Washington has very much heard this message.

Yesterday, Islamic extremists (or individuals who claimed they were associated with this group) hacked into the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) "Twitter Accounts" and shared important personal information about Defense Department employees. Though the DOD denied the breach of any "classified" data, the mere fact that such a group could penetrate (hack into) the DOD firewalls is significant. There is a certain unrest here in Washington as to whether there may be a new "attack of some kind" by a small group of disaffected individuals—somewhere in America.

From an Orange County perspective, Congressman Ed Royce has commented nationally on many of these issues due to his position as the Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee. Senator Feinstein, who has recently served as the Chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, has also had a key leadership role in foreign affairs and terrorism related public policy. Congressman Devin Nunes (R-Central Valley, Ca) will be the new Chairman of the House Intelligence Committee on the House side this year.

Officials specifically in the cities of New York, Washington, DC, and Los Angeles have been alerted that the risk level for terrorist acts has increased and that they should take significant steps to be on a higher alert basis.

One of the key components to our nation's security is having a secure infrastructure system. Infrastructure experts have continued to warn governmental units and businesses to upgrade protections on their computer and critical infrastructure systems.

On the Water Front:

Late last year, negotiations between the House and the Senate collapsed at Thanksgiving time and then the House passed another drought bill that they believed would be accepted by the Senate shortly before the session ended in December—only to see Senators Boxer and Feinstein become non-supportive of the legislation as the year came to a close.

We have learned there will be a renewed effort to try and pass some form of drought related legislation this coming year—to try and get more water directed to farmers south of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta area. At press time, there is no specific strategy underway or any specific legislative language that has been introduced to advance that cause. The calculus will now change somewhat; the Republicans control both Houses of Congress. Meetings on the Drought Bill will now begin in earnest as the session begins to get underway.

Meanwhile, other Western States have expressed the opinion that they too would like to be included in any kind of legislation—as they too are experiencing drought and issues associated with the Endangered Species Act.

Last year saw the passage of the Water Resources Reform Development Act or WRRDA. Within that significant legislation, there was the creation of the WIFIA Loan Program—a low cost federal government loan program which could provide significant savings to MWDOC, or its Member Agencies if they were to build new water infrastructure.

It is estimated that on a \$100 Million Dollar Project, there would be a savings of \$9 Million Dollars. On a \$200 Million Dollar Project, that savings would amount to be \$18 Million Dollars. MWDOC was a significant leader in the passage of this provision.

Though the WIFIA Loan Program is certainly a new and significant benefit to the water community, it can still be improved. The WIFIA Provision was hindered with a provision which was added in the Senate side. This provision does not allow tax free municipal bond financing to occur with WIFIA funding. In our meetings in December, we spent time discussing this issue with key Member and Committee Offices.

During the next few months, MWDOC will determine if there will be an effort to see if the Congress can address this troublesome language. The transportation community has a similar loan program called TIFIA and it does not have this tax free municipal bond financing prohibition.

If MWDOC or others were able to amend WIFIA with this perfecting language, then the savings using WIFIA would increase to an even larger amount, approximately to \$13 Million Dollars on \$100 Million Project—or \$26 Million Dollars on a \$200 Million Project.

On the Appropriations front, Congress passed funding for water programs until September 30, 2015, or the end of the current fiscal year. The Appropriations season will come into better focus shortly with the release of the President's Budget, now targeted for some time in February.

GENERAL NEWS, CONGRESSIONAL, AND POLITICAL UPDATES

Composition of the House, the Senate, and State Governorships:

House: 247 Republican to 188 Democrat

Senate: 54 Republican to 46 Democrat

Governorships: 31 Republican to 19 Democrat

Important Committee Assignments to be released next month as the new session committee juggling continues to go on.

Of note, Congresswoman Mimi Walters, the Republican who replaced Congressman John Campbell, will be sitting on the important House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, an important water committee in the U.S. House of Representatives.

JCB 1-13-15

MEMO

ITEM 1b

To: Municipal Water District of Orange County
From: Townsend Public Affairs, Inc.
Date: January 12, 2014
Subject: Monthly Political and Activity Report

STATE POLITICAL UPDATE

In early December, the Department of Water Resources announced its State Water Project allocations. Allocations for 2015 are set at 10 percent, which is an increase from last year's 5 percent allocation. The 2014 allocation of 5 percent was the lowest final calendar year allocation in State Water Project history as the 2014 water year was the third driest year in 119 years on record.

In an effort to deal with the historically low allocations and ongoing drought conditions, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California announced a second increase to their rebate program, adding \$40 million to the plan. This addition in the budget puts the funding at a total of \$100 million, which is an increase of 150 percent from the original \$40 million allocated at the beginning of the year. The large increase in funding for conservation efforts, such as turf removal, has been due to heavy increase in demand for the program. MWD General Manager, Jeffrey Kightlinger noted that "overall rebate requests are already more than nine times the total rebates paid last year."

A draft Interagency 2015 Drought Strategy memo was released from the five federal and state agencies that are involved with the Central Valley Project and State Water Project, which addresses steps to be taken if the drought continues into a fourth year. The agencies involved in the memo are the Bureau of Reclamation, Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, California Department of Water Resources, and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. The memo draft includes a drought contingency plan for the two water projects, a drought monitoring plan, as well as other related measures. Once finalized, the report will go to the State Water Resource Control Board for its formal adoption on January 15. The full memo was released December 12, 2014, on the California's Drought website.

On December 17, the State Water Resource Control Board held a drought workshop to explore potential ideas for dealing with the state's continued drought conditions. Discussion included identifying which steps that have already been taken by the state and water agencies that have been successful, and what, if any, new information should be collected from water agencies in their monthly reports. Also discussed were strategies to avoid rebounding back to water use and practices that were common before the drought. At the beginning of the workshop a statewide drought update was given. The report disclosed that 55 percent of California is still in

extraordinary drought, and there has been slow improvement to the condition of state reservoirs, which remain in the low to mid 30th percent level. Further, snowpack in the Sierra Nevada mountains is about half of its normal level of water content.

In early December, Assembly Speaker Toni Atkins (D-San Diego) announced the selection of committee chairs for the 2015-16 session. Assembly Member Marc Levine (D-San Rafael) is the new chair of the Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee, while Assembly Member Luis Alejo (D-Watsonville) remains chair of the Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials Committee. In addition, Assembly Member Brian Maienschein (R-San Diego) is the new chair of the Local Government Committee, while Assembly Member Lorena Gonzalez is the new vice chair. It is important to note that Assemblyman Harper is the only member of the Orange County delegation on the Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee.

Then, on December 17, Senate Pro Tem Kevin de Leon announced committee chairs for 2015-16 session. Senator Fran Pavely (D-Agoura Hills) will remain the chair of Natural Resource and Water Committee, Senator Cathleen Galgiani (D-Stockton) will chair the Agriculture Committee, and Senator Bob Wieckowski (D-Fremont) will chair the Environmental Quality Committee. Senate Committee Chairs will be formally adopted on January 7, when the Senate Rules Committee convenes.

On January 2, Governor Brown announced six appointments to state Boards and Commissions, including the reappointment of Felicia Marcus as the Chair of the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB). Marcus was first appointed to the SWRCB in 2012, and became the Chair in 2013.

On January 5, the legislature reconvened after their holiday break, and began to introduce legislation, which will continue until the deadline on February 27. Between 2,500 and 2,800 bills are expected to be introduced before the February deadline. Following the introductory period for new legislation, TPA would propose a Sacramento advocacy day trip in early March, to educate members and key staff of the potential impact of legislation on the operations and funding of the District's policies and priorities. As bills move into committee, TPA will work to ensure the District's priorities are represented to members and staff, including scheduling testimony as needed before various committees.

Below is a snapshot of the legislative milestones and deadlines for the upcoming year:

- January 5: Legislature reconvenes
- February 27: Final day to introduce bills
- May 1: Final day for policy committees to hear and report fiscal bills
- May 15: Final day for policy committees to hear and report on non-fiscal bills
- June 1—5: Floor session only (Committees may resume on June 8)
- June 5: Final day to pass bill from House of origin
- June 15: Budget Bill must be passed by midnight



- August 28: Final day for fiscal committees to meet and report bills to the floor
- August 31—September 11: Floor session only
- September 4: Final day to amend a bill on the floor
- September 11: Final day for bill to be passed
- October 11: last day for Governor to sign or veto bills passed by the legislature

On January 9, Governor Brown released his 2015-2016 budget proposal summary, which provided the first insight to the Governor's allocation priorities for Proposition 1 funds. The budget will go through multiple revisions, with a second proposal offered in mid-May, and the deadline for final passage required by June 15. The figures indicated below are the proposed amount the Governor has allocated from the Proposition 1 Expenditure Plan that are of interest for MWDOC projects and priorities. As these funding categories develop and more details are released, TPA will continue to send updates to MWDOC staff, and find opportunities to advocate on behalf of the District's projects and priorities.

Bond Category	Program	Amount
Safe Drinking Water	Safe Drinking Water in Small Disadvantaged Communities	\$66,300,000
Regional Water Reliability	Integrated Regional Water Management Program	\$32,800,000
Water Recycling	Water Recycling and Desalination	\$5,500,000
	Water Recycling and Treatment Technology Projects	\$131,700,000

Beginning the week of January 12, Townsend Public Affairs will begin to submit weekly legislative updates to MWDOC staff on bills that has been introduced. Legislation will then be categorized by priority for the Board's review in a monthly legislative matrix. TPA will work with staff to provide analysis of each bill that affects, or has the potential to affect, MWDOC projects and priorities. Based on the potential impact on the District, TPA will work in conjunction with staff to recommend Board positions on proposed legislation, and work to build coalitions in support or opposition of specific bills. Additionally, TPA will combine these efforts with an letter writing campaign to elected offices in support or opposition to legislation, or with amendment recommendations.

TPA has agreed to be a sponsor for MWDOC at the 2015 Water Agencies of the Inland Empire and Orange County State Legislative Reception, held on March 3, prior to the ACWA Legislative Symposium. The reception will be held at Ella's Dining Room and Bar, in Sacramento, located next to the Convention Center.



SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY

- On December 12, TPA scheduled and attended a meeting with MWDOC staff and Assembly Member Travis Allen's District Director Michael Johnson.
- On December 17, TPA monitored the SWRCB Drought Workshop and sent a summary to staff.
- On January 7, TPA drafted an updated Orange County delegation staff contact sheet and sent to staff.
- On December 8, TPA monitored the Metropolitan Legislative Coordinators Conference Call and sent a summary to MWDOC staff.
- On January 8, TPA arranged and attended a meeting with MWDOC staff and Assembly Member Kim's District Director Kristy MacDougall, to discuss MWDOC operations, and priorities for the upcoming year.
- On January 13, TPA arranged and attended a meeting with MWDOC staff and Assembly Member Wagner's District Director Samuel Han to discuss MWDOC operations, and priorities for the upcoming year.
- On January 13, TPA arranged and attended a meeting with MWDOC staff and Assembly Member Brough's District Director Steven LaMotte to discuss MWDOC operations, and priorities for the upcoming year.
- TPA arranged meetings for MWDOC staff with the following District Offices:
 - On January 20, staff will meet with Assemblywoman Chang's District Director, Chris Wangsaporn.
 - On January 21, staff will meet with Assemblyman Harper's District Director, Patti Tyler.



The County of Orange Report

January 19, 2015
By Lewis Consulting Group

New Officers Selected for County Board of Supervisors

At the January 13th meeting of the Board of Supervisors the Chairman's gavel was passed from Shawn Nelson to Todd Spitzer. Spitzer's unanimous election ended a long dry spell for Spitzer who had been previously passed over in the normal Board rotation of officers. The four seated Supervisors elected Spitzer upon the motion of Chairman Nelson. After that vote, Spitzer nominated new Supervisor Lisa Bartlett to be Vice-Chairman and that vote was unanimous as well.

*****SPECIAL ELECTION UPDATES*****

January 27th Election Day to replace Supervisor Janet Nguyen

January 27th will conclude the short, but intense campaign for 1st District Supervisor. The unusual election date has forced candidates to battle Christmas and the New Year's holiday for voter attention. There will be no run-off and the leading vote getter will assume office once the results are certified.

Battling for the right to join the Board of Supervisors are State Senator (and former Supervisor) Lou Correa, former Chief of Staff to Supervisor Nguyen Andrew Do, City Councilman and Deputy DA Chris Phan, TV news anchor Chuyen Van Nguyen and Hispanic activist Lupe Moreno.

The election is anticipated to largely pit the power of the Vietnamese absentee voting against the election day turnout machine organized by labor and the Democrat Party.

Still Waiting for State Senate Special Election

Now that Mimi Walters has taken the Congressional oath of office, a vacancy for her Republican State Senate seat has occurred which has political candidates waiting for Governor Brown to call the election.

Once the election is set it is expected to be a heavyweight bout between recent County Supervisor John Moorlach and current State Assemblyman Don Wagner. With this partisan race being subjected to the top 2 runoff rule, there is a reasonable chance Moorlach and Wagner could face off in a run-off approximately eight weeks after the special election.

Should Wagner emerge victorious, look for a very crowded field of candidates running for his State Assembly post in a special election to take place later this year.

New Auditor-Controller Makes Waves

When Eric Woolery the soft spoken former Treasurer of the City of Orange was elected in June to the post of Orange County Auditor-Controller, there was little reason to expect high drama from his first few days in office, but that is precisely what has happened.

A little history...in the wake of Orange County's 1994 bankruptcy a pivotal reform was enacted transferring audit procedures from the County's elected Auditor to the internal auditor working under the County's chain of command. In 1994, former County Auditor Steve Lewis received harsh criticism for inadequately warning against former Treasurer Bob Citron's risky investment schemes. As a result, Orange County became the only county in the State with an in-house auditor.

Last year, Assemblyman Tom Daly passed legislation transferring powers back to the elected Auditor-Controller, however County Supervisors are balking and fighting the change.

Woolery is now threatening legal action against the County to compel the shift in responsibilities. Woolery has stated, "I intend to exercise both areas of my job, if I have to compel it I'll do what I have to do."

Boxer Makes it Official...Scrambling Underway

As reported in last month's PAL report, long time California Senator Barbara Boxer was seriously considering retirement. Now she has made it official and Democrat pent up demand for political advancement has unleashed a torrent of likely candidates. With Republicans looking increasingly weak statewide, most observers believe the leading Democrat vote-getter will be nearly unbeatable.

At first glance, top tier candidates appear to be Attorney General Kamala Harris, former LA Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, Orange County Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez and billionaire environmental activist Tom Steyer. Two additional Democrat members of Congress said to be mulling over the race are Jackie Speier and John Garamendi.

Interestingly, the crowded nature of the Democrat field might present the GOP with its best opportunity to pull off a major upset. If the Republicans can settle on two major candidates and they split the vote evenly and at the same time the Democrat vote completely fractures with no one candidate achieving a dominant share, it would be possible for two Republicans to run first and second securing the only two ballot positions for a November run-off. If that were to happen there might be sufficient interest in repealing California's top two open primary.

OCFA Under Fire

The Orange County Fire Authority has been rocked by controversy the last several years, controversy that led to the resignation of former Chief Keith Richter.

Now things have gone from bad to worse as the state Fair Political Practices Commission has issued subpoenas against the agency for information pertaining to former Chief Richter and Division Chief Brian Brice.

The investigation focuses on Richter and Brice's involvement with Energy Services Consulting International, a for profit company. The investigation centers around potential conflicts of interest, disclosure of income, and the acceptance of gifts by public officials.

The Orange County Fire Authority provides services to 23 Orange County cities.

Fire Rings Make a Comeback?

It is said that elections have consequences and in Newport Beach that adage is quickly playing out.

IN March of 2012, the Newport Beach City Council voted to remove all of its city's fire rings. The move proved to be an unpopular one and later their plan simply banned the burning of wood and instead mandated the use of charcoal.

However, the elevation of the issue caught the attention of both the Coastal Commission and the South Coast Air Quality Management District. One result was the mandated creation of a 700 foot buffer between fire rings and homes.

The issue ended up being the catalyst for wholesale change on the Newport Beach City Council and as we go to print, newly elected Councilman Scott Peotter is agendizing a plan to over time phase back in 60 wood burning fire rings, thus restoring one of Southern California's iconic rituals.

Legal and Regulatory

January 19, 2015

1. **Delta Smelt and US Supreme Court:** The US Supreme Court is being petitioned to consider a number of issues concerning water in California. MWD is seeking a reconsideration of a portion of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) which gives preference to delta smelt regardless of human or economic cost. Two other appeals, one from various water agencies and one from Central Valley farmers, are up for consideration. Both involved interpretation of the ESA and in particular to what extent one must go to save an endangered species and how much impact should be given to humans and economic impact. The Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) is opposing all three efforts on the basis that survival of each species is the only factor to consider. We should soon know if the Court will take any or all of these cases.
2. **Feds Reject Plan to Refill Lakes:** The State of Nevada has requested the Federal Government to refill a lake in the mountains above Lake Tahoe. The reason is to restore a fishery and provide additional recreational resources. The US Forest Service has rejected the request as they want to tear down a dam that created the lake because they claim it is unsafe. They also want to return the area to its previous wet meadows condition. The State is considering appealing the decision. This is another battle between state rights and the Federal Government with respect to who controls water rights.
3. **Federal Court Reverses Judge Wanger on Delta:** As you may recall, Federal Judge Oliver Wanger was in charge of many cases involving the Delta. Prior to his retirement, he made a number of rulings which went against the NRDC and the US Fish and Wildlife Service interpreting the ESA. Judge Wanger considered scientific evidence to invalidate numerous environmental restrictions and rule in favor of humans and agriculture. The Appellate Court reversed Judge Wanger stating that fish need water also and admitting that Fish and Wildlife did rely on evidence that may not have been the most scientifically accurate. This case is one of those that may be headed to the US Supreme Court.

4. **Bay Area Tank Farms:** Many residents in Los Gatos and Santa Cruz area are installing rainwater collection systems and tanks to combat drought conditions in their regions. Systems are also in planning for agencies and individuals in San Francisco, Marin and the East Bay. Individual systems range from 1000 to 10,000 gallons or more and provide significant independence from district reliance and also drought protection. A system which has two 5000 gallon tanks cost one homeowner about \$8000. Those tanks would take up about 1/3 of this meeting room. Opponents of this concept claim that the water captured means loss of water to the streams and aquifers that would benefit from the run off. Proponents claim that it reduces strain on the overall system and these collection methods are much more efficient than nature as more water is actually captured. In any case, where it is feasible, some people are taking matters into their own hands and creating their own water supply.
5. **Drought vs. Animals:** The drought is being blamed for an increase in the deaths of wild animals such as deer and bear. As a result of the drought and fires in the Sierras, the feeding habitat for many animals is low or depleted. This forces the animals to migrate further down the hill or to other areas across highways and roads. Bears are also preparing for their hibernation which requires that they eat more in a shorter period. CalTrans and the CHP have both reported serious spikes in wild animal deaths which is also a dangerous event for the motorists due to the size of the animals.
6. **Nature Caused the Drought:** A new Federal report sponsored by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) asserts that Mother Nature is the primary cause for the drought and downplays man made climate change. The report cites world wide conditions in the Pacific Ocean and air pressure systems as the main cause of the drought. Man made climate change factors could not have produced the weather pattern that we have experienced. The report is being challenged by various groups who claim that the increased temperatures the past few years were not factored into NOAA's calculations. NOAA's modeling did include research from Columbia University, NASA and the International Research Institute for Climate.



DISCUSSION ITEM

January 19, 2015

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: **Public Affairs & Legislation Committee**
(Directors Barbre, Hinman, and Tamaribuchi)

Robert Hunter, General Manager

Staff Contact: Heather Baez

**SUBJECT: SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA WATER ISSUES CONGRESSIONAL
DELEGATION BRIEFING LUNCHEON AND WATER AGENCIES OF THE
INLAND EMPIRE AND ORANGE COUNTY STATE LEGISLATIVE
RECEPTION**

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board of Directors receives and files the report.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

DETAILED REPORT

CONGRESSIONAL BRIEFING

As customary, MWDOC co-hosts a luncheon during the ACWA conference in Washington D.C. and an evening reception during Legislative Symposium in Sacramento.

The ACWA Washington D.C. conference is scheduled for Wed, 02/25/2015 - Thu, 02/26/2015 at the Liaison Hotel. Below is a write up from ACWA on the event:

114TH CONGRESS- NEW DIRECTIONS REQUIRE NEW STRATEGIES
The Republicans Take Control of Congress!!

Budgeted (Y/N): Yes	\$800/DC Luncheon & Materials	Core <u>X</u>	Choice <u> </u>
Action item amount:		Line item:	
Fiscal Impact (explain if unbudgeted):			

Why Attend?

Learn firsthand the priorities of the 114th Congress and Obama Administration. Get the latest on the budget and funding for your programs of interest. Meet and join fellow Water Agencies to show the importance of California water issues. Be there right from the start to better develop your federal legislative and regulatory strategies.

What Can You Expect?

Hear from new Congressional leaders, top officials at EPA, Army Corps, and Bureau of Reclamation. Meet the newest members of the California Congressional Delegation. Hear from 'DC Insiders' about the regulatory avalanche.

MWDOC'S PARTICIPATION

As we did last year, MWDOC is co-hosting a Southern California Water Issues Congressional Delegation Briefing with Eastern Municipal Water District (EMWD), Inland Empire Utilities Agency (IEUA), and Western Municipal Water District (WMWD). The Gold Room in the Rayburn Building (same location as last year) has been secured and "Save the Date" cards were hand delivered in November to all congressional offices within the hosting agencies service area. Invitations were delivered last week and will be followed up with email invites and personal phone calls. The hosting agencies will issue an invitation to their member agencies to be included as a participating agency. Staff from MWDOC, EMWD, IEUA, and WMWD have begun updating posters, the briefing book and program for the event.

The briefing book – which includes a brief background on the four presenting agencies – will highlight the importance of the Bay Delta Conservation Plan and recommend that the delegation support funding for the federal portion and ensure continued funding for the fifty year life of the plan. In addition, the sponsoring agencies will reach out to their member agencies to see if they will be in attendance at the event, and if they would like to have a project included in the briefing book. Last year Irvine Ranch Water District, Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District, Mesa Water District, Orange County Water District, and Santa Margarita Water District were all included. The briefing book will be provided to attendees on a USB drive (printed with all four hosting agency logos) for them to keep at their offices.

LEGISLATIVE SYMPOSIUM IN SACRAMENTO

ACWA's 2015 Legislative Symposium is scheduled for Wednesday, March 4 at the Sacramento Convention Center. The evening prior, Tuesday, March 3, MWDOC will be co-hosting an event at Ella's in Downtown Sacramento – Water Agencies of the Inland Empire and Orange County State Legislative Reception. Below is a preliminary table of agencies and sponsors. The sponsor will get their logo on the RSVP Card, Brochure, and Sponsor Tabletop Cards which are all seen by key state agency leaders and legislators.

HOST	AMOUNT	SPONSORS
MVWD	\$250	Madole & Associates, Inc.
MVWD	\$250	Faust Media Services
MVWD	\$500	Kidman Law LLP
MVWD	\$250	Architerra Design Group
WMWD	\$500	CV Strategies
WMWD/CVWD	\$500	Best Best & Krieger
EMWD	\$500	Ron Davis
EMWD	\$500	Lemieux & O'Neill
WVWD	\$250	InfoSend
MWDOC	\$500	Townsend Public Affairs, Inc
CVWD	\$500	De La Rosa & Co
Riverside	\$250	Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith LLP Attorneys
Riverside	\$250	Citizens United for Resources and the Environment
WVWD	\$250	Redwine and Sherrill

FISCAL IMPACTS

The USB drives are \$7.98/each (\$1,197 for 150) and will be split four ways. The luncheon is expected to cost approximately \$2,000 split four ways. MWDOC's share will be roughly \$800 (includes our portion of the food costs & USB drives) depending on the turnout.

The March reception in Sacramento during the Legislative Symposium will be partially sponsored by MWDOC's Sacramento advocate, Townsend and Associates.

PRELIMINARY AGENDA

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24

6 pm – 8 pm

**Congressional Reception in conjunction with the
California Association of Sanitation Agencies**
(Location TBD)

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25

8:30 - 9:00 am

Welcome Breakfast

9:00 -10:00 am

Washington Insiders Panel

10:00-11:30am

Obama Administration Speakers Program

11:30 am – 1:30pm

Lunch and Museum Tour
(Information TBA)

1:50 pm

Group Photo
House side steps of the Capitol (South East Side)

2:15 – 5:15 pm

Congressional Speech Program
(Location TBA)

5:30 – 7:30 pm

Networking Reception
The Liaison Capitol Hill

PRELIMINARY AGENDA

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26

8:30 – 9:00 am

Closing Breakfast

9:00 – 9:30 am

Issue Group Panel

9:30 – 10:30am

Drought Panel

10:30 am

Conference Adjourns

PRICING REFERENCE SHEET

ACWA DC2015
Annual Washington D.C. Conference

February 25–26, 2015
The Liaison Capitol Hill

Register online @ acwa.com

Regular registration and cancellation deadline is February 6, 2015 • 4:30 p.m. (PST)

REGISTRATION FEES & OPTIONS	REGULAR	ONSITE
Advantage (For ACWA public agency members, affiliates & associates ONLY)	(ends 2/6/15)	
Full Conference Registration & Meals Package	\$625	Not Avail.
Full Conference Registration Only	\$535	\$555
Wednesday (Feb. 25) Conference Registration Only	\$300	\$320
Thursday (Feb. 26) Conference Registration Only	\$250	\$270
Standard (Applies to non-members of ACWA)		
Full Conference Registration Only	\$800	\$820
Wednesday (Feb. 25) Conference Registration Only	\$450	\$470
Thursday (Feb. 26) Conference Registration Only	\$375	\$395
Guest (Guest registration is not available to anyone with a professional reason to attend.)		
Guest Conference Registration Only	\$45	\$45

MEAL FUNCTIONS	REGULAR	ONSITE
Tuesday – February 24		
Congressional Reception	No Added Charge	No Added Charge
Wednesday – February 25		
Full Breakfast	\$50	\$65
Lunch & Tour	\$60	\$65
Networking Reception	No Added Charge	No Added Charge
Thursday – February 26		
Full Breakfast	\$50	\$55

HOTEL INFORMATION

You must be registered for the ACWA D.C. Conference in order to make hotel reservations at the special room rate.

The Liaison Capitol Hill

415 New Jersey Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20001
202-638-1616

Special Hotel Rate: \$334 per night (The cut-off date to receive the \$334 per night special rate is January 22, 2015)

Reservations can be made by phone at 866-233-4642 or by email at reservations@affinia.com

Please identify yourself as part of the Association of California Water Agencies.

Any reservation made after January 22, 2015 is subject to the hotel's regular room rate and based on availability.

Hotel Questions, Cancellation or Changes: Contact hotel directly at 202-638-1616 or 866-233-4642

PAYMENT METHODS

- ☒ Check payable to ACWA – 910 K Street, Ste. 100 • Sacramento, CA 95814
- ☒ Bill me
- ☒ Charge credit card: MasterCard or Visa

If you select check or bill me payment option, to expedite the check-in process onsite, ACWA must receive payment two weeks prior to the event.

Questions? Contact us at 916.441.4545, toll free 888.666.2292.
Conference terms and conditions available at acwa.com in the event section.



ACTION ITEM
January 21, 2015

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: **Public Affairs & Legislation Committee**
(Directors Barbre, Hinman, Tamaribuchi)

Robert Hunter
General Manager

Staff Contact: Heather Baez

SUBJECT: EXTENSION OF FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY CONTRACT WITH JAMES C. BARKER, P.C.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board of Directors extend the federal advocacy contract with James C. Barker, P.C.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

DETAILED REPORT

James C. Barker has provided federal legislative advocacy services to the Municipal Water District of Orange County since 2003. His primary objectives during this time have been to provide strategic direction for our Washington based activities and secure federal funding assistance for the District's water reliability efforts, ocean water desalination and the Smart Irrigation Controller program. In addition, Mr. Barker has been instrumental in helping secure a loan program that may be very useful to MWDOC or its Member Agencies.

Budgeted (Y/N): Yes	Budgeted amount: \$96,000; Calendar year expenditure + expenses	Core X__	Choice __
Action item amount: \$96,000; \$48,000 for FY 2014/2015 + expenses and \$48,000 for FY 2015/2016 + expenses		Line item: 31-7040	
Fiscal Impact (explain if unbudgeted):			

Additionally, Mr. Barker works closely with staff in developing the District's funding request strategies and also serves as its "on the ground" representation in meetings with committee staff, Members of Congress, Congressional personal staff, administration and department officials, and others. Mr. Barker is also responsible for recommending and scheduling meetings for District directors/staff with Congressional members and these other Representatives throughout the Congressional session.

Mr. Barker will continue working with MWDOC to identify priorities and opportunities as well as implement strategies for securing funding support in the FY 2016 federal budget, seeking federal grant related opportunities and seek federal authorizations for various MWDOC projects. The priorities outlined below represent the scope of work upon which Mr. Barker's contract with the District would be extended for the 2015 calendar year.

◆ **Seek funding towards the South Orange Coastal Ocean Desalination Project Bill for Federal Funding.**

MWDOC has received \$875,000 in federal funding appropriations to date, plus federal grants from the Bureau of Reclamation and Environmental Protection Agency in excess of \$500,000.

In addition to these appropriated funds, Mr. Barker was instrumental in assisting MWDOC to encourage Senator Boxer and Senator Feinstein to include money for California Water Infrastructure Legislative Authorization in the Water Resources and Development Act (WRDA Bill). One of our continued strategies for 2015 will be to seek funds out of this account.

****Another strategy for 2015 (FY 2016) will be to explore amending the WIFIA Financing Program.**

MWDOC was significantly involved in helping pass the WIFIA loan provision in the recently passed 2014 WRRDA Legislation. As a result of this legislation, with the assistance of a WIFIA Loan, MWDOC, or its Member Agencies, could save approximately \$18 million in interest charges on a \$200 Million Dollar water project.

In 2015, Mr. Barker plans to continue to improve the WIFIA Loan Program and will determine if the WIFIA provision can be amended to allow for the use of WIFIA loans *in combination with traditional tax free municipal bond financing*. If this provision were to pass, it would save MWDOC, or its Member Agencies, millions of more dollars over the life of a thirty or thirty five year loan. This strategy seems credible because the transportation community has a *TIFIA Loan program that does allow for traditional tax free municipal bond financing*. We would try and have the WIFIA Program "mirror" the TIFIA Program.

As MWDOC continues its work with the Congress, we will emphasize the critical nature of California's Water Supply situation and how this Ocean Water Desalination Project will provide a NEW source of water in an environmentally sensitive manner and it could have technology applications in many coastal areas of the United States. There will be coordination between the District and members of the Orange County Congressional Delegation and Senators Boxer and Feinstein to ensure support for the request.

Among the critical strategies to be advanced by Mr. Barker will be to continue to advance the implementation of a competitive grant system by the Army Corps of Engineers, the EPA and the Bureau of Reclamation.

Army Corps Specific:

Importantly, Senator Boxer, the Ranking Member of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, may be reviewing their passage of the WRRDA bill last year and may consider the passage of a technical corrections bill or begin a file for the next WRRDA bill that may be considered in an upcoming session. Mr. Barker, along with Director Barbre, were instrumental in working with the Senator's staff and the Committee and advancing the inclusion of WIFIA legislative language into the WRRDA Bill that became law during 2014.

Bureau of Reclamation Specific:

The Bureau of Reclamation has developed a "Water SMART" Water and Energy Efficiency Grant program and opportunities for funding opportunity are now available. The Bureau of Reclamation is seeking proposals from states, Indian tribes, irrigation districts, water districts and other organizations with water or power delivery authority to partner with Reclamation on projects that increase water conservation or result in other improvements that address water supply sustainability in the West. MWDOC and the South Orange Coastal Ocean Desalination project should qualify.

Mr. Barker will continue to monitor such grant opportunities for which MWDOC may be eligible.

- ◆ **Provide assistance to other Orange County entities in helping their projects to**
 - Poseidon Huntington Beach Ocean Desalination Project
 - Title XVI Projects
 - North Orange County Water Recycling Project
 - Other

Seek Federal Funds for the Smart Irrigation Controller Program.

Mr. Barker was instrumental in developing a program to receive funds through the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service to support this program. To date, MWDOC has received approximately \$650,000 in federal funding with approximately \$4.6 million being spent on this program. Mr. Barker is significantly involved in trying to develop a competitive grant program so that these funds can continue to flow to MWDOC. Additional funding would allow further expansion of the program and cover ongoing program management expenses.

**** Drought Related Activities—**

Mr. Barker will continue to monitor efforts and provide assistance in Washington to provide drought relief legislation to the State of California and the Western United States. At the end of last year's session, drought legislation was unable to be passed due to a variety of factors, including the inclusion of other Western States issues in the final package.



ACTION ITEM
January 21, 2015

TO: **Public Affairs & Legislation Committee**
(Directors Barbre, Hinman & Tamaribuchi)

FROM: **Robert Hunter**
General Manager

Staff Contact: Heather Baez

SUBJECT: ANNUAL REVIEW OF LEGISLATIVE POLICY PRINCIPLES

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Public Affairs & Legislation Committee review and discuss the updated legislative policy principles and direct staff as appropriate.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

DETAILED REPORT

At the December 2014 PAL Committee meeting, the Legislative Policy Principles were discussed and changes and suggestions were made by committee members. However, no formal action was taken. Below you will find last month's write-up (for information purposes only) along with the newly updated policy principles that incorporated comments from last month.

In September 2012, the Municipal Water District of Orange County Board of Directors adopted legislative policies principles. They were reviewed again in March 2014 (discussion only). The purpose of these principles is to assist District staff and its legislative advocates in the evaluation of legislation that may impact the District, its member agencies, the interests of Orange County, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California and/or its member agencies. The principles establish guidelines to allow the District to respond to certain types of legislation in a timely manner while issues that are not clear or have complicated implications will be presented to the Board for further guidance.

Budgeted (Y/N): n/a	Budgeted amount: None	Core ✓	Choice __
Action item amount: n/a	Line item: n/a		
Fiscal Impact (explain if unbudgeted):			

Changes are shown as follows:

Additions are *italicized*

Deletions are ~~crossed through~~

December PAL Committee changes are *underlined and italicized*

IMPORTED WATER SUPPLY

It is MWDOC's policy to support legislation that:

- 1) Ensures the development of a long- term state water plan that balances California's competing water needs and results in a reliable supply of high- quality water for Orange County.
- 2) Facilitates the implementation of the Bay Delta Conservation Plan, the co- equal goals of reliable water supply and ecosystem restoration, and related policies that provide long term, comprehensive solutions for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta that:
 - a) Provides reliable water supplies to meet California's short- and long- term needs;
 - b) Improves the ability to transport water across the Delta either for, or in supplement to, State Water Project deliveries;
 - c) Improves the quality of water delivered from the Delta;
 - d) Enhances the Bay-Delta's ecological health in a balanced manner that takes into account all factors that have contributed to its degradation;
 - e) Encourages cost-effective water-use- efficiency measures;
 - f) Employs sound scientific research and evaluation to advance the co-equal goals of improved water supply and ecosystem sustainability.
- 3) Funds a long-term, *comprehensive* Bay-Delta solution in a manner that equitably apportions costs to all beneficiaries.
- 4) Seeks to keep BDCP on schedule and prudently expedites the approval process for projects that will improve water reliability and security.
- 5) Provides funding for Colorado River water quality and supply management efforts.
- 6) *Provides conveyance and storage facilities that are cost-effective for MWDOC and its member agencies, while improving the reliability and quality of the water supply.*
- 7) *Authorizes and appropriates the federal share of funding for the long-term Bay Delta solution.*

8) *Authorizes and appropriates the ongoing state share of funding for the long-term Bay Delta solution.*

It is MWDOC's policy to oppose legislation that:

1) Would make urban water supplies less reliable, or would substantially increase the cost of imported water without also improving the reliability and/ or quality of such water.

2) *Imposes water user fees to fund Bay Delta ecosystem restoration and other public purpose, non-water supply improvements in the Delta region.*

LOCAL WATER RESOURCES

It is MWDOC's policy to support legislation that:

1) Provides funding for, *and authorizes and/or facilitates the expanded use of*, water recycling, *potable reuse, conservation*, groundwater recovery and recharge, storage, brackish and ocean water desalination and surface water development projects.

2) Recognizes that recycled water is a resource and should be permitted and managed as such.

~~3) Authorizes and/ or facilitates expanded use of local water resources including water recycling and brackish groundwater.~~

3) Authorizes local governmental agencies to regulate the discharge of contaminants to the sewer collection system that may adversely affect water recycling and reuse.

4) Reduces regulatory burdens on water recycling and brackish and ocean water desalination projects.

5) Supports ecosystem restoration, increased stormwater capture and sediment management activities at Prado Dam.

6) *Recognizes and supports the development of ocean desalination as a critical new water supply for the state and Orange County, specifically.*

7) *Authorizes, promotes, and provides incentives for indirect and direct potable reuse projects.*

8) *Recognizes that the reliability of supplies to the end user is the primary goal of water suppliers.*

It is MWDOC's policy to oppose legislation that:

1) Restricts a local governmental agency's ability to develop their local resources in a manner that is cost-effective, environmentally sensitive, and protective of public health.

- 2) Imposes barriers to the safe application of recycled water and continues to define recycled water as a waste.
- 3) Would make urban water supplies less reliable, or would substantially increase the cost of imported water without also improving the reliability and/ or quality of such water.
- 4) *Restricts or limits a local governmental agency's ability to establish local priorities for water resources planning decisions.*

WATER USE EFFICIENCY

It is MWDOC's policy to support legislation that:

1) ~~Requires the installation and use of retail water meters and billing based on a volumetric use.~~

1) Furthers the statewide goal of a 20% reduction in per capita water use by 2020 as set forth in SBx7-7, enacted in November 2009.

2) *Would allow flexibility and options for compliance in achieving statewide water reduction goals.*

3) ~~Sets cost-effective~~ Seeks to improve water efficiency standards for water-using devices.

4) Provides loans and grants to fund incentives for water conserving devices or practices.

5) Advances and ensures accurate reporting of the implementation of water efficiency measures of the Best Management Practices (BMPs) for the California Urban Water Conservation Council's Memorandum of Understanding.

6) Increases landscape water use efficiency and promotes Commercial, Institutional and Industrial (CII) water use efficiency programs.

7) *Requires individual metering ~~connections~~ to be built in new construction of multiple unit commercial or residential buildings.*

8) *Encourages stakeholders to investigate and develop statewide landscape water conservation standards and regulations.*

9) *Provides incentives, funding, and other assistance where needed to facilitate market transformation and gain wider implementation of water-efficient indoor and outdoor technologies and practices.*

10) *Provides incentives, funding, and other assistance where needed to facilitate water use efficiency partnerships with the energy efficiency sector.*

11) Recognizes past investments in water use efficiency measures, especially from the demand hardening perspective.

It is MWDOC's policy to oppose legislation that:

- 1) Fails to ensure balance in the implementation of water efficiency practices and requirements for both urban and agricultural use.
- 2) *Would repeal cost-effective efficiency standards for water-using devices.*

WATER QUALITY

It is MWDOC's policy to support:

- 1) Legislation that protects the quality of surface water and groundwater.
- 2) Funding that helps agencies meet state and federal water quality standards.
- 3) The establishment and/ or implementation of standards for water-borne contaminants based on sound science and with consideration for cost-effectiveness.

It is MWDOC's policy to oppose:

- 1) Legislation that could compromise the quality of surface water and groundwater supplies.
- 2) Legislation that establishes and/ or implements standards for water-borne contaminants without regard for sound science or consideration for cost effectiveness.

METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (MET)

It is MWDOC's policy to support legislation that:

- 1) Implements a rate structure that is consistent with MWDOC board-adopted policy.

It is MWDOC's policy to oppose legislation that:

- 1) Compromises the existing governance structure and the representation of member agencies on the Metropolitan Water District Board of Directors.
- 2) *Would restrict MET's rate-making ability.*

WATER TRANSFERS

It is MWDOC's policy to support legislation that:

- 1) Encourages and facilitates voluntary water transfers.

2) Provides appropriate protection or mitigation for impacts on the environment, aquifers, water-rights holders and third- parties to the transfer including those with interests in the facilities being used.

3) Legislation that encourages transfers which augment existing water supplies, especially in dry years.

It is MWDOC's policy to oppose legislation that:

1) Undermines the operations and maintenance of the conveyance system.

2) Interferes with the financial integrity of a water utility and compromises water quality.

3) *Increases regulatory or procedural barriers to water transfers at the local or state level.*

WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCING

It is MWDOC's policy to support legislation that:

1) Employs a "beneficiary pays" principle that establishes a clear nexus between the cost paid to the direct benefit received. Likewise, those who do not benefit from a particular project or program should not be required to pay for them.

2) Establishes grants or other funding opportunities for local and regional water infrastructure projects.

3) Considers local investments made in infrastructure, programs, mitigation and restoration in determining appropriate cost shares for water infrastructure investments.

4) *Would reduce the cost of financing water infrastructure planning and construction, such as tax-credit financing, tax-exempt municipal bonds, Water Resources Development Act (WRDA), Water Infrastructure Finance Innovation Act (WIFIA), the Environmental Infrastructure Accounts and other funding mechanisms.*

It is MWDOC's policy to oppose legislation that:

1) Establishes a fee or tax that does not result in a clear benefit to the District, its member agencies, and their customers.

2) *Would reduce the total available water infrastructure financing measures such as WIFIA, state-revolving funds, and others.*

ENERGY

It is MWDOC's policy to support legislation that:

1) Facilitates the development and expansion of clean, renewable energy in California, including hydropower.

2) Supports water supply reliability as the primary focus of water agencies and energy intensity of water supplies as a secondary factor.

3) Recognizes the role and value of the water industry investment in water use efficiency and therefore recognizes WUE efforts towards greenhouse gas reduction, including funding such activities.

4) Recognizes hydroelectric power as a clean, renewable energy source and that its generation and use meets the greenhouse gas emission reduction compliance requirements called for in the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (AB 32).

It is MWDOC's policy to oppose legislation that:

- 1) Grants preferential consideration to certain types of clean, renewable energy projects over others, resulting in those preferred projects receiving advantages for state funding, project permitting, and regulatory compliance.

FISCAL POLICY

It is MWDOC's policy to support legislation that:

- 1) Requires the federal and state governments to provide a subvention to reimburse local governments for all mandated costs or regulatory actions.

It is MWDOC's policy to oppose legislation that:

- 1) Is inconsistent with the District's current investment policies and practices.
- 2) Pre-empts the District's ability to impose or change water rates, fees, or assessments.
- 3) Impairs the District's ability to maintain levels of reserve funds that it deems necessary and appropriate.
- 4) Impairs the District's ability to provide services to its member agencies and ensure full cost recovery.
- 5) Makes any unilateral reallocation of District revenues, or those of its member agencies, by the state unless the state takes compensatory measures to restore those funds.
- 6) *Would impose mandated costs or regulatory constraints on the District or its member agencies without reimbursement.*

GOVERNANCE

It is MWDOC's policy to support legislation that:

1) Advances good government practices and public transparency measures in a manner that do not take a "one-size fits all" approach, respects local government control, and facilitates technological efficiencies to meet state reporting and disclosure requirements.

It is MWDOC's policy to oppose legislation that:

1) Advances local government reform measures by imposing unnecessarily broad burdens upon all local governments, particularly when there is no demonstration of rampant and wide-spread violations of the public trust.

2) Shifts state programs, responsibilities and costs to local governments without first considering funding to support the shift.

3) Seeks to limit or rescind local control.

4) *Reduces or diminishes the authority of the District to govern its affairs.*

5) Imposes new costs on the District and the ratepayers absent a clear and necessary benefit.

6) Resolves state budget shortfalls through shifts in the allocation of property tax revenue or through fees for which there is no direct nexus to benefits received.

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PENSION REFORM

It is MWDOC's policy to support legislation that:

1) Seeks to contain or reform public employee pension and other post-employment benefit (OPEB) cost obligations that are borne by public agencies via taxpayers and ratepayers.



ACTION ITEM
January 21, 2015

TO: Public Affairs & Legislation Committee
(Directors Barbre, Hinman & Tamaribuchi)

FROM: Robert Hunter
General Manager

Staff Contact: Heather Baez

SUBJECT: ISDOC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ELECTION FOR 3RD VICE PRESIDENT

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board of Directors discuss the ISDOC 3rd Vice President vacancy and authorize the appropriate Board Member or alternate to vote on behalf of MWDOC at the January 29, 2015 ISDOC Quarterly Meeting.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

DETAILED REPORT

In October 2014, the Independent Special Districts of Orange County (ISDOC) held its regular election of officers. The successful candidates were as follows:

President – Mike Scheafer, Costa Mesa Sanitary District
1st Vice President – Bob Moore, South Coast Water District
2nd Vice President – Jim Fisler, Mesa Water District
3rd Vice President – Sandra Jacobs, Santa Margarita Water District
Secretary – Leslie Keane, Orange County Cemetery District
Treasurer – Joan Finnegan, Municipal Water District Orange County

The ISDOC bylaws require that each officer must hold an elected position for a Special District in order to have a seat on the Executive Board. Bob Moore was not a victor in the November 2014 election, and is thereby ineligible to serve on the ISDOC Executive

Budgeted (Y/N): n/a	Budgeted amount: n/a	Core X	Choice __
Action item amount:	Line item:		
Fiscal Impact (explain if unbudgeted):			

Committee. Jake Vollebregt of Best, Best & Krieger advised the ISDOC Executive Committee that ISDOC could solicit candidates for the vacancy of 1st Vice President, or the 2nd and 3rd Vice Presidents could move up one slot, making the 3rd Vice President position the vacant position. After both the 2nd and 3rd Vice Presidents indicated they would like to move up, the ISDOC Executive Committee voted unanimously to issue a notice of vacancy and solicitation for nomination of the 3rd VP position to all ISDOC members.

Nominations will be accepted before and at the January Quarterly Membership Meeting. Nominations must be accompanied by a resolution from the nominee's Board supporting his/her candidacy.

The election to fill the 3rd Vice President position will be conducted at the January 29, 2015 Membership Meeting.

MWDOC needs to authorize a member of its Board to vote for this position at the January 29, 2015 meeting. The President of the Board does not require a resolution to vote on MWDOC's behalf, however, if another Board Member is sent in his/her place, they will need to bring an authorizing resolution.



INFORMATION ITEM

January 19, 2015

TO: **Public Affairs & Legislation Committee**
(Directors Barbre, Tamaribuchi & Hinman)

FROM: **Robert Hunter, General Manager**

Staff Contact: Jessica H. Ouwerkerk

SUBJECT: **Update Regarding Water Policy Dinner (February 5, 2015)**

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Public Affairs & Legislation Committee receive and file the staff report.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

SUMMARY

The next MWDOC Water Policy Forum & Dinner will take place on Thursday, February 5, 2015 at the Westin South Coast Plaza Hotel in Costa Mesa. Dr. Lucy Jones of the U.S. Geological Survey is confirmed as the guest speaker. The event will begin with a pre-dinner reception at 5:30 p.m. followed by dinner and the keynote address from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

The guest registration fee is \$80.00 per person until January 30th or \$90.00 per person thereafter. Reserved tables are also available for \$800 for a table of 10 or \$640 for a table of eight. This reflects a \$5 dollar (per person) increase from previous events due to a small increase in the Westin's food/beverage and audio/visual costs.

At the time of this report, approximately 50 guests have registered for the event, including one reserved table for Mesa Water District. Registration is expected to reach over 175 by the event date.

Budgeted (Y/N): Y	Budgeted amount: \$6,300	Core _X_	Choice __
Action item amount:		Line item: 31-7670	
Fiscal Impact (explain if unbudgeted):			

DETAILED REPORT

The event budget is included below.

ESTIMATE - Water Policy Dinner Budget (based on 175 guests)			
Expenditures	Quantity	Price	Total
Meals (order 87%)	152	\$ 61.99	\$ 9,422.48
Parking (64% avg.)	112	\$ 6.00	\$ 672.00
Program Printing	175	\$ -	\$ -
Audio Visual	1	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 1,400.00
Reception Supplies	1	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
Video Production	1	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Service Staff Gratuity	1	\$ 175.00	\$ 175.00
PayPal Fees	90	\$ 2.48	\$ 223.20
Speaker/Honoree Recognition Item	1	\$ 80.00	\$ 80.00
Speaker Transportation	0	\$ 260.00	\$ -
Speaker Accommodations	0	\$ 200.00	\$ -
Social Media Marketing	1	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00
	Total Expenditures		\$ 12,547.68
Revenue			
Paid Registrations	130	\$ 80.00	\$ 10,400.00
Paid Registrations	15	\$ 90.00	\$ 1,350.00
Comp'ed registrations for MWDOC Directors, staff, speaker	20	\$ -	\$ -
MWDOC budget-funded registrations for legislative staffers	10	\$ 80.00	\$ 800.00
	Total Revenue		\$ 12,550.00
	Net Income		\$ 2.32



INFORMATION ITEM

January 19, 2015

TO: Public Affairs & Legislation Committee
(Directors Barbre, Hinman & Tamaribuchi)

FROM: Robert Hunter
General Manager

Staff Contact: Heather Baez

SUBJECT: UPDATE REGARDING GOVERNOR'S 2015-2016 BUDGET

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Directors receive and file the report.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

DETAILED REPORT

On Friday, January 9, 2015 Governor Jerry Brown unveiled his 2015-2016 budget proposal, a record \$113.3 billion plan. According to the Legislative Analyst's Office, the Governor's 2015-16 budget proposal raises its revenue estimates, and results in a multibillion-dollar influx of new funds for schools and community colleges under the Proposition 98 minimum funding guarantee.

The Governor's plan identifies cost pressures and budget risks in health and human services programs, and new program commitments outside of Proposition 98 are limited. The Governor's proposal to pay off the state's retiree health liabilities over the next few decades would, if funded, address the last of state government's large unaddressed liabilities.

Budgeted (Y/N): n/a	Budgeted amount: n/a	Core X	Choice __
Action item amount:	Line item:		
Fiscal Impact (explain if unbudgeted):			

The 2015-2016 budget spending depends on expected growth in personal income tax, driven by higher capital gains taxes and higher tax receipts from wages. Bigger gains are possible, but they would mostly (or entirely) go to K-14 due to the Prop 98 funding guarantee.

The highlights below are specific to specific to water including ongoing costs, emergency drought funding. Also included is the first \$523M in expenditures from Prop. 1 to continue the implementation of the Water Action Plan. It also includes the last \$1.1B in spending from Prop 1E, the 2006 flood bond to bolster the state's protection from floods.

NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY FUNDING

The Natural Resources Agency consists of 26 department, boards, commissions, and conservancies responsible for administering programs to conserve, protect, restore, and enhance the natural, historical and cultural resources of California. The 2015-2016 budget proposes total funding of \$9.4B (\$2.6B General Fund) for all programs included in the Agency. Highlights include:

- \$1.7B to implement the Governor's Water Action Plan – a 5 year roadmap towards sustainable water management
- \$1.1B for DWR to support flood protection activities, which will appropriate all remaining Prop 1E funds
- \$6M of General Fund for DWR to provide technical assistance to local agencies on the development of the groundwater sustainability plans
- \$6.7M of General Fund and \$2.6M in other funds for the Delta Stewardship Council to implement the Delta Science Plan, incorporate the BDCP into the Delta Plan, and coordinate federal approval of the Delta Plan
- \$1.4M in General Fund for DWR to identify water management operation improvements during drought conditions and streamline water transfers
- \$1.7B and 7,451.6 positions for CAL FIRE
- \$571M (\$115.9 General Fund) for Dept. of Parks & Rec

EMERGENCY DROUGHT FUNDING

In the event that existing drought conditions continue throughout the next year, the Budget provides \$115M (\$93.5M in General Fund) on a one-time basis to continue the following critical drought efforts. The Administration will continue to monitor and evaluate statewide drought conditions through the winter months, and will reevaluate these budget year needs in the May Revise.

- Department of Forestry & Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) - An increase of \$59.4M General Fund and \$2.4M in other funds to continue firefighter surge capacity, etc. to suppress wildfires during the 2015 season
- Dept. of Fish & Wildlife - An increase of \$11.4M General Fund and \$3.2M in other funds for fish rescues, hatchery operations, fish & wildlife monitoring

- Dept. of Water Resources – An increase of \$11.6M General Fund to continue to assess current surface & groundwater conditions, expedite water transfers, provide technical guidance to local water agencies, and public outreach through the Save Our Water campaign
- Dept. of Social Services – Carryover of \$7M General Fund to provide food assistance for communities most impacted by the drought
- State Water Resources Control Board – An increase of \$6.7M General Fund and \$15.9 million other funds to continue enforcement of drought-related water rights & water curtailment actions and provide grants for emergency drinking water projects
- Office of Emergency Services – An increase of \$4.4M General Fund for the State Operations Center to continue to provide local communities with technical guidance and disaster recovery support related to the drought

PROP 1 – WATER BOND FUNDING

In November 2014, California passed Proposition 1 which provides \$7.5 billion for water quality, water storage, flood protection and watershed protection and restoration projects. The Governor's proposed budget allocates \$532.5 million, the first allocation of a multiyear Proposition 1 expenditure plan, and the following chart breaks down this funding:

Investment Category	Department	Program	Amount (In Millions)
Safe Drinking Water	State Water Resources Control Board	Wastewater Treatment Projects	\$66.30
	State Water Resources Control Board	Safe Drinking Water in Small Disadvantaged Communities	\$69.20
Watershed Protection and Restoration	State Conservancies	Watershed Projects	\$83.50
	Wildlife Conservation Board	Enhanced Stream Flow Projects	\$38.90
	Santa Monica and San Gabriel Conservancies	Urban Rivers and Creeks	\$19.10
	Department of Fish and Wildlife	Watershed Restoration Projects (Non-Delta and In-Delta)	\$36.50
Regional Water Reliability	Department of Water Resources	Integrated Regional Water Management Program	\$32.80
	Department of Water Resources	Water Conservation	\$23.20
	State Water Resources Control Board	Storm water Management	\$0.60
Water Storage	Department of Water Resources	Statewide Water System Operational Improvement	\$3.30

Protect and Restore Important Ecosystems	Department of Water Resources	Water Recycling and Desalination	\$5.50
	State Water Resources Control Board	Water Recycling and Treatment Technology Projects	\$131.70
Groundwater Sustainability	Department of Water Resources	Groundwater Management Planning	\$21.30
	State Water Resources Control Board	Groundwater Contamination	\$0.60
Total			\$532.50

The proposed budget will use Proposition 1 funds to achieve plan to achieve the following three overarching goals:

- Ecosystems to benefit fish, wildlife, communities and water management systems
- Resilience: Proposition 1 moneys will fund projects to increase the state's resilience to anticipated and currently unknown impacts of climate change
- Reliability: This allocation will support projects such as water storage, groundwater sustainability, safe drinking water, and regional water management



INFORMATION ITEM

January 19, 2015

TO: Public Affairs & Legislation Committee
(Directors Barbre, Tamaribuchi & Hinman)

FROM: Robert Hunter, General Manager

Staff Contact: Darcy M. Burke

SUBJECT: MEMBER AGENCIES WATER QUALITY-CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORTS

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Public Affairs & Legislation Committee receive and file this report.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

DETAILED REPORT

For many years, the Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC) has provided professional consulting services to our member agencies in coordinating and preparing their mandated Water Quality, Consumer Confidence Reports (CCR's). As part of that process, MWDOC issued a Request for Proposal in 2013 and Stetson Engineering was awarded the contract. The closest competitor was over \$40,000 more expensive. Part of the proposal and subsequent contract with Stetson provided MWDOC with a discounted fee for a three year agreement and also provided a fixed rate of increase (5%) amount over three years. MWDOC is now entering into the second year of that agreement and Stetson will provide professional consulting services in developing the required tables and reporting data.

Last year, the United States Environmental Protection Agency and subsequently the California Department of Public Health (Now known as the State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water) revised guidance allowing water providers to issue and distribute their CCR's in an electronic format. Prior to this revision, each agency was

Budgeted (Y/N): Y	Budgeted amount: \$31,000	Core X__	Choice __
Action item amount: N/A		Line item: 32-7040	
Fiscal Impact (explain if unbudgeted): Total Contract amount will be \$32,610 which includes \$1,620 estimated expenses for the City of Fullerton which will be reimbursed.			

required to produce, print and mail this report and the required content to every household within their service area. Water providers must still make a paper copy available upon request.

Although this revision would result in a significant savings per agency, many of our member agencies did not have the ability or expertise to provide these materials in an electronic format. As part of the Value of Water Choice Program, electronic templates will be provided in addition to the technical services provided by Stetson. The electronic versions will contain information in a non-technical format (In addition to the required verbiage and tables) and will also provide a consistent regional, water quality message throughout MWDOC's service area. Any and all related printing costs required in addition to the electronic template will be the sole responsibility of the agencies.



INFORMATION ITEM

January 19, 2015

TO: Public Affairs & Legislation Committee
(Directors Barbre, Hinman & Tamaribuchi)

FROM: Robert Hunter
General Manager

Staff Contact: Heather Baez

**SUBJECT: CALIFORNIA SPECIAL DISTRICT ASSOCIATION (CSDA) GOVERNANCE
CONFERENCE – JANUARY 22, 2015**

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Directors receive and file the report.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

DETAILED REPORT

CSDA asked for and received permission to use the Joint Board Room to host one of their professional development workshops – Introduction to Good Governance Principles. The workshop will be held on Thursday, January 22 from 9:00-4:00. It is a “fast paced” workshop that touches on all of the essential components of governing a special district. This workshop also meets AB1234 Ethics Training requirements and qualifies for six hours of governance training for Special District Leadership Foundation programs. The cost to attend the workshop is \$225 for CSDA Members and \$375 for Non-Members.

Below is a description of the workshop provided by CSDA:

Leading a special district as an experienced or newly elected/appointed official is both exciting and challenging. You have accepted the responsibility of representing your constituents and customers in the most effective and professional manner possible. This will demand that you acquire or maintain the necessary skills to govern a special district. The

Budgeted (Y/N): n/a	Budgeted amount: n/a	Core X	Choice __
Action item amount:	Line item:		
Fiscal Impact (explain if unbudgeted):			

Introduction to Good Governance training has been designed specifically for special district board members and board chairs/presidents in order to provide the tools, background and overall knowledge necessary to help navigate the first year of governing a special district and be an effective leader.



California Special Districts Association
Registration Form

Effective governance of a special district doesn't just happen. **It requires knowledge, information and State Required education in order to fulfill the responsibility of representing the constituents in the most professional manner possible.** The workshops, webinars and conference listed here were created to get you started.

One form per registrant. Please make copies as needed.

Name/Title:

District:

Phone:

Email:

Member status: ☐ CSDA + SDRMA Member ☐ CSDA Member ☐ Non-member

STEP 1: PLEASE INDICATE WHICH WORKSHOP OR WEBINAR YOU WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND.

Total

☐ **INTRODUCTION TO GOOD GOVERNANCE PRINCIPLES** - Riverside Area: January 15, 2015
 (9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.) Lunch provided by the California Special Districts Alliance
 Western Municipal Water District
 14205 Meridian Parkway, Riverside, CA 92518
☐ \$225 - CSDA Member ☐ \$375 - Non-Member

☐ **INTRODUCTION TO GOOD GOVERNANCE PRINCIPLES** - Orange County Area: January 22, 2015
 (9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.) Lunch provided by the California Special Districts Alliance
 Municipal Water District of Orange County
 18700 Ward Street, Fountain Valley, CA 92708
☐ \$225 - CSDA Member ☐ \$375 - Non-Member

☐ **INTRODUCTION TO GOOD GOVERNANCE PRINCIPLES** - Humboldt County Area: April 16, 2015
 (9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.) Lunch provided by the California Special Districts Alliance
 McKinleyville Community Services District, Azalea Hall
 1620 Pickett Road, McKinleyville, CA 95519
☐ \$225 - CSDA Member ☐ \$375 - Non-Member

INTRODUCTION TO GOOD GOVERNANCE PRINCIPLES SUBTOTAL 1:

STEP 2: REQUIRED AND RECOMMENDED TRAINING

Total

Required Ethics Compliance Training – AB1234 (webinar)
 March 4, 2015, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
☐ Free SDRMA Member ☐ \$69 CSDA Member ☐ \$99 Non-Member

Required Sexual Harassment Prevention Training for Special Districts (webinar)
 January 14, 2015, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
☐ Free SDRMA Member ☐ \$69 CSDA Member ☐ \$99 Non-Member

Introduction to Special District Finances for New Board Members (webinar)
 February 26, 2015, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
☐ Free SDRMA Member ☐ \$69 CSDA Member ☐ \$99 Non-Member

CONFERENCE SUBTOTAL 2:

STEP 3: SPECIAL DISTRICT LEADERSHIP ACADEMY CONFERENCE - JANUARY 25-28, 2015 - Embassy Suites, Napa Valley

EARLY BIRD: DEC 23 ☐ \$600 1st attendee CSDA Member ☐ \$650 1st attendee CSDA Member
☐ \$725 Non-Member ☐ \$775 Non-Member
☐ \$400 each additional attendee from the same CSDA member district ☐ \$450 each additional attendees from the same CSDA member district
☐ \$525 each additional attendee from the same Non-Member district ☐ \$575 each additional attendee from the same Non-Member district

(COMBINE SUBTOTAL 1, 2 AND 3) ---- TOTAL AMOUNT DUE:

Payment information

☐ Check ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express ☐ Discover

Acct. name:

Acct. Number:

Expiration date:

Authorized Signature:



INFORMATION ITEM

January 19, 2015

TO: Public Affairs & Legislation Committee
(Directors Barbre, Hinman & Tamaribuchi)

FROM: Robert Hunter
General Manager

Staff Contact: Heather Baez

SUBJECT: METROPOLITAN LEGISLATIVE STRATEGIES 2015

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Directors receive and file the report. No action required at this time.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

DETAILED REPORT

On December 9, 2014, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California's Board of Directors considered and subsequently adopted the state and federal legislative priorities. The document along with the amendment taken at the Board level is attached for your information and review.

Budgeted (Y/N): n/a	Budgeted amount: n/a	Core X	Choice __
Action item amount:		Line item:	
Fiscal Impact (explain if unbudgeted):			



- Board of Directors
Communications and Legislation Committee

12/9/2014 Board Meeting

8-3

Subject

Adopt Legislative Priorities for 2015/16

Executive Summary

This board letter outlines the state and federal 2015/16 legislative priorities recommended by staff for the Board's consideration and adoption.

Details

After consulting with Metropolitan member agencies in October 2014 and the Board Communications and Legislation Committee in November 2014, the following federal and state legislative priorities are submitted for your consideration and approval. The priorities for 2015/16 support Metropolitan's mission and incorporate its overall water supply reliability and water quality objectives.

Federal Legislative Priorities

Bay-Delta and State Water Project Improvements

- Support administrative or legislative action and funding to keep the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) on schedule to advance conveyance and ecosystem improvements to meet the coequal goals of water supply reliability and Delta ecosystem restoration.
- Support administrative or legislative action and funding to advance emergency response and near-term Delta improvements, consistent with coequal goals.

Colorado River Initiatives

- Support continued funding authorization and coordination between states for continued implementation of the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Plan.
- Encourage coordination between federal and state agencies to implement the Quantification Settlement Agreement.
- Promote continued funding and coordination between states for the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Program under the Departments of Agriculture and Interior.
- Protect and preserve Metropolitan's interest in water conservation programs enabled by the Water Treaty between the United States and Mexico.

Drought Related Legislation

- Support administrative or legislative actions to respond to drought, including funding for immediate water supply improvements, while maintaining environmental protections.

Regional Water Resource Management

- Support legislation authorizing the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to provide grant funding for programs such as the Water Research Foundation to conduct research enabling water agencies to adapt to hydrologic changes.
- Support legislation authorizing EPA's *WaterSense* program and other federal incentive programs that promote water use efficiency and energy efficiency.

Water Quality

- Support local jurisdictions' continued use and storage of chlorine gas as treatment disinfectant. Support authorizing EPA oversight of water system security through updated vulnerability assessments and site security plans.
- Support legislation, initiatives and funding to protect and improve water quality from various constituents, including but not limited to chromium 6, nitrate, perchlorate, salinity, uranium, various fuels and their additives, pharmaceuticals/personal care products, and other constituents of emerging concern.
- Support policies and administrative or legislative actions that protect surface water and groundwater supplies from energy development activities that may impair water resources. Covered energy development activities include, but are not limited to, enhanced oil and gas recovery techniques such as hydraulic fracturing.

Cybersecurity

- Support national associations' and coalitions' efforts to develop standard guidance and best management practices for consistent and ongoing actions to reduce vulnerabilities in process control systems for major water system providers.

Environmental Planning and Environmental Compliance

- Support administrative or legislative actions to improve clarity and workability of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and eliminate duplicative NEPA and state California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) processes.
- Support administrative or legislative actions for environmental compliance (e.g., air, water, hazardous materials and waste) that provide for regulatory compliance flexibility, promote consistency and reduce regulatory duplication.
- Support administrative or legislative actions, including those related to the California Desert Wilderness Protection Act, to ensure the reliability and continuity of Metropolitan's system operations and real estate assets, including rights of way necessary to access Metropolitan's facilities.
- Support administrative or legislative actions, including those that address EPA's proposals related to the Clean Water Act definition of "waters of the United States," to ensure reliability and continuity of Metropolitan's water transfers, and water supply facilities and infrastructure.
- Support administrative or legislative actions to consolidate the review and oversight of anadromous species protection under the Department of Interior to eliminate duplication and increase efficiencies

Invasive Species

- Support administrative or legislative actions and funding for biological controls, mitigation management, and elimination of invasive species, including, but not limited to, quagga mussels and striped bass.
- Support administrative or legislative actions pertaining to invasive species that are consistent with, and in no way interfere with, existing interstate water transfers.

Energy Sustainability

- Encourage coordination to implement federal law that is consistent with Metropolitan's long-term contract for hydropower generated at Hoover Dam for the benefit of Arizona, Southern California and Nevada water users that rely on Hoover power to minimize costs to consumers.
- Support authorization for grant funding for energy efficiency, including programs to reduce greenhouse gases and develop renewable resources.
- Promote water/energy nexus legislative or regulatory activities that preserve Metropolitan's ability to pursue a wide variety of supply options and oppose constraints on supply development such as water resource loading orders based on energy intensity. Support legislation that provides renewable energy credits for both small and large hydroelectric facilities, irrespective of the facility's nameplate generating capacity.

Infrastructure and Public Finance

- Support measures to reduce the cost of financing water infrastructure planning and construction, such as tax-credit financing, tax-exempt municipal bonds, an expanded Water Infrastructure Finance Innovation

Act, or similar financing mechanism that funds new water supply infrastructure, including water conduits, pipelines, canals, pumping, power and associated facilities, the Environmental Infrastructure Accounts and other funding mechanisms.

- Support Bureau of Reclamation's Title XVI and WaterSMART programs.
- Monitor pension reform and Other Post-Employment Benefit proposals.

Appropriations Priorities

- BDCP planning and implementation funding for near-term projects, including near-term and emergency response projects.
- Farm Bill/USDA programs to support habitat projects in the Delta and agricultural water use efficiency projects in the Delta or in the Colorado River basin.
- Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Program.
- Colorado River drought resiliency projects.
- Water quality protection initiatives (e.g., chromium 6, nitrate, perchlorate, salinity, uranium, pharmaceuticals, personal care products, etc.).
- Biological controls, mitigation management and elimination of invasive species.
- Solar retrofits and other renewable energy and conservation projects.
- Water conservation and water use efficiency programs and water resource projects.
- Desalination and salinity management research, including funding for the Brackish Groundwater National Desalination Research Facility through the Desalination Reauthorization Act of 1996.
- Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Plan.
- Bureau of Reclamation Title XVI program.
- Climate change adaptation and mitigation research.

State Legislative Priorities

Bay-Delta and State Water Project Improvements

- Support administrative or legislative action and funding to keep the BDCP on schedule to advance conveyance and ecosystem improvements to meet the coequal goals of water supply reliability and Delta ecosystem restoration.
- Support administrative or legislative action and funding to advance emergency response, near-term Delta improvements and expenditures to support fish monitoring activities in the Delta consistent with coequal goals.
- Continue support for implementation of state policies adopted as part of the 2009 Delta Reform Act and water management package, including clarification of the monitoring and enforcement provisions related to in-Delta diversions.
- Support state funding for public share of Delta ecosystem restoration costs.
- Support administrative or legislative action to add storage statewide and to remove existing prohibition for state funding to raise Shasta Dam.
- Oppose administrative or legislative action that would unfairly shift procurement of renewable resources to the State Water Project, irrespective of transmission limitations, cost and portfolio availability.

California Water Action Plan

- Support implementation of the Brown Administration's comprehensive water strategy, consistent with Metropolitan's goals and objectives, to ensure effective drought management and near-term actions to guide development of programs and investments to meet the state's long-term water infrastructure needs.

Colorado River Initiatives

- Encourage coordination between federal and state agencies to implement the Quantification Settlement Agreement.

Regional Water Resources Management/Foundational Actions

- Support effective administrative solutions to improve the permitting process for proposed seawater desalination projects in California while complying with all existing environmental regulations, as initiated by AB 2595 (Hall, 2012).
- Support administrative or legislative action to promote recycled water as a water resource, without compromising the operational, financial, water quality, regulatory and customer interests of Metropolitan and other drinking water agencies.

Groundwater Management

- Monitor implementation of the 2014 Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, including subsequent legislation to address expedited adjudications and designation of groundwater recharge as a beneficial use.

Environmental Planning

- Support administrative or legislative action to improve clarity and workability of CEQA.
- Support administrative or legislative action for environmental compliance (e.g., air, water, hazardous materials and waste) that provide for regulatory compliance flexibility, promote consistency and reduce regulatory duplication.

Invasive Species

- Support administrative or legislative actions and funding for biological control, mitigation management and elimination of invasive species, including, but not limited to, quagga mussels and striped bass.

Energy Sustainability

- Support expanding definition to qualify state and local hydropower generation as renewable resource.
- Pursue allocation of Cap-and-Trade auction revenues or free allowances from the California Air Resources Board or other administering agencies for Metropolitan and Department of Water Resources/State Water Project, to be used for greenhouse gas reduction measures and related projects.
- Promote water/energy nexus legislative or regulatory activities that preserve the Metropolitan's ability to pursue a wide variety of supply options and oppose constraints on supply development such as water resource loading orders based on energy intensity.
- Continue to support and promote integrated water resources portfolio planning.

Water Quality

- Support local jurisdictions' continued use and storage of chlorine gas as a treatment disinfectant.
- Support legislation, initiatives and funding to protect and improve water quality from various constituents, including, but not limited to, chromium 6, nitrate, perchlorate, salinity, uranium, various fuels and their additives, pharmaceuticals/personal care products, and other constituents of emerging concern.
- Support policies and regulations or legislation to protect surface water and groundwater supplies from energy development and other activities that may impair water resources. Covered energy development activities include, but are not limited to, enhanced oil and gas recovery techniques such as hydraulic fracturing.

Infrastructure and Public Finance

- Support "beneficiaries pay" approach as financing mechanism for statewide projects and programs.
- Oppose de facto taxes levied solely on water agencies for funding broader public benefits.
- Monitor implementation of 2012 pension reform legislation and Other Post-Employment Benefits reform initiatives for potential impacts on Metropolitan's long-term liability.
- Support legislation or administrative action that deters metal theft and protects critical public water infrastructure.
- Monitor implementation of the 2014 water bond, Proposition 1, and influence how water bond dollars are spent, both through program development — including regulations and guidelines at the agency and department level — and through the appropriation of bond funds through the state budget process.

Policy

Supports Metropolitan's mission and incorporates its overall water quality and supply reliability objectives.

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

CEQA determination for Option #1:

The proposed action is not defined as a project under CEQA because it involves continuing administrative activities, such as general policy and procedure making (Section 15378(b)(2) of the State CEQA Guidelines). In addition, where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the proposed action in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the proposed action is not subject to CEQA (Section 15061(b)(3) of the State CEQA Guidelines).

The CEQA determination is: Determine that the proposed action is not subject to CEQA pursuant to Sections 15378(b)(2) and 15061(b)(3) of the State CEQA Guidelines.

CEQA determination for Option #2:

None required

Board Options

Option #1

Adopt the CEQA determination that the proposed action is not subject to CEQA and is categorically exempt, and adopt the Legislative Strategy for 2015/16.

Fiscal Impact: None

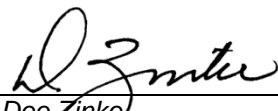
Option #2

Take no action.

Fiscal Impact: None

Staff Recommendation


Option #1



Dee Zinke
Deputy General Manager, External Affairs

12/1/2014

Date



Jeffrey Kighlinder
General Manager

12/1/2014

Date

Ref# ea12634028

Communications and Legislation Committee

Mr. Chairman, I would like to report on the following actions taken at the **Communications and Legislation Committee meeting on December 8, 2014:**

OTHER BOARD ITEMS - ACTION

8-3 At the Communications and Legislation Committee meeting on December 8, 2014, the Communications and Legislation Committee voted to adopt the CEQA determination that the proposed action is not subject to CEQA and is categorically exempt, and to adopt the Legislative Strategy for 2015/16 as amended in committee pursuant to a request by Director McKenney to add the phrase “from unacceptable risks” to the second bullet item in the Water Quality section for both federal and state legislative priorities, so that it reads: Support legislation, initiatives and funding to protect and improve water quality from unacceptable risks from various constituents, including but not limited to chromium 6, nitrate, perchlorate, salinity, uranium, various fuels and their additives, pharmaceuticals/personal care products, and other constituents of emerging concern.

With this amended language, I would ask the committee to approve Option #1, to adopt the CEQA determination that the proposed action is not subject to CEQA and is categorically exempt, and adopt the Legislative Strategy for 2015/16.

AND I SO MOVE



INFORMATION ITEM
January 19, 2015

TO: Public Affairs & Legislation Committee
(Directors Barbre, Hinman & Tamaribuchi)

FROM: Robert Hunter, General Manager

Staff Contact: Darcy M. Burke

SUBJECT: DROUGHT OUTREACH

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Public Affairs & Legislation Committee receive and file the report

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

DETAILED REPORT

As part of our efforts to provide education, information and resources to Orange County residents, business and policymakers, Public Affairs is tracking activities related to drought outreach. Since the last Public Affairs and Legislation Committee in December, staff members have conducted the follow drought outreach efforts:

MWDOC Allocation Workshop	Meeting	12/18/2014	Harvey	MWDOC Member Agencies
Drought Messaging Workshop	Meeting	1/6/2015	Darcy	Member Agencies and Anaheim
Planning of event for the General Public regarding Drought and Conservation	Meetings	01/08/2015 & 01/14/2015	Darcy & Jessica	MWDOC and Anaheim
Allocation Plan Presentation at EOCWD	Presentation	01/15/2015	Harvey	EOCWD Board

Budgeted (Y/N): N/A	Budgeted amount: N/A	Core _X_	Choice __
Action item amount:	Line item:		
Fiscal Impact (explain if unbudgeted):			



INFORMATION ITEM

January 19, 2015

TO: **Public Affairs & Legislation Committee**
(Directors Barbre, Hinman & Tamaribuchi)

FROM: **Robert Hunter, General Manager** **Staff Contact: Darcy M. Burke**

SUBJECT: **8th Annual Orange County Water Summit – May 15, 2015**

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Public Affairs & Legislation Committee receive the report on the Orange County Water Summit.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

SUMMARY

The 8th Annual Orange County Water summit is scheduled for Friday, May 15, 2015 and will once again be held at Disneyland's Grand Californian. Disney will also provide graphic services and décor for the event. This year, the lead agency for Summit is Orange County Water District. They will be responsible for registration, vendor contracts and payments, financial services and other support services as required.

The full planning committee met on November 13th and based on the recommendations from that meeting, Co-Chairmen Director Steve Sheldon (OCWD) and Director Jeff Thomas (MWDOC) met with staff to review recommendations and provide further direction.

OCWD staff is finalizing the development of sponsorship materials. Staff from OCWD and MWDOC are working on identifying sponsorships, developing partnerships with local business groups, the program and theme refinement. Promotion for both sponsorships and registration should begin shortly.

Budgeted (Y/N): N	Budgeted amount:	Core _X_	Choice __
Action item amount:	Line item:		
Fiscal Impact (explain if unbudgeted): The event must break-even through registrations and sponsorships. For the last four years we have realized a surplus which has been used to defray future expenses and for required event-related deposits.			

The next full OC Water Summit Planning Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, January 20th from 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. in OCWD, C-2.

To date, two sponsors have confirmed participation; Mesa Water District will return as the Luncheon Sponsor (\$7,500.00) and Anaheim will provide the parking shuttle service. Formal sponsorship outreach will begin after the New Year.

The working draft of the program follows:



The 2015 OC WATER SUMMIT *Moving Parts*

Friday, May 15, 2015

7:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Grand Californian Hotel, Disneyland Resort
Anaheim, California

Session 1 (45 minutes)

8:10 a.m. to 8:55 a.m.

Thirst (video clip is an old news reel about water conditions in CA – demonstrates nothing has really changed) (*MWDOC has a copy*)

Necessity is the Mother of Invention

We know there are repeated weather cycles – so why wait for others to solve our water problems? We must be proactive to do something about it.

(15 -20 minutes) Presentation from Farmer's Almanac – how they predict the weather (great story about a secret formula combined with modern technology); drought cycles; severe weather conditions; historical drought data; satellite images of groundwater basins, etc. Since 1792, The Old Farmer's Almanac has been known for its traditionally 80 percent accurate forecasts; predictions one year at a time.

(10-15 minutes) Very brief presentation by OCWD and MWDOC to fold in updates on historical data and predictions for OC groundwater, imported, recycled, ocean desalination and stormwater supplies, as well as water use efficiency numbers. Include drought impacts and preparedness or lack of preparedness for droughts; we didn't wait for others to solve our problems.

(10 – 15 minutes) Alternative Conveyance Update –

Speakers:

- Janice Stillman, Editor, Farmer's Almanac – *(To be invited)*
- Reps from OCWD and MWDOC - TBD
- Jeff Kightlinger, General Manager, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California *(Invited)*

Sessions 2 (35 minutes)
8:55 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

CA's Droughts – Regional Economic Impacts

Lead in for Session 3; short presentation about regional farming problems

10 minutes for each farmer followed by a few questions from moderator

Speakers:

- Proposed Moderator: A.G. Kawamura, former California Secretary of Agriculture *(Invited)*
- John Chandler – Chandler Farms (produces peaches, plums, nectarines, almonds, citrus, and grapes for raisins and wine; formerly a consultant for the California Senate Committee on Agriculture.) *(Confirmed)*
- Paul Parreira, RPAC (Almond grower and handler) *(Confirmed)*

Break

9:30 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.

Session 3 (55 minutes)
9:45 a.m. to 10:40 a.m.

What Happens in California Doesn't Stay in California: State, National and Global Economic Impacts of California's Droughts

How much is the drought costing CA and the U.S. in terms of agriculture, textiles, manufacturing, building, construction, health, finance, etc.?; what impacts has it had on exports and global markets? Are other global markets filling the gaps and cutting in to the U.S.'s potential future trade and profits?

Speakers:

- Moderator: Rosario Marin, Former U.S. Secretary Treasurer *(Invited)*
- Wholefoods Market Representative TBD
- Forbes, Businessweek, Wall Street Journal type writer/economist – TBD
- Boeing or Kimberly-Clark Representative TBD

Session 4 (60 minutes)

10:40 a.m. to 11:40 a.m. *Lessons Learned from Around the Globe – Innovation, Private Enterprise and Government*

20 minutes for each speaker followed by questions from the moderator and audience

Similar problems and solutions taking place in other parts of the world; Australia's Mega Droughts and issues/solutions with desalination, water reuse and conservation; Masdar - the world's first sustainable city – challenges and solutions, and their unique partnership with the U.S. government.

Speakers:

- Moderator – Tom Pankratz, Editor, Global Water Intelligence *(To be invited)*
- Sue Murphy, CEO, Australian Water Corporation *(To be invited)* OR Mark O'Donahue, CEO, Australian Water Recycling Center of Excellence
- Representative, Masdar – TBD

15 Minute Break to Set Room for Lunch

11:40 a.m. to 11:55 a.m.

Lunch Session (65 Minutes)

12:15 p.m. to 1:20 p.m. *All Eyes on These City Mayors*

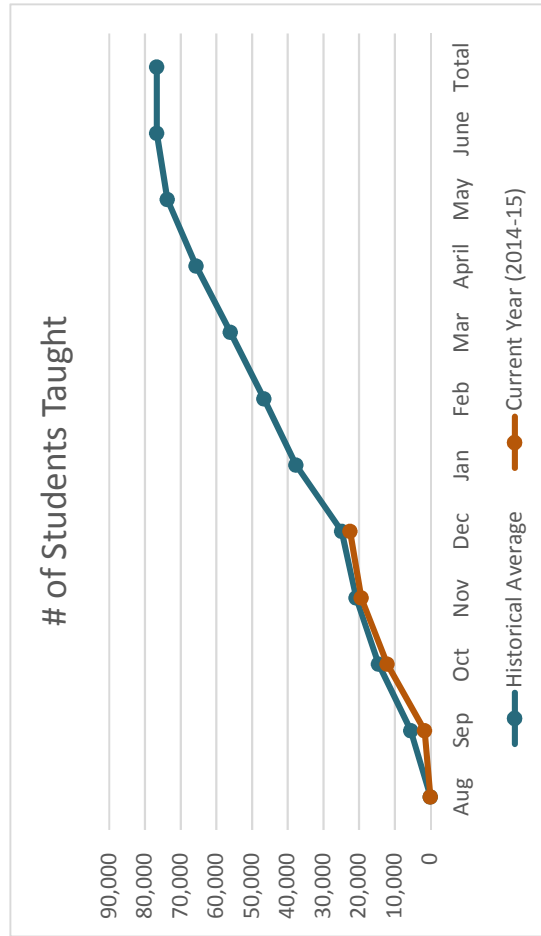
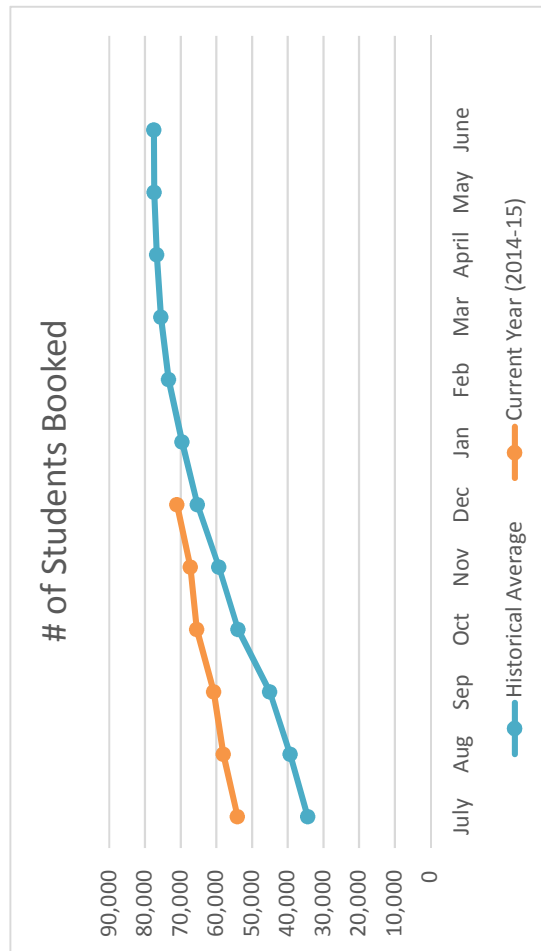
A mayors' roundtable on their water problems and solutions to get their cities out of the mess now and prevent it from happening in the future.

Speakers:

- Moderator - TBD
- Mayor Eric Garcetti, City of Los Angeles *–(To be invited)*
- Mayor Kevin L. Faulconer, City of San Diego *(To be invited)* OR Mayor Edwin Mah Lee, City of San Francisco
- Mayor Robert Silva, City of Mendota) OR Mayor Cameron J. Hamilton, City of Porterville *-To be invited*

2014-15 Water Education School Program

# of Students Booked	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	Target
Historical Average	34,405	39,319	45,070	53,900	59,337	65,269	69,616	73,332	75,563	76,726	77,411	77,523	
Current Year (2014-15)	54,053	58,028	60,691	65,453	67,314	71,036							83,798
# of Students Taught	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	Total	
Historical Average	0	5,526	14,522	20,838	24,823	37,676	46,625	56,093	65,692	73,691	76,705	76,705	
Current Year (2014-15)	0	1,673	12,161	19,355	22,514								83,798



Public Affairs Activities Report
December 14, 2014 – January 18, 2015

Member Agency Relations	<p>Darcy and Tiffany continue to work with Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan) on this year's inspection trip season. They toured Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) with Al Mendez from Metropolitan. Following the tour, they met with JPL staff regarding the facility being part of Director Dick's Weymouth Tour sometime this year. The tour is planned for WACO participants.</p> <p>The next scheduled trip is January 23 – 24th: a Colorado River Aqueduct event hosted by Director Barbre and accompanied by Darcy.</p> <p>Tiffany and Rosa Castro, inspection trip specialist with Metropolitan, met with Director Ackerman to discuss itinerary, trip logistics and guest list options for her February 6-7th CRA trip.</p> <p>Tiffany and Al Mendez, inspection trip specialist with Metropolitan, met with Director Barbre to discuss itinerary, trip logistics and guest list options for his January 23-24th CRA trip.</p> <p>Tiffany and Bryce have created confirmation electronic and print materials for Director Barbre's CRA trip scheduled for January 23rd and 24th, Director Ackerman's CRA trip scheduled for February 6th and 7th, and Director McKenney's State Water Project trip scheduled for February 20th and 21st. Tiffany is currently accepting reservations, and managing guest and Director needs for these three trips.</p> <p>On January 6th, Jessica and Darcy hosted a Public Affairs Workgroup meeting focused on three different drought messaging scenarios. Darcy, Jessica and Tiffany participated.</p> <p>On January 13th, Darcy and Jessica hosted a meeting for staff of agencies participating in the Value of Water communications program. Creative material development, results of the needs assessment survey, and planned outreach materials were discussed.</p> <p>Darcy and Jessica are participating in the January 15 MET PIO meeting.</p> <p>Tiffany is continuing to work with Immersiv Media on the beta phase of the OC Water Hero Program phone app.</p> <p>Darcy is working with Stetson Consulting to finalize an agreement for this year's Water Quality, Consumer Confidence Reports. In</p>
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	<p>addition to the technical support MWDOC provides, participating agencies in the Value of Water Choice Program will also be able to utilities an electronic version for posting and distribution. An Information Item will be provided to the Public Affairs and Legislation Committee.</p> <p>Darcy and Jessica met with Renee Fraser and staff regarding the creative materials, Public Service Announcement, and timeline for implementation of the Value of Water Choice Program.</p> <p>Jessica participated in the December 18 member agency managers meeting that focused on the water supply allocation plan.</p> <p>Jessica developed and distributed surveys to gauge the member agencies' satisfaction with the Member Agency Managers meetings, Public Affairs Workgroup meetings, and WUE Coordinators meetings. Results will be used to refine the meetings and ensure they meet the needs of member agency staff.</p> <p>Jessica provided City of Brea staff with water use efficiency infographics and flyers.</p> <p>Jessica distributed Water Smart Home program flyers to Laguna Beach County Water District.</p> <p>Heather met with David Cordero on behalf of East Orange County Water District to discuss potential legislative proposals.</p> <p>Heather met with Jim Leach from SMWD to discuss legislative priorities and the upcoming legislative session.</p>
Community Relations	<p>Darcy and Jessica met with Anaheim Public Utilities (APU) staff regarding a water use efficiency event for the general public, to be held later this year. This was the initial planning meeting, and it is APU's hope to duplicate a similar event they hosted a few years back for their energy department. The event will be held on a Saturday and all water utilities as well as city water departments in Orange County will be invited to participate.</p> <p>Darcy and Heather participated in the WACO planning meeting and provided staff support to the January 9th meeting. Heather provided the group with a legislative update.</p> <p>Jessica is developing the January issue of eCurrents, which will feature articles by Darcy, Harvey, EOCWD, and City of Huntington Beach.</p> <p>Tiffany and Bryce implemented MWDOC's social media activities through Facebook, Twitter, and Pinterest during this period.</p> <p>Jessica updated numerous pages on the MWDOC website,</p>

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	<p>including the ISDOC and WACO pages, school program page, Water Policy Dinners page, eCurrents page, Board of Directors page, Open Government pages, and several more.</p> <p>Jessica is designing an infographic focusing on Orange County's efforts to save water within the past month, year, and beyond.</p> <p>Heather coordinated legislative certificates to be presented to outgoing ISDOC President, Rich Freschi at the January 29 luncheon.</p> <p>Heather staffed the ISDOC Executive Board Committee and is working with Matt Holder to secure a speaker for their Quarterly Meeting on January 29, 2015.</p>
Education	<p>On December 16, Jessica and Darcy met with Adrian Hightower, Metropolitan's new Education Programs Unit Manager, to discuss MWDOC's and Metropolitan's water education programs.</p> <p>On January 5, Director Hinman and Jessica met with staff of Discovery Science Center to discuss the Water Education School Program. The bookings process, curriculum alignment, and other program elements were discussed.</p> <p>Jessica is coordinating three local high schools' participation in the 2015 Solar Cup Program with Metropolitan and the two local water agencies that are providing the funding (City of Huntington Beach and LBCWD).</p>
Media Relations	<p>January 9, 2015: California News posted an online article about the OCWD Board's decision to move forward with negotiations with Poseidon on the Huntington Beach Ocean Desalination Facility. MWDOC was referenced.</p> <p>January 9, 2015: Fullerton Rag posted an online article about OCWD Director Jan Flory's lone vote against proceeding with negotiations with Poseidon. MWDOC was referenced.</p> <p>January 7, 2015: OC Register ran an article on upcoming trends in Lake Forest and Laguna Hills. MWDOC was mentioned with respect to a recent turf removal project at Laguna Hills High School.</p>
Special Projects	<p>Darcy is continuing to work with a variety of stakeholders on the validation process for Recycled Water Operator Certification for California Nevada Section American Water Works Association.</p> <p>Darcy and Jessica are working on the 2014 annual report, which will provide an online overview of MWDOC's past year, milestones and financial health.</p> <p>Darcy and Director Thomas are working on the 2015 Orange</p>

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	<p>County Water Summit. They had a meeting with Co-Chairman Steve Sheldon (OCWD) and Eleanor Torres on December 22, 2014. Based on the outcome of this meeting, a revised program has been drafted and a schedule of committee meetings developed. The next Summit Committee meeting is January 20th. An Information Item is being prepared to update the Public Affairs and Legislation Committee.</p> <p>Rob, Darcy and Karl prepared and sent a packet of information to the Orange County Grand Jury per their request.</p> <p>Jessica and Tiffany interviewed 3 candidates for a Public Affairs intern position.</p> <p>Jessica created MWDOC's holiday e-card and distributed it to the nearly 10,000 contacts in our database.</p> <p>Jessica is taking the lead on coordinating the February 5 Water Policy Forum & Dinner. Darcy secured guest speaker Dr. Lucy Jones. Jessica developed and distributed an email invitation, a legislative staffers invitation, and a reserved table invitation. Tiffany and Bryce are creating print invitations including a standard invitation, a sponsorship table invite, and a legislative staffers invitation. Tiffany has begun taking reservations and assisting reserved table attendees with registration for the event.</p> <p>Tiffany has created a print invitation for both the annual Poster Slogan Contest, and the Digital Arts Contest. Tiffany and Bryce have begun calendaring upcoming milestones for this event and will continue to work on a variety of elements leading up to the Awards Ceremony in May 2015.</p>
Water-Use Efficiency Marketing	<p>Jessica met with staff of the OC Stormwater Program and UC Cooperative Extension to brainstorm additional ideas for water use efficiency "how-to" videos. The OC Stormwater Program has funding for development of additional videos following the success of the first two "how-to" videos, which focused on Cycle & Soak and Irrigation System Troubleshooting. The next three videos proposed are Turf Removal, OC Garden Friendly Plants, and Drip Irrigation Conversion.</p> <p>Jessica is working with a graphic designer to develop a water use efficiency bill insert promoting rotating nozzles, smart timers, high efficiency clothes washers and toilets.</p> <p>Jessica continues to work with Water Use Efficiency (WUE) Department staff on the WUE Master Plan Annual Update. The report has been designed and laid out, and is awaiting some final text.</p> <p>Jessica continues to work with the OC Stormwater Program on post turf removal lawn signs that will be funded by the County.</p>

	<p>Jessica customized a flyer for the Ecology Center that they will co-brand and use to promote the outdoor rebates, including timers, nozzles, turf removal, and rain barrels.</p>
Legislative Affairs	<p>Heather monitored the Governor's State of the State address and prepared a summary for the General Manager.</p> <p>Heather participated in a conference call with TPA to outline goals for the next two months.</p> <p>Heather participated in the CEQA Stakeholder Meeting held at the State Capitol and hosted by the Senate Judiciary and Natural Resources & Water Committees. The talks were promising and the parties involved all felt like there is an opportunity to reach consensus and believe that "something" will get done this year. Both committees said they are committed to the process. The most common themes were bringing the CEQA documents into the 21st (someone joked 20th) Century and putting everything online; and expediting production without overburdening costs.</p> <p>Heather met with the Government Affairs managers from Eastern Municipal Water District, Inland Empire Utilities Agency and Western Municipal Water District to review and finalize materials (invitation, posters, program, and briefing book) for the Washington D.C. briefing and luncheon to be held on February 25, 2015 during the ACWA Conference in D.C. Tiffany and Bryce are working with Heather to provide all materials for the luncheon (invitation, posters, program, and briefing book).</p> <p>Heather met with and provided an update to Assemblywoman Young Kim's District Director Kristy MacDougal.</p> <p>Heather participated in Metropolitan's Legislative Coordinator's briefing.</p> <p>Heather monitored and provided a summary of the Governor's Budget which was released on Friday, January 9, 2015.</p> <p>Heather attended the Water Planning & Stewardship Committee and the Communications & Legislation Committee at Metropolitan.</p> <p>Heather coordinated with Glen Farrell, Government Relations Manager for San Diego County Water Authority to go over their legislative proposals for the 2015 legislative year. One relates to Urban Management Water Plans, specifically changing the submittal years to account for census information.</p> <p>Heather attended and participated in ACWA's State Legislative Committee meeting in Sacramento.</p>

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	Heather met with Assemblyman Bill Brough and provided a status update on the Doheny Desalination Project.
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