



**SAWPA COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
October 17, 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**

Gil Botello, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District

**STAFF PRESENT**

David Ruhl, Dean Unger, Edina Goode, Jeff Mosher, John Leete,  
Marie Jauregui, Melissa Bustamonte, Rick Whetsel, Zyanya  
Ramirez, Sara Villa

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Andrew Turner, Lagerlof, LLP; Shivaji Deshmukh, Inland Empire  
Utilities Agency; Kevin O'Toole, Orange County Water District; Lisa  
Haney, Orange County Water District; Craig Miller, Western  
Municipal Water District; Mallory O'Connor, Western Municipal Water  
District

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: SEPTEMBER 19, 2023**

**Recommendation:** Approve as posted.

**B. TREASURER'S REPORT: JULY 2023**

**Recommendation:** Approve as posted.

**C. TREASURER'S REPORT: AUGUST 2023**

**Recommendation:** Approve as posted.

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

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

## 6. **NEW BUSINESS**

### A. **SAWPA BUILDING LANDSCAPING REFRESH AND IRRIGATION REPLACEMENT REQUEST FOR BIDS (CM#2023.60)**

David Ruhl provided a presentation titled SAWPA Building Landscaping Refresh and Irrigation Replacement, contained in the agenda packet on pages 29-36. In May 2023, BGB Design Group provided an updated design for SAWPA's building landscaping and demonstration garden to replace the irrigation system and prepare plans and specifications. The updated design provides a newly designed ADA entrance, refreshes vegetation, replaces irrigation controller, makes minor improvements to the demonstration garden to adapt to current shade conditions, and prepares bid documents with technical specifications and Bid Proposal. The estimated construction cost for the landscaping refresh and irrigation replacement project is \$170,203. The next steps are to file a Notice of Exemption for the Landscaping Refresh and Irrigation Replacement Project with the Riverside County Clerk's office and issue a Notice Inviting Bids, upon completion of the Final Plans and Specifications. In the December timeframe, award the construction contract to then begin construction and planting January – March timeframe. It was suggested that the planting be delayed to Spring (April/May) when plants can start rooting, due to March still being Winter Season. Mr. Ruhl noted that there is a 90-day guarantee on the plants, though he can work with the contractor to delay the planting.

**MOVED**, to

1. Direct the General Manager to file a Notice of Exemption for the Landscaping Refresh and Irrigation Replacement Project with the Riverside County Clerk's Office, and
2. Direct the General Manager to issue a Notice Inviting Bids, upon completion of the Final Plans and Specifications, for the Construction of the Landscaping Refresh and Irrigation Replacement Project.

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

## 7. **INFORMATIONAL REPORTS**

Recommendation: Receive for Information.

### A. **CASH TRANSACTIONS REPORT – AUGUST 2023**

### B. **INTER-FUND BORROWING – AUGUST 2023 (CM#2023.61)**

### C. **PERFORMANGE INDICATORS/FINANCIAL REPORTING – JULY 2023 (CM#2023.62)**

**D. PROJECT AGREEMENT 25 – OWOW FUND – FINANCIAL REPORT, JULY 2023****E. PROJECT AGREEMENT 25 – OWOW FUND – FINANCIAL REPORT, AUGUST 2023****F. PROJECT AGREEMENT 26 – ROUNDTABLE FUND – FINANCIAL REPORT, JULY 2023****G. PROJECT AGREEMENT 26 – ROUNDTABLE FUND – FINANCIAL REPORT, AUGUST 2023****H. GENERAL MANAGER REPORT**

Jeff Mosher informed the Commission that he and SAWPA's Commissioners T. Milford Harrison and David Slawson attended the SAWPA/OC San Joint Policy Committee meeting, and all went well. SAWPA staff attended the California Water Plan event with the Department of Water Resources (DWR). DWR provided more details on the watershed resiliency approach. Mr. Mosher noted that everything is on track with the weather modification pilot project, all ground seeding locations have been installed and are ready for the start date November 15<sup>th</sup>.

**I. STATE LEGISLATIVE REPORT****J. CHAIR'S COMMENTS/REPORT**

Chair Bruce Whitaker informed the Commission he attended the OC Water Summit and noted there were interesting panel discussions, and met the environmental expert John R. Christy, Ph.D.

**K. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**

There were no Commissioners' comments received.

**L. COMMISSIONERS' REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

There were no requests for future agenda items.

Chair Bruce Whitaker recessed the meeting at 9:46 a.m. for Closed Session.

**8. CLOSED SESSION****A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION**

Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) or (3) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9: one case | PFAS Regional Analysis Phase I Consultant Contract

**9. CLOSED SESSION REPORT**

Chair Bruce Whitaker resumed Open Session at 10:30 a.m. and Legal Counsel, Andy Turner announced that the Committee received a report from SAWPA staff; no action was taken on Agenda Item No. 8.A.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business for review, Chair Bruce Whitaker adjourned the meeting at 10:30 a.m.

**Approved at a Regular Meeting of the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority Commission on Tuesday, November 21, 2023.**

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*Bruce Whitaker*

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Bruce Whitaker, Chair

Attest:

DocuSigned by:

*Sara Villa*

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Sara Villa, Clerk of the Board