

## Government and Public Affairs Committee Notes

### April 15, 2021

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#### **Attendees:**

Committee members:	Luis Cetina (Chair) and Kevin Kenley
Staff members:	John Bosler, Chad Brantley, Eduardo Espinoza, Rob Hills, Eric Grubb, Erin Morales, and Socorro Pantaleon
Members of the Public:	Beth Olhasso, West Coast Advisors

**Call to Order:** 5:00 p.m.

**Public Comment:** None

**Additions/Deletions to Agenda:** None

#### **Introductory Remarks by Chair Cetina**

Chair Cetina announced for the record that this meeting is being conducted by teleconference pursuant to the Brown Act waivers provided for under the Governor's Executive Orders in response to the COVID-19 State of Emergency. Further, the agenda states that there is no public location for attending this meeting in person. The agenda states that the public may listen and provide comment telephonically by calling the number listed on the agenda. Chair Cetina took a roll call of Committee members and staff present on the call as listed above.

#### **I. Legislative Conference Call**

- Beth Olhasso of West Coast Advisors (WCA) provided a brief update on key legislation and other policy issues:
  - Over 70% of the state is in serious drought and 99% of the state is in some form of drought. North of the Delta, Lake Oroville is at 42% capacity and South of the Delta, San Luis Reservoir is at 53% capacity. SWRCB hinted that drought restrictions may be implemented later this year. The SWRCB cannot implement drought restrictions without the Governor first declaring that the state is in a drought. In preparation for low imported water allocation, MWD recently transferred 60,000 acre feet to south of the Delta.
  - The committee hearings for both SB 222 (rate assistance) & 223 (water shutoff) (Dodd) recently passed out of committee; opposition to these bills include the funding source, concern over water tax, the reasonable ability to shut off delinquent customers, and proposition 218 violations. The District remains opposed to both bills, the next step for both of them is the Environmental Quality Committee.

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- AB 1434 (Friedman) proposes lower residential water use limits to 40 GPCD. There are a number of issues with this bill including incomplete studies on flow concentration and GPCD feasibility by DWR from Assemblymember Friedman’s previous GPCD limit bill. The bill was recently heard in committee where they had a robust discussion on statewide water supply issues and potential drought restrictions. A stakeholder process required of Ms. Friedman’s previous GPCD bill begins in two weeks and is expected to be completed in late summer. The District opposes this bill.
- AB 818 (Bloom) CASA sponsored wet wipes labeling bill is successfully moving through committee process. The District supports this bill.
- Senate President Pro Tem Atkins recently released a \$2 billion budget proposal that includes an early action drought package. The package does not include any “new money” and would include funding for drought tolerant landscape and turf rebate program. The Senate would like the money available to the public by July 4. Both the Senate (SB45) and Assembly (AB1500) bond proposals are still moving through their respective houses; ultimately, they will be combined into one bond proposal.
- CSDA continues to lead the effort to consolidate all of the “open-meeting” bills.
- Ms. Olhasso exited the call at 5:35pm

#### **2. Quarterly Sponsorship Update**

- Staff provided the committee with an update on sponsorship activity for the third quarter of FY 2021. There was no sponsorship activity during this time.

Meeting Adjourned at 5:40 p.m.