

**MINUTES OF THE  
ASSOCIATION OF GROUND WATER AGENCIES (AGWA)  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
MONDAY, JULY 17, 2006 – 1:30 P.M.  
AT CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER**

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Vice Chairman Rick Iger called the meeting to order. Chairman John Rossi arrived shortly thereafter.

**Directors/Alternates present:**

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|---------------------------|--|
| John Rossi, Chairman      | Western Municipal Water District           |
| Rick Iger, Vice Chairman  | Kern County Water Agency                   |
| Carol Williams, Secty/CFO | Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster         |
| Ken Manning               | Chino Basin Watermaster                    |
| Tony Zampiello            | Raymond Basin Management Board             |
| John Kennedy              | Orange County Water District               |
| Melvin Blevins            | Upper Los Angeles River Area Watermaster   |
| Mario Garcia              | Water Replenishment District of So. Calif. |

**Affiliates present:**

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| Michael Donovan | Psomas & Associates                                |
| Terry Foreman   | CH2MHill   |
| Kathy Kunysz    | Metropolitan Water District of Southern California |
| John Otto       | Tehachapi-Cummings County Water District           |

**Others present:**

|                |                                    |
|----------------|------------------------------------|
| Donna DiLaura  | Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster |
| James Johnston | MediaJim                           |
| Andy Malone    | WEI                                |
| Wenbin Wang    | WEI                                |
| Kelly Rowe     | Camp, Dresser & McKee              |

**MINUTES/FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

On a motion by Director Blevins, seconded by Director Manning, and unanimously carried, the minutes of the March 20, 2006 meeting were approved. The Chairman also stated that Financial Statements through June 30, 2006 were available for review, and then he ordered the Financial Statements to be received and filed.

**DISCUSSION AND ACTIONS**

AGWA 2006-07 Budget – Director Williams reviewed the proposed draft Budget for FY 2006-07, noting that the proposed dues and expenditures were very similar to the current year budget. She also noted that adoption of the budget and dues would require a 2/3 majority of directors, but only a simple majority was currently present. Following discussion, Director Manning moved that the draft FY 2006-07 Budget be approved as presented, and that the absent directors be contacted to obtain the required 10 votes. The motion was seconded by Director Williams and received the "aye" vote of the eight directors present. The absent directors would be contacted electronically for their vote.

CRWQCB Santa Ana Region Proposed WDR's for Injection/Percolation of Imported Water- Chairman Rossi and Director Manning discussed the background of the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board's proposed Waste Discharge Requirements on imported water recharge. Chairman Rossi stated that the Regional Board Executive Officer felt that a gap existed in current regulations because imported water did not meet basin plan objectives in some areas of recharge. The Executive Officer did not feel that the proposed regulation would set a precedent because of existing limits adopted by Inland Empire Utilities Agency and Chino Basin Watermaster pertaining to recycled water; however, the AGWA group noted that recycled water is considered a waste and thereby subject to Waste Discharge Requirements when used for recharge or injection, but imported water purchased for recharge is not considered a "waste."

Chairman Rossi further reported that, when the draft regulation was first proposed, it was never distributed for review and comment through the state clearinghouse; therefore, the Regional Board staff had begun to move ahead with board adoption, thinking no opposition existed. However, once the draft regulation became known, considerable opposition arose, and action on the item was deferred while the local stakeholders met to discuss their issues. Ultimately, the parties formed a workgroup and have agreed to develop a regional compact to voluntarily address water quality issues without regulation by the Regional Board. Parties within sub-basins may also collaborate to develop additional sub-regional solutions. Future meetings are planned, and Chairman Rossi and Director Manning both stated that this may be a long process, perhaps 6 months or more before a compact is approved by the various parties.

Presentation: Chino Basin Watermaster Current Issues and Projects-

Mr. Andy Malone of WEI presented an in-depth review of studies performed to evaluate the impact of groundwater levels on subsidence in the Chino Basin area, and the extensive work done to monitor subsidence in relation to water elevations in the Chino and Chino Hills area.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

MWD Liaison Committee –Ms. Kathy Kunysz reported that Metropolitan Water District continues to collect data for the Southern California Groundwater Basin Assessment Report from the questionnaires and the internet. MWD staff and consultants are currently working on a basic overview of groundwater basin data in order to better understand basin operations and storage issues within each basin, and ensure that proper emphasis is placed on groundwater and groundwater storage. They plan to contact individual areas for additional information to fill in any gaps in the data and hope to have the report completed by the end of the year. She also stated that, to date, they have received very little GIS data.

Ms. Kunysz also noted that another round of Local Resources Program (LRP) funding may be offered soon.

Communications Committee – Director Manning reported that he will contact AGWT for a summary of conference revenue and cost data, and will provide a reconciliation at the next meeting indicating if AGWA is owed any money from the conference. He confirmed that the 2007 AGWA-AGWT conference will be held on the first Friday in February, at the same location as the 2006 conference, and the format will also be the same.

Director Manning then introduced Mr. Jim Johnston, a website consultant, and discussed the potential of having an independent consultant update and maintain the AGWA website. A discussion followed regarding what content to place on the website, including whether or not to use Director Brill's original plan to have interactive links for each of the member agencies, what existing content needs to be added or updated, and how often those updates would be made.

Mr. Johnston proposed a preliminary price of \$1,900 to redesign and update the website with new and existing information. He also proposed a monthly cost of \$300-\$500 to update and maintain the website, depending on the effort required for the updates. Further discussion is needed to determine exactly what will be on the website before he can give an accurate quote for website maintenance.

On a motion by Director Manning, seconded by Director Iger, and unanimously carried, AGWA approved Mr. Johnson to update and refresh the AGWA website at a cost not to exceed \$2,500.

Legislative/Regulatory Committee –Director Williams reported that the GRA Lobby Day was a great success. Discussion followed regarding continued and enhanced collaboration between AGWA and GRA, including participation on the Legislative Committee. Director Williams noted that GRA's Legislative Committee is small, but both she and Mr. Terry Foreman are on the committee by invitation.

Director Williams also reported that SB 1640 (Kuehl) was amended to recognize existing water level monitoring programs. She also reported that the "water" bond (Proposition 84) has been approved for the November ballot but actually includes little water supply and water quality funding in the \$5 billion bond measure.

## **AGENCY REPORTS**

Director Manning reported that Chino Basin agencies continue to work on a "Peace II" agreement.

Director Zampiello reported that the Raymond Basin Management Board is considering developing criteria for supplemental water used for recharge or injection. The program is similar to that adopted in the Main San Gabriel Basin in the mid-1990's.

Director Iger reported that the State Water Project allocation is at 100 percent. He also reported that Lake Isabella has been determined to be a major risk due to seepage and possible seismic concerns, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has required mandatory releases of Kern River water from the reservoir in order to lower the level of water in storage. Approximately 100,000 acre-feet of water was released; most was conserved at the Kern County recharge projects, and the excess capacity was released to the California Aqueduct.

Chairman Rossi stated that the Lake Perris water levels also had to be lowered for safety concerns. He added that MWD is evaluating the impacts of this requirement and what measures can be undertaken to allow the reservoir to store more water. The Chairman also noted that it may be informative to have representatives of the GAMA program provide an

update on monitoring activities in Southern California basins, adding that the Temecula Valley study results were now available.

**NEXT MEETING**

The Chairman stated that the next regular meeting of AGWA is scheduled for Monday, September 18, 2006, at the offices of the Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster, 725 North Azusa Avenue in Azusa. Lunch will be served at 1:00 p.m., and the regular meeting will begin at 1:30 p.m.

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Carol Williams, Secretary/CFO

ATTEST:

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John Rossi, Chairman