REVISED ACTION ITEM
January 16, 2019

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Planning & Operations Committee
(Directors Osborne, Tamaribuchi, Yoo Schneider)

FROM: Robert Hunter, General Manager
Staff Contact: Karl Seckel/Charles Busslinger

SUBJECT: OCWD Proposed Groundwater Storage Agreement Study with MNWD

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Planning & Operations Committee discuss the OCWD Water Issues Committee (WIC) Agenda Item for January 9 (also for OCWD Board Action on January 16) regarding a Proposed Groundwater Storage Agreement with MNWD.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The P&O Committee noted that MWDOC has developed quite a bit of information and is in the process of studying a number of items that would be beneficial towards development of a Groundwater Storage Agreement for SOC. Also, for all storage arrangements with SOC, MWDOC has to be involved either as a seller of water to put into storage if the water source is MET or to include any benefits for its agencies such as extraordinary supply under the MET and MWDOC Water Supply Allocation Plans (WSAP). OCWD staff indicated that MWDOC staff would be kept in the loop and included in the process after information, materials, and potential agreements become available and that the work would complement the work MWDOC has completed or which is underway. This same position was expressed by way of a letter presented at the meeting from OCWD Director Cathy Green as Chair of the OCWD Water Issues Committee (response to letter from MWDOC President Barbre). The Committee discussed this item at length and provided the following direction to staff:

1. Staff should continue to work with all involved to provide input and analysis on items from a comprehensive perspective in a manner similar to the OC Water Reliability Study.

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2. Any Storage Agreement should involve all agencies in South Orange County and not be centered with just a single agency.

3. Agendize the issue for discussion between the MWDOC and OCWD Boards at the upcoming January 23 Joint Planning Committee.

The Committee recommended this item for consideration at the January 16 Board meeting.

**SUMMARY**

Staff regularly reviews the agenda items of OCWD. The January 9 OCWD Water Issues Committee (WIC) agenda includes an OCWD Board recommendation for January 16 to proceed with a groundwater storage agreement with MNWD. Staff reviewed the item, flagged concerns, and since there were not any MWDOC meetings prior to the OCWD WIC meeting, drafted a letter for signature by MWDOC President Barbre, see attached.

Staff recommends the Committee discuss the MWDOC letter and proposed actions by OCWD.