



**SAWPA COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
OCTOBER 4, 2022**

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT**

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

**COMMISSIONERS ABSENT**

None

**ALTERNATE COMMISSIONERS  
PRESENT; NON-VOTING**

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

**STAFF PRESENT**

Jeff Mosher, Karen Williams, Mark Norton, David Ruhl, Edina Goode,  
Ian Achimore, Rick Whetsel, Sara Villa, Zyanya Ramirez, Dean  
Unger, Alison Lewis

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Andrew Turner, Lagerlof, LLP; Joe Mouawad, Eastern Municipal  
Water District; Nick Kanetis, Eastern Municipal Water District; Anne  
Pandey, Inland Empire Utilities Agency; Jason Gu, Inland Empire  
Utilities Agency; Ken Tam, Inland Empire Utilities Agency; Shivaji  
Deshmukh, Inland Empire Utilities Agency; Christy Suppes, County  
of Orange; Andrew McGuire, Orange County Public Works; Greg  
Woodside, Orange County Water District; Kevin O'Toole, Orange  
County Water District; Mona Sadek, San Bernardino County Flood  
Control District; Craig Miller, Western Municipal Water District;  
Mallory Gandara, Western Municipal Water District; Brooke Jones,  
Yorba Linda Water District; Tom Lindsey, Yorba Linda Water District;  
Wayne Miller, Yorba Linda Water District; Robert Ennis, City of  
Riverside; Nicole Hemmans, City of Rialto; Thomas Crowley, City of  
Rialto; Rachel Waite, Municipal Water District of Orange County;  
Jane Gray, Dudek

The Regular Meeting of the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority Commission was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Chair Marco Tule 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**

There were no items to be added or deleted.

## 5. CONSENT CALENDAR

### A. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES: SEPTEMBER 20, 2022

Recommendation: Approve as posted.

**MOVED**, to approve the Consent Calendar as posted.

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

## 6. NEW BUSINESS

### A. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (CM#2022.64)

Dean Unger provided a presentation on the Information Technology (IT) Services Request for Proposals (RFP), contained in the agenda packet on pages 15-20. Accent Computer Solutions has been SAWPA's Managed Service Provider (MSP) since 2009. RFPs were issued in 2009, 2014, and 2018, it is in SAWPA's best interest to prepare and issue an RFP in order to evaluate current costs being assessed, and overall IT services being rendered at this time. With Commission's approval, an RFP will be prepared, and will be brought back for Commission review and approval to release the RFP with a recommendation of vendor selection to Commission on December 6. Commissioner Hayes asked if a security audit has been done. Mr. Unger noted that a daily audit test is done internally, but not with a third party, though it is something that can be done this coming year with the new vendor.

**MOVED**, to direct staff to prepare a Request for Proposals for Information Technology Services.

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

### B. PROPOSITION 1 ROUND 2 INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT (IRWM) PROJECT APPROVALS (CM#2022.65)

Ian Achimore provided a presentation on the Proposition 1 Round 2 Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Project Approvals, contained in the agenda packet on pages 27-77. Mr. Achimore informed the Commission that this presentation was provided to the OWOW Steering Committee on September 22, and the Committee recommended that the Commission approve the OWOW Portfolio of ten (10) projects to receive Proposition 1 IRWM Round 2 grant funding and confirm that the three (3) North Orange County IRWM projects meet State requirements and thus be included in the Round 2 list of projects to receive grant funding. Director Brenda Dennstedt, member of the Steering Committee asked for the definition and breakdown of "New Water" and "Revised Water" that the proposed projects are providing. "New Water" is water from a source that was not in use prior, and "Revised Water" is water from a source that is currently discharged (such as secondary treated water) or water that is currently not in use due to regulatory or water quality issues. Due to DWR's grant application requirements, SAWPA is required to provide "back up" projects that are ranked just below the top projects. "Back up"

projects are needed in case a selected project cannot proceed forward during the implementation phase from Summer 2023 to December 2027. There will be two back up projects; 1) Shamrock and Meridian Septic to Sewer Conversion, and 2) City of Rialto Recycled Intertie.

The top ten (10) OWOW ranked projects and a grant funding allocation using the ranking process are shown in the table below. Mr. Achimore provided a brief overview of all the top projects that are being recommended by the Steering Committee.

Project Name	Project Lead	Recommended Grant Award	Total Cost
<b>One Water One Watershed – General Implementation Projects</b>			
Santa Ana River Watershed Weather Modification Pilot Project	Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority	\$861,400	\$1,722,800
Etiwanda Intervalley Water Quality and Water Resiliency Project Phase-1A	Jurupa Community Services District	\$2,954,213	\$28,505,400
Wellhead Nitrate Treatment for Wells 4 & 27	Monte Vista Water District	\$2,533,492	\$6,950,000
Cable Creek Basin Upper	San Bernardino County Flood Control District	\$2,521,678	\$20,000,000
Phase 1 - Lake Elsinore Algae Harvesting and Nutrient Removal Project	Lake Elsinore and San Jacinto Watersheds Authority	\$1,500,000	\$3,000,000
Lake Rialto Habitat Management and Community Open Space Project	City of Rialto	\$2,149,748	\$8,000,000
Well 2 Replacement	Monte Vista Water District	\$2,006,311	\$8,675,000
<b>Disadvantaged Community Implementation Projects</b>			
New Washington Well Project	City of Santa Ana	\$3,394,743	\$7,387,555
Water Quality: Lead Service Line Replacements in the Bloomington DAC	West Valley Water District	\$315,000	\$390,000
Box Springs Mutual Water Company Well Improvement Project	California Rural Water Association	\$1,885,257	\$1,893,000
<b>Grand Totals</b>		<b>\$20,121,843</b>	<b>\$86,523,755</b>

Per the 2019, Cooperative Agreement with the North County IRWM group that the SAWPA Commission approved, the recommendation from the OWOW Steering Committee also includes confirmation that the highest ranked North Orange County IRWM projects meet State requirements and thus be included in the DWR application to receive grant funding. Orange County Public Works is the administrator of that process, and SAWPA staff has coordinated closely with their staff to ensure the three projects meet eligibility requirements. Christy Suppes of County of Orange provided a presentation of the three (3) projects that were selected through the North Orange County IRWM group process and are shown in the table below.

Project Name	Project Lead	Grant Award	Total Cost
<b>North Orange County - General Implementation Projects</b>			
Orange County Regional PFAS Groundwater Treatment Program in Santa Ana & Garden Grove	Orange County Water District	\$4,200,000	\$11,100,000
Santa Ana Zoo Stormwater Capture and Diversion Project	City of Santa Ana	\$2,603,525	\$5,000,000
Making Conservation an Orange County Way of Life	Municipal Water District of Orange County	\$780,275	\$2,783,200
<b>Grand Totals</b>		<b>\$7,583,800</b>	<b>\$18,883,200</b>

If approved by the Commission, SAWPA staff will work with the ten (10) projects (and the North Orange County projects) to submit a final application to DWR by their deadline of February 1, 2023. There was no discussion.

**MOVED**, to approve the OWOW Portfolio of ten (10) projects in order to receive Proposition 1 IRWM Round 2 Grant Funding and confirm that the three (3) North Orange County IRWM projects meet State requirements and thus be included in the Round 2 List of Projects to receive Grant Funding.

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

**C. OWOW PLAN AMENDMENT (CM#2022.66)**

Ian Achimore provided a presentation on the OWOW Plan Amendment, contained in the agenda packet on pages 107-115. The IRWM Plan for the Santa Ana River Watershed, the OWOW Plan Update 2018, has been certified by the DWR for meeting the 2016 IRWM plan standards. Through the OWOW Call for Projects, 24 projects were submitted to SAWPA for funding and incorporation into the Plan, and 26 were submitted to just be incorporated into the Plan (i.e., "plan only" projects). Through the North Orange County IRWM process described in the previous memorandum, three projects were submitted for funding, and one was submitted to be included in the IRWM Plan from Orange County Public Works. Per the Department of Water Resources (DWR) proposal solicitation package (PSP) and grant guidelines documents, projects approved for funding need to be included in the Plan which require formal adoption by

the OWOW Steering Committee and SAWPA Commission. The OWOW Plan Update 2018 describes the process for adding new projects to the plan, the projects must implement the six goals of the OWOW Plan Update 2018. The six goals include:

- Achieve resilient water resources through innovation and optimization.
- Ensure high-quality water for all people and the environment.
- Preserve and enhance recreational areas, open space, habitat, and natural hydrologic function.
- Engage with members of disadvantaged communities and associated supporting.
- Organizations to diminish environmental injustices and their impacts on the watershed.
- Educate and build trust between people and organizations.
- Improve data integration, tracking, and reporting to strengthen decision making.

SAWPA staff has analyzed “plan only” projects and they comply with the OWOW Plan Update 2018. There was no discussion.

**MOVED**, to Approve an OWOW Plan Update 2018 Amendment with the following project additions:

- i. Twenty-seven (27) “plan only” projects submitted via the 2022 Call for Projects,
- ii. Twenty-four (24) projects that requested Proposition 1 Round 2 funding via the 2022 Call for Projects, and
- iii. Three (3) projects from the 2022 North Orange County IRWM Call for Projects.

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

**D. GRANT APPLICATION CONSULTANT APPROVAL (CM#2022.67)**

Ian Achimore provided a presentation on the Grant Application Consultant Approval, contained in the agenda packet on pages 123-128. The Grant Application Support for Integrated Regional Water Management Program Request for Proposals (RFP) closed September 22, and two proposals were received and rated by SAWPA staff using the RFP criteria. The two (2) firms were Dudek and Larry Walker Associates. Both firms have strong technical backgrounds in water resources, but the proposal from Dudek includes a team of individuals that has more experience in grant applications to the Department of Water Resources. Dudek’s costs reflect rates that are more closely related to grant writing. While Larry Walker Associates costs are appropriate, they seem more well suited for a technical feasibility study or engineering/design. SAWPA has also utilized the same Dudek team of individuals for its Proposition 1 Round 1 application. Dudek proposed edits to the General Services Agreement under Section 4.05 regarding liability; SAWPA’s Legal Counsel has reviewed the added language and is acceptable. The total cost of the Dudek proposal is well within SAWPA’s adopted budget for a Proposition 1 Round 2 grant writing consultant. There was no discussion.

**MOVED**, to approve the General Services Agreement and Task Order DUDK373-07 with Dudek for \$80,830 to assist with the Proposition 1 Round 2 Grant Application.

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

**E. SANTA ANA RIVER WATERSHED WEATHER MODIFICATION PILOT PROGRAM OPERATIONS CONSULTANT (CM#2022.68)**

Mark Norton provided a presentation on the Santa Ana River Weather Modification Pilot Status Report, contained in the agenda packet on pages 207-216. On July 19, the SAWPA Commission authorized a task order with North American Weather Consultants (NAWC) to commence the preparation for future operations of the Santa Ana River Weather Modification Pilot Program (Pilot project). This pilot project is a four-year project spanning four (4) winter seasons (November 15 - April 15). The focus of the pilot is on seeding the four mountain ranges or target areas surrounding the watershed with an emphasis on increasing snow and rain precipitation. As part of the preparation work to install the 15 ground seeding units across the watershed, NAWC was tasked to execute site operator agreements with all the agencies and private parties that they had previously contacted as part of an earlier site survey for the seeding units. Work by NAWC commenced immediately on the necessary equipment ordering and outreach to the water agencies and local parties with the optimistic goal to have all site operation agreements executed and equipment installed for the kickoff of the seeding pilot in November 2022. However, a number of changes and delays have occurred resulting in the weather modification pilot start to be deferred to November 2023. The decision to reschedule the start of the cloud seeding was based on a review of project targets established to meet the November 2022 schedule, specifically:

- **Lease Agreements.** Execution of seeding site agreements with participating agencies require more time than anticipated, including scheduling board approvals where needed.
- **Operations.** Questions arose by several agencies regarding the operations of the seeding units. Additional time is needed to address operations for these units.
- **Propane Tanks.** Propane tanks of the appropriate size have been in short supply since 2021 and securing tanks for installation was in question.

A delay of the pilot project to November 2023 rather than November 2022 will not impact costs of the original project and NAWC has indicated there will not be any additional funding requested due to the postponement of the start of the pilot. In fact, the delay of the start to November 2023 will also coincide better with the two grants that are being applied to support the pilot and validation protocol. The grant award contract for the Proposition 1 IRWM Round 2 project grant for 50% of the project costs is not expected to be available from DWR until October 2023. The US Bureau of Reclamation grant for the Validation Protocol is not anticipated to be available until late February 2023. All costs to date have been covered by local funding from SAWPA member agencies and the local water agencies who committed funds for the four-year pilot project. Work will continue to ensure all ten (10) agreements are executed recognizing that many may take several months before Board approval. It is likely that the 50% grant funding will be awarded from the Prop 1 IRWM Round 2 grant program. The Weather Modification Pilot project was ranked as the highest ranked project among all 24 projects seeking Prop 1 IRWM Round 2 funding.

The next action to be brought to the SAWPA Commission will be the contract with the Desert Research Institute for the pilot validation. This item will be scheduled for SAWPA Commission consideration on October 18, 2022. SAWPA staff will prepare a detailed workplan, budget, and schedule for DWR grant application due to DWR on February 1, 2023. There was no discussion.

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

**7. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS**

Recommendation: Receive for Information.

**A. CHAIR'S COMMENTS/REPORT**

Chair Marco Tule commended SAWPA staff on all their efforts.

**B. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**

There were no Commissioners' comments.

**C. 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, Chair Marco Tule adjourned the meeting at 10:35 a.m.

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

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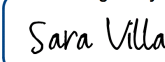


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Marco Tule, Chair

Attest:

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Sara Villa, Clerk of the Board