ITEM NO. 11.4

April Jacobs

From: ejglad (null) <ejglad@aol.com>

Sent: Saturday, March 12, 2022 7:58 AM

To: April Jacobs **Subject:** AB 1234 Report

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DIRECTOR's AB 1234 REPORT

Director's Name: Jerry Gladbach

Meeting Attended: ACWA's Legislative Symposium Date of Meeting: March 10, 2022 Date of Meeting to be Presented:

April 5, 2022 Points of Interest:

Pamela Tobin, President of ACWA welcomed everyone Brian Poulsen, Chair of ACWA's State Legislative Committee, described how the Committee operates, it has 40 members, 10 from each region, however many more attend. All are welcome to participate, and there is often a very lively discussion. However, only members of the committee can vote.

The committee gives staff the direction on what to pursue

The first panel was:

Subject: Drought and Resilience: A California Way of Life

Moderator: David Pedersen, GM of Las Virgenes MWD Panelists were:

Assemblymember Laura Friedman, from Glendale Senator Robert Hertzberg, from Van Nuys Senator John Laird, from

Sant Cruz Points that were made are:

It is great working with ACWA

Everything is dependent on water

We must use water wisely

50% of the water in California is used for the environment, and 50% for everything else.

Of the latter 50%, 80% is used for ag and 20% for urban including industrial The phrase: "use water efficiently" is much more acceptable than "conserve water"

Education is critical and we must recognize that it takes time for people to come along We must keep pushing the envelope

The second panel was:

Subject: State Budget Funding for Infrastructure, Drought, and Healthy Forests

Moderator: Cindy Tuck, Deputy Executive Director, ACWA Panelists were:

Wade Crowfoot, Secretary, Ca. Natural Resources Agency Alf Brandt, General Counsel, Office of Ca. Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon Kip Lipper, Chief Policy Advisor for Energy, Natural Resources, and Environment Office of Ca. Senate Pro Tem Toni Adkins The points that were made are:

The panel complimented ACWA on the way ACWA works with their agencies, ACWA is very forthright, honest and pleasant More money needs to go to desal, but it is very expensive Dam safety is a big issue, but who should pay for studies, remediation, etc.

Will DWR ask the Legislature for more funds for dam safety More water needs to flow south, there needs to be a new study of the bay-delta and the study should have a peer review and go from there The regulatory process takes way too long to get done

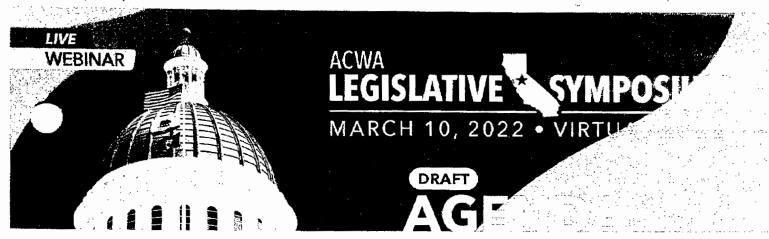
The last part was:

A Conservation with Assemblymember Bauer-Karan from Orinda It was a conservation between the Assemblymember and Julie Hall, Senior Legislative Advocate for ACWA.

Points that were made are:

It is great working with ACWA, it is a great partnership ACWA does great work, especially now during the drought We need more surface storage We need to get more information on atmospheric rivers so we can do a better job on operating the reservoirs, so as not to release water unnecessarily We are concerned about dam safety, it is a critical issue Let's do those things that give good results She is impressed with the progress of GSAs in responding to. SIGMA A lot of work needs to be done for our waterfuture Eliminate unnecessary burdens on water agencies

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9:00 AM Welcome Remarks

Pamela Tobin, President, Association of California Water Agencies

Brian Poulsen, Chair, State Legislative Committee, Association of California Water Agencies

9:10 AM ACWA Outreach Program Update

9:15 AM Drought and Resilience: A California Way of Life

Nearly six years ago, former Governor Brown signed Executive Order B-37-16 calling for concrete actions that "Make Conservation a California Way of Life." The Legislature has taken an active role implementing that vision, and continues to engage on these critical issues as California experiences its second drought within a decade. Hear a discussion of next steps on this path of efficiency and conservation.

MODERATOR

David Pedersen, General Manager, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District

PANELISTS

Assemblymember Laura Friedman (D-Glendale)

Senator Robert Hertzberg (D - Van Nuys)

Senator John Laird (D-Santa Cruz)

10:30 AM Break

10:45 AM State Budget Funding for Infrastructure, Drought, and Healthy Forests

Last year the Legislature and Governor passed a three year, \$5.2 billion funding package for water and drought resilience. ACWA advocated extensively in support of some of the key categories contained in the budget.

This year, Governor Newsom unveiled his proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2022-23. This proposal would build on last year's funding package by adding an additional \$750 million for various water issues including water conservation, implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, and multi-benefit land repurposing. In addition, the Governor's proposed budget also allocates \$1.2 billion to wildfire resilience and forest management.

Though ACWA is pleased to see funding for critical water issues, there are still categories of funding that should be added or bolstered. This panel will focus on the State Budget, the Legislature's priorities, and potential opportunities for additional water infrastructure funding.

MODERATOR

Cindy Tuck, Deputy Executive Director, Association of California Water Agencies

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PANELISTS

Wade Crowfoot, Secretary, California Natural Resources Agency

Alf Brandt, General Counsel, Office of California Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon

Kip Lipper, Chief Policy Advisor for Energy, Natural Resources, and Environment Office of California Senate Pro Tempore Toni Atkins

12:00 PM A Conversation with Assemblymember Bauer-Kahan (D-Orinda)

Join us for a conversation with Assemblymember Bauer-Kahan, the new Chair of the Assembly Committee on Water, Parks & Wildlife. This will be an opportunity to hear about her priorities for the Committee and thoughts on issues like drought, water efficiency, and water management in an age of climate change.

MODERATOR

Julia Bishop Hall, Senior Legislative Advocate, Association of California Water Agencies

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan (D-Orinda), Chair of the Assembly Committee on Water, Parks & Wildlife.

12:30 PM Concluded

Programs are subject to change without notice.