



UNDERGROUND

Association of Ground Water Agencies Newsletter

Summer 2000

“GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT: WILL CALFED HELP OR HINDER?”

AGWA has announced that it will co-sponsor a pre-conference workshop at the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) Fall 2000 Conference, to be held in Anaheim, Calif. The workshop will be held Tuesday, November 7 at the Anaheim Hilton. Registration is from 8:30-9 a.m., and the workshop will be held from 9 a.m.- 3 p.m.

The workshop will provide an overview of the groundwater management elements outlined in CALFED's Record of Decision. Several water management options are being evaluated by CALFED to help improve water supply reliability

in California, and groundwater banking is in the forefront, but CALFED's Record of Decision contains some controversial surprises. Among the questions to be addressed at this workshop are:

- How will CALFED's Record of Decision impact groundwater rights and local agency groundwater programs?
- Will CALFED's efforts in sponsoring groundwater legislation and strengthening Assembly Bill 3030 plans improve water supply reliability or threaten local agency jurisdiction?
- Are groundwater basin boundaries changing?
- What is a sub-basin, anyway?
- How will the Integrated Storage Investigations program help agencies implement groundwater projects and will strings be attached?

Plan on hearing from those involved in the CALFED discussions, those in charge of implementing these controversial programs, and from policymakers in charge of leading us in the right direction.

The price of the workshop includes a continental breakfast, breaks, lunch and materials. Member pre-registration for the workshop is \$135; on-site cost is \$160. Non-member preregistration is \$205; on-site cost is \$240.

For more information, call ACWA at (916) 441-4545, toll free (888) 666-2292, or visit ACWA's Web site at www.acwanet.com.

[PRINT VERSION](#)

WHAT'S INSIDE

- [“Groundwater Management: will CALFED help or hinder?”](#)
- [Kern County stands to lose up to \\$1 billion if arsenic standards are lowered](#)
- [Farmers in Mojave River Basin decision](#)
- [University survey finds more than 50 percent of Orange County residents don't know where their water comes from](#)
- [Orange County Water District tests land for possible new percolation pond](#)
- [City of Glendale's water treatment plant scheduled to come online September 25](#)

Article contributions are welcome.

Please call: (714) 964-1668 or e-mail: greenliefcomm@aol.com

Visit the AGWA website at: www.agwa.org

KERN COUNTY STANDS TO LOSE UP TO \$1 BILLION IF ARSENIC STANDARDS ARE LOWERED

Kern County Water Agency—which manages a conjunctive use groundwater basin—stands to lose up to \$1 billion in capital costs and an additional \$140 to \$200 million per year if the arsenic standards are lowered from 50 parts per billion (ppb) to 5 ppb, as proposed by the EPA.

In a letter to the EPA, Kern’s general manager, Thomas N. Clark, states that, “If EPA elects to change the MCL from 50 ppb to some lower level, funding must be provided to enable water providers to treat water supplies to meet that new level... impacts will be exacerbated by the fact that Kern County is an economically depressed area with double-digit unemployment.”

Lowering the arsenic levels to 5 ppb will raise water costs for Kern County from \$20-50 per acre-foot to between \$203-290 per acre-foot.

Kern’s position is that the current levels should not be lowered. It suggests that the scientific studies being used by the EPA do not support changing it. Furthermore, Kern states that significant studies indicate there are no definite health problems caused at the 50 ppb level.

The American Water Works Association has made available an arsenic spreadsheet on its website (www.awwa.org/govtaff/arsenic.htm), which will allow individual utilities to calculate the cost impact of the arsenic rule for their system specifically.

[PRINT VERSION](#)

FARMERS IN MOJAVE RIVER BASIN DECISION

On August 21, the California Supreme Court sided with farmers against cities and water districts in a Mojave River Basin case that could have a major effect on water disputes around the state.

In its decision, the court said agreements between cities and farmers couldn’t automatically supersede the state’s 150-year-old water policy, which favors landowners with the oldest water rights. In California, farmers generally have these oldest rights. In its decision, the California Supreme Court said government has no sweeping power even if it is meant to serve the public interest. This means government cannot prevent overdrafting groundwater in the Mojave River basin, a region of 3,600 square miles that includes the cities of Victorville, Hesperia, Apple Valley, Adelanto and Barstow.

Under a 1996 agreement between the city of Barstow and the Mojave Water Agency, dozens of farmers agreed to a cap on the amount of groundwater they could use at no cost. They also agreed to pay for any water exceeding that cap. The money would go toward replenishing the groundwater from State Water Project supplies.

However, one-half dozen dairy ranchers and alfalfa farmers refused to sign the agreement because they felt it violated their water rights. The farmers lost at the trial court level but won at an appeals court. The Supreme Court’s decision unanimously upheld the appeals court position.

Under the Supreme Court’s decision, the farmers who sued will not be forced to pay for water. Those who signed the agreement and did not sue must still pay if they exceed their annual allocation.

The court decision is available online at www.courtinfo.ca.gov/courts/supreme.

[PRINT VERSION](#)

UNIVERSITY SURVEY FINDS MORE THAN 50 PERCENT OF ORANGE COUNTY RESIDENTS DON'T KNOW WHERE THEIR WATER COMES FROM

In February, a California State University, Fullerton survey conducted for the Orange County Business Council and the University's Center for Public Policy found that more than 50 percent of the county's residents do not know where their water comes from.

The survey, whose sample was representative of the Orange County population plus or minus five percent, contained four questions involving water.

Respondents were asked from where do their cities get their water. Choices included imported water and groundwater. Only 17 percent of north Orange County residents knew they were relying on groundwater, while 52 percent responded that they did not know. Only 29 percent of south Orange County residents knew their water came from imported sources.

Respondents were also asked their opinions regarding the quality of the county's drinking water over the last five years. Of those queried, nearly 58 percent said they felt the quality has stayed about the same, while 19 percent said it got worse. Nine percent said it got better.

When asked if they would be willing to pay about one percent more per year in taxes if it meant that it would guarantee safe and efficient sewage and water treatment systems, 58 percent said they would be either very or somewhat willing to pay the increased tax. In the survey, paying increased taxes for water ranked behind increasing taxes for cleanup of coastal waters, making schools safer and equipping schools with computers. Water ranked ahead of improving traffic congestion, implementing graffiti removal programs and improving public transit.

Survey respondents were also asked if they would be willing to continue using 2.5 percent of their water bill funds for water treatment research. Seventy-three percent of respondents said they

would like to continue using these funds for research and development.

[PRINT VERSION](#)

ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT TESTS LAND FOR POSSIBLE NEW PERCOLATION POND

Orange County Water District (OCWD) began testing an area of land near the Santa Ana River in Orange, Calif., for possible construction of a new percolation pond. Faced with increasing yearly groundwater use—more than 124 billion gallons in 1999, up from 116 billion gallons in 1998—OCWD must maximize all of its available land to put more water into the groundwater basin's aquifers.

It is estimated that by 2020, OCWD will need to add new facilities with the capability to sink or percolate an additional 22.8 billion gallons of water each year to keep up with Orange County's growing demands.

To conduct the test, OCWD excavated a test pond approximately 30 yards by 50 yards by 10 feet deep. If the test pond provides positive hydrologic percolation data, a full-sized pond will be constructed in the area that is three or four acres in surface and 20 feet deep.

In Orange County, only the Orange-Anaheim area near the Santa Ana River has the optimum geology—an underground mixture of sand, rocks and course-grained soil—to provide a natural filtration path for water into the deep aquifers. Unused land in that area is severely limited.

OCWD currently uses six miles of the Santa Ana River bottom, two rubber dams and an interconnected system of nine percolation ponds and lakes connected by pumps and pipes—all controlled by computer—to capture and percolate, or sink, Santa Ana River water into the county's groundwater basin. This percolation system is one of the most sophisticated in the nation.

The groundwater basin currently provides 75% of the water supply for water utilities overlying the

(Continued on next page)

basin in the north and central part of the county—and about 60% of Orange County’s overall water supply.

The land being tested is currently leased by OCWD to the River Trail Stables. If the full-sized percolation pond is built—which should be determined in a few months after the percolation data are analyzed—the stables would be required to find a new home. OCWD made a concerted effort to find vacant land in the Orange and Anaheim area for new percolation basins. The search concluded that there is no available vacant land in the area that is large enough for use by the stables or as a percolation pond. If the test does not warrant developing a new percolation pond, the land will be put out to bid for the best, most cost-effective use.

[PRINT VERSION](#)

CITY OF GLENDALE’S WATER TREATMENT PLANT SCHEDULED TO COME ONLINE SEPTEMBER 25

The city of Glendale’s newly constructed water treatment plant is currently undergoing a test-run and is scheduled to officially go online September 25. The treated water will be delivered to customers in Glendale and will restore the use of a valuable local water supply, while reducing the city’s dependence on imported water supplies.

The plant will provide 23 percent of the city’s water needs, meeting the needs of 14,000 households. The treatment plant has a capacity of 5,000 gallons per minute. Treatment plant water will undergo two major procedures, including pumping through air-stripping towers and going through granular activated carbon tanks to further remove the volatile organic compounds (VOCs).

The San Fernando groundwater basin’s use has been adversely affected by both the results of water rights litigation and the presence of VOCs in the wells.

The VOCs were discovered in the early 1980s as a result of extensive sampling required under Senate Bill No. 1803. As a result, Glendale had to either reduce or eliminate the use of this water for drinking purposes. In the late 1980s, under the Superfund Law, the EPA conducted studies to determine the extent of the water quality problem. EPA then identified the industries responsible for the problem and required them to fund and construct wells and treatment facilities to remove the chemicals from the water and deliver the treated water for drinking purposes.

The Glendale groundwater clean-up facilities consist of eight wells in Los Angeles and Glendale and pipelines to deliver the untreated water from the wells to the treatment plant. After treatment, the water will be piped to Glendale’s Grandview Pumping Plant and pumped into the city’s water system. Water from Metropolitan Water District will then be mixed with the treated water to reduce inorganic chemicals in the water before it enters the distribution system. Before being blended, chlorine and ammonia will also be added to the water for disinfectant purposes.

The Water Treatment Plant Permit was issued by the Department of Health Services in August. Several federal, state and local governmental organizations were involved in this project, including the city of Glendale; The State Department of Health Services; the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; CAL-EPA Department of Toxic Substances Control; the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Board and the Upper Los Angeles River Area Watermaster.

Water Drops....

- The federal legislation that authorized CALFED expires September 30. Congress hasn’t yet voted to renew it.
- On July 21, CALFED released its long-awaited Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement/Report to the public. All 6,000 pages are available for viewing and downloading at <http://calfed.ca.gov>. It is also available at most California libraries.

(Continued on next page)

- On August 1, Governor Gray Davis appointed members to his Advisory Drought Planning Panel. The panel will work to enable California to meet the challenge of future droughts by preparing a drought contingency plan to reduce the impacts of critical water shortages and identify potential funding sources. The panel met for the first time August 30.
- *Cadillac Desert* author Mark Reisner died July 21 of colon cancer. He was 51. Reisner served as a director for Vidler Water Company and was also concerned about urbanization of prime farmland.
- The Consumers Union, publisher of *Consumer Reports*, has found that using bottled water as the sole source for drinking water can cost consumers up to a whopping \$72 per month!

AGWA Meeting Happenings....

July 17, 2000

- A presentation on the Permitting of Treatment Facilities under the Department of Health Services Policy Memo 97-005 was given by Andrew Gray, project manager for Komex H2O Science Inc.; Mel Blevins, Upper Los Angeles Area Watermaster; Carol Williams, Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster; and Bill Mills, Orange County Water District.
- Mr. Robert Traylor of Komex H2O Science reported on the National Ground Water Association Emerging Issues conference held in June in Minneapolis, Minn.
- Chairman Bill Mills reported on the recent discovery of N-Nitrosodimethylamine (NDMA) in Orange County.
- A motion was unanimously carried to purchase a vinyl banner with the AGWA logo for \$300. The banner will be displayed at monthly meetings and also featured at conferences and workshops with which AGWA is involved.
- Vice-Chairman Ron Palmer gave an update regarding the Salinity Management Coalition, adding that the Coalition needs approval from the member agencies of the \$200 per month administration expense for services. A unanimously carried motion approved the coalition's expenditure.
- Vice-Chairman Ron Palmer reported on MWD's Southern California Liaison Committee, stating that the Strategic Planning Process is still moving forward; it is scheduled for board review in September and for implementation in January 2001, with new rates effective January 2002.
- Director Mel Blevins discussed AGWA's possible involvement with the American Ground Water Trust (AGWT) for its Spring 2001 conjunctive use workshop.
- Rich Nagel from Central/West Basin Municipal Water District stated that Montgomery Watson's draft Conjunctive Use Report is available for review and close to finalization.
- Director Robert Neufeld reported that on July 13 a court order was issued validating the Peace Agreement in Chino Basin regarding the Optimum Basin Management Plan. He noted the Chino Basin Watermaster is now working on the implementation plan.

August 18, 2000

- AGWA members reviewed and filed July 2000 financial statements.
- Chairman Bill Mills gave a presentation on arsenic and the EPA's proposed changes.
- Rich Nagel from Central/West Basin Municipal Water District delivered AGWA's vinyl banner, which was then proudly hung in the boardroom.
- Vice Chairman Ron Palmer and Chairman Bill Mills discussed the Salinity Management Coalition and Director Robert Neufeld gave an update on the Chino Basin Desalter (it is now up and running).
- Fred Fudacz of Nossaman, Guthner, Knox & Elliott, LLP, discussed the Mojave Adjudica-

(Continued on next page)

tion Supreme Court ruling, which ruled in favor of the farmers.

- Director Mel Blevins gave an update on the Conjunctive Use Conference to be possibly co-sponsored by AGWA.
- Rich Nagel gave an update on the distribution of the conjunctive use report. The board unanimously passed a motion allowing the Water Education Foundation to print 2,000 copies and will review the possibility of a press mailing.

[PRINT VERSION](#)

“GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT: WILL CALFED HELP OR HINDER?”

AGWA has announced that it will co-sponsor a pre-conference workshop at the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) Fall 2000 Conference, to be held in Anaheim, Calif. The workshop will be held Tuesday, November 7 at the Anaheim Hilton. Registration is from 8:30-9 a.m., and the workshop will be held from 9 a.m.- 3 p.m.

The workshop will provide an overview of the groundwater management elements outlined in CALFED's Record of Decision. Several water management options are being evaluated by CALFED to help improve water supply reliability in California, and groundwater banking is in the forefront, but CALFED's Record of Decision contains some controversial surprises. Among the questions to be addressed at this workshop are:

- How will CALFED's Record of Decision impact groundwater rights and local agency groundwater programs?
- Will CALFED's efforts in sponsoring groundwater legislation and strengthening Assembly Bill 3030 plans improve water supply reliability or threaten local agency jurisdiction?
- Are groundwater basin boundaries changing?
- What is a sub-basin, anyway?
- How will the Integrated Storage Investigations program help agencies implement groundwater projects and will strings be attached?

Plan on hearing from those involved in the CALFED discussions, those in charge of implementing these controversial programs, and from policymakers in charge of leading us in the right direction.

The price of the workshop includes a continental breakfast, breaks, lunch and materials. Member pre-registration for the workshop is \$135; on-site cost is \$160. Non-member preregistration is \$205; on-site cost is \$240.

For more information, call ACWA at (916) 441-4545, toll free (888) 666-2292, or visit ACWA's Web site at www.acwanet.com.

KERN COUNTY STANDS TO LOSE UP TO \$1 BILLION IF ARSENIC STANDARDS ARE LOWERED

Kern County Water Agency—which manages a conjunctive use groundwater basin—stands to lose up to \$1 billion in capital costs and an additional \$140 to \$200 million per year if the arsenic standards are lowered from 50 parts per billion (ppb) to 5 ppb, as proposed by the EPA.

In a letter to the EPA, Kern’s general manager, Thomas N. Clark, states that, “If EPA elects to change the MCL from 50 ppb to some lower level, funding must be provided to enable water providers to treat water supplies to meet that new level... impacts will be exacerbated by the fact that Kern County is an economically depressed area with double-digit unemployment.”

Lowering the arsenic levels to 5 ppb will raise water costs for Kern County from \$20-50 per acre-foot to between \$203-290 per acre-foot.

Kern’s position is that the current levels should not be lowered. It suggests that the scientific studies being used by the EPA do not support changing it. Furthermore, Kern states that significant studies indicate there are no definite health problems caused at the 50 ppb level.

The American Water Works Association has made available an arsenic spreadsheet on its website (www.awwa.org/govtaff/arsenic.htm), which will allow individual utilities to calculate the cost impact of the arsenic rule for their system specifically.

FARMERS IN MOJAVE RIVER BASIN DECISION

On August 21, the California Supreme Court sided with farmers against cities and water districts in a Mojave River Basin case that could have a major effect on water disputes around the state.

In its decision, the court said agreements between cities and farmers couldn't automatically supersede the state's 150-year-old water policy, which favors landowners with the oldest water rights. In California, farmers generally have these oldest rights. In its decision, the California Supreme Court said government has no sweeping power even if it is meant to serve the public interest. This means government cannot prevent overdrafting groundwater in the Mojave River basin, a region of 3,600 square miles that includes the cities of Victorville, Hesperia, Apple Valley, Adelanto and Barstow.

Under a 1996 agreement between the city of Barstow and the Mojave Water Agency, dozens of farmers agreed to a cap on the amount of groundwater they could use at no cost. They also agreed to pay for any water exceeding that cap. The money would go toward replenishing the groundwater from State Water Project supplies.

However, one-half dozen dairy ranchers and alfalfa farmers refused to sign the agreement because they felt it violated their water rights. The farmers lost at the trial court level but won at an appeals court. The Supreme Court's decision unanimously upheld the appeals court position.

Under the Supreme Court's decision, the farmers who sued will not be forced to pay for water. Those who signed the agreement and did not sue must still pay if they exceed their annual allocation.

The court decision is available online at www.courtinfo.ca.gov/courts/supreme.

UNIVERSITY SURVEY FINDS MORE THAN 50 PERCENT OF ORANGE COUNTY RESIDENTS DON'T KNOW WHERE THEIR WATER COMES FROM

In February, a California State University, Fullerton survey conducted for the Orange County Business Council and the University's Center for Public Policy found that more than 50 percent of the county's residents do not know where their water comes from.

The survey, whose sample was representative of the Orange County population plus or minus five percent, contained four questions involving water.

Respondents were asked from where do their cities get their water. Choices included imported water and groundwater. Only 17 percent of north Orange County residents knew they were relying on groundwater, while 52 percent responded that they did not know. Only 29 percent of south Orange County residents knew their water came from imported sources.

Respondents were also asked their opinions regarding the quality of the county's drinking water over the last five years. Of those queried, nearly 58 percent said they felt the quality has stayed about the same, while 19 percent said it got worse. Nine percent said it got better.

When asked if they would be willing to pay about one percent more per year in taxes if it meant that it would guarantee safe and efficient sewage and water treatment systems, 58 percent said they would be either very or somewhat willing to pay the increased tax. In the survey, paying increased taxes for water ranked behind increasing taxes for cleanup of coastal waters, making schools safer and equipping schools with computers. Water ranked ahead of improving traffic congestion, implementing graffiti removal programs and improving public transit.

Survey respondents were also asked if they would be willing to continue using 2.5 percent of their water bill funds for water treatment research. Seventy-three percent of respondents said they would like to continue using these funds for research and development.

ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT TESTS LAND FOR POSSIBLE NEW PERCOLATION POND

Orange County Water District (OCWD) began testing an area of land near the Santa Ana River in Orange, Calif., for possible construction of a new percolation pond. Faced with increasing yearly groundwater use—more than 124 billion gallons in 1999, up from 116 billion gallons in 1998—OCWD must maximize all of its available land to put more water into the groundwater basin's aquifers.

It is estimated that by 2020, OCWD will need to add new facilities with the capability to sink or percolate an additional 22.8 billion gallons of water each year to keep up with Orange County's growing demands.

To conduct the test, OCWD excavated a test pond approximately 30 yards by 50 yards by 10 feet deep. If the test pond provides positive hydrologic percolation data, a full-sized pond will be constructed in the area that is three or four acres in surface and 20 feet deep.

In Orange County, only the Orange-Anaheim area near the Santa Ana River has the optimum geology—an underground mixture of sand, rocks and course-grained soil—to provide a natural filtration path for water into the deep aquifers. Unused land in that area is severely limited.

OCWD currently uses six miles of the Santa Ana River bottom, two rubber dams and an interconnected system of nine percolation ponds and lakes connected by pumps and pipes—all controlled by computer—to capture and percolate, or sink, Santa Ana River water into the county's groundwater basin. This percolation system is one of the most sophisticated in the nation.

The groundwater basin currently provides 75% of the water supply for water utilities overlying the basin in the north and central part of the county—and about 60% of Orange County's overall water supply.

The land being tested is currently leased by OCWD to the River Trail Stables. If the full-sized percolation pond is built—which should be determined in a few months after the percolation data are analyzed—the stables would be required to find a new home. OCWD made a concerted effort to find vacant land in the Orange and Anaheim area for new percolation basins. The search concluded that there is no available vacant land in the area that is large enough for use by the stables or as a percolation pond. If the test does not warrant developing a new percolation pond, the land will be put out to bid for the best, most cost-effective use.

CITY OF GLENDALE'S WATER TREATMENT PLANT SCHEDULED TO COME ONLINE SEPTEMBER 25

The city of Glendale's newly constructed water treatment plant is currently undergoing a test-run and is scheduled to officially go online September 25. The treated water will be delivered to customers in Glendale and will restore the use of a valuable local water supply, while reducing the city's dependence on imported water supplies.

The plant will provide 23 percent of the city's water needs, meeting the needs of 14,000 households. The treatment plant has a capacity of 5,000 gallons per minute. Treatment plant water will undergo two major procedures, including pumping through air-stripping towers and going through granular activated carbon tanks to further remove the volatile organic compounds (VOCs).

The San Fernando groundwater basin's use has been adversely affected by both the results of water rights litigation and the presence of VOCs in the wells.

The VOCs were discovered in the early 1980s as a result of extensive sampling required under Senate Bill No. 1803. As a result, Glendale had to either reduce or eliminate the use of this water for drinking purposes. In the late 1980s, under the Superfund Law, the EPA conducted studies to determine the extent of the water quality problem. EPA then identified the industries responsible for the problem and required them to fund and construct wells and treatment facilities to remove the chemicals from the water and deliver the treated water for drinking purposes.

The Glendale groundwater clean-up facilities consist of eight wells in Los Angeles and Glendale and pipelines to deliver the untreated water from the wells to the treatment plant. After treatment, the water will be piped to Glendale's Grandview Pumping Plant and pumped into the city's water system. Water from Metropolitan Water District will then be mixed with the treated water to reduce inorganic chemicals in the water before it enters the distribution system. Before being blended, chlorine and ammonia will also be added to the water for disinfectant purposes.

The Water Treatment Plant Permit was issued by the Department of Health Services in August. Several federal, state and local governmental organizations were involved in this project, including the city of Glendale; The State Department of Health Services; the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; CAL-EPA Department of Toxic Substances Control; the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Board and the Upper Los Angeles River Area Watermaster.

Water Drops....

- The federal legislation that authorized CALFED expires September 30. Congress hasn't yet voted to renew it.
- On July 21, CALFED released its long-awaited Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement/ Report to the public. All 6,000 pages are available for viewing and downloading at <http://calfed.ca.gov>. It is also available at most California libraries.
- On August 1, Governor Gray Davis appointed members to his Advisory Drought Planning Panel. The panel will work to enable California to meet the challenge of future droughts by preparing a drought contingency plan to reduce the impacts of critical water shortages and identify potential funding sources. The panel met for the first time August 30.
- *Cadillac Desert* author Mark Reisner died July 21 of colon cancer. He was 51. Reisner served as a director for Vidler Water Company and was also concerned about urbanization of prime farmland.
- The Consumers Union, publisher of *Consumer Reports*, has found that using bottled water as the sole source for drinking water can cost consumers up to a whopping \$72 per month!

AGWA Meeting Happenings....

July 17, 2000

- A presentation on the Permitting of Treatment Facilities under the Department of Health Services Policy Memo 97-005 was given by Andrew Gray, project manager for Komex H2O Science Inc.; Mel Blevins, Upper Los Angeles Area Watermaster; Carol Williams, Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster; and Bill Mills, Orange County Water District.
- Mr. Robert Traylor of Komex H2O Science reported on the National Ground Water Association Emerging Issues conference held in June in Minneapolis, Minn.
- Chairman Bill Mills reported on the recent discovery of N-Nitrosodimethylamine (NDMA) in Orange County.
- A motion was unanimously carried to purchase a vinyl banner with the AGWA logo for \$300. The banner will be displayed at monthly meetings and also featured at conferences and workshops with which AGWA is involved.
- Vice-Chairman Ron Palmer gave an update regarding the Salinity Management Coalition, adding that the Coalition needs approval from the member agencies of the \$200 per month administration expense for services. A unanimously carried motion approved the coalition's expenditure.
- Vice-Chairman Ron Palmer reported on MWD's Southern California Liaison Committee, stating that the Strategic Planning Process is still moving forward; it is scheduled for board review in September and for implementation in January 2001, with new rates effective January 2002.
- Director Mel Blevins discussed AGWA's possible involvement with the American Ground Water Trust (AGWT) for its Spring 2001 conjunctive use workshop.
- Rich Nagel from Central/West Basin Municipal Water District stated that Montgomery Watson's draft Conjunctive Use Report is available for review and close to finalization.
- Director Robert Neufeld reported that on July 13 a court order was issued validating the Peace Agreement in Chino Basin regarding the Optimum Basin Management Plan. He noted the Chino Basin Watermaster is now working on the implementation plan.

August 18, 2000

- AGWA members reviewed and filed July 2000 financial statements.
- Chairman Bill Mills gave a presentation on arsenic and the EPA's proposed changes.
- Rich Nagel from Central/West Basin Municipal Water District delivered AGWA's vinyl banner, which was then proudly hung in the boardroom.
- Vice Chairman Ron Palmer and Chairman Bill Mills discussed the Salinity Management Coalition and Director Robert Neufeld gave an update on the Chino Basin Desalter (it is now up and running).
- Fred Fudacz of Nossaman, Guthner, Knox & Elliott, LLP, discussed the Mojave Adjudication Supreme Court ruling, which ruled in favor of the farmers.
- Director Mel Blevins gave an update on the Conjunctive Use Conference to be possibly co-sponsored by AGWA.
- Rich Nagel gave an update on the distribution of the conjunctive use report. The board unanimously passed a motion allowing the Water Education Foundation to print 2,000 copies and will review the possibility of a press mailing.

[BACK](#)