SAWPA COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 4, 2016

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT
Thomas P. Evans, Chair, Western Municipal Water District
Ed Killgore, Vice Chair, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District
Ronald W. Sullivan, Secretary-Treasurer, Eastern Municipal Water District
Phil Anthony, Orange County Water District
Terry Catlin, Inland Empire Utilities Agency

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT
None

ALTERNATE COMMISSIONERS PRESENT; NON-VOTING
Jasmin Hall, Alternate, Inland Empire Utilities Agency
Steve Copelan, Alternate, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District

STAFF PRESENT
Celeste Cantú, Rich Haller, Larry McKenney, Mark Norton, Karen Williams, Dean Unger, David Ruhl, Carlos Quintero, Nicole Weideman, Rick Whetsel, Ian Achimore, Kelly Berry

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

1. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. ROLL CALL
Roll call was duly noted and recorded by the Clerk of the Board.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS
There were no public comments.

4. SPECIAL COMMENDATION
A. WELCOME NICOLE D. WEIDEMAN, P.E. – QUALITY CONTROL MANAGER
Rich Haller introduced Nicole D. Weideman who was welcomed by the Commission as the new Quality Control Manager.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR
A. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES: SEPTEMBER 20, 2016
Recommendation: Approve as posted.

B. USE OF BUILDING RESERVE FUNDS FOR REPLACEMENT OF ONE AIR CONDITIONING UNIT (CM#2016.85)
Recommendation: Authorize the use of $7,300 from the Building Reserve Fund to replace one air condition unit (Unit 11).

C. REACH V REHABILITATION AND IMPROVEMENT PROJECT – PHASE I (CM#2016.84)
Recommendation: Find that the unfinished condition of the Reach V Rehabilitation and Improvement Project (the Project) after the termination for cause of the Project contractor continues to be an emergency that requires immediate action per the Commission’s prior action on August 2, 2016.
MOVED, approve the Consent Calendar.

Result: Adopted (Unanimously; 5-0)

Motion/Second: Anthony/Catlin

Ayes: Anthony, Catlin, Evans, Killgore, Sullivan

Nays: None

Abstentions: None

Absent: None

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. SAWPA BUSINESS LINE EVALUATION – INLAND EMPIRE BRINE LINE (CM#2016.89)

Rich Haller provided a PowerPoint presentation on the Inland Empire Brine Line Processes, Activities, and Tasks (PATs). A printout of tables contained on pages 21 and 23 of the agenda packet was provided; revisions had been made to the table contained on page 23 subsequent to the posting of the agenda.

The IEBL PATs were broken down into the following categories:

1. **Marketing Plan.** Staff anticipates utilizing consultant services relative to preparation and implementation of a marketing plan to maximize use of the IEBL and salt removal. Fixed costs allocated to more volume will reduce unit cost.

2. **Business Plan.** Staff anticipates utilizing consultant services relative to preparation of a business plan, forecasting requirements, expenses, flows, financial resources, rate model update, billing procedure, performance metrics, data requirements, permits, etc.

3. **Sewer System Management Plan.** O&M requirements defined, no overflows, implementation of annual program, Collection Station operations, data collection, analysis, adjustments to program.

4. **Communications.** Automation of processes, web based information and data, customer feedback, coordination with OCSD, COE, cities, flood control agencies, property owners (easements).

Relative to IEBL maintenance, Haller noted the age of the majority of the pipeline is 41-24 years old and reviewed the following Maintenance Plan:

1. **Emphasis on Reducing SSO Events.** Overall, the SSO trend since 2013 reflects a decrease in SSO events with only one SSO event during the last fiscal year, which was contractor caused.
   - Air/vac valve refurbishment (55)
   - Development of air/vac auto controller
   - At-grade air/vac secondary containment
   - Access door added to air/vac enclosure (completed)

2. **Preventative Maintenance Deferred – Backlog**
   - Maintenance Access Structures (MAS): 105 of 409 inspected in FY 2016
     - Findings: broken lid bolts, insecure, required liner repairs
   - Potholing for line location confirmation – Reach V overland alignment/inaccurate as-built drawings
   - Increased rate of scale accumulation due to reduced blending sources (domestic wastewater)
3. **Increasing Dig-Alert Workload.** Overall DigAlert tickets have increased, almost doubling since 2013 with close to 6,000 during the last fiscal year.

Haller reviewed the revised table titled *Brine Line Process, Activity, or Task* provided as a handout to the Commission and members of the public. Page 1 of the table set forth the required number of labor hours necessary for “A” level service by quarter over the next five years. Page 2 of the table set forth the difference between budgeted and required hours, documenting the shortfall of required field operations staff per Fiscal Year. A shortfall of 930 field operations staff hours was identified, which supports that SAWPA is in need of one additional fulltime field operations staff member. Field operations staff also support the sampling program, based on OCSD requirements, so one half of one full time field operations staff has already been allocated to the sampling program. With an additional full time field operations staff position, SAWPA could fully implement the Preventive Maintenance program and reduce the referenced backlog of repair work.

Next steps include continued evaluation of the PATs as part of the budget process, assessing cost savings, benefits and any impact to rates. Staff will bring forward to the Commission a scope of work to release an RFP for both the Marketing Plan and Business Plan at a future meeting.

Chair Evans commended Haller on his presentation and the reduction in SSO events. The key moving forward is addressing the resource requirements during the budget process. The process of hiring consultants for the Marketing and Business Plans should be addressed as soon as possible.

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

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**B. UPDATE ON ACWA LEGAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE**

Larry McKenney provided an oral report on two matters in which the ACWA Legal Affairs Committee is supporting the preparation of amicus briefs related to rate challenges by referendum and copper pipe pinhole leaks.

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

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**C. RIVERSIDE LAND CONSERVANCY – PRIDE OF PLACE IN THE GREAT OUTDOORS GALA AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE AWARD**

Celeste Cantú advised the Riverside Land Conservancy will be holding its third annual fundraising gala, *Pride of Place in the Great Outdoors* on Thursday, October 20, 2016. SAWPA will be honored by the RLC as one of the environmental awardees and presented with the Local Government Environmental Excellence Award. Commissioners interested in attending should contact Celeste Cantú.

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**D. 2017 MEDICAL INSURANCE CAP (CM#2016.88)**

Historically, SAWPA has set the medical insurance cap to the lower of the Kaiser or Blue Cross family rate. The ACWA/JPIA 2017 Medical Plan Rates applicable to the Southern California region are as follows:

- **Anthem Blue Cross [HMO] Standard Family Rate:** $1,945.74
- **Kaiser [HMO]:** $1,505.65

The current medical cap for January – December 2016 is $1,470.64, which represented a 0.3% increase from the 2015 plan year. Adjusting the medical cap to $1,505.65 for the January – December 2017 plan year will represent a 2.4% increase from the 2016 plan year.

Staff was directed to provide plan information for these benefits and conduct a comparison benefits study with member agencies.
MOVED, staff is directed to adjust the medical insurance cap to $1,505.65, which reflects the ACWA/JPIA 2017 Kaiser Family Plan rate.

Result: Adopted (Unanimously; 5-0)
Motion/Second: Sullivan/Anthony
Ayes: Anthony, Catlin, Evans, Killgore, Sullivan
Nays: None
Abstentions: None
Absent: None

E. INVITATION TO SAWPA TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SANTA ANA RIVER PARKWAY AND OPEN SPACE PLAN TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CM#2016.86)

Ian Achimore provided a PowerPoint presentation on the Santa Ana River Parkway and Open Space Plan Technical Advisory Committee.

The California State Coastal Conservancy has invited SAWPA to participate in the Santa Ana River Parkway and Open Space Plan Technical Advisory Committee which will be a small group (20 or fewer members) including representation from non-profits, local public agencies, and state and federal partners engaged in the Santa Ana River Watershed. According to information provided by the California State Coastal Conservancy, the purpose of the Technical Advisory Committee is threefold:

1. Help identify priorities and values for the Santa Ana River Parkway and Open Space Plan
2. Identify project selection criteria and projects for inclusion in the Parkway Plan
3. Provide input and feedback on the Plan throughout its development

The Committee would meet for three half-day sessions in October 2016, March 2017 and June 2017; anticipated staff time would likely total 25 hours (15 hours for meetings; 10 hours for preparation and follow up). Membership in the Committee would enable SAWPA to assist in defining a shared vision of priorities for managing the Santa Ana River and its watershed, recreation and education opportunities, and continued support of water quality, water supply and flood control. Participation benefits include leveraging work done by the Committee for OWOW Plan updates and the Forest First Roundtable, maintaining SAWPA’s reputation as a leader in watershed planning, and supporting Commissioner Anthony on the Santa Ana River Trail Policy Advisory Group (PAG). The purpose of this PAG is to work cooperatively to complete the Santa Ana River Trail, a 100-mile recreational trail along the Santa Ana River, which is a similar mission to the new Santa Ana River Parkway and Open Space Plan Technical Advisory Committee. This program was created and funded by SB 1390 (Correa).

MOVED, approve staff’s participation in the Santa Ana River Parkway and Open Space Plan Technical Advisory Committee.

Result: Adopted (Unanimously; 5-0)
Motion/Second: Catlin/Sullivan
Ayes: Anthony, Catlin, Evans, Killgore, Sullivan
Nays: None
Abstentions: None
Absent: None

F. STORMWATER QUALITY STANDARDS TASK FORCE – REGIONAL WATER QUALITY MONITORING TASK FORCE AGREEMENT (CM#2016.87)

Rick Whetzel provided a PowerPoint presentation. The County of Orange, San Bernardino County Flood Control District, Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District their
member agencies, and constituent cities have requested SAWPA to administer the Regional Water Quality Monitoring Task Force. The purpose of the new Task Force is to implement a coordinated regional water quality monitoring program in the Santa Ana River watershed to meet the implementation plan requirements of the 2012 Basin Plan Amendment to Revise Recreation Standards for Inland Freshwaters in the Santa Ana Region. It is also intended that this Task Force will serve as a forum to assist the Regional Board with future triennial reviews of the Basin Plan.

Creation of this Task Force reflects the completion/conclusion of the Stormwater Quality Standards Task Force efforts and the establishment of a new task force to implement a regional monitoring program by the flood control districts in the Santa Ana River Watershed. The new monitoring program combines the separate and disparate bacteria monitoring programs of the three county flood control districts along with the existing bacteria monitoring program under the SAWPA-administered Middle SAR TMDL Task Force to eliminate redundancy and streamline reporting of regional monitoring efforts.

Benefits to SAWPA include: supports continuing mission to improve regional water quality; utilizes staff experience and expertise; continues partnership with the Santa Ana Regional Board; provides data, studies and project plans to support the OWOW Plan; consolidates multiple monitoring efforts to achieve economies of scale.

This effort is fully funded by the participating stakeholders, who will also pay for SAWPA’s staff time and administration costs.

Commissioner Sullivan left the meeting at 10:39 a.m. and did not return; Sullivan was not present for the voting on Agenda Item No. 6.F.

MOVED, approve the Regional Water Quality Monitoring Task Force Agreement subject to nonsubstantive language changes and authorize the transfer of $289,175 from fund 384-01 Middle Santa Ana River Pathogen TMDL Task Force to fund 386 Regional Water Quality Monitoring Task Force.

Result: Adopted (Unanimously; 4-0)
Motion/Second: Anthony/Killgore
Ayes: Anthony, Catlin, Evans, Killgore
Nays: None
Abstentions: None
Absent: Sullivan

7. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS
Recommendation: Receive and file the following oral/written reports/updates.

A. CHAIR’S COMMENTS/REPORT
Chair Evans reported on WMWD customer Altman Plants. They have a 640 acre state-of-the art property near Lake Matthews and are a notable example of a successful rebate partnership with a system that captures potable water used on their plants for recycling and repurposing. Their system has saved more water than the removal of turf from 1,700 front yards. Jim Hessler, Director of West Coast Operations at Altman Plants, serves as the Business Community Representative on the OWOW Steering Committee.

B. COMMISSIONERS’ COMMENTS
There were no Commissioners’ comments.

C. COMMISSIONERS’ REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS
There were no Commissioner requests for future agenda items.
8. **CLOSED SESSION**

Larry McKenney noted the Commission would discuss Agenda Item No. 8.A., with no action anticipated. At 10:46 a.m., Chair Evans recessed the meeting to Closed Session. Designated personnel essential to the discussion of Agenda Item No. 8.A. were present during Closed Session.

A. **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.9(d)(1)**

Name of Case: Spiniello Companies v. Charles King Company, Inc., Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, The Ohio Casualty Insurance Company (Superior Court of Los Angeles BC616589)

Chair Evans resumed Open Session at 11:06 a.m. There was no reportable action taken by the Commission during Closed Session.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business for review, Chair Evans adjourned the meeting at 11:06 a.m.

Approved at a Regular Meeting of the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority Commission on Tuesday, October 18, 2016.

Thomas P. Evans, Chair

Attest:

Kelly Berry, CMC
Clerk of the Board