



REGULAR BOARD MEETING

JUNE 11, 2024



**STOCKTON
EAST WATER
DISTRICT**

PROVIDING SERVICE SINCE 1948

www.sewd.net

DIRECTORS

Richard Atkins
President
Division 1

Andrew Watkins
Division 2

Alvin Cortopassi
Division 3

Melvin Panizza
Division 4

Paul Sanguinetti
Division 5

Paul Nakaue
Division 6

Thomas McGurk
Vice President
Division 7

STAFF

Justin M. Hopkins
General Manager

Juan M. Vega
Assistant General Manager

LEGAL COUNSEL

Jeanne M. Zolezzi
General Counsel

Phone 209-948-0333
Fax 209-948-0423

E-mail sewd@sewd.net

6767 East Main Street
Stockton, CA 95215

Post Office Box 5157
Stockton, CA 95205

MEETING NOTICE

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE STOCKTON EAST WATER DISTRICT WILL BE HELD AT 12:30 P.M., TUESDAY, JUNE 11, 2024 AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE, 6767 EAST MAIN STREET STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA 95215

Assistance for the Disabled: If you are disabled in any way and need accommodation to participate in the meeting, please contact Administrative Staff at (209) 948-0333 at least 48-hours in advance for assistance so the necessary arrangements can be made.

FOR CONTINUED CONVENIENCE STOCKTON EAST WATER DISTRICT BOARD MEETINGS WILL BE AVAILABLE BY TELECONFERENCE.

Please call (347) 566-2741/Passcode: 300 937 522# to be connected to the Regular Board Meeting, to begin at 12:30 p.m. Agendas and minutes are located on our website at www.sewd.net.

AGENDA

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- A. Pledge of Allegiance (Director Nakaue) & Roll Call**
- B. Consent Calendar (None)**
- C. Public Comment (Non-Agenda Items)**
- D. Scheduled Presentations and Agenda Items**
 - 1. Minutes 06/04/24 01
 - 2. Warrants – California Public Employees’ Retirement System 07
 - 3. Cancellation of June 18, 2024 Stockton East Water District Regular Board Meeting 09
- E. Committee Reports**
 - 1. Eastern Water Alliance (EWA)/DREAM Monitoring Committee Meeting, 06/06/24 11
 - 2. San Joaquin County and Delta Water Quality Coalition Steering Committee Meeting, ACWA, 06/10/24
- F. Report of the General Manager**
 - 1. Water Supply Report 06/04/24 13
 - 2. Informational Items
 - a. Support Of AB 2257 (Wilson) – Local Government: Property-Related Water And Sewer Fees And Assessments: Remedies, 06/04/24 15

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	1. Greater Stockton Chamber of Commerce Monthly Mixer – Kings Card Club, 06/06/24	
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I.	Agenda Planning/Upcoming Events	
	1. Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority Steering Committee Meeting, 8:30 a.m., 06/12/24 <i>*This meeting has been cancelled*</i>	31
	2. Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority Special Board Meeting, 8:30 a.m., 06/12/24	
	3. Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority Board Meeting, 10:30 a.m., 06/12/24	
	4. Stockton Area Water Suppliers (SAWS) Meeting, 1:00 p.m., 06/14/24	
	5. Mokelumne Integrated Conjunctive Use Program (MICUP) Quarterly Meeting, 1:00 p.m., 06/17/24	
J.	Closed Session	
	1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION Potential exposure to litigation – Government Code Section 54956.9 – one case	
K.	Adjournment	

Certification of Posting

I hereby certify that on June 6, 2024 I posted a copy of the foregoing agenda in the outside display case at the District Office, 6767 East Main Street, Stockton, California, said time being at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Stockton East Water District (Government Code Section 54954.2).

Executed at Stockton, California on June 6, 2024.



Priya Ram, Finance Director
Stockton East Water District

Any materials related to items on this agenda distributed to the Board of Directors of Stockton East Water District less than 72 hours before the public meeting are available for public inspection at the District's office located at the following address: 6767 East Main Street, Stockton, CA 95215. Upon request, these materials may be available in an alternative format to persons with disabilities

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THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF STOCKTON EAST WATER DISTRICT WAS HELD AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE
6767 EAST MAIN STREET, STOCKTON, CA
ON TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 2024, AT 12:30 P.M.

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL

President Atkins called the regular meeting to order at 12:30 p.m., and Director Atkins led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present at roll call at the District were Directors Atkins, Cortopassi, Nakaue, Panizza, Sanguinetti and Watkins. Also present were Manager Hopkins, Assistant Manager Vega, Finance Director Ram, District Engineer Evensen, Administrative Assistant Rodriguez, Legal Counsel Zolezzi and Consultant Barkett. Director McGurk was absent.

B. CONSENT CALENDAR (None)

C. PUBLIC COMMENT (None)

D. SCHEDULED PRESENTATIONS AND AGENDA ITEMS

1. Minutes 05/28/24 Regular Meeting

A motion was moved and seconded to approve the May 28, 2024 Minutes, as presented.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Atkins, Cortopassi, Nakaue, Panizza, Sanguinetti, Watkins

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: McGurk

2. Warrants

a. Fund 68 – Municipal & Industrial Groundwater Fund

b. Fund 70 – Administration Fund

c. Fund 71 – Water Supply Fund

d. Fund 89 – Fish Screen Improvement

e. Fund 91 – Vehicle Fund

f. Fund 94 – Municipal & Industrial Fund

g. Summary

h. Short Names/Acronym List

i. SEWD Vehicles & Heavy Equipment

Director Atkins inquired on the following expenses on page 13, line item 66, B&K Valves & Equipment for Bellota Air Release Valve Replace project 2236 – Air relief valve in the amount of \$3,212.54, line item 71, HDS White Cap Construction Supply for Bellota Air Release Valve Replace project concrete adhesive in the amount of \$680.08, line item 74, Hixco for Bellota Air Release Valve Replace project 2236 fasteners in the amount of \$388.65, line item 75, Iconix Waterworks/ Corix Water Products for Bellota Air Release Valve replace project 2236 – two inch air valves. Director Atkins inquired on the following expenses on page 14, line item 79, Oldcastle Precast, Inc for Bellota Air Release valve project 2236 concrete gasketed manholes in the amount of \$3,122.87 and line item 80, Pace Supply Corporation for Bellota Air Release Valve replacement project 2236 pipe fittings in the amount of \$542.65. Manager Hopkins replied line 66 and 75 are two different styles of air valves and the rest of the purchases are materials related to the air valve replacement.

A motion was moved and seconded to approve the June 4, 2024, Warrants, as presented.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Atkins, Cortopassi, Nakaue, Panizza, Sanguinetti, Watkins

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: McGurk

3. Stockton East Water District – Consider Approving Purchase of Solids Handling Dredging Equipment Memo

Manager Hopkins presented the Board a memo to Consider Approving Purchase of Solids Handling Dredging Equipment. Manager Hopkins reported staff previously brought this item to the Board and Staff received Board questions which required additional research. Staff completed the research and addressed previous concerns raised by the Board related to the dredging equipment. Assistant Manager Vega reported in 2016 the District contracted with Synagro Inc to dredge out the solids which were accumulating in the North and the South Raw Water Reservoirs. Over the past eight years, solids have accumulated to the extent that, storage capacity in the North and South reservoirs has decreased substantially. Assistant Manager Vega reported Staff reached out to Synagro Inc for an updated proposal to perform dredging and Synagro Inc responded with a price of around \$500K. Staff regrouped and requested quotes for dredging equipment from several manufacturers. Assistant Manager Vega reported the dredging equipment will be managed by the Operations Staff and the oversight of the dredging equipment will be minimal, requiring only one Operations Staff to check on the equipment and possibly adjust the path of the dredge less than one hour per 8-hour work period. Over the entirety of the dredging of South Raw Water Reservoir, the total labor time is estimated to be 50 hours over a three-month period. The dredging can be viewed as another part of the water treatment process. Assistant Manager Vega reported Staff received quotes from four manufacturers that sell floating, cable-driven dredges with automation. Crisafulli Pumps quote is \$198,158 for a 75 HP pump dredger and it is the lowest price out of the four manufacturers. The quote includes all necessary materials for the dredge to pump solids from the reservoirs, but additional materials are needed to transport them to the dewatering lagoons and to power the dredger. Assistant Manager Vega also reported that to run the dredge, power must be provided. Power can be provided by running electrical lines from existing facilities or by providing power with a portable generator with the material needed to run power from existing facilities to the reservoirs include electrical cable, safety switches, and necessary connectors. Assistant Manager Vega also reported Staff reached out to vendors for quotes on new and used generators. Staff recommended a used Caterpillar generator because of the minimal runtime and lower cost than a new generator. Staff recommends the Board authorize the General Manager to approve the purchase of a dredge and portable generator for \$198,158 and \$66,967 respectively, plus 10% contingencies of \$19,816 and \$6,697 respectively, for a total of \$291,638, and make all other necessary approvals.

Director Watkins commented the ten thousand dollar savings is not worth it for the used generator with 12,000 hours. Director Watkins inquired about the model of the generator. District Engineer replied he believed the model is Doosan.

Director Sanguinetti suggested installing permanent electrical conduit and wiring instead of buying a diesel generator.

Director Cortopassi inquired how each dredge works and whether there are differences between the vendors. District Engineer Evensen replied Staff had a chance to look at the dredges and the

Crisafulli pump dredge is less complicated with minimal moving parts. Director Cortopassi also inquired if staff had considered lease options. Engineer Evensen replied that they had not.

Director Panizza inquired about the total useable hours for the generator. Director Watkins replied the total useable hours for generators is typically 20,000 hours. Discussion followed.

A motion was moved and seconded to amend the motion and authorize the General Manager to approve the purchase of the Crisafulli dredge for \$198,158 and the Caterpillar portable generator for \$66,967 if the warranty is sufficient per Staff review. If not, the General Manager was directed to purchase the Rain for Rent portable generator for \$77,378 plus a 10% contingency. The General Manager is authorized to include a 10% contingency for the Crisafulli dredge and Caterpillar generator of \$19,816 and \$6,697, respectively, for a total of \$291,638., and make all necessary approvals, as presented.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Atkins, Cortopassi, Nakaue, Panizza, Watkins

Nayes: Sanguinetti

Abstain: None

Absent: McGurk

4. Cancellation of July 2, 2024, Stockton East Water District Regular Board Meeting
Manager Hopkins presented the Board with a Cancellation of July 2, 2024, Stockton East Water District Regular Board Meeting. Manager Hopkins reported looking ahead at the beginning of July. The 4th of July, which is a District observed holiday falls on a Thursday. Manager Hopkins reported the District agenda is posted on Thursdays for the following week. Due to the tight turnaround between July 2nd Board meeting and July 3rd agenda posting for the July 9th meeting Staff is recommending the Board consider cancelling the July 2nd meeting or cancelling the July 9th meeting, whichever day the Board decides.

A motion was moved and seconded to approve Cancellation of July 2, 2024 Stockton East Water District Regular Board Meeting, as presented.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Atkins, Cortopassi, Nakaue, Panizza, Sanguinetti, Watkins

Nayes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: McGurk

E. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. San Joaquin Farm Bureau Federation Monthly Water Committee Meeting, 05/28/24
Manager Hopkins attended the San Joaquin Farm Bureau Federation Monthly Water Committee Meeting. Manager Hopkins reported North San Joaquin advised they are currently working on a rate increase for their groundwater fee which is currently \$15 an acre-foot and are currently looking at a \$2.50 per acre-foot increase for a total of \$17.50 an acre-foot, Woodbridge Irrigation District is beginning work on a pipeline project and will be undergrounding a canal and are planning to install 2,200ft of 48inch pipeline to help with water savings. Manager Hopkins reported all the districts which regularly provide irrigation water are finally seeing an uptake of demand since there is a slow start to the irrigation season. Manager Hopkins also reported there is a workshop on June 26 related to the five-year update of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan and grower participation is strongly encouraged.

Director Watkins left the Board meeting at 1:00 p.m.

F. REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

1. Water Supply Report as of 05/28/24

Manager Hopkins provided a handout of the Water Supply Report for information only that included storage, release, and production data collected from various sources as of midnight last night.

There is 234,844 AF in storage at New Hogan Reservoir. Current releases are set at 171 cfs. There is 2,101,327 AF in storage at New Melones Reservoir. Current releases are set at 1,860 cfs. The current release at Goodwin Dam to Stanislaus River is set at 966 cfs and release to all water users is set at 2,337 cfs. The District Water Treatment Plant (WTP) is currently processing 48 mgd. North Stockton is currently utilizing 12 mgd. South Stockton is currently using 8 mgd. Cal Water is currently utilizing 24 mgd. The City of Stockton WTP is currently processing 19 mgd.

Director Sanguinetti suggested adding Central San Joaquin Water Conservation District to the weekly water report under Goodwin diversion table next to release to SEWD.

2. Information Items:

a. Manager Hopkins noted items: F-2a, F-2b and F-2c.

3. Report on General Manager Activities

a. ACWA State Legislative Committee Meeting, 05/31/24

Manager Hopkins attended the ACWA State Legislative Committee Meeting. Manager Hopkins reported AB (Assembly Bill) 460 which is one of the water rights bills from last year has resurfaced however only the, the finding penalties and fines for not following curtailment orders and there is ambiguous language about instream flow requirements for this reason ACWA is continuing to oppose the bill until amended at the author's office. Manager Hopkins also reported there is more information on the climate bond with the range still being \$6-\$9B with less than a third of the amount for water. ACWA is continuing to work with the author's offices to obtain water funding up to two thirds of the bond amount.

b. Stockton East Water District Activities Update

Manager Hopkins reported the Board of Director's Informationally Binder has been moved to an electronic format in case the directors would prefer to access the informational binder electronically, which could be found on SharePoint.

Manager Hopkins reported at the end of last week the District received excellent news from Senator Butler's appropriation team and are recommending the Districts' appropriation application for the Bellota Project to the Senate's Appropriations Committee. The District is still waiting to see how much the District will potentially receive.

Manager Hopkins reported staff from Stockton East Water District (SEWD), South San Joaquin Irrigation District (SSJID) and North San Joaquin Water Conservation District (NSJWCD) recently finished evaluating all fifty four SWEEP applications for on farm improvements; twenty one applicants in Stockton East Water District and of those twelve were proposing groundwater conversion projects with the total amount of funding requested exceeding the amount the District had available. Therefore, the districts will be moving forward with five awards the first round for each district, totaling fifteen awards within the three districts, and the District will begin noticing the growers. August will be the last round of applications being accepted.

Manager Hopkins reported staff repaired the leaks on the Bellota Pipeline. Staff recharged the line and confirmed the leaks were repaired yet found a third leak, which is in the process of being repaired and set to be completed by Thursday.

4. Stockton East Water District Finance Update

Finance Director Ram provided the board with a Finance update. Director Ram reported the District received \$1.9M for the Bellota Fisch Screen Passage from California Department of Fish and Wildlife which was awarded on October 15, 2019 and \$1.5M has been expensed; California Department of Water Resources awarded the District \$12.2M through the Urban Community Drought Relief Program for the Bellota Weir project on June 8, 2023; California Department of Food and Agriculture awarded \$5M for SWEEP Grant on November 11, 2023; Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration awarded \$1M for the Stockton East Culvert Crossing Replacement (Watkins, Fujinaka and McGurk) on September 20, 2023; and from the United States Bureau of Reclamation the District received a total of five grants: WaterSMART Drought Response Program awarded \$600K in 2023, WaterSMART Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects awarded \$363K in 2022, Small Scale Water Efficiency Projects awarded \$75K and WaterSMART Applied Science Grants East Side Groundwater Use Measurement Project awarded \$58K.

G. DIRECTOR REPORTS

1. Mokelumne Integrated Conjunctive Use Program (MICUP) Meeting, 06/03/24

Director Watkins, Director Atkins, Manager Hopkins and District Engineer Evensen attended the Mokelumne Integrated Conjunctive Use Program (MICUP) Meeting. District Engineer Evensen reported it was a successful meeting, but with light public attendance. There was a great discussion of the different projects which are being proposed by the different districts with the plan being to use Mokelumne River water and also look at the potential for the East Bay Municipal Utility District aqueduct as another point of diversion. District Engineer Evensen also reported there were minimal questions asked, with the exception of the California Sportsfishing Protection Alliance. Director Atkins reported North San Joaquin Water Conservation District (NSJWCD) said there is a great amount of water going down the Mokelumne River. Discussion followed.

H. COMMUNICATIONS

I. AGENDA PLANNING/UPCOMING EVENTS

1. Easter Water Alliance (EWA)/ DREAM Monitoring Committee Meeting, 2:00 p.m., 06/06/24
2. Greater Stockton Chamber of Commerce Monthly Mixer – Kings Card Club, 5:00 p.m., 06/06/24
3. San Joaquin County and Delta Water Quality Coalition Steering Committee Meeting, 9:00 a.m., 06/10/24

J. REPORT OF THE COUNSEL

1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION Potential exposure to litigation – Government Code Section 54956.9 – one case

President Atkins adjourned the meeting to closed session at 1:22 p.m. The regular meeting reconvened at 1:23 p.m., with no reportable action.

K. ADJOURNMENT

President Atkins adjourned the meeting at 1:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Justin M. Hopkins
Secretary of the Board

bra

DRAFT

**STOCKTON EAST WATER DISTRICT
INVOICES FOR BOARD PACKAGE
CALPERS EFT REQUEST
JUNE 11, 2024**

Vendor name	District Fund#	Account #	Description	Amount	Invoice No.
1 CA Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS)	70	10-5049-0	Retirement Contributions for Payroll 06/07/24-Admin	5,957.67	06/07/24 1245106351
			Total Fund 70 Admin	\$ 5,957.67	
2 CA Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS)	71	10-5049-0	Retirement Contributions for Payroll 06/07/24-WWS-NM	5,979.22	06/07/24 1245106351
3 CA Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS)	71	10-5058-0	Retirement Contributions for Payroll 06/07/24-WWS-NH	1,540.15	06/07/24 1245106351
			Total Fund 71 Water Supply	\$ 7,519.37	
4 CA Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS)	94	10-5049-0	Retirement Contributions for Payroll 06/07/24-M&I	22,086.20	06/07/24 1245106351
			Total Fund 94 Municipal & Industrial	\$ 22,086.20	
Grand Total for Electronic Funds Transfer Request on RBM 06/11/24				\$ 35,563.24	

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NOTICE OF CANCELLATION

THE REGULAR MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
STOCKTON EAST WATER DISTRICT
SCHEDULED FOR

TUESDAY, JUNE 18, 2024

AT 12:30 P.M.

6767 EAST MAIN STREET
STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA 95215

HAS BEEN CANCELLED

THE NEXT REGULAR
MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
IS SCHEDULED FOR
TUESDAY,
JUNE 25, 2024
AT 12:30 P.M.

Certification of Posting

I hereby certify that on June 13, 2024 I posted a copy of the foregoing agenda in the outside display case at the District Office, 6767 East Main Street, Stockton, California, said time being at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Stockton East Water District (Government Code Section 54954.2).

Executed at Stockton, California on June 13, 2024.

DRAFT

Priya Ram, Finance Director
Stockton East Water District

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6767 East Main Street
Stockton, CA 95215

Post Office Box 5157
Stockton, CA 95205

Eastern Water Alliance
Post Office Box 5157, Stockton, CA 95205

An Alliance of Water Districts, Central San Joaquin Water Conservation District, North San Joaquin Water Conservation District, and Stockton East Water District, located over the critically overdrafted Eastern San Joaquin County Groundwater Basin

NOTICE OF MEETINGS

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Eastern Water Alliance will be held at 2:00pm on Thursday, June 6, 2024 at Stockton East Water District, 6767 East Main Street, Stockton, California

MEETING OF THE EASTERN WATER ALLIANCE

- A. Call to Order
- B. Roll Call
- C. Public Comment
- D. Action items:
 - 1. Minutes 03/07/24
- E. Meeting of The Dream Monitoring Committee
 - 1. Call to Order
 - 2. Roll Call
 - 3. Public Comment
 - 4. Demonstration Recharge Extraction and Aquifer Management (DREAM)
 - a. DREAM Pilot Project Extraction Update
 - 5. Other Business
 - 6. Plan for Next Meeting
 - 7. Adjournment
- F. Consider Accepting DREAM Pilot Project Results
- G. Agenda Planning for Next Meeting
- H. Adjournment

Certification of Posting

I hereby certify that on June 3, 2024 I posted a copy of the foregoing agenda in the outside display case at the District Office, 6767 East Main Street, Stockton, California, said time being at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Eastern Water Alliance (Government Code Section 54954.2). Executed at Stockton, California on June 3, 2024.



Priya Ram, Finance Director
Stockton East Water District

Assistance for the Disabled: If you are disabled in any way and need accommodation to participate in the meeting, please call Heather Wood, Administrative Assistant (209) 948-0333 for assistance so the necessary arrangements can be made.

Weekly Water Report	As of: June 4, 2024	As of: June 11, 2024
New Hogan (NHG) TOC	317,100	AF
Storage:	234,844	AF
Net Storage Change:	-2,116	AF
Inflow:	19	CFS
Release:	171	CFS
New Melones (NML) Allocation	75,000	AF
Storage:	2,101,327	AF
Net Storage change:	+2,852	AF
Inflow:	2,967	CFS
Release:	1,860	CFS
Source: CDEC Daily Reports		

Goodwin Diversion (GDW)		
Inflow (Tulloch Dam):	2,570	CFS
Release to Stanislaus River (S-98):	966	CFS
Release to OID (JT Main):	837	CFS
Release to SSJID (SO Main):	281	CFS
Release to SEWD & CSJWCD:	<u>253</u>	CFS
Total Release	2,337	CFS
Source: Tri-Dam Operations Daily Report		
Farmington Dam (FRM)		
Diverted to SEWD:	110	CFS
Diverted to CSJWCD:	200	CFS

Surface Water Used		
Irrigators on New Hogan:	33	
Irrigators on New Melones:	2	
Out-Of-District Irrigators:	3	
DJWWTP Production:	48	MGD
North Stockton:	12	MGD
South Stockton:	8	MGD
Cal Water:	24	MGD
City of Stockton DWSP Production:	19	MGD

District Ground Water Extraction		
74-01	0	GPM
74-02	0	GPM
North	0	GPM
South	0	GPM
Extraction Well # 1	<u>0</u>	GPM
Total Well Water Extraction	0	GPM
Total Ground Water Production	0	MGD

Note: **The data reported here is available as of 06/02/24

***The data reported here is available as of 06/03/24**

All other flow data reported here is preliminary, as of 9:00 a.m. on 06/04/24

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June 4, 2024

The Honorable Thomas Umberg
Chair, Senate Committee on Judiciary
1021 O Street, Room 3240
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 2257 (Wilson) – Local government: property-related water and sewer fees and assessments: remedies
Position: SUPPORT

Dear Chair Umberg:

The Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) and undersigned coalition of public agencies, associations, environmental and labor groups write to express our strong support for AB 2257, which would authorize public agencies to adopt procedures for the submittal and consideration of public comments regarding proposed water and sewer rates and assessments. The optional process proposed in this bill would facilitate dialogue and transparency between public agencies and their ratepayers and give agencies an opportunity to resolve concerns during the ratemaking process.

Public water and sewer agencies provide essential government services for the benefit of communities, agriculture, industries, and the environment. These agencies are responsible for ensuring a consistent and reliable water supply, safeguarding the quality of drinking water, planning, constructing, and maintaining critical infrastructure, and much more. With climate change presenting unprecedented challenges, these agencies also must adapt and enhance aging infrastructure to mitigate the impacts of increasingly frequent and severe climate-related events. Public agencies throughout California are making generational investments to build 21st Century infrastructure for a 21st Century climate.

The revenue necessary for public agencies to fulfill their essential government functions and adapt to a changing climate predominantly comes from service rates and assessments. While these agencies require financial stability to meet ever increasing demands, a rise in Proposition 218 litigation is making it increasingly difficult to ensure agencies can pass fair and reasonable rates to cover the costs of operations and investments.

Oftentimes, these suits are filed without first having raised concerns with the public agency during the public notice-and-comment process leading up to the decision to adopt rates or assessment. When litigants avoid raising concerns with proposed rates or assessments during the ratemaking process, the public agencies cannot endeavor to resolve the dispute and avoid litigation. The financial consequences of these lawsuits can be severe, as it is not uncommon for litigants to seek tens of millions of dollars in damages. Surprise lawsuits have the potential to undermine an agency's ability to maintain stable budgets necessary to operate effectively.

AB 2257 would build upon Proposition 218's existing procedural requirements by creating an exhaustion of administrative remedies procedure, that, if a public agency elected to follow, would require the timely submittal of written objections during an agency's ratemaking process. Ratepayers would be required to state the particular Proposition 218 compliance concern, and public agencies would be required to provide to their board and the public with written responses to each comment received

prior to acting on the proposed rate or assessment. Ratepayers would be required to participate in this process in order to challenge the agency's adopted rates or assessments in court.

With a greater understanding of potential concerns and the agency's responses, the agency's board would have the opportunity to abandon its ratemaking/assessment proposal, change it (reduce it), or to better explain why it complies with Proposition 218's substantive limitations, before having to defend it in litigation. Additionally, if a public agency complies with the exhaustion procedures, the bill would specify documents that would be included in the administrative record, subject to certain exceptions, in the event of litigation.

AB 2257 would bolster the financial stability of public water and sewer agencies by creating a clear and robust public process that facilitates dialogue, transparency, and the opportunity to resolve issues and avoid costly litigation. Codifying a procedure that requires issue exhaustion in Proposition 218 litigation would protect both legislative and adjudicative functions by allowing a legislative body to hear the evidence, apply its reasoned discretion and expertise, and create an administrative record to facilitate judicial review. This would also foster better-informed administrative decisions, which benefit the objector, the public agency, and members of the public within the public agency's jurisdiction. This is especially valuable in ratemaking cases in which evidence and policies are highly technical. It would also help agencies develop more defensible rates and build rapport and trust with their ratepayers.

For the reasons above, ACWA and undersigned organizations strongly support AB 2257 and respectfully request your "AYE" vote when the bill is heard in the Senate Judiciary Committee. If you have any questions about our position or this bill, please contact ACWA Senior State Relations Advocate, Kristopher Anderson, at KrisA@acwa.com or (916) 441-4545.

Sincerely,

Kristopher M. Anderson, Esq.
Senior State Relations Advocate
Association of California Water Agencies

Michael Quigley
Executive Director
California Alliance For Jobs

Chad Wegley
General Manager
Alta Irrigation District

Jessica Gauger
Director of Legislative Advocacy & Public Affairs
California Association of Sanitation Agencies

Larry B. McKenney
General Manager
Amador Water Agency

Danielle Blacet-Hyden
Deputy Executive Director
California Municipal Utilities Association

David J. Coxey
General Manager
Bella Vista Water District

Kristine McCaffrey
General Manager
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Camrosa Water District

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General Manager/CEO
Cucamonga Valley Water District

Daniel Muelrath
General Manager
Diablo Water District

Jan Lee
General Manager
Dublin San Ramon Services District

Joe Mouawad, P.E.
General Manager
Eastern Municipal Water District

Dennis Cafferty
General Manager
El Toro Water District

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Senior Director, Climate Resilient Water
Systems
Environmental Defense Fund

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General Manager
Fallbrook Public Utility District

Bruce Kamilos, P.E.
General Manager
Florin Resource Conservation District/Elk Grove
Water District

Nicholas Schneider
General Manager
Georgetown Divide Public Utility District

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General Manager
Helix Water District

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Water Resources Specialist II
Hidden Valley Lake Community Services District

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General Manager
Irvine Ranch Water District

Jeremy Wolf
Legislative Program Manager
Las Virgenes Municipal Water District

Ben Horenstein
General Manager
Marin Municipal Water District

Pat Kaspari
General Manager
McKinleyville Community Services District

Matt Hurley
General Manager
McMullin Area Groundwater Sustainability
Agency

Elizabeth Salomone
General Manager
Mendocino County Russian River Flood Control
& Water Conservation Improvement District

Kathryn Wuelfing
General Manager
Mid-Peninsula Water District

Justin Scott-Coe
General Manager
Monte Vista Water District

Nick Turner
General Manager
Montecito Water District

Jennifer Hanson
General Manager
Nevada Irrigation District

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San Juan Water District

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Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency
Albert C. Lau
General Manager
Santa Fe Irrigation District

Peter M. Rietkerk
General Manager
South San Joaquin Irrigation District

Justin Hopkins
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Stockton East Water District

Carlos Quintero
General Manager
Sweetwater Authority

Sean Barclay
General Manager
Tahoe City Public Utility District

Matthew Litchfield
General Manager
Three Valleys Municipal Water District

Deanna Jackson
Executive Director
Tri-County Water Authority

Jessica Self
General Manager
Union Public Utility District

Mark Tomko
General Manager
Vallejo Flood and Wastewater District

Gary Arant
General Manager
Valley Center Municipal Water District

Erik Hitchman
General Manager
Walnut Valley Water District

Craig D. Miller, P.E.
General Manager
Western Municipal Water District

cc: The Honorable Lori Wilson
Honorable Members, Senate Committee on Judiciary
Amanda Mattson, Counsel, Senate Committee on Judiciary
Morgan Branch, Policy Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus

SUPPORT

TWO-THIRDS OF CLIMATE RESILIENCE BOND FUNDING FOR WATER INFRASTRUCTURE TO HELP PREPARE CALIFORNIA FOR DROUGHTS, EXTREME PRECIPITATION EVENTS, AND FLOODS

June 6, 2024

The Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) and the undersigned organizations urge the Legislature to support a Climate Resilience Bond that allocates two-thirds of the funding for water infrastructure. Specifically, we urge the inclusion of the following categories and funding amounts **(based on an \$8.5 billion bond)**:

• Dam Safety/Reservoir Operations	\$623 million
• Recycling and Desalination	\$990 billion
• Safe Drinking Water	\$440 million
• Groundwater Management	\$733 million
• Flood Protection	\$733 million
• Regional Water Conveyance	\$586 million
• Regional Watershed Resilience	\$366 million
• Surface Water Storage	\$550 million
• State Water Project	\$366 million
• Water Use Efficiency	\$366 million
Total:	\$5.75 billion

WHY CALIFORNIA NEEDS WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING NOW:

- 1. Climate Adaptation** – Our water infrastructure was built for a climate that no longer exists. California faces increased risks of drought, floods, extreme precipitation events, and sea level rise that are presenting unique challenges to public water agencies and their ability to reliably provide water to California’s cities, communities, farms, businesses, and the environment. Investments in water infrastructure and fish and wildlife improvements are critically needed.
- 2. Rising Costs** – The costs associated with water infrastructure projects are substantial and will continue to rise. The longer we wait, the more expensive it will be to invest in infrastructure for swings between droughts of longer duration, extreme precipitation events, and floods.
- 3. Water Bill Affordability** – Water infrastructure projects are typically funded in large part by the customers of one or more public water agencies at a local or regional level. State funding assistance is needed to help deliver the projects and help keep water bills affordable for customers.
- 4. Jobs** – In addition to supporting climate resilience, bond-funded infrastructure projects will support good jobs and stimulate the economy.

There are many organizations asking for climate resilience funding. ACWA and the organizations listed here urge the Legislature to step back and consider how important being prepared on water is across the State and the level of investment that is needed for that preparation.

ACWA thanks you for your attention to this issue. Please direct any questions to ACWA State Relations Advocate, Soren Nelson, at sorenn@acwa.com or (916) 669-2367.

Soren Nelson
State Relations Advocate
Association of California Water Agencies

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General Manager
Burbank Water and Power

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Executive Director
CalDesal

Michael Quigley
Executive Director
California Alliance For Jobs

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Deputy Executive Director
California Municipal Utilities Association

Aaron Avery
Director of State Legislative Affairs
California Special Districts Association

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Councilmember, District 4 Chair, Law and
Legislation Committee
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Bruce Kamilos
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Greg Thomas
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Nina Jazmadarian
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Foothill Municipal Water District

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Water Resources Specialist
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Government Affairs Officer
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Las Virgenes Municipal Water District

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Executive Legislative Representative
Metropolitan Water District of Southern
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Mid-Peninsula Water District

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Mission Springs Water District

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Mountain Counties Water Resources
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President
Northern California Water Association

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CEO/General Manager
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Palmdale Water District

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Acting General Manager
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Patterson Irrigation District

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Rancho California Water District

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San Diego County Water Authority

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General Manager
San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
James Prior
General Manager
San Gabriel County Water District

Lance Eckhart
General Manager
San Geronio Pass Water Agency

Paul Helliker
General Manager
San Juan Water District

J. Scott Petersen, P.E.
Water Policy Director
San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority

Bart Broome
Assistant Officer for State Government
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Santa Fe Irrigation District

Nicole Stanfield
Director of Communications
Santa Margarita Water District

Grant Davis
General Manager
Sonoma Water

Charles Wilson
Executive Director/CEO
Southern California Water Coalition

Jennifer Pierre
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State Water Contractors

Kent Nelson
General Manager
Stinson Beach County Water District

Richard Atkins
President
Stockton East Water District

Sean Barclay
General Manager
Tahoe City Public Utility District

Matthew Litchfield
General Manager
Three Valleys Municipal Water District

Deanna Jackson
Executive Director
Tri-County Water Authority

Don Perkins
General Manager
Tuolumne Utilities District

Thomas Love
General Manager
Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water
District

Joel Metzger
General Manager
Utica Water and Power Authority

Gary Arant
General Manager
Valley Center Municipal Water District

Sheryl Shaw, P.E.
General Manager
Walnut Valley Water District

Tim Kasper
General Manager
Weaverville Community Services District

Willie Whittlesey
General Manager
Yuba Water Agency



WATER AND POWER



CMUA CALIFORNIA MUNICIPAL UTILITIES ASSOCIATION



City of SACRAMENTO

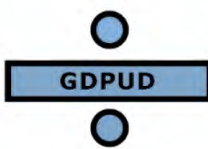


CONTRA COSTA WATER DISTRICT

CSDA



MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT



Irvine Ranch Water District



McMullin Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency



1947



NCWA Northern California Water Association



PALMDALE WATER DISTRICT A CENTURY OF SERVICE



PASADENA Water & Power



San Diego County Water Authority And Its 24 Member Agencies



San Francisco Water Power Sewer Services of the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission



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Guardians of the Source: Strengthening Watershed Resilience for Future Generations

Regions 3 and 4 Program and Tour

Wednesday, July 31, 2024

10:00 a.m. – 3:45 p.m.

Roseville City Corporation Yard

2005 Hilltop Circle, Roseville, CA 95678

Join us in Roseville on July 31 for an enriching program and insightful tour, alongside a chance to network with peers from across greater Sacramento and the Mountain Counties regions. Discover the impactful work of the Sacramento Regional Water Bank, a pioneering initiative led by public water agencies, ensuring robust watershed reliability. Explore how Roseville's innovative groundwater program bolsters water supply security, fosters sustainability, and aligns with regional conjunctive use objectives. Cap off the day with an engaging tour of a local aquifer storage and recovery well, gaining firsthand insight into the cutting-edge technology driving the city's water management efforts.

The event will include a continental breakfast and networking lunch. The tour location is just a short drive away, and attendees are responsible for arranging their transportation. Parking will be available, and we encourage attendees to consider ride sharing.

[REGISTER NOW](#)

Registration Fee: ACWA Member \$50 | Non-member \$75

Registration Fee Includes: Breakfast, Lunch, Materials, Program & tour

Online Registration and Cancellations Deadline: **July 19** or until space is full. Cancellations must be made in writing to receive reimbursement by **July 19 at 5 p.m.** Substitutions can be made in writing by **July 19**; Event details are subject to change and registrants will be notified by e-mail if changes occur.

*** ACWA staff will provide an update prior to the event, informing attendees of any health and safety requirements.**

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



QUESTIONS: Contact **Jennifer Rotz** at jenniferr@acwa.com or **Ana Javaid** at anaj@acwa.com

This event is hosted by City of Roseville, Environmental Utilities and **ACWA Regions 3 and 4**

ACWA Region 3 Board 2024-'25

Chair: Larry McKenney, Amador Water Agency • **Vice Chair:** Michael Saunders, Georgetown Divide Public Utility District
Board Members: Jim Abercrombie, El Dorado Irrigation District; Sean Barclay, Tahoe City Public Utility District; Jennifer Hanson, Nevada Irrigation District; Michael Minkler, Calaveras County Water District; Jessica Self, Union Public Utility District

ACWA REGION 4 BOARD 2024-'25

Chair: Brian Sanders, City of Sacramento – Department of Utilities • **Vice Chair:** Cary Keaten, Solano Irrigation District
Board Members: Ronald Davis, Carmichael Water District; Tom Orvis, Oakdale Irrigation District; Kristin Sicke, Yolo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District; Andrew Watkins, Stockton East Water District; David Weisenberger, Banta-Carbona Irrigation District

MY ACWA

EVENTS

REGIONS



MAXIMIZE YOUR MEMBERSHIP

1 Engage In The Issues	2 Stay Informed, Take Action	3 Network & Gain Knowledge	4 Save Money	5 Get Insured
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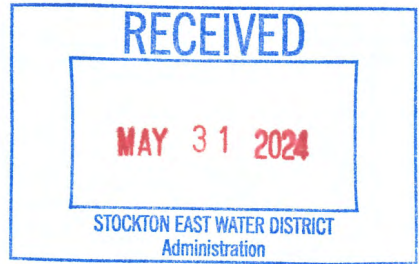
LEARN MORE

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980 9th St. Ste 1000, Sacramento, CA 95814

We hope you enjoy receiving email notices and updates from ACWA. At any time you can click [here](#) to unsubscribe or to change your subscription preferences.



May 28, 2024



Justin Hopkins
Stockton East Water District
P.O. Box 5157
Stockton, CA 95205

6133 Freeport Blvd., 2nd Floor
Sacramento, CA 95822-3534
(916) 391-5030 F (916) 391-5044

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Jeff Sutton
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Greg Johnson, CFWC President
Western Canal Water District

North Central Region
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Turlock Irrigation District
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San Luis Water District

South Central Region
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Bill Stone
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Peter G. Nelson
Coachella Valley Water District

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Stan Lester
Lester Farms
Mark McKean
Kings River Conservation District
Sheridan Nicholas
Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa W.S.D.
Randy Record
Paso Robles, CA
Johnny Amaral
Friant Service Area
Diana Westmoreland
California Women for Agriculture
Wayne Western, CFWC Sec./Treas.
Hammonds Ranch

Executive Director
Michael Wade

www.farmwater.org

Dear Mr. Hopkins:

Thank you for your membership contribution to the California Farm Water Coalition. It is your generous support that makes it possible for us to tell consumers about the importance of farm water in their everyday lives.

CFWC is a statewide, non-profit educational organization formed in 1989 to provide fact-based information on farm water issues to the public. Our organization works to help consumers, elected representatives, government officials and the media make the connection between farm water and the nation's food supply.

Water scarcity and environmental challenges pose a serious threat to the sustainability of our agricultural practices. Teaching the public about the vital role California farmers play in our food supply will help them become informed supporters.

Public education is a core mission of ours and to be effective, we have to reach people where they are. In today's world, we accomplish that with an effective, data-driven social media program, hands-on, interactive exhibits designed for kids, and with farm tours designed for social media influencers that help educate hundreds of thousands of followers on every visit.

Please scan the QR code below with the camera on your mobile device to see examples of our outreach materials and the positive messages we're distributing on the behalf members like you.

These examples and more are all part of our continuing work to ensure the public, elected leaders, and the media have accurate, factual information about California's farms and the food and fiber they produce.

If you have any questions about our programs or activities this past year, or if you would like to discuss what we have in store for the rest of 2024, please feel free to call me at (916) 391-5030.

Sincerely,

Mike Wade
Executive Director



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1810 E. Hazelton Avenue
P. O. Box 1810
Stockton, CA 95201

(209) 468-3089
ESJgroundwater@sjgov.org
esjgroundwater.org

****CANCELLATION NOTICE ****

THE JUNE 12th 2024
EASTERN SAN JOAQUIN
GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY STEERING
COMMITTEE MEETING HAS BEEN CANCELED

The next regularly scheduled Eastern San Joaquin
Groundwater Authority Steering Committee
meeting will be held on

September 11th, 2024

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