1. Planning And Administration Committee Agenda
   Documents:
   
PAC041819 AGENDA.PDF

2. Planning And Administration Committee Packet
   Documents:
   
PAC041819.PDF
ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

Items may be added to the Agenda in accordance with Section 54954.2(b)(2) of the Government Code (Brown Act), upon a determination by a two-thirds vote of the members of the legislative body present at the meeting, or, if less than two-thirds of the members are present, a unanimous vote of those members present, that there is a need to take immediate action and that the need for action came to the attention of the Rancho California Water District after the Agenda was posted.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

PUBLIC COMMENT

Any person may address the Committee at this time upon any subject not identified on this Agenda but within the jurisdiction of the Rancho California Water District. Please note that for items not listed on the agenda, the Brown Act imposes limitations on what the Committee may do at this time. The Committee may not take action on the item at this meeting. As to matters on the Agenda, persons will be given an opportunity to address the Committee when the matter is considered. If you wish to speak during public comment, please fill out a "Speaker Request Form" and give it to the Recording Secretary. When the Committee Chairman calls your name, please immediately step to the podium and begin by giving your name and address for the record. Each speaker will be given three (3) minutes to address the Committee.

1. Update on Conservation Efforts
2. Update on Outreach and Educational Efforts
3. Update on State Legislative and Federal Lobbying Activities
4. Presentation on Human Resources Activities
5. Adjournment

This Committee meeting is also noticed as a special meeting of the Board of Directors because a quorum of the Board may be present. Members of the Board who are not members of the Committee may attend and participate in the meeting, but only members of the Committee may make, second, or vote on any motion or other action of the Committee. Any actions taken pursuant to this agenda will be actions within the purview of the Committee and shall be approved by an affirmative vote of a majority of the quorum of the Committee. The Committee is not empowered to act for or on behalf of the Board or the District unless exercising delegated authority from the Board. Any actions taken by the Committee shall be deemed recommendations of the Committee for future consideration by the Board at a separately noticed regular or special meeting of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors retains all powers, privileges, and duties to exercise and perform the business of the District.

Upon request, this agenda will be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with disabilities, as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Any person with a disability who requires a modification or accommodation in order to participate in a meeting should direct such request to the District Secretary at (951) 296-6900 at least 48 hours before the meeting, if possible.

Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the members of the Board of Directors regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at the District’s Administrative Headquarters Building located at 42135 Winchester Road, Temecula, California, during normal business hours.

Board Members of the Rancho California Water District
Planning and Administration Committee

Carol Lee Brady, Chairman
Lisa Herman, Member
John Rossi, Member
Angel Garcia, Alternate
AGENDA

JOINT REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
PLANNING AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE
AND SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE
RANCHO CALIFORNIA WATER DISTRICT

Board Room
Rancho California Water District
42135 Winchester Road
Temecula, California

Thursday, April 18, 2019
8:30 AM

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

Items may be added to the Agenda in accordance with Section 54954.2(b)(2) of the Government Code (Brown Act), upon a determination by a two-thirds vote of the members of the legislative body present at the meeting, or, if less than two-thirds of the members are present, a unanimous vote of those members present, that there is a need to take immediate action and that the need for action came to the attention of the Rancho California Water District after the Agenda was posted.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

PUBLIC COMMENT

Any person may address the Committee at this time upon any subject not identified on this Agenda but within the jurisdiction of the Rancho California Water District. Please note that for items not listed on the agenda, the Brown Act imposes limitations on what the Committee may do at this time. The Committee may not take action on the item at this meeting. As to matters on the Agenda, persons will be given an opportunity to address the Committee when the matter is considered. If you wish to speak during public comment, please fill out a "Speaker Request Form" and give it to the Recording Secretary. When the Committee Chairman calls your name, please immediately step to the podium and begin by giving your name and address for the record. Each speaker will be given three (3) minutes to address the Committee.

1. Update on Conservation Efforts
2. Update on Outreach and Educational Efforts
3. Update on State Legislative and Federal Lobbying Activities
4. Presentation on Human Resources Activities
5. Adjournment

This Committee meeting is also noticed as a special meeting of the Board of Directors because a quorum of the Board may be present. Members of the Board who are not members of the Committee may attend and participate in the meeting, but only members of the Committee may make, second, or vote on any motion or other action of the Committee. Any actions taken pursuant to this agenda will be actions within the purview of the Committee and shall be approved by an affirmative vote of a majority of the quorum of the Committee. The Committee is not empowered to act for or on behalf of the Board or the District unless exercising delegated authority from the Board. Any actions taken by the Committee shall be deemed recommendations of the Committee for future consideration by the Board at a separately noticed regular or special meeting of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors retains all powers, privileges, and duties to exercise and perform the business of the District.

Upon request, this agenda will be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with disabilities, as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Any person with a disability who requires a modification or accommodation in order to participate in a meeting should direct such request to the District Secretary at (951) 296-6900 at least 48 hours before the meeting, if possible.

Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the members of the Board of Directors regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at the District’s Administrative Headquarters Building located at 42135 Winchester Road, Temecula, California, during normal business hours.

Board Members of the Rancho California Water District
Planning and Administration Committee

Carol Lee Brady, Chairman
Lisa Herman, Member
John Rossi, Member
Angel Garcia, Alternate
ITEM 1: UPDATE ON CONSERVATION EFFORTS

RESPONSIBLE/LEAD STAFF MEMBER(S):
Sr. Water Resources Planner, Justin Haessly

RECOMMENDATION:
This item is for the Planning and Administration Committee’s (Committee) review and information.

DISCUSSION:
As part of its efforts to achieve the vision of its Strategic Business Plan, Rancho California Water District (RCWD/District) actively promotes water conservation and water-use efficiency. The following provides a brief summary of programs currently being implemented, programs that are expected to begin in the near future, and programs that have been completed.

Existing/Ongoing Programs:

Water Waste Program

- Description – Conservation staff responds to incidents of water waste that are reported by both customers and District staff. District responses include verbal and written correspondence sent to customers.

- Update – The District has responded to 149 water waste incidents since January 1, 2019. For calendar year 2018, the District responded to 372 incidents.

Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) Rebate Programs

- Description – MWD offers rebates for conservation devices to RCWD’s customers. RCWD’s financial commitment to its implementation is staff time.

- Update – District customers take advantage of MWD’s variety of rebates. Staff advertises and tracks customer participation for these rebate programs. The tables on the following page summarize RCWD customer participation in these programs.
Customer Type | Device Type | Quantity  
|--------------|------------|----------  
| Residential  | High Efficiency Clothes Washer | 146 2017, 96 2018, 18 2019  
|              | High Efficiency Toilet | 19 2017, 16 2018, 1 2019  
|              | Rain Barrel/Cistern | 16 2017, 7 2018, 1 2019  
|              | High Efficiency Sprinkler Nozzle | 464 2017, 253 2018, 0 2019  
|              | Weather Based Irrigation Controller | 131 2017, 134 2018, 24 2019  
| Commercial   | Cooling Tower | 3 2017, 0 2018, 0 2019  
|              | High Efficiency Toilet | 185 2017, 1 2018, 0 2019  
|              | Ice Making Machine | 1 2017, 0 2018, 0 2019  
|              | Plumbing Flow Control | 494 2017, 0 2018, 0 2019  
|              | High Efficiency Sprinkler Nozzle | 1532 2017, 0 2018, 0 2019  
|              | Weather Based Irrigation Controller | 113 2017, 152 2018, 1 2019  

**Water Use Efficiency Evaluations**

- **Description** – RCWD provides water-use efficiency evaluations to its urban customers to help them become more water-efficient. The cost of these evaluations are paid by RCWD. The cost for evaluations conducted in the Rancho Division is partially reimbursed by Eastern Municipal Water District (EMWD) through MWD.

- **Update** – During calendar year 2018, 89 water-use evaluations were conducted for RCWD’s residential and dedicated landscape accounts. Three evaluations have been conducted since January 2019.

**Expanded Recycled Water & Plant Material Conversion Project**

- **Description** – RCWD received a $750,000 grant through the Department of Water Resources (DWR) to convert the irrigation systems at six City of Temecula (City) sites and three home owner association (HOA) common-area sites from
potable to recycled water. There is no cash match required from RCWD for this grant; therefore, the District’s financial contribution is staff time only.

- Update – At this point, all three of the HOA sites have been converted to the recycled water system. The remaining six City sites are currently in the design approval phase and are due to be completed in 2020.

**CropSWAP**

- Description – RCWD was awarded a $2M grant through the DWR and an additional $1M grant through the United States Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) for a program that provides growers with financial incentives for replacing higher-water-use crops with those that require less water. A $1M cash match was approved by RCWD’s Board of Directors for this project.
- Update – At this point, 62 customers have submitted applications for participating in the Program. Of these 62 customers, 19 have completed their projects and converted a combined 72 acres of higher water-use crops to lower water-use varieties. In total, the 19 customers are to be provided with ~$880K in financial incentives.

**Agricultural Irrigation Efficiency Program**

- Description – RCWD provides agricultural (Ag) customers with technical assistance and financial incentives for improving their irrigation systems. Since grant funding for this program is no longer available, the District now pays for the program.
- Update – To date, 280 sites have received technical assistance through the program and 87 sites have retrofitted their irrigation systems. The average efficiency of these systems have increased from 62 to 88 percent, because of the retrofits.

**Revenue Protection Program**

- Description – RCWD worked with Harris Computer Systems to develop a tool that helps the District to identify malfunctioning/under-reading meters. The idea is that this effort will enable the District to better identify apparent water loss,
avoid lost revenue, and perhaps, develop a new meter replacement program. The cost for this software addition is $10,000 for this fiscal year.

- Update – RCWD’s Information Technology and Water Use Efficiency Departments, together with the Operations Department, have collaborated with Harris Computer Systems to develop the tool. District staff is currently using and improving the tool, and so far, staff has identified a number of malfunctioning/stuck meters that have since been replaced. Identification and replacement of these meters has allowed the District to recover $700K through back-billing efforts.

**Drip Conversion Kit Voucher Program**

- Description – The Drip Conversion Kit Voucher Program provides financial assistance to RCWD’s residential customers for purchasing spray-to-drip conversion kits. The kits are paid for through a partnership between RCWD, MWD, and the participating customer. Kits cost a total of $125: MWD pays $50; RCWD $50; and the customer pays $25 plus tax.

- Update – Since April 1, 2017 when the Program was initiated, 75 drip conversion kits have been distributed to RCWD customers. Of these 75 kits, all of them have been verified as installed. Staff will be staging another workshop event on April 27, 2019, during which more of the kits will be distributed to customers.

**Water Bottle Filling Stations**

- Description – To improve District visibility, enhance public relations, and help keep plastic bottles from harming the environment, the District is working with community partners to install water-bottle-filling stations along with interpretive information at local school sites. The two-year budget for this effort is $100K.

- Update – 21 fill stations have been installed at sites owned by the Cities of Temecula and Murrieta, the Promenade Mall, Temecula Valley Unified School District, Murrieta Valley Unified School District, and the County of Riverside. Staff is looking for three more good sites for installations.
MyWaterTracker Upgrade

- **Description** – To provide better service to the District’s customers, Water Use Efficiency Staff is working to upgrade the MyWaterTracker Tool. Upgrades will include providing water use data to customers more frequently (i.e. hourly usage data available every three hours rather than every twenty-four hours), and providing customers with the ability to customize leak alerts. The project cost is approximately $20K, all of which will be paid using grant funding awarded to the District by the US Bureau of Reclamation.

- **Update** – The grant agreement for this project has been executed, and work is beginning now.

District Metered Area Project

- **Description** – The District is creating a District Metered Area (DMA) within a portion of Rancho California Water District’s (RCWD/District) service area. The DMA will be established by isolating a section of RCWD’s distribution system for monitoring the quantity of water entering and leaving the section. This will enable staff to more accurately identify both real and apparent water loss within the DMA. The project cost is approximately $150K, approximately half of which will be paid using grant funding awarded to the District by the US Bureau of Reclamation. The remaining cost includes RCWD staff time.

- **Update** – Staff is waiting to get the grant agreement executed for this project.

Recently Completed Programs:

Vinduino Soil Moisture Pilot Project

- **Description** – RCWD implemented a soil moisture pilot project that tested and demonstrated the use of the Vinduino soil moisture devices and remote control valves for implementing efficient irrigation schedules in winegrape vineyards.

- **Update** – Vinduino sensors were installed at eight winegrape growing operations in the Temecula Valley. Sensor data was made available to each of the eight sites, and each grower learned how to use the data for irrigation scheduling. After installation of the devices, combined water use for the eight sites was approximately 8 percent lower than in previous years.
**Recycled Water & Plant Material Conversion Project**

- Description – RCWD received a $390,000 grant through the DWR to convert the irrigation systems at three HOA’s common-area sites from potable to recycled water and to replace turf at these sites with lower-water-use plant species. The match requirement for this project was met with RCWD staff time and cash contributions from other entities.
- Update – Rainbow Canyon, Meadowview, and Paloma Del Sol HOAs have been converted to the recycled water system. This project has been completed.

**Public Entity & HOA Turf Replacement Program**

- Description – RCWD received a $520,000 grant through the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority to implement turf replacement projects at properties owned by HOAs, public agencies, or institutions. There was no matching requirement for this grant.
- Update – Nine turf-replacement projects totaling more than 520,000 square-feet were completed through implementation of this project. Three were completed by the City of Temecula, one by the Colony HOA, and six others by the City of Murrieta.

**Turf Replacement Program for HOAs, Public Entities, and Commercial Customers (Funding Source #1)**

- Description – RCWD shifted $150,000 in remaining Proposition 84 grant money from its Agricultural Irrigation Efficiency Program to this Turf Replacement effort. The matching requirement for this grant will be met with RCWD staff time.
- Update – The turf replacement projects are complete. Over 150,000 square-feet of turf was converted to low-water-use landscape plantings through this effort. The work took place at Paloma Del Sol HOA, Paseo Del Sol HOA, The Villages HOA, and Erle Stanley Gardner Middle School.

**Turf Replacement Program for HOAs, Public Entities, and Commercial Customers (Funding Source #2)**

- Description – RCWD collaborated with EMWD on a $265,000 grant project funded through Proposition 84, which provides $1 per square foot rebates to
Commercial, Industrial, and Institutional (CII) customers for turf replacement. The matching requirement for this grant has been met with funding provided by MWD for turf replacement efforts during prior years, which means RCWD’s financial commitment to the project is staff time.

- Update – 18 applications were submitted by RCWD customers for participation in the Program. Staff evaluated the applications based on criteria such as water savings, public visibility, and ability to complete the project on time as per the terms of the grant agreement. Eight applications were chosen for funding, totaling ~280,000 square-feet of turf replacement. All eight projects are complete, and the final inspections have been conducted to verify actual square footage. Rebates have been processed.

Promenade Mall Demonstration Garden

- Description – RCWD works to facilitate the implementation of a demonstration garden at the Promenade Mall, which would function as a community showcase for water-wise landscaping with plant materials that are climate-appropriate.

- Update – The demonstration water-wise garden at the Promenade Mall has been completed.

**Alternatives:**
Not applicable

**Fiscal Analysis:**
Not applicable

**Environmental Requirements:**
Not applicable

**Exhibits/Attachments:**
ITEM 2: UPDATE ON OUTREACH AND EDUCATIONAL EFFORTS

RESPONSIBLE/LEAD STAFF MEMBER(S):
Interim Public Information Officer, Sylvia Ornelas
Public Affairs Manager, Meggan Valencia

RECOMMENDATION:
This item is presented for the Planning and Administration Committee's (Committee) information.

DISCUSSION:
During the April 11, 2019 Rancho California Water District (RCWD/District) Board of Directors (Board) Meeting, the Board moved from Stage 3c to 3a due to slightly improved water conditions. Staff is prepared for this move and is designing and preparing outreach materials to inform customers of said change. The information will focus on the fact that while we have had more rain this year, the District’s groundwater basin is still feeling the effects of the long-term drought and customers need to continue to be efficient. Customers will be notified with a bill insert, email blast, a video, a facts and questions sheet to hand out at upcoming community events, as well as information posted on RCWD’s social media pages and website.

On an annual basis, the District holds a contest for middle and high school students to create menus with water facts and activities as part of the District's Education Program. The District held a recognition event on March 14, 2019 to recognize the winners of the Poster Contest, Menu Contest, and Write-Off Contests. The room was full while the students were recognized for their hard work on these projects.

RCWD is partnering with Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District (EVMWD) on some outreach about the importance to continue to be efficient even though the area has had more rainfall this year. EVMWD also has concerns about their groundwater basin, therefore the partnership made perfect sense. This campaign will be featured at Storm stadium with signage and banners, through their social media page which has
over 11,000 followers, a joint video with Elsinore Eddy and RCWD’s Drippy, and on their video boards. The District will also be hosting an informational booth once a month beginning in May and ending in August. The statistics show that over 40 percent of the attendees at Storm games are from Temecula.

The District held its annual Agricultural Customers/Farm Managers Meeting on April 3, 2019 in the Board room. This year the meeting was not focused on rates but rather focused on the current water supply conditions. Staff invited other stakeholders in the community to attend. There were approximately 40 people in the audience including stakeholders from both the City of Murrieta and the City of Temecula. Metropolitan Water District of Southern California provided the water supply perspective from their point of view on the State Water Project and the Colorado River. The United States Bureau of Reclamation discussed the Colorado River and the Drought Contingency Plan. RCWD staff discussed local water supply conditions and what the combined picture looked like for the community.

On April 6, 2019, RCWD held a booth at Vail Headquarters for Earth Day. The event focused on getting more customers to like and follow our social media platforms while providing water-efficient devices for the home and yard. In one day, the District was able to increase our social media following by 50 additional likes on Facebook and 49 additional followers on Instagram. Staff will continue to push for more followers on social media to keep residents updated of current events for the District. RCWD’s next event will be on April 13, 2019 at Leoness Cellars for the Our Nicolas Foundations Autism Walk. Attendance is expected to be over 1,500 people where additional outreach regarding drought Stage 3a will continue.

**Alternatives:**
Not applicable

**Fiscal Analysis:**
Not applicable

**Environmental Requirements:**
Not applicable

**Exhibits/Attachments:**
ITEM 3: UPDATE ON STATE LEGISLATIVE AND FEDERAL LOBBYING ACTIVITIES

RESPONSIBLE/LEAD STAFF MEMBER(S):
Public Affairs Manager, Meggan Valencia

RECOMMENDATION:
This item is presented for the Planning and Administration Committee’s (Committee) information.

DISCUSSION:
This report will highlight legislative activities that affect Rancho California Water District (RCWD/District).

Staff has been working closely with Senator Jeff Stone’s office on getting a letter from the Governor supporting the Vail Dam project in order to be eligible for some United States Bureau of Reclamation (Bureau) funding. Senator Stone’s office introduced staff to the Deputy Secretary for Legislation from the California Natural Resources Agency and they are working with the District to meet all the steps to be eligible for funding. While working with the California Natural Resources Agency, it was determined that Vail Dam will need to be deemed consistent with proposition 1 guidelines by the California Water Commission. Staff is working through that process and has discussed the project with two of the California Water Commissioners and the Executive Officer of the Water Commission. The Water Commission is currently determining a process for this and is hopeful to have the project brought forward during the May California Water Commission Meeting.

Senate Bill (SB) 166 (Wiener) Process Water Treatment Systems: Breweries and Wineries, which would have tasked the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) with developing regulations for the onsite use of process water for wineries and breweries, has undergone substantial amendments to the point that the bill would now require the Legislature to convene a study group to advise the Legislature on policies regarding onsite process water at wineries and breweries. RCWD staff had expressed some concerns regarding the initial effort and now support the extensive studying of
onsite reuse of winery and brewery process water that is proposed in this latest effort.

Significant movement has occurred on the water tax front within the Legislature over the final weeks leading up to the end of March. The Administration's Budget Trailer Bill on safe drinking water was taken up on March 20, in the Assembly Budget Subcommittee Number 3, and then again in the Senate Budget Subcommittee Number 2 the following day. The Administration’s Budget Trailer Bill is very similar to SB 623 (Monning, 2017) in that it establishes a fee on agriculture interests, in exchange for regulatory relief, that will be used to address nitrate related contamination, and it also establishes a tax on water meters. RCWD and several hundred water providers throughout the state actively opposed the budget trailer bill effort. In addition to the budget trailer bill, Senator Monning has introduced SB 200 - Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund (Fund), which currently seeks to establish a Safe and Reliable Drinking Water Fund within the State Treasury, was heard in the Senate Environmental Quality Committee on Wednesday, March 20, where it passed on a 5 – 0 vote with two members abstaining. SB 200 currently fails to include a funding source that would be applied to the Fund. On the Assembly side, Assembly Member Eduardo Garcia substantially amended Assembly Bill (AB) 217 (E. Garcia) on March 20 and it is now called the Safe Drinking Water for All Californians Act. Assembly Member Garcia is characterizing this new version of the bill as a “portfolio approach,” however many of the implementing details have been left blank or have yet to be included. The bill as amended includes nitrate related fees on dairies, fertilizer, and confined animal non-dairy facilities, however it does not include language on regulatory relief at this time. In addition to the agriculture related fees, the bill establishes a Trust in the State Treasury and appropriates $200 million annually for five years for a total of $1 billion, and it also includes a Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fee. The details of the fee are largely absent, however the language states that the State Board will establish a fee by regulation through the emergency regulatory process. However, if the Legislative Analyst’s Office is able to make a determination by 2023 that at least $3 billion has been made available in an interest bearing account with a goal of at least $100 million in interest revenues per year are available for the purpose of the fund, then the fee
established by the State Board will sunset. AB 217 is scheduled to be taken up in Assembly Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials on March 26.

On April 3 staff had a coordination meeting with Western Municipal Water District’s (WMWD) legislative staff. These meetings are bi-monthly and allow staff to coordinate positions on legislation and outreach on issues. The water tax is once again the big focus this legislative session and the agencies are coordinating outreach and information.

On April 8 staff met with the District’s Legislative Ad Hoc committee to discuss the involvement in associations and committees, state legislative issues of interest, federal legislative issues of interest, and relationships with other local agencies including Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, Eastern Municipal Water District, and WMWD. Attached to this report are the state legislative bills that were discussed during the meeting.

On April 11 RCWD staff will meet with Kathy Tiegs, past president of the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) and Board member for Cucamonga Valley Water District to discuss ACWA. Staff has made an effort over the past few years to get more involved in ACWA; however, have hit some road blocks, therefore Ms. Tiegs may be able to provide some additional guidance to staff.

The Bureau is holding a stakeholder workshop on April 16 and 17 and invited staff to be a part of the workshop. The workshop will discuss the Bureau’s priorities and accomplishments, WaterSMART, and Reclamation Planning Studies. During the workshop the Bureau is looking for feedback from the stakeholders on what they are doing well and what they can improve on.

Additionally, attached for the Committee’s information is a report prepared by Federal Lobbyist, Eric Sapirstein.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

Not applicable

**FISCAL ANALYSIS:**

Not applicable

**ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS:**
Not applicable

**EXHIBITS/ATTACHMENTS:**

A. ENS Resources, Inc. Federal Affairs Legislative Report, Dated April 10, 2019
B. State Legislative Matrix - March 25, 2019
MEMORANDUM

TO:        Meggan Valencia
FROM:      Eric Sapirstein
DATE:      April 10, 2019
SUBJECT:   Washington Update

The focus for Congress during the past month involved the fiscal year 2020 budget development and the ongoing review of the state of the nation’s public works, including water infrastructure. In addition, the Senate moved closer to finalizing the confirmation of the president’s nominee to be Secretary of the Interior. The Senate also approved Andrew Wheeler to become the Administrator of USEPA.

The following summarizes key issues of interest to RCWD.

Legislation to Extend NPDES Permit Terms for Municipalities

Following the CASA/ACWA D.C. meetings, where RCWD officials advocated for extended permit terms for NPDES permittees, Representative John Garamendi (D-CA) introduced legislation, H.R. 1764, that would authorize a state to award permits for a period up to ten years from the current limit of five years under the Clean Water Act. Garamendi was joined by RCWD’s Representative Ken Calvert. Representative Doug LaMalfa (R-CA) and Rob Woodall (R-GA) also cosponsored the bill. Contrary to opposition by environmental organizations, the authority is purely discretionary. The legislation enjoys significant support by affected stakeholders: CASA, National Association of Clean Water Agencies, U.S. Conference of Mayors, National League of Cities, National Association of Counties, WateReuse, Water Environment Federation, Association of California Water Agencies, and National Water Resources Association. The American Society of Civil Engineers also endorsed the legislation.
Fiscal Year 2020 Budget Released, Attention Turns to Congress

The Administration transmitted a fiscal year 2020 budget request to Congress, imposing a $2 billion reduction over current year spending at USEPA and significant reductions at U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Overall, the budget seeks to impose significant spending reductions across the domestic discretionary budget and would increase defense spending, including homeland security programs. The proposal was roundly rejected in Congress as being unbalanced in domestic spending cuts while increasing spending on defense and national security programs.

Under the proposed budget, USEPA’s key water infrastructure financing program, the Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund would be reduced by more than half a billion dollars. Similarly, the WIFIA program would be slated to receive $25 million to support $2 billion in leveraged financing, representing a $40 million reduction.

At the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, water recycling and desalination programs would also be impacted. The WaterSmart Program’s water recycling and reuse program would be dramatically reduced. The Administration request propose reducing funding from the current year level of $58 million to $3 million. Congressional appropriators, including Senator Feinstein and Representative Calvert, are expected to reject the requested reductions and to restore to at least current year levels program funding.

Separately, but also in support for increased funding, we expect that Senator Feinstein will soon release a draft bill to renew the WIIN program authorization for water recycling infrastructure grants. We also anticipate that Representative Jared Huffman (D-CA), who sits as the Chair of the Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife, will develop alternative water supply proposals, including water recycling, that could boost prospects for increased federal infrastructure assistance.

Department of the Interior Secretary

Acting Secretary of the Interior, David Bernhardt’s nomination to become Secretary received swift Committee on Energy and Natural Resources approval and the nomination was sent to the Senate for floor consideration. As of this writing, it appears that the nomination will face minimal opposition and be approved before Congress recesses on April 12. Bernhardt’s nomination is notable because it received bipartisan support during committee consideration from Senators Joe Manchin (D-WV), Martin Heinrich (D-NM) and Angus King (I-ME), putting to rest any questions that the nomination could fail before the full Senate over questions surrounding Bernhardt’s interactions as Deputy Secretary and Acting Secretary with his previous clients when he practiced law.

Senate Vote for USEPA Administrator Nominee

The Senate voted almost along party lines to confirm Andrew Wheeler to be the next Administrator of USEPA. Wheeler was approved 52-47. His confirmation means
that the Administration will need to nominate a Deputy Administrator, a role that Wheeler has performed prior to his confirmation. No names have been announced at this time.

**USEPA Announces Date for Regional Reorganization**

On April 15, USEPA’s reorganization of its ten regional offices will take place. USEPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler made the announcement on April 8 to the Environmental Council of the States and described the reorganization as something that will be beneficial to states because it will provide greater continuity and cohesiveness by aligning regions to better reflect how program offices are organized at USEPA Headquarters. At Agency Headquarters, program offices are consolidated into focus areas, such as the Office of Water or Office of Air and Radiation.

Critics of this plan say that the reorganization could spell coordination problems between enforcement and program experts, or, worst case scenario, make it easier to single out specific programs for budgetary cuts.

**President Slated to Sign Executive Order Realigning Permitting Duties**

The president is reportedly prepared to sign an Executive Order that would reorder the way in which Clean Water Act water quality certifications are granted. A certification that a project would comply with the Clean Water Act’s mandates is required in order to allow permits to be issued. This “401 Certification” is usually the duty of a state that advises USEPA that a project is certified not to impair water quality. Under the expected order, the certification process would be removed from states and rest with the federal government and presumably expedite certifications.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bill Number</th>
<th>Amended Date; Location</th>
<th>Title-Summary</th>
<th>RCWD Position</th>
<th>Effects on RCWD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AB 292</td>
<td>Amended 3/6/2019</td>
<td>Recycled water: raw water and groundwater augmentation. Would modernize definitions from AB 574 (Quirk, 2017), which Metropolitan and Rancho supported. Seeks to further clarify terminology related to recycled water that more accurately reflects current uses and practices.</td>
<td>SUPPORT</td>
<td>Providing outreach and education on process and benefits of recycled water is essential as California encourages increased development of recycled water supplies. AB 292 will help reduce confusion as water agencies work to increase public’s comfort level with use of recycled water.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB 441</td>
<td>Amended 3/26/2019</td>
<td>Water: underground storage. Provides that certain uses of stored water while underground will constitute a beneficial use.</td>
<td>OPPOSE (Pending Ops Review)</td>
<td>Fails to provide sufficient safeguards to ensure that permanent underground storage is implemented in reasonable manner. Unchecked, diversion of water for underground storage, whether new or existing appropriation, may adversely impact other beneficial uses of water for fish and wildlife, recreation, commerce, or use by downstream diverter.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB 533</td>
<td>Amended 3/19/2019</td>
<td>Income taxes: exclusion: water conservation or efficiency programs: water runoff management improvement program. Would exclude from gross income, under both personal and corporation income tax laws, amounts received as rebate, voucher, or other financial incentive issued by local water agency for participation in water efficiency program or storm water runoff improvement program.</td>
<td>Based upon Board-adopted 2019 State Legislative Priorities</td>
<td>Water providers need broad array of tools to increase participation in water use efficiency programs to further achieve water use savings. Utility-sponsored financial incentives are effective measures, and their appeal increases if rebates are excluded from taxable income.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bill Number</td>
<td>Author</td>
<td>Amended Date; Location</td>
<td>Title-Summary</td>
<td>RCWD Position</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>------------------------</td>
<td>---------------</td>
<td>---------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB 654</td>
<td>B. Rubio (D)</td>
<td>Introduced 2/15/2019, Assembly Judiciary Committee</td>
<td>Public records: utility customers: disclosure of personal information. Authorizes local agency to voluntarily release customer information to another governmental agency for scientific, research, or educational purposes, and if receiving agency agrees to maintain information as confidential.</td>
<td>SUPPORT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB 1194</td>
<td>Frazier (D)</td>
<td>Introduced 2/21/2019, Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee, Date of Hearing: 4/9/2019</td>
<td>Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta: Delta Stewardship Council. Will increase membership of Delta Stewardship Council from seven members to 13 members, with all six proposed new members to represent in-Delta interests.</td>
<td>OPPOSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bill Number</td>
<td>Amended Date; Location</td>
<td>Title-Summary</td>
<td>RCWD Position</td>
<td>Effects on RCWD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>------------------------</td>
<td>---------------</td>
<td>---------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>AB 1204</strong></td>
<td>Introduced 2/21/19</td>
<td><strong>Public water systems: primary drinking water standards: implementation date.</strong> Requires State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) to allow water providers reasonable period of time to complete work required to comply with new Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs), without being found in violation. Specifically proposes that any drinking water standards (MCL or treatment technique) adopted or amended by SWRCB will only be effective three years after initial date of adoption. Also grants SWRCB authority to allow up to two additional years to comply with standards, if it determines that more time is necessary for capital improvements.</td>
<td><strong>SUPPORT</strong></td>
<td>Positive impact as it would establish fair and reasonable compliance period similar to that of U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Rubio (D)</td>
<td>Assembly Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials Committee</td>
<td>Date of Hearing: 4/9/2019</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SB 241</strong></td>
<td>Introduced 2/11/19</td>
<td><strong>Public agencies: joint powers authorities: contracts.</strong> Would require Joint Powers Authorities formed pursuant to Joint Exercise of Powers Act to have each member agency of joint power authority (JPA) to approve and ratify each MOU negotiated between JPA and its employees for each contract for municipal services or functions.</td>
<td><strong>OPPOSE UNLESS AMENDED</strong></td>
<td>Joint powers authorities for Delta, as well as other JPAs, would be required to follow this requirement, requiring more work, delays, and possibly obstacles for getting work done.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moorlach (R)</td>
<td>Senate Governance and Finance Committee</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sponsor: Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA)</td>
<td>Sponsor: Author</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bill Number</td>
<td>Author</td>
<td>Amended Date; Location</td>
<td>Title-Summary</td>
<td>RCWD Position</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>------------------------</td>
<td>---------------</td>
<td>---------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 414</td>
<td>Caballero (D)</td>
<td>Introduced 2/20/2019</td>
<td><strong>Small System Water Authority Act of 2019.</strong> Authorizes State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) to merge small, non-noncompliant public water systems into regional water authority that will directly benefit from increased economies of scale and access to public financing.</td>
<td>SUPPORT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 669</td>
<td>Caballero (D)</td>
<td>Introduced 2/22/2019</td>
<td><strong>Water quality: Safe Drinking Water Fund.</strong> Establishes an irrevocable Safe Drinking Water Trust to provide a perpetual source of funding to assist chronically noncompliant community water systems in disadvantaged communities gain access to safe drinking water.</td>
<td>SUPPORT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bill Number</td>
<td>Amended Date; Location</td>
<td>Title-Summary</td>
<td>RCWD Position</td>
<td>Effects on RCWD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>------------------------</td>
<td>---------------</td>
<td>---------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 785</td>
<td>Introduced 3/11/2019</td>
<td>Public resources: parklands, freshwater resources, and coastal resources. This committee omnibus bill would extend the current sunset date for the requirement and enforcement of quagga control plans, and qualified liability coverage for agencies that are compliant with an approved control plan.</td>
<td>SUPPORT</td>
<td>SB 785 would extend the current sunset date from January 1, 2020, to January 1, 2030 requiring quagga mussel control plans and ensuring qualified immunity for operators of water delivery and storage facilities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee</td>
<td>Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee Date of Hearing: 4/23/2019</td>
<td></td>
<td>Based upon Board-adopted 2019 State Legislative Priorities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ITEM 4: PRESENTATION ON HUMAN RESOURCES ACTIVITIES

RESPONSIBLE/LEAD STAFF MEMBER(S):
Director of Human Resources, Eileen Dienzo
Sr. Human Resources Analyst, Lisa Martinez

RECOMMENDATION:
This item is presented for the Planning and Administration Committee’s (Committee) information.

DISCUSSION:
The following narrative report is a summary of the routine activity at Rancho California Water District (District) during the reporting period of March 15, 2019 through April 11, 2019.

• Recruitments:
  o An open recruitment for a Student Intern – Information Technology (IT) position opened on Tuesday, April 9, 2019 and closes Wednesday, April 24, 2019. Further updates will be provided as the recruitment progresses.
  o Interviews were held for the Field Distribution Operator I/II/Senior - Construction position on Wednesday, March 13, 2019 and an offer of employment was extended and accepted. The successful candidate will be reported next month.

• Wellness Program:
  o In April 2019, every Wednesday at 11:00 a.m. and at 1:00 p.m., the Wellness Committee hosts a weekly group walk. These groups meet in the workout room for a brief stretch and a (30) thirty-minute walk, to energize their day.
• **Promotions/Transfers/Reclassifications:**
  
  - Cash Nicolson, Field Distribution Operator II – Construction, transferred to the Meter Repair/AMR department as a Senior Field Distribution Operator – Meter/AMR effective March 25, 2019.
  
  - Sylvia Ornelas, Office Assistant II – Records has temporarily been promoted to Acting Public Information Specialist effective March 18, 2019.
  
  - Todd Landen, Senior Purchasing Agent has temporarily been promoted to Acting Procurement/Warehouse Administrator effective March 20, 2019.
  
  - Adam Nowicki, Cross Connection Control Technician I has temporarily been promoted to Acting Senior Field Distribution Operator – Welder/Fabricator effective March 22, 2019.

• **New Hires:**
  
  - Kevin Olson, Electrical Controls/Instrumentation Technician I, started on Monday, March 25, 2019.
  
  - Nathan Gurney, Senior Customer Service Representative, started on Monday, April 8, 2019.

• **Resignations/Terminations:**
  
  - Janet Carter, Customer Service Supervisor, voluntarily resigned on Friday, March 1, 2019.
  
  - Mark Smith, Procurement & Contracts Administrator, voluntarily resigned on Tuesday, April 2, 2019.

• **Retirements with Approved Benefits:** None at this time.

• **Leaves of Absence:** The attached listing shows District employees currently on leave of absence.

• **Temporary Employees:** The attached listing indicates the temporary employees being utilized for the variety of projects requiring additional assistance. This listing is sorted by project/work area to better understand and visually see the resources devoted to each project/work area.
ALTERNATIVES:
   Not applicable

FISCAL ANALYSIS:
   Not applicable

ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS:
   Not applicable

EXHIBITS/ATTACHMENTS:
   A. Human Resources Status Report - March 15, 2019 - April 11, 2019
   B. Employee Population Report - April 18, 2019
### TEMPORARY EMPLOYEES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Division/Department</th>
<th>Explanation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug-18</td>
<td>Aug-19</td>
<td>1232</td>
<td>Vaishali Parmar</td>
<td>Financial Analyst</td>
<td>Finance/Accounting</td>
<td>Replace Employee on LOA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct-18</td>
<td>Apr-19</td>
<td>701</td>
<td>Cameron McQuaid</td>
<td>Field Services Worker</td>
<td>O &amp; M/Construction</td>
<td>Replace Employee on LOA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan-19</td>
<td>Jun-19</td>
<td>388</td>
<td>Sheena Weiss</td>
<td>Customer Service Representative</td>
<td>Administration/Customer Service</td>
<td>Vacant Position</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### NEW HIRES/REHIRES/TRANSFERS/REORG’S

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Job Title</th>
<th>Division/Department</th>
<th>Replacement For</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mar-19</td>
<td>Kevin Olson</td>
<td>Electrical Controls/Instrumentation Tech I</td>
<td>O &amp; M/Electrical Services</td>
<td>Greg Fangerow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr-19</td>
<td>Nathan Gurney</td>
<td>Senior Customer Service Representative</td>
<td>Administration/Customer Service</td>
<td>Yolanda Vejar</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### PROMOTIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Job Title</th>
<th>Division/Department</th>
<th>Replacement For</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mar-19</td>
<td>Sylvia Ornelas</td>
<td>Acting Public Information Specialist</td>
<td>Board Admin./Public Affairs</td>
<td>Grace Cardenas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar-19</td>
<td>Todd Landen</td>
<td>Acting Procurement &amp; Warehouse Admin.</td>
<td>Finance/Purchasing/Warehouse</td>
<td>Mark Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar-19</td>
<td>Adam Nowicki</td>
<td>Acting Fld. Dist. Oper. - Welder/Fabricator</td>
<td>O &amp; M/Construction</td>
<td>Steve Drew</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### LEAVE OF ABSENCES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>Affected Department</th>
<th>or Further Explanation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jun-18</td>
<td>Jordan Farrell</td>
<td>Intermittent Paid Family Leave &amp; FMLA</td>
<td>O &amp; M/Water Quality</td>
<td>06/01/19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jul-18</td>
<td>Daniel Birdsall</td>
<td>Intermittent Paid Family Leave &amp; FMLA</td>
<td>O &amp; M/Water Quality</td>
<td>07/03/19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jul-18</td>
<td>Maurcel Goodman</td>
<td>Intermittent Paid Family Leave &amp; FMLA</td>
<td>O &amp; M/Meter - AMR</td>
<td>07/10/19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct-18</td>
<td>Rick Aragon</td>
<td>Intermittent Paid Family Leave &amp; FMLA</td>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>10/01/19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov-18</td>
<td>Tyson Heine</td>
<td>Intermittent Paid Family Leave &amp; FMLA</td>
<td>Admin/Water Efficiency</td>
<td>11/08/19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan-19</td>
<td>Joe Passalacqua</td>
<td>Medical &amp; FMLA</td>
<td>O &amp; M/Water Reclamation</td>
<td>05/07/19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb-19</td>
<td>Ryan Johnson</td>
<td>Intermittent Paid Family Leave &amp; FMLA</td>
<td>O &amp; M/Wells &amp; Pumps</td>
<td>02/25/20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb-19</td>
<td>Laurie Walker</td>
<td>Pregnancy Disability &amp; FMLA/CFRA</td>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>Unknown at this time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar-19</td>
<td>Grace Cardenas</td>
<td>Medical &amp; FMLA</td>
<td>Board Admin./Public Affairs</td>
<td>Unknown at this time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar-19</td>
<td>Steve Drew</td>
<td>Medical &amp; FMLA</td>
<td>O &amp; M/Construction</td>
<td>05/23/19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar-19</td>
<td>Daude Hayes</td>
<td>Pregnancy Disability &amp; FMLA/CFRA</td>
<td>Administration/Customer Service</td>
<td>Unknown at this time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr-19</td>
<td>Samantha Brown Prall</td>
<td>Personal Leave of Absence</td>
<td>Finance/Accounting</td>
<td>08/15/19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>Affected Department</th>
<th>or Further Explanation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mar-19</td>
<td>Janet Carter</td>
<td>Voluntarily Resignation</td>
<td>Administration/Customer Service</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr-19</td>
<td>Mark Smith</td>
<td>Voluntarily Resignation</td>
<td>Finance/Purchasing/Warehouse</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### RETIREMENTS WITH APPROVED FRINGE BENEFITS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>Affected Department</th>
<th>Explanation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>none at this time</td>
<td>none at this time</td>
<td>none at this time</td>
<td>none at this time</td>
<td>none at this time</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### EMPLOYEE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Accomplishment Type</th>
<th>Affected Department</th>
<th>Granting Entity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>none at this time</td>
<td>none at this time</td>
<td>none at this time</td>
<td>none at this time</td>
<td>none at this time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department</td>
<td>Budgeted Position</td>
<td>EE #</td>
<td>Last Name</td>
<td>First</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>-------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board Administration</td>
<td>Total Budgeted</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Resources/Safety</td>
<td>Total Budgeted</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance</td>
<td>Total Budgeted</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>Total Budgeted</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering</td>
<td>Total Budgeted</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operations &amp; Maintenance</td>
<td>Total Budgeted</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL BUDGETED POSITIONS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Budgeted</th>
<th>Filled</th>
<th>Vacant</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>145.5</td>
<td>141.5</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>145.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Full-Time EE's | 141     | Authorized positions per budget | 150 |
| Part- EE's     | 9       | Difference (under) over          |     |