

## Government and Public Affairs Committee Notes May 20, 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 the meeting was 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 stated that there was no public location for attending this meeting in person. The agenda stated 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:
  - Water supply update: Sierra snowpack levels are at 2% of their normal levels for this time of year. Lake Oroville is at 40% capacity. In addition, 41 of the 58 northern CA counties are now included in the Governor's Drought Declaration. Southern CA is in relatively good shape because of investments that have been made by local and regional water agencies. The current State Water Project allocation is at 5% of contractor requested "Table A" amounts.
  - State budget update: Governor Newsom recently announced a proposal to invest \$5.1 billion in water infrastructure projects, as well as \$1 billion for COVID-19 water and electric bill debt relief. The Senate has a separate budget proposal for a \$3.41 billion Drought and COVID-19 Relief Package. Only one of these proposals will end up in the approved state budget. The budget bill deadline is June 15. The numerous bonds that were originally being circulated at the beginning of the year have lost momentum because of the budget surplus.
  - Each member of the legislature was recently informed that they will only be allowed to continue to carry 12 bills this legislative session. The legislators will have to decide soon which bills to keep and which ones to cut.

Meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.