



**SAWPA COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 4, 2023**

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Bruce Whitaker, Chair, Orange County Water District
Mike Gardner, Vice Chair, Western Municipal Water District
T. Milford Harrison, Secretary-Treasurer, San Bernardino Valley
Municipal Water District
David J. Slawson, Eastern Municipal Water District
Jasmin A. Hall, Inland Empire Utilities Agency

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

None

**ALTERNATE COMMISSIONERS
PRESENT; NON-VOTING**

Kelly Rowe, Orange County Water District
Gil Botello, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District

STAFF PRESENT

Jeff Mosher, Karen Williams, Mark Norton, Rachel Gray, Edina Goode,
Rick Whetsel, Sara Villa, Zyanya Ramirez, John Leete, Pete Vitt

OTHERS PRESENT

Andrew Turner, Lagerlof, LLP; Joe Mouawad, Eastern Municipal Water
District; Nick Kanetis, Eastern Municipal Water District; Shivaji
Deshmukh, Inland Empire Utilities Agency; Kevin O'Toole, Orange
County Water District; Joshua Aguilar, Western Municipal Water
District; Craig Miller, Western Municipal Water District; Mallory
Gandara, Western Municipal Water District; Ryan Shaw, Western
Municipal Water District; Brian Dickinson, City of Colton; Beth Olhasso,
West Coast Advisors

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

1. CALL TO ORDER

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: MARCH 21, 2023

Recommendation: Approve as posted.

B. TREASURER'S REPORT: FEBRUARY 2023

Recommendation: Approve as posted.

MOVED, to approve the Consent Calendar as posted.

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

6. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. **AB 1567 (GARCIA) – 2024 RESOURCES BOND (CM#2023.22)**

Jeff Mosher referenced the support letter contained in the agenda packet on page 21 of the agenda packet and provided a verbal report. Assembly Bill (AB)1567, as introduced by Assemblyman Eduardo Garcia, if amended proposes the inclusion of \$500 million for integrated regional multi-benefit water projects addressing resiliency through the Department of Water Resources (DWR). AB 1567 addresses a resources bond that will be in the ballot in 2024. Mr. Mosher noted there are discussions in Sacramento regarding the update of the California Water Plan. SAWPA staff have been involved in workshops with DWR, which continues to support the Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM). SAWPA staff have been working with West Coast Advisors and Member Agencies on submitting a support letter for AB 1567.

Beth Olhasso of West Coast Advisors informed the Commission that these are very early conversations, and we want to be at the table and have authority from the Commission on what we will be asking for and how to participate in these conversations as they develop in the next fourteen months. Chair Bruce Whitaker requested that the language within the letter be specified as supporting \$500 million rather than “as amended”. Commissioner Gardner noted there is some value in incorporating specific language in water sectors, for instance, water quality improvement, recycling, desalting, and stormwater management. It is important that some of these funds go to these sorts of things and if they aren’t mentioned they might go to something else that others see as resiliency. Commissioner Harrison referenced a minor typo in the sixth paragraph, second sentence, to add “to” after resilience bond.

Commissioner Hall asked if the member agencies General Managers are in support. Jeff Mosher noted that he has reached out to the General Managers, and they are supportive of SAWPA playing this role. Commissioner Hall asked if it is better to send the support letter as a group with all member agencies signatures and logos or individually by each agency. Beth Olhasso noted that it is effective for SAWPA to take this role and there is no problem if other agencies would like to sign on in one letter. It is not critical if we do not get everyone to sign on. Versions of this letter will be sent several times over the next year and there will opportunities to add on agencies at any point in the process. Commissioner Botello referenced the letter and requested in the fifth paragraph, third sentence, change “Tribes” to “Tribal Nation.”

MOVED, to authorize the General Manager to send the AB 1567 (Garcia) 2024 Resources Bond letter to pertinent legislators to indicate support of the inclusion of \$500 million for integrated regional multi-benefit water projects addressing resiliency with the suggested modifications within the letter including:

- Sixth paragraph, second sentence, add “to” after resilience bond.
- Fifth paragraph, third sentence, change “Tribes” to “Tribal Nation.”
- Include language to reflect examples of water sectors.

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

7. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

Recommendation: Receive for Information.

A. CASH TRANSACTIONS REPORT – FEBRUARY 2023

B. INTER-FUND BORROWING – FEBRUARY 2023 (CM#2023.23)

C. PERFORMANGE INDICATORS/FINANCIAL REPORTING – FEBRUARY 2023 (CM#2023.24)

D. PROJECT AGREEMENT 25 – OWOW FUND – FINANCIAL REPORT, JANUARY 2023

E. PROJECT AGREEMENT 26 – ROUNDTABLE FUND – FINANCIAL REPORT, JANUARY 2023

F. CHAIR’S COMMENTS/REPORT
There were no Chair’s comments.

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

H. COMMISSIONERS’ REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS
There were no Commissioners’ requests for future Agenda items.


8. CLOSED SESSION
There was no closed session.

9. ADJOURNMENT
There being no further business for review, Chair Bruce Whitaker adjourned the meeting at 9:55 a.m.

Approved at a Regular Meeting of the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority Commission on Tuesday, April 18, 2023.

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Bruce Whitaker, Chair

Attest:
DocuSigned by:

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Sara Villa, Clerk of the Board