

MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
WITH COMMUNICATIONS AND LEGISLATIVE LIAISON COMMITTEE
ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
September 8, 2022, 8:00 a.m.

Due to the continuing state of emergency declared by the Governor and pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e), Chair Bilodeau called the Communications and Legislative Liaison Committee meeting to order via Zoom webinar. Members of the Board and the public participated via Zoom. The Secretary called the roll and reported a quorum as follows:

Committee Members

Denis Bilodeau
Cathy Green
Dina Nguyen
Roger Yoh
Bruce Whitaker

OCWD Staff

Mike Markus – General Manager
Gina Ayala – Director of Public Affairs
Crystal Nettles – Principal Communications Specialist
Christina Fuller – Asst. District Secretary

Alternates

Tri Ta
Kelly Rowe
Nelida Mendoza
Gloria Ma’ae
Steve Sheldon

CONSENT CALENDAR

The Consent Calendar was approved upon motion by Director Green, seconded by Director Yoh and carried [4-0], with Director Nguyen abstaining as follows:

Ayes – Bilodeau, Green, Yoh, Whitaker
Abstain: Nguyen

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the August 4, 2022 Communications/Legislative Liaison Committee meetings are approved as presented.

MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

2. State Legislative Update

State Consultants provided an update on PFAS Funding, the General Budget and SB 1157 (Hertzberg D-Van Nuys) Urban water use objectives: indoor residential water use.

3. Federal Legislative Update

Federal Consultants reported on federal PFAS Funding, appropriations and the Western Riverside National Wildlife Refuge Act.

Upon motion by Director Bilodeau, seconded by Director Whitaker and carried [5-0], the Committee recommended that the Board at its September 21 Board meeting: Take the following position:

Bill Number/ Author	Title	Recommended Position
Senators Feinstein and Padilla	Western Riverside National Wildlife Refuge Act	Oppose Unless Amended

Ayes – Bilodeau, Green, Nguyen, Yoh, Whitaker

4. 2023 Children’s Water Education Festival Location and Service Contracts

Crystal Nettles reported that the Children's Water Education Festival (Festival) celebrates its 26th anniversary in 2023. She stated that staff recommends returning to an in-person event format at the University of California, Irvine (UCI) and utilizing the event planning services of James Event Productions, Inc. She advised that UCI is a well-suited venue to accommodate the Festival’s unique needs. Ms. Nettles stated that James Event Productions, Inc. will provide event rentals and equipment; security and first aid services; logistical support and coordination throughout the year-long planning effort and event staff during the week long set-up, teardown and execution of the event. She noted that James Events has provided Festival services for 20 years.

Upon motion by Director Bilodeau, seconded by Director Yoh and carried [5-0], the Committee recommended that the Board at its September 21 Board meeting: Approve hosting the 2023 Children’s Water Education Festival at the University of California, Irvine (UCI) on March 29-30, 2023; 2) Authorize execution of Agreement with UCI for an amount not to exceed \$80,689 to host the 2023 Children’s Water Education Festival on its campus; and, 3) Authorize execution of Agreement with James Event Productions, Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$102,915 for event rentals and equipment; security and first aid services; logistical support and coordination throughout the year-long planning effort and during the week-long setup, tear down and execution of the event.

Ayes – Bilodeau, Green, Nguyen, Yoh, Whitaker

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

5. OC Water Summit Update

Director of Public Affairs Gina Ayala recalled that the 14th annual OC Water Summit will be held Friday, September 16. She reviewed the program and confirmed sponsors.

6. Public Affairs Outreach Report (August 2022)

Ms. Ayala stated that 6 GWRS tours were held in August with 106 attendees. She reported that Surface Recharge Operation will be the October webinar topic.

7. PFAS Funding Update

There was no discussion of this item.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 9:25 a.m.

DocuSigned by:
Denis Bilodeau 10/11/2022
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Denis Bilodeau, Chair