



**SAWPA COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
December 21, 2021**

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Bruce Whitaker, Vice Chair, Orange County Water District
Michael Camacho, Alternate, Inland Empire Utilities Agency
Mike Gardner, Secretary-Treasurer, Western Municipal Water District
David J. Slawson, Eastern Municipal Water District
June D. Hayes, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

Marco Tule, Inland Empire Utilities Agency

**ALTERNATE COMMISSIONERS
PRESENT; NON-VOTING**

T. Milford Harrison, Alternate, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District
Kelly E. Rowe, Alternate, Orange County Water District

STAFF PRESENT

Jeff Mosher, Karen Williams, Mark Norton, David Ruhl, Edina Goode,
Marie Jauregui, Dean Unger, Sara Villa, John Leete

OTHERS PRESENT

Andrew D. Turner, Lagerlof, LLP; Nick Kanetis, Eastern Municipal Water District; Joe Mouawad, Eastern Municipal Water District; Ken Tam, Inland Empire Utilities Agency; Cathy Pieroni, Inland Empire Utilities Agency; Michael Markus, Orange County Water District; Tim Barr, Western Municipal Water District; Mallory Gandara, Western Municipal Water District; Ryan Shaw, Western Municipal Water District; Adekunle Ojo, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District; Brooke Jones, Yorba Linda Water District; Brian Dickinson, City of Colton; Joshua Calhoun, Teaman, Ramirez & Smith; Kevin O'Toole; Nelida Mendoza; Wayne Miller

The Regular Meeting of the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority Commission was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Vice Chair Bruce Whitaker on behalf of the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, 11615 Sterling Avenue, Riverside, California.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Pursuant to the provisions of AB 361, this meeting was conducted virtually, and all votes were taken by oral roll call.

2. ROLL CALL

An oral roll call was duly noted and recorded by the Clerk of the Board.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments; there were no public comments received via email.

4. ITEMS TO BE ADDED OR DELETED

Agenda Item No. 6.A. was removed by staff from the agenda.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES: DECEMBER 7, 2021

Recommendation: Approve as posted.

MOVED, to approve the Consent Calendar as posted.

Result:	Adopted by Roll Call Vote
Motion/Second:	Gardner/Slawson
Ayes:	Camacho, Gardner, Hayes, Slawson, Whitaker
Nays:	None
Abstentions:	None
Absent:	None

6. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. **CHAIR AND COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS (CM#2021.87)**

Agenda Item No. 6.A. was removed by staff from the agenda.

B. **FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 REPORT ON AUDIT (CM#2021.88)**

Karen Williams introduced Joshua Calhoun of Teaman, Ramirez & Smith. Mr. Calhoun provided a verbal report on the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Report on Audit, acknowledging Karen Williams and staff for their preparation prior to and responsiveness during the virtual audit. Mr. Calhoun noted that everything went smoothly and there were no findings encountered during the audit. The Commissioners commending Ms. Williams and staff for their efforts in completing the audit.

MOVED, receive, and review the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021, and 2020, which includes the Report on Audit prepared by Teaman, Ramirez & Smith, Inc., then:

1. Accept the CAFR, including the Report on Audit as prepared by Teaman, Ramirez & Smith, Inc.
2. Direct staff to file the Report with the respective government agencies as required by law; and,
3. Direct staff to submit the CAFR, with any necessary changes, for the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting Award.

Result:	Adopted by Roll Call Vote
Motion/Second:	Gardner/Camacho
Ayes:	Camacho, Gardner, Hayes, Slawson, Whitaker
Nays:	None
Abstentions:	None
Absent:	None

C. **SANTA ANA RIVER WATERSHED WEATHER MODIFICATION PILOT PROGRAM UPDATE (CM#2021.89)**

Mark Norton provided a presentation on the Santa Ana River Watershed Weather Modification Pilot Program Update, contained in the agenda packet on pages 169-183. The Department of Water Resources (DWR) released the Project Solicitation Package and are inviting comments on their process. SAWPA is anticipated to do a Call for Projects from January through March 2022, seeking 50% local share commitment to match the 50% grant request by the March/April 2022 timeframe. The ground seeding location analysis is ongoing and is being conducted by North American Weather Consultants for a total cost of \$15,400. The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review is being conducted by Catalyst Environmental Solutions. The project description, alternatives, and phasing are expected to be completed mid-December, with the Draft Initial Study expected to be done by February 2022, and CEQA to be complete by June 2022. Efforts continue in conducting outreach for the pilot weather modification program

for the watershed. An offer to provide an informational presentation by SAWPA staff, answer questions and seek funding support has been made to over 60 agencies in the watershed. So far over \$30,000 has been committed to the pilot program by three local agencies: Chino Basin Water Conservation District, San Antonio Water Agency, and City of Corona. Commissioner Gardner suggested coordinating with local ski resorts, Big Bear and Mammoth Mountain, to get their input on cloud seeding and suggested looking into federal funding opportunities. Commissioner Rowe commended SAWPA staff in all their efforts in conveying the program and questioned the status of interest from the three counties and their flood control and water conservation districts. Mr. Norton noted that throughout the feasibility study there was a technical advisory group who reviewed all the material from the feasibility study; and we were fortunate to have the director of the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District participate and provide valuable input. Commissioner Rowe suggested presenting the Weather Modification Cloud Seeding program to the OWOW Steering Committee in January 2022. Commissioner Slawson asked about the liability and indemnification of the public agencies that have sites located in their area and making sure the consultant has the appropriate insurance policies and indemnifies the agencies involved. Mr. Norton noted that it is a standard practice for the licensed weather modification operator to hold liability insurance and that the liability insurance would also be extended to indemnify the individual ground seeding operator.

This item was for informational and discussion purposes; no action was taken on Agenda Item No. 6.C.

7. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

Recommendation: Receive for Information.

- A. CASH TRANSACTIONS REPORT – OCTOBER 2021**
- B. INTER-FUND BORROWING – OCTOBER 2021 (CM#2021.90)**
- C. PERFORMANCE INDICATORS/FINANCIAL REPORTING – OCTOBER 2021 (CM#2021.91)**
- D. PROJECT AGREEMENT 25 – OWOW FUND – FINANCIAL REPORT, SEPTEMBER 2021**
- E. PROJECT AGREEMENT 26 – ROUNDTABLE FUND – FINANCIAL REPORT, SEPTEMBER 2021**
- F. BUDGET VS ACTUAL VARIANCE REPORT – FYE 2022 FIRST QUARTER – SEPTEMBER 30, 2021 (CM#2021.92)**
- G. FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE FIRST QUARTER ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2021**
- H. FIRST QUARTER FYE 2022 EXPENSE REPORT**
- I. GENERAL MANAGER REPORT**

Jeff Mosher acknowledged and welcomed Alternate Commissioner Michael Camacho and commended Karen Williams for her efforts with the audit. He also introduced SAWPA's Administrative Services Manager, Edina Goode. Edina Goode thanked the Commission and noted that she spent 29 years working for the City of Anaheim as the Administrative Services Manager in Public Works and looks forward to working at SAWPA.

Mr. Mosher informed the Commission that a notice was distributed to the PA 24 Committee on December 19th regarding a Brine Line failure and spill that occurred the evening of December 18th at around 6:00 p.m. SAWPA staff arrived at the scene around 8:00 p.m., and Eastern Municipal Water District (EMWD) was notified, and shut down their desalter around 9:00 p.m. The failure site is adjacent to a location where a contractor for the Southern California Edison was conducting boring work. David Ruhl has been leading the response along with SAWPA's Operations Team. Mr. Ruhl noted that the failure occurred in Reach V in the City of Lake Elsinore off Pasadena Street and 3rd Street. SAWPA's contractors conducted repair to the Brine Line and the line is back in place, however they're still going through the backfill process. Concrete is scheduled today around 10:00 a.m. and it is anticipated to notify EMWD to go back online around 3:00 p.m. The Commission commended SAWPA staff on the communication level and all their efforts and questioned if Legal Counsel was aware in case there's a potential lawsuit. Mr. Mosher noted that he has been in contact with Andy Turner and Karen Williams has initiated an insurance claim.

J. STATE LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Jeff Mosher noted the session starts January 4, with the first legislative call for the year scheduled on Thursday, January 6.

K. CHAIR'S COMMENTS/REPORT

There were no Chair comments.

L. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Alternate Michael Camacho thanked the Commission for welcoming him and noted that he looks forward to continuing to sit in future meetings.

M. COMMISSIONERS' REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no Commissioners' request for future Agenda items.

8. CLOSED SESSION

There was no closed session.

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business for review, Vice Chair Whitaker adjourned the meeting at 10:51 a.m.

Approved at a Regular Meeting of the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority Commission on Tuesday, January 18, 2022.



Bruce Whitaker, Vice Chair

Attest:



Sara Villa, Clerk of the Board