



**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
LEGISLATION, CONSERVATION AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE
March 8, 2012**

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Chair Saxod called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m. Committee members present were Chair Saxod, Vice Chairs Hilliker and Jungreis, Directors Croucher, Dailey, Miller, Topolovac, Tu, and Weston. Directors Boyle, Douglas, Mudd and Wornham were absent. Also present were Directors Arant, Bond, Brady, Dion, Hogan, Knutson, Lamb, Lewinger, Linden, Pocklington, Steiner, Watton, Williams, and Wilson. At that time there was a quorum of the Board.

Staff present included General Manager Stapleton, General Counsel Hentschke, Deputy General Managers Belock and Kerl, Assistant General Manager Cushman, Director of Public Outreach and Conservation Foster, Public Affairs Manager Westford, and Water Resources Manager Roy.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

I. CONSENT CALENDAR

There were no items on the consent calendar.

II. ACTION/DISCUSSION

1. Proposed Water Authority Water Use Efficiency Policy Principles.

Chair Saxod announced the Water Use Efficiency Policy Principles would provide long-term strategic direction for staff in planning and implementing regional water use efficiency initiatives and programs. These policy principles were presented in draft form with Board action planned for the April 26, 2012 Board meeting.

Ms. Roy gave a presentation on Water Use Efficiency covering the 1991-2008 historical approach, the 2007 Blueprint for Water Conservation, the 2007-2011 drought response, and the historic package of bills in 2009 which included SBX7-7, which required retail water agencies within the state to achieve a 20 percent reduction in urban per capita use by December 31, 2020. She explained that requirement calls for the Water Authority's 24 member agencies to collectively achieve 77,000 acre-feet annually of new water use efficiency from their baseline levels by 2020 through demand reductions and increased recycled water use.

Mr. Foster presented on water use efficiency in today's climate. He discussed influencing factors, direction provided by the Board in July of 2010, the December 2010 Board priorities, regional programs, program support for market transformation, the Water Conservation adopted budget, member agency and other partnerships, and future direction.

Ms. Westford presented on Draft Water Use Efficiency Policy Principles. She covered the background, policy considerations, member agency support, funding and resources, program performance, outreach and education, regulation and legislation, and the timeline for development and adoption.

The Directors asked questions and made comments on the presentation. Director Arant discussed the need for education on the value of water, impact on public health and safety, and environmental concerns. He stated the cost of water would continue to rise and the public's acceptance was being strained. Ms. Stapleton responded the Water Authority had recently developed a four-page document that described the value of water and the importance of reliability that would be distributed at the March 22, 2012 Board meeting.

Chair Saxod announced the deadline for comments was March 22, 2012. She stated staff had been meeting with the member agencies and working with them on the draft principles, and the plan was to vote at the April 26, 2012 Board meeting to adopt the policy principles.

III. INFORMATION

There were no information items.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Legislation, Conservation and Outreach Committee, Chair Saxod adjourned the meeting at 2:50 p.m.

Elsa Saxod, Chair