



**SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
AGENDA
27234 BOUQUET CANYON ROAD
SANTA CLARITA, CA 91350
RIO VISTA WATER TREATMENT PLANT BOARDROOM
TUESDAY, AUGUST 20, 2019 AT 6:30 PM**

6:00 PM DISCOVERY ROOM OPEN TO PUBLIC
Dinner for Directors and staff in the Discovery Room
There will be no discussion of Agency business taking place prior to the
Call to Order at 6:30 PM.

OPEN SESSION BEGINS AT 6:30 PM

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** – Members of the public may comment as to items not on the Agenda at this time. Members of the public wishing to comment on items covered in this Agenda may do so now or prior to each item as they arise. Please complete and return a comment request form to the Agency Board Secretary. (Comments may, at the discretion of the Board's presiding officer, be limited to three minutes for each speaker.) Members of the public wishing to comment on items covered in Closed Session before they are considered by the Board must request to make comment at the commencement of the meeting at 6:30 PM.

4. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

5. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

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5.1. *	Approve Minutes of the SCV Water August 6, 2019 Regular Board of Directors Meeting	5
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6. **ACTION ITEMS FOR APPROVAL**

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6.1. *	Approve a Resolution Entering Into a Contract with Van Scoyoc Associates, Inc. for Federal Legislative Advocacy	19
6.2. *	Approve a Resolution Authorizing the General Manager to Enter into a Funding Agreement with DWR for Preliminary Planning and Design Costs Related to a Potential New Delta Conveyance Option	133

6. ACTION ITEMS FOR APPROVAL (CONT.) PAGE

6.3. *	Consider and Approve an Amendment to the Board of Directors Policies and Procedures	137
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7. UPDATE ON PFAS – PRESENTATION – 20 MINUTES

8. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF BOARD/COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

- 8.1. Authorize Director Participation on the ACWA 2020/2021 Committees:
- President Cooper – Water Quality Committee, Local Government Committee and Groundwater Committee
- Vice President Martin – Groundwater Committee
- Director Atkins – Local Government Committee and Water Quality Committee
- Director Gladbach – Business Development Committee, Energy Committee, Federal Affairs Committee and Local Government Committee
- Director R. J. Kelly – Business Development Committee, Finance Committee and Communications Committee
- Director Plambeck – Groundwater Committee and Water Quality Committee
- 8.2. Authorize General Counsel Participation on the ACWA 2020/2021 Groundwater Committee - Tom Bunn

9. GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORT ON ACTIVITIES, PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS

10. PRESIDENT’S REPORT

11. AB 1234 WRITTEN AND VERBAL REPORTS PAGE

11.1.*	July 29, 2019 ACWA’s Region 8 Nominating Committee Conference Call – Director Gladbach	147
11.2.*	August 1, 2019 Lunch with the General Manager – Director Gladbach	151
11.3.*	August 2, 2019 National Water Resources Association California Caucus Conference Call – Director Gladbach	153
11.4.*	August 6-9, 2019 National Water Resources Association Western Water Seminar – Director Gladbach	157
11.5.*	August 7, 2019 ACWA Groundwater Committee Meeting – Director Plambeck	165

11. AB 1234 WRITTEN AND VERBAL REPORTS PAGE

11.6.	August 13-16, 2019 Urban Water Institute Conference – Vice President Martin and Director Kelly	
11.7.	Other AB 1234 Reports	

12. DIRECTORS REPORT

13. CLOSED SESSION

- 13.1. Conference with Real Property Negotiators (Section 54956.8):
Property: Water Exchange(s) of SCV Water’s 2019 State Project Water Supply
Agency Negotiators: Mathew G. Stone and Dirk Marks
Negotiating Parties: Various Parties
Under Negotiation: Terms of Exchange(s)

- 13.2. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation – Significant Exposure to Litigation Pursuant to Paragraph (2) of Subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9: (One Case) – Claim of Paul Halushka Against Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency, Date of Claim July 16, 2019

14. CLOSED SESSION ANNOUNCEMENTS

15. DIRECTOR REQUESTS FOR APPROVAL FOR EVENT ATTENDANCE

16. REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

17. ADJOURNMENT

- * Indicates Attachment
- ◆ Indicates Handout

Note: The Board reserves the right to discuss or take action or both on all of the above agenda items.

NOTICES

Any person may make a request for a disability-related modification or accommodation needed for that person to be able to participate in the public meeting by telephoning (661) 297-1600, or writing to Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency at 27234 Bouquet Canyon Road, Santa Clarita, CA 91350. Requests must specify the nature of the disability and the type of accommodation requested. A telephone number or other contact information should be included so that Agency staff may discuss appropriate arrangements. Persons requesting a disability-related accommodation should make the request with adequate time before the meeting for the Agency to provide the requested accommodation.

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Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.5, non-exempt public records that relate to open session agenda items and are distributed to a majority of the Board less than seventy-two (72) hours prior to the meeting will be available for public inspection at the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency, located at 27234 Bouquet Canyon Road, Santa Clarita, California 91350, during regular business hours. When practical, these public records will also be made available on the Agency's Internet Website, accessible at <http://www.yourscvwater.com>.

Posted on August 14, 2019.

M65

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency – August 6, 2019

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency was held at the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency located at 27234 Bouquet Canyon Road, Santa Clarita, CA 91350 at 6:30 PM on Tuesday, August 6, 2019. A copy of the Agenda is inserted in the Minute Book of the Agency preceding these minutes.

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Dante Acosta, Tom Campbell, Ed Colley, Kathy Colley, William Cooper, Robert DiPrimio, Maria Gutzeit, R. J. Kelly, Gary Martin, Dan Mortensen and Lynne Plambeck.

DIRECTORS ABSENT: B. J. Atkins and Jerry Gladbach.

Also present: Matthew Stone, General Manager; Tom Bunn, General Counsel; April Jacobs, Board Secretary; Steve Cole, Assistant General Manager; Keith Abercrombie, Chief Operating Officer; Eric Campbell, Chief Financial and Administrative Officer; Brian Folsom, Chief Engineer; Rochelle Patterson, Director of Finance and Administration; Dirk Marks, Director of Water Resources; Cris Perez, Director of Technology Services; Kathie Martin, Public Information Officer; Ryan Bye, Water Quality/Regulatory Compliance Supervisor; Jenny Anderson, Water Quality Specialists; Dean Takashima, Water Quality Specialist; Mark Passamani, Safety Officer; Rick Vasilopoulos, Associate Water Resources Planner; Craig Larsen, IT Technician; Terri Bell, Administrative Assistant; and members of the public.

President Cooper called the meeting to order at 6:31 PM. A quorum was present.

Upon motion of Director Acosta, seconded by Director Mortensen and carried, the Agenda was approved by the following electronic votes (Item 4):

Director Acosta	Yes	Director Atkins	Absent
Director Campbell	Yes	Director E. Colley	Yes
Director K. Colley	Yes	President Cooper	Yes
Director DiPrimio	Yes	Director Gladbach	Absent
Vice President Gutzeit	Yes	Director Kelly	Yes
Vice President Martin	Yes	Director Mortensen	Yes
Director Plambeck	Yes		

Upon motion of Director Mortensen, seconded by Director DiPrimio and carried, the Board approved the Consent Calendar including Resolution No. SCV-115 by the following electronic votes (Item 5):

Director Acosta	Yes	Director Atkins	Absent
Director Campbell	Yes	Director E. Colley	Yes
Director K. Colley	Yes	President Cooper	Yes
Director DiPrimio	Yes	Director Gladbach	Absent
Vice President Gutzeit	Yes	Director Kelly	Yes
Vice President Martin	Yes	Director Mortensen	Yes
Director Plambeck	Yes		

RESOLUTION NO. SCV-115

JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES ACTING IN BEHALF OF

Los Angeles County General Fund

Los Angeles County Library

Los Angeles County Road District #5

Los Angeles County Consolidated Fire Protection District

Los Angeles County Flood Control

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF SANTA CLARITA VALLEY SANITATION DISTRICT OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY, AND THE GOVERNING BODIES OF

Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District

Antelope Valley Resource Conservation District

Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency

APPROVING AND ACCEPTING NEGOTIATED EXCHANGE OF PROPERTY TAX REVENUES RESULTING FROM ANNEXATION TO SANTA CLARITA VALLEY SANITATION DISTRICT.

"ANNEXATION NO. 1101"

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 99 and 99.01 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, prior to the effective date of any jurisdictional change which will result in a special district providing a new service, the governing bodies of all local agencies that receive an apportionment of the property tax from the area must determine the amount of property tax revenues from the annual tax increment to be exchanged between the affected agencies and approve and accept the negotiated exchange of property tax revenues by resolution; and

WHEREAS, the governing bodies of the agencies signatory hereto have made determinations of the amount of property tax revenues from the annual tax increments to be exchanged as a result of the annexation to Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District entitled *Annexation No. 1101*;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. The negotiated exchange of property tax revenues resulting from the annexation of territory to Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District in the annexation entitled *Annexation No. 1101* is approved and accepted.
2. For each fiscal year commencing on and after July 1, 2019 or after the effective date of this jurisdictional change, whichever is later, the County Auditor shall transfer to Santa Clarita

Valley Sanitation District a total of 0.9592213 percent of the annual tax increment attributable to the land area encompassed within *Annexation No. 1101* as shown on the attached Worksheet.

3. No additional transfer of property tax revenues shall be made from any other tax agencies to Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District as a result of annexation entitled *Annexation No. 1101*.

4. No transfer of property tax increments from properties within a community redevelopment project, which are legally committed to a Community Redevelopment Agency, shall be made during the period that such tax increment is legally committed for repayment of the redevelopment project costs.

5. If at any time after the effective date of this resolution, the calculations used herein to determine initial property tax transfers or the data used to perform those calculations are found to be incorrect thus producing an improper or inaccurate property tax transfer, the property tax transfer shall be recalculated and the corrected transfer shall be implemented for the next fiscal year.

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles, the Board of Directors of Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District of Los Angeles County, and the governing bodies of Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District, Antelope Valley Resource Conservation District, and Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency, signatory hereto.

Upon motion of Director Campbell, seconded by Director Mortensen and carried, the Board approved Resolution No. SCV-116 authorizing the General Manager to adopt CEQA findings and direct staff to submit a LAFCO Application for Annexation of Tesoro Del Valle by the following electronic votes (Item 6.1):

Director Acosta	Yes	Director Atkins	Absent
Director Campbell	Yes	Director E. Colley	No
Director K. Colley	No	President Cooper	Yes
Director DiPrimio	Yes	Director Gladbach	Absent
Vice President Gutzeit	Yes	Director Kelly	Yes
Vice President Martin	Yes	Director Mortensen	Yes
Director Plambeck	Abstain		

RESOLUTION NO. SCV-116

A RESOLUTION OF APPLICATION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY REQUESTING THAT THE LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES (LAFCO) INITIATE PROCEEDINGS FOR THE CHANGE OF ORGANIZATION ON BEHALF OF BRISTOL LAND COMPANY LLC FOR THE TESORO ANNEXATION, MAKING RESPONSIBLE AGENCY FINDINGS PURSUANT TO THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT, AND APPROVING THE PROJECT IN THE AGENCY'S LIMITED ROLE AS RESPONSIBLE AGENCY

WHEREAS, Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency (“SCV Water”) is a water agency created to acquire, hold, and utilize water and water rights, including, but not limited to, water available from the state under the State Water Resources Development System/State Water Project (“SWP”), and to provide, sell, manage, and deliver surface water, groundwater, and recycled water for municipal, industrial, domestic, and other purposes at retail and wholesale within the boundaries of SCV Water; and

WHEREAS, Bristol Land Company LLC (“Applicant”), owns 1,274.6 acres adjacent to the boundary of SCV Water in the County of Los Angeles of which approximately 323.43 acres is proposed for annexation to SCV Water (“Annexation Lands”); and

WHEREAS, SCV Water’s predecessor in interest, Castaic Lake Water Agency (“CLWA”), and Applicant’s predecessor in interest, Montalvo Properties, LLC, executed various documents establishing the obligations, conditions and responsibilities consistent with CLWA’s Annexation Policy, and its underlying principles, necessary for the orderly development and service of water to the Annexation Lands. These documents include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. February 19, 2013 Deposit and Funding Agreement (“Deposit and Funding Agreement”)
2. September 29, 2017 Amended and Restated Annexation Agreement (“Annexation Agreement”)

WHEREAS, the Deposit and Funding Agreement requires, among other things, that the Applicant pay for all staff time and fees relating to SCV Water’s preparation and submittal of an annexation application to LAFCO; and

WHEREAS, SCV Water desires to initiate proceedings pursuant to the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000, Government Code section 56000 et seq., for a change of organization for annexation of the Annexation Lands into SCV Water; and

WHEREAS, the proposed change of organization requested by this Resolution of Application pursuant to Government Code section 56654 is annexation of the Annexation Lands to SCV Water (“Annexation”); and

WHEREAS, the proposed Annexation is not consistent with the sphere of influence (“SOI”) of SCV Water, therefore, it is proposed and requested that the SCV Water SOI be concurrently amended to reflect the proposed Annexation; and

WHEREAS, the territory proposed to be annexed is uninhabited; and

WHEREAS, the boundaries of the Annexation Lands are described in the legal description, and depicted on the corresponding maps, Exhibit “A” and Exhibit “B”, respectively, for annexation, which are incorporated herein by reference; and

WHEREAS, the County of Los Angeles (“County”) served as the lead agency responsible for the environmental review, analysis, and approval of the Tesoro Del Valle project (“Project”) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) (Pub. Res. Code, § 21000, et seq.) and the State CEQA Guidelines (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15000, et seq.), which project includes construction of 820 residential units, including 455 conventional single-family units and 365 age-qualified dwelling units; 19.1 acres of parks and other recreational amenities, including trails; a 2.1 acre helispot; an internal circulation system; and associated infrastructure and utility

systems on a development footprint of approximately 393.6 acres located in unincorporated Los Angeles County, north of Avenida Rancho Tesoro and west of Casa Luna; and

WHEREAS, the County of Los Angeles (“County”) analyzed the Tesoro Del Valle project consistent with CEQA and certified a Final Environmental Impact Report (State Clearinghouse No. 93021007) (“1999 FEIR”) for the Project in or about 1999, which EIR consists of a Draft Environmental Impact Report (“DEIR”) dated October 1995, the Technical Appendices to the DEIR dated October 1995, the Final EIR dated December 1996, and the Additional Environmental Information for Inclusion in the Final EIR for Revised Tesoro Del Valle Project dated October 1998; and

WHEREAS, on or about November 7, 2018, the County certified a Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (State Clearinghouse No. 2016101032) (“SEIR”) and adopted a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (“MMRP”) for the Project consistent with CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines; and

WHEREAS, the 1999 Final EIR and the SEIR both contemplated and analyzed the environmental impacts of the Annexation and further analyzed the Project’s impacts on water supply, water system capacity, and other water-related issues; and

WHEREAS, on or about November 7, 2018, the County made certain findings consistent with State CEQA Guidelines section 15091 before approving the Project (the “Findings”), including findings that (1) the Project’s impacts associated with water supply would be less than significant, and (2) changes have been required in, or incorporated into, the Project that would reduce impacts to water and wastewater system capacity to less than significant levels; and

WHEREAS, SCV Water hereby incorporates by reference the 1999 FEIR, the SEIR, the MMRP, and the Findings, copies of which are on file with SCV Water; and

WHEREAS, SCV Water has more limited approval and implementing authority over the Project and thus serves only as a “responsible agency” for the Project pursuant to the requirements of CEQA; and

WHEREAS, SCV Water has considered the SEIR, the MMRP, the County’s Findings, and other information in the record consistent with the process set forth in State CEQA Guidelines section 15096; and

WHEREAS, SCV Water, at its agendized public meeting on October 18, 2006 independently reviewed and considered the 1999 FEIR, the SEIR, the MMRP, the Findings, and all other related documents in the record before it; and

WHEREAS, all the procedures of CEQA have been met, and the SEIR prepared in connection with the Project is sufficiently detailed so that all of the potential effects of the Project relating to those potential environmental impacts within SCV Water’s powers and authorities as responsible agency, along with all measures necessary to avoid or substantially lessen such effects, have been evaluated in accordance with CEQA; and

WHEREAS, all of the findings and conclusions made by SCV Water pursuant to this Resolution are based upon the oral and written evidence presented to it as a whole and not based solely on the information provided in this Resolution; and

WHEREAS, all other legal prerequisites to the adoption of this Resolution have occurred.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that:

1. Recitals. The foregoing recitals are true and correct and are incorporated herein and made an operative part of this Resolution of Application.
2. CEQA Compliance. As the decision-making body for SCV Water, and in SCV Water's limited role as a responsible agency under CEQA, the SCV Water Board of Directors ("Board of Directors") has reviewed and considered the information contained in the 1999 FEIR, the SEIR, the MMRP, the Findings, and all supporting documentation. Based on this review, the Board of Directors finds that, as to those potential environmental impacts within SCV Water's powers and authorities as responsible agency, the 1999 FEIR, SEIR, and supporting environmental documentation contain a complete, objective, and accurate reporting of the Project's and Annexation's potential impacts; the Board of Directors further finds that these documents comply with all CEQA requirements. These findings reflect the independent judgment and analysis of the Board of Directors.
3. Findings on Environmental Impacts. Having considered the EIRs discussed above, and in its limited role as a responsible agency under CEQA and as required by State CEQA Guidelines sections 15091 and 15096, the Board of Directors finds and agrees with the County that (1) the Project's impacts associated with water supply would be less than significant, and that the Project includes a measure, MM-Util-3, that would further reduce the Project's already less than significant impacts on water supply, and (2) changes have been required in, or incorporated into, the Project that would reduce impacts to water system capacity to less than significant levels; in particular implementation of MM Util-1 and MM Util-2 as set forth in the Findings and in the MMRP would reduce impacts to water and wastewater system capacity to less than significant levels. The Board of Directors thus finds that with the mitigation measures set forth in the MMRP, the Project or Annexation will not result in potentially significant environmental impacts as to those potential environmental impacts within SCV Water's powers and authorities as responsible agency, and that there are no feasible alternatives within the SCV Water's powers that are required to avoid or substantially reduce these less-than-significant impacts. The Board of Directors further finds that any comments received by the Board of Directors regarding the Project and/or Annexation have been examined and determined to not modify the conclusions of the SEIR. Therefore, the Board of Directors adopts the County's CEQA Findings and MMRP as its own.
4. Approval of Project. Within its limited role as a utility provider for the Project, the Board of Directors hereby approves the Project.
5. A proposal is hereby made by SCV Water to LAFCO for a change of organization as follows:
 - a. This proposal is made pursuant to the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 commencing with Section 56000 of the California Government Code.

- b. The nature of the proposed change of organization is the annexation of the Annexation Lands to SCV Water (“Annexation”).
- c. The Annexation Lands are not within the Sphere of Influence (“SOI”) of SCV Water, therefore it is requested that the SOI of SCV Water be concurrently amended to reflect the proposed Annexation.
- d. The affected territory proposed to be annexed is uninhabited.
- e. The boundaries of the Annexation Lands are described in the legal description, and depicted on the corresponding map, Exhibit “A” and Exhibit “B”, respectively, for annexation, which are incorporated herein by reference.
- f. The reason for proposed Annexation, together with the proposed SOI amendment, is to permit the Annexation Lands to be served by SCV Water and for the efficiencies resulting therefrom.
- g. It is desired that the proposed Annexation provide for and is made subject to the following terms and conditions:
 - 1) The Annexation Lands, once annexed, will be subject to all rules and regulations of SCV Water, including but limited to water efficiency guidelines, conservation requirements and Best Management Practices.
 - 2) Any previously authorized service fees, charges, assessments or taxes of SCV Water shall be extended to the Annexation Lands, once annexed, and the Annexation Lands shall be subject to the payment of such service fees, charges, assessments, or taxes as SCV Water currently imposes and may legally impose in the future. Applicant will not oppose the imposition of any service fees, charges, assessments, or taxes currently applicable to SCV Water, or the Annexation Lands.
 - 3) Once the Annexation Lands are annexed, any taxes, fees, charges, or assessments for SCV Water may be collected by the County of Los Angeles Tax Collector in the same manner as ad valorem property taxes or otherwise allowed by law.
 - 4) DWR approval of extension of the SCV Water service area for use of SWP facilities for delivery of water to the Annexation Lands.
 - 5) Formation by SCV Water of a Water Service Area within the Annexation Lands, once annexed.
 - 6) Payment by Applicant to SCV Water of the following:
 - i. All fees, charges and other payments due under the Deposit and Funding Agreement and/or Annexation Agreement, and/or the Water Annexation Policy applicable to the Annexation Lands,

including but not limited to the following, as calculated as of the effective date of the Annexation:

- (a) Facility Capacity and Connection Fees;
 - (b) Annexation Charges and State Water Project Back Taxes pursuant to Section 7 of the Annexation Agreement;
 - (c) Annexation Charges/BV-RBB Costs pursuant to Section 8 of the Annexation Agreement;
 - (d) Past Carrying Costs pursuant to Section 8 of the Annexation Agreement;
 - (e) Standby Charges pursuant to Sections 8 and 10 of the Annexation Agreement; provided however, no new special internal district(s) for purposes of establishing, adopting, levying, or collecting Standby Charges for the Annexation Lands, will be established;
 - (f) Annexation Charges/1% Property Tax Transfer and Back Taxes pursuant to Section 9 of the Annexation Agreement;
 - (g) Past BV-RRB Acquisition and Past Carrying Cost pursuant to Section 13 of the Annexation Agreement;
 - (h) Payment of all processing costs including but not limited to, Title reports, carrying costs not otherwise captured above, staff time, engineering costs, environmental costs, and costs associated with legal services;
 - (i) Payment of Property Tax Equivalent pursuant to Section 13 of the Annexation Agreement;
 - (j) All other costs not otherwise captured above, as specified and identified in the Deposit and Funding Agreement.
- 7) Applicant's payment of all LAFCO fees for the Annexation and SOI Amendment currently set at \$8,500.00 and any State Board of Equalization fees due as a result of the Annexation; and other related fees.
 - 8) The effective date of the annexation shall be the date of execution of the certificate of completion by LAFCO.
6. SCV Water consents to waive protest proceedings pursuant to Government Code Section 56662(a) (1) through 56662(a) (3), inclusive, and 56662(d).
 7. This Resolution of Application is hereby adopted and approved by SCV Water and LAFCO is hereby requested to initiate proceedings for the annexation of

territory as authorized and in the manner provided by the Cortese-Know-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000.

8. SCV Water is hereby authorized and directed to file a certified copy of this Resolution together with the required application and other documents for the Annexation and corresponding SOI regarding the Annexation Lands, with the Executive Officer of the Local Agency Formation Commission for the County of Los Angeles.
9. Notice of Determination. The Board of Directors directs staff to file a CEQA Notice of Determination with the County of Los Angeles Clerk and State Clearinghouse within five (5) working days of adoption of this Resolution.
10. Custodian of Records. The documents and materials that constitute the record of proceedings on which this Resolution and the above findings have been based, including but not limited to the 1999 FEIR, the SEIR, the MMRP, and the Findings, are located at the offices of the SCV Water, 27234 Bouquet Canyon Road, Santa Clarita, CA 91350. The custodian for these records is SCV Water Board Secretary.
11. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption by the Board of Directors of SCV Water.

Upon motion of Director Mortensen, seconded by Director Campbell and carried, the Board approved Resolution No. SCV-117 entering into a contract with Richard D. Niehaus, Inc. as the selected Ratepayer Advocate by the following electronic votes (Item 6.2):

Director Acosta	Yes	Director Atkins	Absent
Director Campbell	Yes	Director E. Colley	Yes
Director K. Colley	Yes	President Cooper	Yes
Director DiPrimio	Yes	Director Gladbach	Absent
Vice President Gutzeit	Yes	Director Kelly	Yes
Vice President Martin	Yes	Director Mortensen	Yes
Director Plambeck	Yes		

RESOLUTION NO. SCV-117

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH ROBERT D. NIEHAUS, INC. (RDN) AS THE RATEPAYER ADVOCATE

WHEREAS, Section 14(3)(b) of Senate Bill 634 (Chapter No. 833, 2017), the bill creating the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency (the "Agency"), required the Agency to develop a rate-setting process that includes an independent ratepayer advocate; and

WHEREAS, the ratepayer advocate is to advise the Board of Directors and provide information to the public before the adoption of new wholesale and retail water service rates and charges; and

WHEREAS, the ratepayer advocate shall be selected by and report directly to the Board of Directors and shall be independent from Agency staff and advocate on behalf of customers within the Agency's boundaries to the Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, the ratepayer advocate shall have access to all pertinent Agency documents and information to independently advise the Board of Directors and inform the public; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors shall develop and adopt any necessary rules and procedures to further define the role of the ratepayer advocate; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors may not eliminate the ratepayer advocate role before January 1, 2023 and may only do so after that time by a four-fifths vote of the Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, the ratepayer advocate proposals were scored in four functional areas: (1) clarity of proposed scope of work, (2) clarity and scope of communication/outreach, (3) relevant experience and (4) cost; and

WHEREAS, the Finance and Administration Committee reviewed interested candidates' proposals to serve as ratepayer advocate and recommended the selection of Robert D. Niehaus, Inc. (RDN); and

WHEREAS, the recommended agrees that it presently has no interest, and covenants that will not acquire any interests, direct or indirect, financial or otherwise, that would conflict with the performance of the duties of the ratepayer advocate; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds that, after considering the recommendation of the Finance and Administration Committee, RDN offers services that meets Agency needs.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency does authorize the General Manager to execute a contract in the amount not to exceed \$94,915 with RDN for ratepayer advocate services.

Upon motion of Director Acosta, seconded by Director Mortensen and carried, the Board approved a payment of \$108,162.90 plus applicable taxes to Evoqua Water Technologies for Perchlorate resin and change out service at the V201 Perchlorate Treatment Facility by the following electronic votes (Item 6.3):

Director Acosta	Yes	Director Atkins	Absent
Director Campbell	Yes	Director E. Colley	Yes
Director K. Colley	Yes	President Cooper	Yes
Director DiPrimio	Yes	Director Gladbach	Absent
Vice President Gutzeit	Yes	Director Kelly	Yes
Vice President Martin	Yes	Director Mortensen	Yes
Director Plambeck	Yes		

The Water Quality/Regulatory Compliance Supervisor Ryan Bye and Water Quality Specialists Jenny Anderson and Dean Takashima gave a presentation on public health goals (Item 7).

The Board discussed appointing one Director to sit on the Urban Water Institute Board. Board members were asked if anyone was interested. Vice President Martin and Director Plambeck were both interested in being appointed the Urban Water Institute Board of Directors (Item 8.1).

A vote was then cast by ballot. By a vote of 9 to 2, Vice President Martin was selected.

Upon motion of Director Acosta, seconded by Director Kelly and carried, Director Martin was appointed to the Urban Water Institute Board of Directors by the following voice votes (Item 8.1):

Director Acosta	Yes	Director Atkins	Absent
Director Campbell	Yes	Director E. Colley	Yes
Director K. Colley	Yes	President Cooper	Yes
Director DiPrimio	Yes	Director Gladbach	Absent
Vice President Gutzeit	Yes	Director Kelly	Yes
Vice President Martin	Yes	Director Mortensen	Yes
Director Plambeck	Yes		

The General Manager reported on the recent State Water Contract Public Negotiation meetings, gave an update on the PFAS and mentioned his attendance at Mike Murphy's retirement Reception (Item 9).

There was no discussion on Items 10 and 11.

The Board President advised the Board about upcoming events, the ACWA 2020/2021 Committee Assignments and the General Manager Review Workshop (Item 12).

AB 1234 Reports (Item 13).

Written reports were submitted by Vice President Martin and Director Mortensen and were included in the Board packet. Additional written reports were submitted by Vice Presidents Gutzeit and Martin and Director Gladbach which were handed out and are part of the record.

Director Kelly reported that he attended Senator Scott Wilk's Wildfire Town Hall held at the Centre on July 22, 2019, the VIA monthly luncheon held at the Hyatt Regency on July 23, 2019, the JCI Santa Clarita Valley/VIA "Christmas in July" held at Wolf Creek Brewery on July 25, 2019 and the Current Affairs Forum held at College of the Canyons on July 30, 2019.

Director Acosta reported that he attended Senator Scott Wilk's Wildfire Town Hall held at the Centre on July 22, 2019 and the VIA monthly luncheon held at the Hyatt Regency on July 23, 2019.

Director Reports (Item 14).

Director DiPrimio reported on the July 25, 2019 Compensation and Reimbursement Ad Hoc Committee meeting that Vice President's Gutzeit and Martin and Directors Gladbach, Mortensen and himself attended. The recommendation for this item will be brought to the Board at its August 20, 2019 Board meeting.

Upon motion of Director Mortensen, seconded by Director Kelly and carried, the Board went into Closed Session at 8:37 PM to discuss the item listed on the Agenda by the following electronic votes (Item 15):

Director Acosta	Yes	Director Atkins	Absent
Director Campbell	Yes	Director E. Colley	Yes
Director K. Colley	Yes	President Cooper	Yes
Director DiPrimio	Yes	Director Gladbach	Absent
Vice President Gutzeit	Yes	Director Kelly	Yes
Vice President Martin	Yes	Director Mortensen	Yes
Director Plambeck	Yes		

Upon motion of Director Mortensen, seconded by Director Acosta and carried, the Board voted to come out of Closed Session at 8:50 PM by the following electronic votes (Item 15):

Director Acosta	Yes	Director Atkins	Absent
Director Campbell	Yes	Director E. Colley	Yes
Director K. Colley	Yes	President Cooper	Yes
Director DiPrimio	Yes	Director Gladbach	Absent
Vice President Gutzeit	Yes	Director Kelly	Yes
Vice President Martin	Yes	Director Mortensen	Yes
Director Plambeck	Yes		

President Cooper reconvened the Open Session at 8:50 PM.

Tom Bunn, Esq., reported that regarding Item 15.1 Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation – Paragraph (1) of Subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9: – Del Valle v. Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency, Claim #17-0665, the Board took action to approve the settlement agreement. By motion of Director Ed Colley, seconded by Director Acosta and carried, the Board approved the settlement agreement by the following voice votes (Item 16):

Director Acosta	Yes	Director Atkins	Absent
Director Campbell	Yes	Director E. Colley	Yes
Director K. Colley	Yes	President Cooper	Yes
Director DiPrimio	Yes	Director Gladbach	Absent
Vice President Gutzeit	Yes	Director Kelly	Yes
Vice President Martin	Yes	Director Mortensen	Yes
Director Plambeck	Yes		

There were no other actions taken in Closed Session that were reportable under the Ralph M. Brown Act (Item 16).

There were no requests for approval for event attendance (Item 17).

There were no requests for future agenda items (Item 18).

Upon motion of Director Mortensen, seconded by Director Acosta and carried, the meeting was adjourned at 8:51 PM by the following electronic votes (Item 19):

Director Acosta	Yes	Director Atkins	Absent
Director Campbell	Yes	Director E. Colley	Yes
Director K. Colley	Yes	President Cooper	Yes
Director DiPrimio	Yes	Director Gladbach	Absent
Vice President Gutzeit	Yes	Director Kelly	Yes
Vice President Martin	Yes	Director Mortensen	Yes
Director Plambeck	Yes		

April Jacobs, Board Secretary

ATTEST:

President of the Board

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BOARD MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 8, 2019

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Steve Cole *SC*
Assistant General Manager

SUBJECT: Approve a Resolution Entering Into a Contract with Van Scoyoc Associates, Inc. for Federal Legislative Advocacy

SUMMARY

The Public Outreach and Legislation Committee seeks final direction on the selection of a federal legislative advocacy firm. A strong and proactive presence in Washington D.C. is critical to implementing Strategy A.3 in the 2019 SCV Water Strategic plan, “to work with local, regional, state and federal agencies ... to influence water policy for the benefit of our customers.”

DISCUSSION

In recent months, the Committee adopted the 2019 Legislative Platform and legislative advocacy goals. These items were used to develop expanded scopes of work for our advocacy consultants at the local, state and federal levels. An RFP for federal advocacy services was issued on April 2, 2019. Five firms responded, and all were interviewed by the Committee on May 16, 2019.

Respondents:

- Anchor Consulting, LLC
- ENS Resources (Eric Sapirstein)
- VNF Solutions (Van Ness Feldman)
- Van Scoyoc Associates Inc (VSA)
- Water Strategies LLC

Committee discussion resulted in consensus to follow up with two firms – Van Scoyoc Associates and ENS Resources. A panel made up of Matt Stone, Steve Cole and Kathie Martin interviewed these two firms via conference call, asking additional questions about experience in building or participating in coalitions, experience in transitioning into a position already held by another firm, and experience with federal involvement in state issues. Staff also followed up with references provided by each firm. Strengths mentioned for both firms included responsiveness, communication and strategic planning.

It is staff’s opinion that both firms would approach the job in a similar fashion, and either firm could be successful in the role, however staff gives an edge to VSA. They describe a strategic mapping exercise between VSA and SCV Water that would result in a clear set of policy and funding priorities, and would provide guidance to the VSA professionals who will carry out the monitoring, strategic development and advocacy for each of the priorities.

The experience of the two principals for the SCV Water contract is deeply rooted in water and infrastructure, and VSA has experience as Capitol Hill staff, as well as decades representing local government entities on issues with the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, the Department of the Interior, Department of Defense and the Environmental Protection Agency, among others.

VSA has helped organize coalitions of local entities around singular issues. They also have direct success in project authorizations and modifications under the Water Resources Development Acts of 2014, 2016 and 2018. In Fiscal Year 2019, VSA obtained more than \$200 million for its clients through Army Corp of Engineering programs.

The full proposals of all respondents are attached.

Committee consensus directed staff to explore the possibilities of a smooth transition process and not leave any effort or project in limbo, if a change in representation is made.

There are two options to consider:

1. Transition to the new firm, with dual representation through December 31, 2019, or another date certain as determined by the Board.
2. Transition to the new firm, with dual representation *without* a date certain, but with quarterly checkpoints to determine the best time to make the final change.

Option 1 provides the benefit of capping the cost of dual representation at a set amount. VSA would assume responsibility for any and all advocacy efforts currently underway. Option 2 would provide for Anchor Consulting to continue working on the FY 2020 Defense Appropriations Act effort to secure \$7.5 million in funding for treatment of Volatile Organic Compounds and \$5 million in funding for SCVWA's Emergency Storage Project.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The current cost for Anchor Consulting is \$9,000/month. VSA has agreed to meet that cost for the first year.

Should the decision be made to run concurrent contracts during a transition period, the additional cost would be equal to the monthly fee of the new contract, times the length of the overlap. Assuming a contract start date of October 1, 2019, with a December 31, 2019 transition, this would add \$18,000 to the anticipated federal advocacy expenditures for Fiscal Year 2019/20.

The total advocacy budget was increased from \$270,000 to \$300,000 for Fiscal Year 2019/20 and 2020/21, so this overlap would be covered under the current budgeted amount.

RECOMMENDATION

The Public Outreach and Legislation Committee recommends that the Board of Directors approve the attached resolution entering into a contract with Van Scoyoc Associates and selects one of the options identified above.

Attachments



RESOLUTION NO. ____

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY
TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH VAN SCOYOC ASSOCIATES, INC.**

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors has determined that good relations with all branches of government is in the best interests of the Agency; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors has determined that it is critical for the Agency to have a voice when water issues that might impact the Agency are being debated locally and in Sacramento and Washington; and

WHEREAS, the Agency has concluded that being aware of, and competing for, any available funding from the state and federal governments is beneficial to its operations; and

WHEREAS, the Agency has determined that using firms knowledgeable in governmental processes at all levels and familiar with governmental representatives and their staffs is of benefit to the Agency's customers; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds, that Van Scoyoc Associates, Inc., (VSA), offer services and have capabilities that meet Agency's needs to perform these governmental relations tasks.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency does authorize the General Manager to execute a contract with Van Scoyoc Associates, Inc., (VSA) for legislative advocate services.

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April 25, 2019

Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency
Attention: Kathie Martin, Public Information Officer
26501 Summit Circle
Santa Clarita, CA 91350

Dear Ms. Martin,

Attached please find the response from Anchor Consulting, LLC to the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency's (SCV Water) Request for Proposal (RFP). We appreciate the opportunity to respond to the RFP, as well as your attention to this document and review for your consideration.

The document was prepared and sent via Federal Express on April 25, 2019 at 4:00 PM. The point of contact within Anchor Consulting, LLC is:

Harry G. Henderson, Jr., Founder and Partner
Anchor Consulting, LLC
5101 Cherokee Avenue
Alexandria, VA 22312
Phone: (703) 333-6013 (office) -- (703) 927-5443 (cell)
email: henderson@anchor-consult.com

We look forward to hearing back from you on this important document and discussing the matter in-depth and in-person. Furthermore, we thank the Agency for its continued support and for the long relationship with our firm and its professionals. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or comments you may have.

Thank you again for your review of this proposal and we stand ready to defend our efforts.

Sincerely,

Harry G. Henderson, Jr.
Founder, Anchor Consulting, LLC

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Proposal for Federal Representation for the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency (SCV Water)

By Anchor Consulting, LLC ~ April 25, 2019

I. **Anchor Consulting, LLC: Introduction, Background, Team, Qualifications and References:**

Anchor Consulting, LLC is a government relations firm that focuses its professional expertise on strategically assisting not-for-profit organizations, local government agencies, and commercial concerns to create opportunities that result in the federal government investing resources in projects that enable our clients to advance their own causes and/or enhance performance. Anchor Consulting employs the government relations capabilities of strategy development, planning, lobbying, and in some cases, public relations, advertising, and opinion polling.

We are your staff in Washington dedicated to researching, writing, planning, targeting and executing the legislative, executive and federal agency strategies agreed upon by you. Our firm will be your source for information, intelligence and analysis of new ideas, government actions and opportunities that can help advance your goals.

Experience:

Our firm has represented the Castaic Lake Water Agency and subsequently SCV Water for the entirety of our existence. In total, Anchor professionals have worked with both CLWA and SCV Water in various capacities for over 24 years. We know and understand your needs, goals, and agenda. In fact, we have helped you write the entirety of your Federal agenda. Our founding partners included Scott Wilk, the current State Senator for the Santa Clarita Valley, and Harry Henderson, a long-time Congressional staff member for Representative Howard P. "Buck" McKeon.

Consultant Team:

- Mr. Henderson will serve as the lead team Member on this account and the primary point of contact for the Agency. He will be responsible for all Federal lobbying on your behalf as he has been for the past decade.
- We also have two grant writers on staff with our firm:
 - Mr. David Marks, the former Chief of Staff to the Maryland Department of Transportation and an elected County Councilman in Baltimore County, and
 - Ms. Mary Catherine Kulik, who is the past grant writer for two major water non-profit organizations and is based in San Francisco, California.
- Mr. Gary Schlueger will serve as a coordinator for activities with the United States Senate. He has worked with both CLWA and SCV Water in the past and understands your agenda. He has extensive contacts within the Senate and has worked closely with both Senator Feinstein and Senator Harris on a variety of issues. He has over 25 years of experience lobbying the United States Senate with a high level of success.



- Major (ret.) Don Wellen also will join the team as our resident expert of dealing with the Department of Defense. He has spent over 35 years working with the Department of Defense and the United States Navy in both procurement and reserve functions.
- Ms. Catherine Harper will handle all administrative actions within the firm associated with your account.

While Senator Wilk is not a current Member of our firm, he is still a key part of our culture. Senator Wilk is a trusted friend and colleague. We continue to work with him, and he provides crucial advice when necessary. While he is not specifically and directly involved in your affairs on our behalf, he is a key part of our long-term success.

A few quick points to know about our firm:

- Anchor Consulting has combined over 105 years of experience in the U.S. federal system, working with both the legislative and the executive branches of government.
- We are a "boutique" firm that is small enough to guarantee clients receive the full attention of all senior staff, and large enough to champion clients before the entire federal system.
- Anchor professionals have secured millions of dollars in federal funding for its clients - including all Federal funding that has been received by the Agency in the last fifteen years.
- Anchor professionals have worked with several municipal elected water agencies over the past fifteen years, including San Diego County Water Authority. We have represented issues ranging from the Delta to desalination to reclaimed/recycled water and perchlorate. We know the issues and landscape of California Water.
- Anchor has represented numerous elected municipal agencies including Community Colleges, School Districts, and Water Agencies in our past. We understand the challenges that come with an elected board and the benefits as well. We know how to work with you and the impact of both success and failure.
- We know the rules and regulations of individual federal agencies and specific accounts to target for our clients' projects. We understand how to develop and market initiatives for funding.
- We know the history of legislative and regulatory action, which impacts billions of dollars.

References:

While normally we would provide you with a list of outside references of our work capabilities, we have represented the Agency in all its forms for the past 15 years. We have worked closely with Dan Masnada, Matt Stone, Mary Lou Cotton, Dirk Marks, Steve Cole, and Kathie Martin. Each know what we are capable of and what we have done for the Agency. We would urge you to discuss our efforts with these



individuals as well as others throughout the Santa Clarita Valley. Specifically, we have represented Henry Mayo Newhall Hospital (Diana Vose and Roger Seaver), California Institute of the Arts (Steve Levine) and worked with the City of Santa Clarita (Mike Murphy). Please feel free to contact these individuals for a reference of what we are can accomplish.

II. Statement of Proposed Approach to the Project (scope of work)

Specifically, Anchor sees the scope of the work being done for the Agency falling into three categories:

1. Obtaining Federal funding for targeted projects within the Agency’s goals (Federal Funding);
2. Developing positive relationships where possible across the Federal government, local community and affiliated organizations (Relationship building);
3. Identifying and assisting with key policy changes that are of importance to SCV Water (Policy Changes).

As you are aware, Anchor listens carefully to our clients. We listen to their concerns, their needs, wants and desires. We consider obstacles that they might not have otherwise considered. We want to know where they want the organization to be in three years, five years, ten years. We then craft a strategy and plan to meet those objectives and work diligently to make those efforts a reality. We have done this for the Agency for 15 years and we continue to do it today.

Per the RFP, you had requested that “proposals should incorporate various levels of support according to the following legislative goals...”. As such, below is where each of these goals falls into the scope of work that Anchor would be and has been performing. We have also included a brief statement about how that process would and has been taking place.

1. Federal Funding

- a. Pursue opportunities for funding for capital projects and other initiatives to benefit SCV Water and its customers, including but not limited to emergency water storage, recycled water, storm water capture and recharge, emergency repairs, conservation, and outreach.
- b. Monitor funding opportunities, whether through bond measures or the budget process, including advocating for inclusionary language in developing bond measures, that would assist in securing funding for Agency projects and initiatives.
- c. Act on those funding opportunities by assisting in the development of appropriate project/funding request submittals and shepherding the proposals through the process.
- d. Seek funding for groundwater remediation of perchlorate, Volatile Organic Compounds, and other contaminants or broader water quality issues that may arise.

Procurement of Federal funds:

Over the years, we have been focused on delivering Federal funding for the Agency resulting mainly from the perchlorate contamination plume at the former Whittaker Bermite facility in the center of Santa Clarita. We have been successful in providing the Agency with a road map for Federal funds, but changes



in Congress as of late have hampered those efforts. However, we have changed our tactics and found a pathway forward in recent years that has resulted in a new line of Federal funds for the Agency.

Our strategy for the Agency moving forward is no different than it was 15 years ago when we first started working on your behalf. We want to sit down with the leadership of the Agency, identify the key points of interest, develop projects and funding streams for those efforts, and then put together a strategy for success. Much of this work is already done. Since the November elections, Anchor has worked closely with Steve Cole, Matt Stone, and Kathie Martin to establish a successful general message with your newly elected Member of Congress. However, there are clearly more steps that need to be taken to accomplish the goals of SCV Water.

While we are pleased that Anchor has been successful in obtaining \$6 million in funding for the Emergency Water Storage project and are on track for success in securing \$7 million for the procurement of Volatile Organic Compound filters from the Department of Defense, we echo the interest that some have made to get additional funds in higher dollar figures. For instance, we have been working with the Agency to identify a project that would fit within the Water Infrastructure Finance Investment Act (WIFIA); these projects have traditionally been funded in the \$40-\$80 million range. In fact, Anchor has been proposing to do something on this front for over 18 months.

Unfortunately, and to no one's fault, SCV Water is not currently prepared to seek that large a funding stream due to environmental restrictions and the like. However, Anchor and the Agency are in a strong position to move forward on these projects once environmental reviews are complete and a project can be formulated. As Matt Stone, Dirk Marks, and Steve Cole can attest, Anchor has been working and promoting this type of program for some time now.

2. Relationship Building

- a. Maintain a representative presence in Santa Clarita Valley, Sacramento and Washington D.C., which monitors issues of importance to SCV Water and the Santa Clarita Valley community as a whole, and keeps respective offices informed of issues of interest to the Agency.
- b. Foster and nurture relationships with elected representatives and staff, relevant committees/staff, regulatory agencies, and other key people of influence in the water industry, on behalf of SCV Water.
- c. To actively engage with water industry associations and coalitions, other water industry advocates, and other affiliate organizations including but not limited to the SCV Chamber of Commerce and the Valley Industrial Association. Foster relationships with key personnel and perform related activities such as advocate for Agency positions and attend meetings as necessary.

Development of Relationships:

For the first time in nearly 40 years, the Santa Clarita Valley is represented by a Democrat, Representative Katie Hill. Over the past four months, Anchor has developed a strategy to help improve and develop a



relationship with a new Member of Congress and one that had relatively little experience working with an Agency such as SCV Water. We re-wrote the entire Federal messaging agenda for the Agency. We established a plan of action and created a pathway forward.

The result of this effort has been a relationship that is the envy of most organizations within the Santa Clarita Valley. We have a standing, monthly appointment with her local District Office. We have a friendly relationship with her Senior Aide, Ben Steinberger, who contacts us on a regular basis to determine our position on initiatives of interest to the Congresswoman. We have tours scheduled with the Representative's office to identify the areas where her office can be helpful. Other entities within the Santa Clarita Valley have contacted the Agency, indicating they have been in communication with Rep. Hill's office, discussing their interest in SCV Water and its various Federal initiatives. In the Representative's Washington office, we are the only Santa Clarita Valley entity that has a prominently displayed plaque. To say our efforts here have been successful would be an understatement.

These efforts require maintenance. They require regular contact with the office to ensure that the staff and Member of Congress are aware of your needs and concerns are heard. We understand this and are prepared to continue this successful strategy with her office.

While the example of our work with Representative Hill's office showcases our capabilities, it is not the only example of our work. During the KHHS trip to Washington, Anchor assisted in setting up meetings, whether it involved the Agency, or not. For instance, just this past year, we helped set up meetings with the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Transportation, the US Chamber of Commerce's Hiring our Heroes program, the Department of Labor, the Department of Education, the House Education and Workforce Committee, ACWA, the Water Subcommittee of the House Transportation Committee, and the Motion Picture Association of America.

We did this because it would help the Agency develop relationships across the entirety of the Santa Clarita Valley (specifically with the SCV Chamber and VIA) as well as certain media outlets (KHHS and Carl Goldman). Furthermore, we regularly speak with groups such as ACWA and others to ensure that we are aware of what is going on within the industry that could impact the Agency. While these efforts did not result in a direct financial return, the reality is that the efforts were valuable to the Agency. Over the coming term of this contract, we would continue to work on efforts like these and others to ensure that the Agency is seen as a strong community partner.

3. Policy Changes

- a. To actively engage with water industry associations and coalitions, other water industry advocates, and other affiliate organizations including but not limited to the SCV Chamber of Commerce and the Valley Industrial Association. Foster relationships with key personnel and perform related activities such as advocate for Agency positions and attend meetings as necessary.
- b. Monitor and track proposed legislation and regulations for impacts on SCV Water or its customers, on any of the ten principals identified in the SCV Water Legislative Policy Guidelines.



- c. Actively advocate in support of opposition to proposed legislation or regulations, to the benefit of SCV Water and its customers, in accordance with the adopted Legislative Guidelines.
- d. Work with the SCV Water Board of Directors and staff to identify any areas which might require the initiation of legislation.

Policy Changes that Impact the Agency

Over the past 15 years, Anchor has followed, identified, and influenced countless policy changes that have impacted SCV Water. While Federal funding efforts are often thought of as the best way to judge success and failure, the reality is that policy often has as important a financial impact as any other aspect of what we do.

For instance, two years ago, the United States Congress completed a massive tax overhaul measure. In the beginning of that process, nearly four years prior, proposals were batted around about making municipal bond interest taxable income. There also were proposals suggesting that local municipalities that collect income should follow the same guidelines as private corporations. Both proposals would have had vastly negative impacts on the Agency. Anchor established a strategy and worked within a coalition to ensure that SCV Water was protected.

On the other side of that coin, SCV Water (at the time CLWA) was in the process of completing its purchase of the Valencia Water Company. The changes in the tax code saved the Agency significant financial resources (approximately \$3 million) because the terms of the tax bill allowed SCV Water to complete the sale at a time when the tax code would drop by over 18%. This is a savings to the ratepayers directly connected to our efforts.

At first glance, tax measures would not appear to be something that would impact a municipal water agency, but because Anchor understood the business of SCV Water, we knew how it could and would be of interest to the organization. We have numerous examples of legislation that is of importance to the Agency – whether it be PFAS, the CEMEX Mining operation, the Colorado River Plan, the California Drought measure, or others. Anchor has always been able to raise issues of importance and make sure that the Agency’s position is known to the right individuals in Congress and the Administration.

Moving forward, we will continue to identify these efforts and ensure that the right position is known and communicated effectively.

III. DRAFT Work Plan, Schedule, Tasks and Milestones

Let us begin with a basic word of caution. The proposed work plan and schedule are just that -- proposed. The Federal government legislative and procurement process are often filled with delays and postponements. Issues arise that change the schedule and impact the ability for Congress or the Administration to complete tasks in a timely and, often, required fashion. This no fault of anyone, but rather just a political reality. As such, while we have a workplan/strategy put together, please understand that it is a draft plan and is flexible to the challenges we may realize.



From our vast experience working with the Agency, Anchor believes that two items are of critical importance:

- Obtaining the \$6 million in Emergency Storage funding; and
- Securing the \$7 million in Department of Defense funding associated with the Volatile Organic Compound filters.

Both of these items need to be completed over the next six to eight months.

Emergency Water Storage Project

Anchor worked hard to ensure that this funding was included earlier this year for the Agency. It is part of a larger western drought relief measure. Anchor has already spoken to key Federal agency staff on this matter and have communicated with SCV Water on the timetable associated with the project. Given that the funding is available for two Fiscal Years (FY) from the date of award, Anchor and SCV Water need to delay the award until after October 1, 2019, to realize two additional years to utilize this funding. This is due to environmental actions that need to be completed prior to the funds being used. Our basic schedule is as follows:

- *Early August 2019* – Announcement of funding opportunities within the Federal Register
- *September/October 2019* – Anchor will assist the Agency in putting together the request for the funding associated with the project
- *November 2019* – Letters of support associated with the project provided by local/Federal elected officials
- *December 2019/January 2020* – Announcement of Award
- *October 2021* – Deadline for funds to be utilized

There are challenges to this effort. For instance, the recently approved Colorado River Plan has a lawsuit currently pending against the Metropolitan Water District. This has created some consternation within the Federal government about how to proceed with funding. There have also been concerns associated with activities of the new Interior Secretary on the Colorado River Plan and his former employment. We do not believe that these represent non-traversable obstacles, but they are challenges and Anchor will monitor and advise as best we can.

Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) Filters

One of the best examples of the way that Anchor works is how SCV Water currently stands on the verge of realizing \$7 million in Defense Department funding for the four well filters associated with the perchlorate plume and VOC's. We worked closely with Steve Cole and others at the Agency to identify a recent court case where the Pentagon is required to provide 33% of all future costs associated with the remediation of the former Whittaker Bermite site.

Anchor took this information and worked with Representative Katie Hill and Senators Feinstein and Harris to require the Department of Defense to also pay for the filters for the impacted wells. By doing



so, we have identified a Defense Department account that can be used in the future for any and all perchlorate related funding needs.

While the FY2020 Defense Appropriations Act has not yet been approved, we have been informed that our request will be included in the House introduced measure. This is the first step in the process, but also a main reason why Anchor will be utilizing Don Wellen as a Defense Department expert on procurement.

A basic schedule for this project is as follows:

- *March 2019* – Requests for projects submitted (completed)
- *May 2019* – Draft of the FY2020 Defense Appropriations Act by the House Appropriations Committee
- *June/July 2019* – House consideration of the FY2020 Defense Appropriations Act
- *October to December 2019* – Final Consideration for FY2020 Defense Appropriations Act
- *March 2020* – Federal Register Announcement for funding
- *May 2020* – Awards announced
- *October 2021* – Deadline for funds expenditure

We would also note that Anchor would want to sit down with the leadership of SCV Water and begin to map out the next projects associated with the perchlorate plume and VOC's to ensure a steady stream of funding from this Defense account.

Mid-Term and Long-Term projects

In addition to the two mentioned above, Anchor believes that two additional legislative vehicles should be considered during the term of this contract. First, the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) is expected to be considered in early 2020. This bi-annual authorization act, primarily for the Army Corps of Engineers, is a perfect location for projects associated with flood control and environmental remediation efforts. Anchor has already laid considerable ground work for this effort but will be working closely with SCV Water to ensure that our efforts are successful.

In addition to WRDA, Anchor has followed closely the recent efforts associated with Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS). This issue has come to the attention of Congress and specifically

Representative Katie Hill through her position on the House Government Reform and Oversight Committee. We expect that legislation on this topic will move sometime in the next 12 months. As such, Anchor wants to make sure that the Agency can utilize this measure for their own benefit. Over the next 10 months, Anchor would like to get a better understanding of this issue and its impact on SCV Water, prepare a project request, and then work with Representative Hill to ensure it is included in upcoming legislation. While this is not as pressing as the either the Emergency Water Storage project or the VOC

Filter program, we want to make sure that SCV Water is well positioned for success in the future on a topic that is likely to be considered and impactful moving forward.



Finally, Anchor understands and respects the desire of some board members to see larger financial returns similar to those in other communities. Anchor continues to urge the Agency to move toward a WIFIA project for recycled/reclaimed water as quickly as feasible. We fully understand that environmental impact statements are required and action cannot begin prior to that. However, in order to realize the kind of results that some Board Members have desired, Anchor would strongly urge the Agency to proceed when possible and we stand ready to move forward with this key opportunity for funding.

Relationship Building

This is an ongoing effort. Anchor has helped to develop a strong relationship with Representative Hill. As we mentioned earlier, this effort requires maintenance. Anchor and SCV Water have developed a strategy, a basic message that has realized tremendous benefits for the Agency, and a continued presence with the Congresswoman's office. At the same time, Anchor continues to work with Senators Feinstein and Harris.

As we move forward with the Department of Defense and the former Whittaker Berrite site, Anchor is already working with the Pentagon to ensure a smooth transition for SCV Water to realize the funding opportunities through their accounts. Both Harry Henderson and Don Wellen carry security clearances and can access the Pentagon when necessary for the Agency.

We also expect that Carl Goldman will again come to Washington in 2020 with a group from the Santa Clarita Valley. Anchor will gladly continue our efforts to ensure broad meetings across numerous Government Agencies. We strongly believe that this effort pays dividends for SCV Water and the SCV Community at large. As we tell Mike Murphy, there are some issues that are just good for everyone. That is why we continue to meet with and talk to the other key Federal advocates for interests throughout the Santa Clarita Valley.

Policy Measures

We do not guess when it comes to the future of legislative action. Instead, we like to know facts, make informed decisions, and look for key details to tell us where the next action of Congress or the Administration might take us. For individuals inside key positions of the government associated with water, the criminal actions in Flint, Michigan and the recent lifting of "drought conditions" in the west provide some insight about where we can expect action.

Anchor will again monitor Committee action, speak with key Administrative officials, follow targeted media and business outlets to determine the policy advancements we can expect over the next 18 months. However, it is safe to presume that the House (currently controlled by the Democratic Party) will have a larger focus on climate change issues, environmental regulations, and other matters. The Senate (controlled by the Republican Party) will have a more deregulatory approach in environmental matters. Obviously, the current Administration has a far more business-friendly approach to water and

environmental issues. As such, we will look for places where all three branches converge for the areas where the Agency needs to be on notice and prepared to respond.



IV. Compensation and Agreement

Given the level of success that Anchor Consulting has realized over the past 24 months of our contract, we would respectfully request that the same terms that we currently are under with the Agency continue.

Over the past 15 years, SCV Water and CLWA have paid Anchor Consulting over \$1.5 million in fees. In that time frame, just on a financial return, the Agency has realized over 6 times return on its investment. This does not take into account the information provided by Anchor or the relationships fostered by Anchor that provided value. This also does not take into account the expected \$7 million from the Department of Defense for the VOC filters.

As such, Anchor respectfully requests that the terms of the agreement provide for 24 months with termination options after the first 6 months of the agreement. Anchor would be compensated at a rate of \$9,000 per month, to be paid quarterly. We would respectfully request reimbursement for travel taken outside of the Washington, DC area on behalf of the Agency and approved in advance.

V. Conclusion

Anchor Consulting is honored to represent SCV Water. We have worked with some of the best in the business in Matt Stone, Steve Cole, Kathie Martin, Dirk Marks, Mary Lou Cotton, and Dan Masnada. We have had the pleasure of working with tremendous board members during that same time frame. We appreciate your business and respect the importance of the work we are tasked with.

It has not always been easy, and not always as successful as we or others wished it would be. However, Anchor has consistently provided superb Federal representation for SCV Water, of which it can be proud. We have helped navigate multiple Administrations, different Members of Congress, different controlling political parties, etc. We have always provided a value for the Agency respectful of the financial obligation being made.

Anchor strongly believes that the best days of the Agency are ahead of them. We see a pathway forward with stronger funding realities, stronger partnerships, and more influential voices. The new Agency formation was the first step in that process. Anchor is ready to take the next step with you.

Thank you again for your business and we look forward to answering any and all questions you may have.



April 25, 2019

Ms. Kathie Martin
Public Information Officer
Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency
26501 Summit Circle
Santa Clarita, CA 91350

Dear Ms. Martin:

ENS Resources, Inc. (ENS) is pleased to provide its response to Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency's (SCV Water) Request For Proposals (RFP) for Federal Legislative Advocate Services. The enclosed response outlines the activities that we propose to undertake on behalf of SCV Water.

Our team enjoys a strong working relationship with the California Congressional Delegation. We also have decades of working with the House and Senate authorizing and appropriations committees' membership and professional staff that have jurisdiction over water resources, environmental protection, public health, and energy efficiency matters that are central to SCV Water's federal platform. ENS staff have a solid understanding of the Executive Branch departments and agencies that manage programs of interest to SCV Water. It provides us with the ability to deliver effective services related to federal assistance and regulatory programs of interest to SCV Water. These twin capabilities will enable us to provide a comprehensive advocacy program on behalf of SCV Water.

ENS acknowledges the conditions of the RFP. We are able to conform to the conditions of the RFP, including mandatory insurance requirements. As requested, the enclosed response remains valid for a period of twelve months from the closing date and time of the Request For Proposals to provide Federal Legislative Advocate Services.

ENS Resources, Inc.
1901 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. / Suite 1005
Washington, D.C. 20006 / Telephone 202.466.3755
Telefax: 202.466.3787
www.ensresources.com

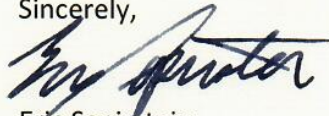
Ms. Kathie Martin
April 25, 2019
Page Two

All follow-up contact related to the consideration of our response should be directed to:

Mr. Eric Sapirstein
President
ENS Resources, Inc.
1901 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Suite 1005
Washington, D.C. 20006
(202)466-3755

We appreciate the opportunity to be considered to represent SCV Water.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric Sapirstein", written over a horizontal line.

Eric Sapirstein
President

Enclosures: 1 Original Proposal, 1 Copy, 1 Electronic Copy



**RESPONSE TO
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

FOR

FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE ADVOCATE SERVICES

ON BEHALF OF THE

**SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY
SANTA CLARITA, CALIFORNIA**

SUBMITTED BY

**ENS RESOURCES, INC.
WASHINGTON, D.C.**

April 25, 2019

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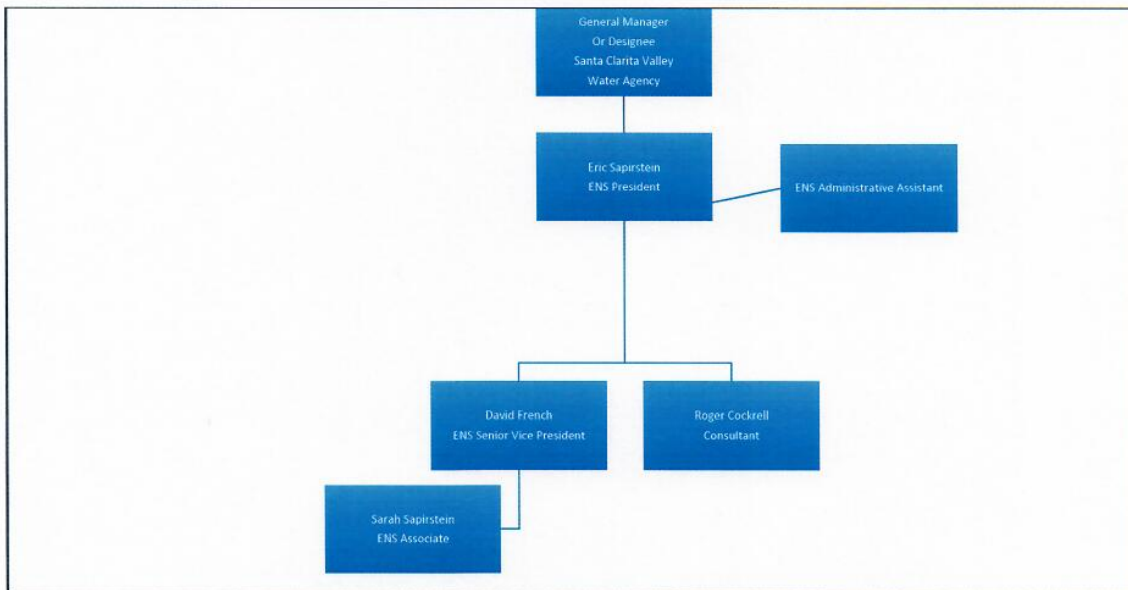
TAB A FIRM'S QUALIFICATIONS

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FIRM'S QUALIFICATIONS

ENS Resources, Inc. (ENS) proposes to provide federal advocacy services to the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency (SCV Water) relying on our proven approach employed over the past four decades. This has been demonstrated through the successful implementation of strategies that returned demonstrable benefits to our clients. These successes have included securing federal grants assistance, selection to participate in innovative infrastructure financing programs, identification of agency projects as priorities for federal assistance, enactment of legislation to advance water and solid waste infrastructure needs, development of federal rulemakings that adopt public agency needs, and permits an assortment of other legislative and regulatory initiatives that have facilitated the achievement of our clients' federal policy agenda goals and objectives.

Our proposal is grounded in our proven management approach that relies upon senior ENS staff to carry out SCV Water's federal agenda and serving as the point of contact with SCV Water staff. This commitment will be supplemented by one subcontractor that complements ENS's long-term experience and expertise within Congress and at the Executive Branch. Roger Cockrell will work with ENS on federal funding strategies related to water resources projects and the financing of such projects. As detailed in Tab C, Mr. Cockrell has decades of water resources policymaking experience. This complements our bipartisan approach to advocacy to pursue SCV Water's goals and objectives. The below organizational chart identifies our firm's structure and the management of personnel to ensure that the proposed scope of work is conducted in an effective and productive manner.



ENS believes that collaboration with state-based professionals can leverage state level support of SCV Water's federal goals and objectives. To this end, we enjoy the ability to draw upon the

services of the Sacramento-based lobbying firm Edelstein, Gilbert, Robson & Smith, LLC should such capability prove supportive of federal priorities.

For purposes of managing the day-to-day representation of SCV Water, Eric Sapirstein, President, ENS, will serve as the lead for purposes of carrying out the responsibilities detailed in the federal legislative platform and subsequently identified project priorities. However, SCV Water's federal priorities would be implemented under a team approach. This ensures that the entire range of expertise is available to position SCV Water to achieve its goals and objectives. This approach brings the added value of ensuring that SCV Water will enjoy the input of our seasoned policymaking veterans in defining the best approaches to realize success.

ENS is a Subchapter C Corporation, founded in 1986. Our office is located at 1901 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., in Washington, D.C. We are blocks from the White House and key federal agencies of interest to SCV Water. Our location allows for convenient access to Capitol Hill and key federal agencies of note, including the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and U.S. Department of the Interior. All ENS staff and consultants actively involved in federal advocacy are registered lobbyists and comply with appropriate and applicable federal registration mandates.

Our years of activities on behalf of public sector agencies, with a specific focus on California, have allowed us to develop a solid reputation with senior policymakers engaged in water resources, environmental protection, and public health policymaking. Our working understanding of program administration, including water supply, wastewater, solid waste, ecosystem protection, and alternative energy production complements our federal advocacy expertise. This allows us to leverage the federal legislative and regulatory policymaking process to enhance the priority to advance SCV Water's goals and objectives. We are ideally equipped to design and implement effective strategies in coordination with SCV Water to achieve results as detailed in Tab B.

TAB B EXPERIENCE AND REFERENCES

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EXPERIENCE AND REFERENCES

Our team has decades of combined federal advocacy and strategic planning experience representing our public clients' interests before the Legislative and Executive Branches of the federal government and State of California. We have served in the some of the most senior staff positions in Congress and the Executive Branch. Our staff served in senior policymaking roles within the Office of the California Governor in Sacramento. Our past positions at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and Congress means that we have a comprehensive understanding of the federal policymaking process and subsequent program management. We enjoy the respect of senior federal officials, including key Presidential Appointees, and career department and agency program managers of interest to SCV Water. Our experience and solid working relationships include:

- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Water and Office of Enforcement and Compliance;
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers;
- U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and Office of Water and Science;
- U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy;
- U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration;
- Council of Environmental Quality; and
- Office of Management and Budget.

We work directly with Members of Congress and their staff, and the above departments and agencies' staff on policy matters and program implementation to address: California-related water supply delivery, water infrastructure (including recycling and traditional water supply projects), groundwater remediation, ecosystem restoration and resiliency, innovative water infrastructure financing, flood protection and water conservation, and stormwater management.

We also enjoy long-standing professional relations with professional trade associations dedicated to the advocacy of policy development of interest to SCV Water, such as clean water and safe and reliable water supplies. This has been honed by our past leadership positions with such groups, including the National Association of Clean Water Agencies, Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies, and WaterReuse Association; among others. We would employ these working relationships to build support for SCV Water's identified federal priorities, ranging from development of water supply projects to ecosystem restoration projects, for example.

Our relationships extend to numerous Washington-based stakeholders. Among the many groups that we work with that advocate policy that has a direct relevance to SCV Water's identified federal goals and objectives are:

- Association of California Water Agencies
- California Association of Sanitation Agencies
- National Association of Clean Water Agencies
- American Water Works Association
- Water Environment Federation
- WaterReuse Association
- National Water Resources Association
- Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies
- National League of Cities
- U.S. Conference of Mayors
- National Association of Flood and Stormwater Management Agencies

Our long-term working relationship with staff of the California Governor’s Washington Office and our working relationship with State Water Board Members will also allow us to seek support for SCV Water’s initiatives as appropriate.

As one of Washington’s top governmental affairs firms, specializing in the representation of public agencies, and specifically California agencies, we have a detailed understanding of the technical and political matters that influence the development of water resources, land management, tax policy and alternative energy policy. We would employ our knowledge of these policies to design and implement a legislative and regulatory strategy that can enhance the SCV Water’s ability to address effectively the federal platform’s goals and objectives and ultimately secure its identified priorities.

Our team’s services over the years have spanned legislative and program issues. While serving in senior management positions at the federal level, we developed agency budgets and finalized spending bills impacting water supply, water treatment, and groundwater management programs for inclusion in budget requests and spending bills.

From a policy perspective, we have developed legislative and regulatory options at federal agencies and Congress. This means that we can cogently make the case for a client’s needs whether it is requesting federal assistance or presenting testimony or technical comments.

From a water resources advocacy perspective, we have demonstrated successes. These successes include:

- Facilitating agency approvals of regional water supply and water recycling projects;
- Securing millions of dollars in federal assistance for numerous drinking water, water recycling and ecosystem restoration, and groundwater remediation projects;
- Identifying public agency projects as priorities for federal assistance;
- Facilitating alternative financing approaches for water infrastructure and enhancing the successful direct approval of project funding selection;

- Protecting existing water supply contracts, including developing rationales for contracts and related projects;
- Developing and securing multi-million dollar federal-local partnerships to upgrade infrastructure to protect against wildfires;
- Securing \$100 million increase in program authorization to permit realignment of water line;
- Securing authorization to increase authority to conserve water at a federal reservoir;
- Protecting existing long-term federal water contracts from being adversely impacted by federal legislation;
- Supporting and advancing initiatives for formal adoption of modified flow management standards on behalf of regional water purveyors;
- Supporting development of federal legislation to preserve tax credits for water efficiency, precluding adoption of federal criteria that would increase costs of water treatment due water efficiency mandates; and
- Supporting creation of grants assistance program for resiliency needs of local water agencies.

References

Our recent years' activities on behalf of clients that reflect similar services as requested in the RFP are extensive. The following is a representative sample of our activities that are similar to the services sought under the RFP.

1. Securing grants assistance for water infrastructure and extending federal permit:
 - a. Developed and implemented an ongoing regional water infrastructure assistance initiative to address wildfire suppression needs within the Tahoe Lake Region. This successful effort has secured more than \$30 million to date over the past five years.
 - b. Secured renewal of federal special permit to allow for continued water supply conveyance eliminating threats to water supply saving ratepayers millions of dollars in project costs.
 - c. Developed and implemented a strategy to secure authorization and \$1,500,000 grants assistance to monitor and remediate groundwater supplies and replace well systems.

Contact: Shannon Cotulla, Assistant General Manager, South Tahoe Public Utility District, 1275 Meadow Crest Drive | South Lake Tahoe CA 96150 (530)544.6474

2. Federal assistance to advance collaborative forestry management and water supply reliability:
 - a. Developed and implemented a strategy to advance the demonstration of watershed management. In concert with this effort, secured an invitation to

testify on the water supply impacts upon drinking water supply systems from wildfires as part of overall effort to legislate forestry management reforms.

- b. Worked to advance commitments from federal agency officials and congressional delegation to advance finalization of CVP-related long-term water supply contract.
- c. Secured \$1,500,000 in direct federal assistance to demonstrate watershed water quality and forestry improvements.

Contact: Andrew Fecko, Director, Resource Development, Placer County Water Agency, 144 Ferguson Road, Auburn, CA 95604 (530)823-4490

3. Initiatives to Advance Effective Regulatory Water Clarifications:

- a. Worked successfully on behalf of California Association of Sanitation Agencies to secure exemption from Waters of the U.S. rulemaking, eliminating new and costly regulatory impacts to wastewater treatment systems.
- b. Arranged for sole public agency witness to testify before Congress on the need for NPDES permit term reforms before House Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure. Secured bipartisan letters urging committee to consider Clean Water Act legislative amendment to extend permit terms. Secured introduction of legislation to amend Clean Water Act permit terms from five years to up to up to ten years.
- c. Develop, coordinate and manage annual Washington water policy forum that serves as a forum for California Members of Congress, senior congressional and federal agency officials, NGO and trade association stakeholders and leading Think Tank and national press officials to address attendees on a range of political and policy issues including water supply, wastewater treatment and water recycling funding; third party litigation; energy and water use efficiency technologies, alternative energy; budgets; and endangered species reforms.

Contact: Roberta Larson, Executive Director, California Association of Sanitation Agencies, 1225 8th Street, Suite 595, Sacramento, CA 95814 (916) 446.0388

4. Identifying and Securing Priority Projects for Federal Assistance:

- a. Secured language in Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act to identify priority water agencies to secure federal project assistance.
- b. Implemented strategy to Secure \$20 million in funding under Title XVI Water Recycling Program to develop water recycling projects.
- c. Supported successful efforts to advance funding of Forecast Informed Reservoir Operations to allow for enhanced water conservation to supplement available water supplies.

Contact: Eleanor Torres, Director of Public Affairs, Orange County Water District, 18700 Ward Street, Fountain Valley, CA 92708 (714)378-3268

TAB C QUALIFICATIONS OF THE TEAM

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QUALIFICATIONS OF TEAM

ENS is especially proud of its accomplishments achieved on behalf of public water agencies. These include successes ranging from water infrastructure, economic development to public safety and health matters. The policymaking process has undergone significant change that influences the way in which advocacy of a client's needs are pursued. Over the past several years, we formulated and implemented strategies that successfully secured congressional directives to federal agencies on how to allocate federal resources that benefit our clients. Our approach to provide services to the Department within this new environment is detailed in Tab D.

Our staff has pursued project priorities for a variety of clients ranging from trade associations dedicated to advancing funding of water infrastructure, commonsense water quality and drinking water regulations, and innovative financing to individual public and private sector interests dedicated to the provision of safe and reliable water supply, clean energy and ecosystem restoration.

Our team is comprised of four professionals with Bachelors and Masters degrees in public policy, public administration, and engineering. Our decades of work at the federal level provides expertise and experience directly related to the requested capabilities outlined in the Request For Proposals. Biographies of the individuals that would carry out the professional services to SCV Water are:



Mr. Eric Sapirstein serves as the firm's President. For organizational purposes, Mr. Sapirstein will serve as the project manager and daily point of contact. He served in senior management positions within the USEPA's Office of the Budget and Office of Legislative and Congressional Affairs where he focused on clean water, drinking water, solid waste/hazardous waste, and clean air policy issues. Subsequent to this role, he represented several national trade associations, including the National Association of Clean Water Agencies, Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies, WaterReuse Association and Council of Pollution Control Financing Agencies. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and a Master's in Public Administration with dual concentrations in Public Finance/Budgeting and Urban Administration from The George Washington University.



Mr. David French serves as the firm's Senior Vice-President. He served as Deputy Director of Intergovernmental Affairs and Rural Affairs Liaison for then California Governor Pete Wilson. Mr. French also served as professional staff in the California Senate to retired Senator Tim Leslie. At the federal level, he brings his understanding of state, and local governmental levels and integrates that expertise to attain the policy needs of a client. He melds his understanding of the ways in which a client's goals and objectives can be achieved leveraging the resources at the different levels of government. He holds Bachelor of Arts Degree in Criminal Justice from California State University, Sacramento.



Ms. Sarah Sapirstein serves as the firm's Associate. In this capacity, she supports the firm's clients conducting research into grants assistance opportunities, developing legislative updates, attending congressional, agency and stakeholder meetings and hearings, monitoring and evaluating legislative proposals, and providing liaison with key congressional staff involved in water quality and water supply policymaking. She served as an Intern for several Members of Congress, including Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment Chairwoman Grace Napolitano (D-CA), where she gained a working understanding of the congressional process. She holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science from the Honors College, University of Vermont.



Mr. Roger Cockrell serves as consultant to the firm. He spent his federal agency career at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Washington and USACE District Offices where he managed all aspects of USACE programs. In Congress, he served as the lead Senate Committee on Appropriations staff for both the Republican and Democrat committee members. Notably, he served as Committee Member Senator Dianne Feinstein lead staffer, responsible for developing and managing budget and policy issues impacting water supply and water quality issues before a variety of federal agencies including USACE, USDOT and USEPA. Mr. Cockrell holds a Bachelor of Science in Engineering from Mississippi State University. He is a credentialed Civil Engineer.

TAB D PROJECT UNDERSTANDING

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PROJECT UNDERSTANDING

SCV Water's current legislative platform serves as the guiding document for the development of any federal advocacy strategy. The development and subsequent implementation of the strategy must ensure a focus on SCV Water's identified principles. However, it must also be flexible in its implementation to allow for opportunities that may arise due to shifts in the federal policymaking environment. For example, as Congress and the Administration consider a national infrastructure policy, opportunities to address safe and reliable water supply needs to enhance the ability to facilitate water deliveries, while protecting and restoring the Delta ecosystem, could lead to project assistance opportunities for locally developed water solutions, such as groundwater recharge or remediation. Efforts to legislate changes to address the joint operations of the State Water and Central Valley Water Projects could impact SCV Water's water supply reliability and, as such, any federal advocacy program must ensure that this situation is addressed to safeguard water supplies and allow for the flexibility to facilitate innovative solutions. This includes water transfers and storage. As part of any initiative to address water supply projects, the opportunity to advance policy to streamline transfer approvals and to eliminate Warren Act Contracts to reduce costs of conveyance would achieve an important principle of minimizing costs and facilitating transfers to mitigate drought impacts.

As climate resiliency needs grow, it is vital that local water resources be developed in a sustainable manner. The opportunity to implement a program that is designed to secure federal assistance to plan, design and construct water supply projects is a must do element of our understanding. No less important, the ability to leverage innovative approaches to enhance water supply reliability must be pursued. This could include the development of stormwater capture and reuse, and the implementation of "smart" technologies, including data management and artificial intelligence to promote integrated water resources management initiatives. In tandem with an effort to implement innovative approaches to water supply management, the opportunities to advance water use efficiency can deliver achievements consistent with SCV Water's current legislative platform. For, example the U.S. Department of Energy is implementing energy water nexus programs through the National Laboratories that could offer collaborative opportunities to implement and demonstrate innovative water and energy use efficient technologies. With the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's recent unveiling of its Water Recycling Action Plan, the ability to leverage potential assistance under the agency's Office of Water could become available and help achieve SCV Water's goal of improved water use efficiency.

The importance to secure a safe and reliable water supply also means improved water quality. Recent findings illustrate that chemical compounds like PFAS are being found in water supplies. These findings demand that any public health standards are based upon sound science and subsequently issued standards must be achievable and deliver timely protection of surface and groundwater supplies. This coupled with climate impacts, such as drought, which can reduce groundwater recharge or increase concentrations of pollutants like salts, demand federal assistance to support water treatment needs to reduce impacts on ratepayers that are not

responsible for the adverse impacts from contaminants like PFAS. On a related level, supporting federal policies to advance innovative approaches that use science and emerging technologies can help promote sustainable water resources management practices. For example, the opportunity to utilize flood protection facilities to conserve stormflows, employing state-of-the-art monitoring of atmospheric rivers could lead to improved water supply that could be stored as groundwater recharge or water transfers. Seeking federal assistance under existing programs could lead to the achievement of the platform's principles.

Taken in total, SCV Water's legislative platform remains timely and consistent with ongoing federal water resources, environment and resiliency policy discussions. This means that the guiding elements would receive a receptive audience as specific project priorities are pursued.

Regional Collaboration to Advance Federal Goals and Objectives

We also recognize that SCV Water's interests could overlap with other regional agencies' missions. As such it demands close collaboration between the SCV Water and stakeholders to maximize successful outcomes. At the same time, when policy objectives conflict with other regional stakeholders, the ability to articulate the SCV Water's interests to such agencies must be part of any legislative and regulatory agenda to minimize misunderstandings that could lead to increased challenges and opposition. Our focus on communication is vital to our approach. The ability to maintain clear lines of communications among the various stakeholders—public, private and nongovernmental organizations—will facilitate solutions and avoid misunderstandings that might derail SCV Water initiatives. This can leverage a stronger policy voice at the federal level and deliver results on a regional basis that benefit SCV Water.

SCV Water Priorities and the Federal Agenda

Collaboration among stakeholders is important, but not the entire picture. SCV Water will, guided by its federal priorities, seek specific funding assistance, policy and program reforms, or regulatory approval of projects. Given the diverse needs of SCV Water, ranging from water supply to groundwater remediation, the opportunities to pursue such priorities demands a comprehensive strategy.

For example, Congress approved permitting authority for local agencies to implement integrated plans and permits under the Clean Water Act. SCV Water may be able to develop such a permit and thereby reduce administrative costs of compliance and reduce pressures on ratepayers. Similarly, safe and reliable water supplies and the conveyance of such will demand innovative approaches to address resiliency, drinking water standards and alternative water supply production. To meet these challenges, it will be critical to develop solutions to secure assistance from multiple program "pots" of federal assistance. For example, water recycling infrastructure is an expensive endeavor to undertake. But it provides a proven solution to help mitigate impacts attributable to water supply uncertainty. The opportunity to develop solutions that draw upon several agencies, for example USEPA, USBR and EDA, might support a project and help to offset the costs of a project.

The legislative agenda will be the driver to address SCV Water's goals and objectives. However, it is only one prong of a two-pronged approach of an effective federal agenda. The ability to work with officials at various federal departments and agencies (political appointees and career) can spell the difference between meaningful success and the status quo that often fails to address current interests. This is best recognized in the water supply policy arena. ENS monitors federal funding opportunities, provides liaison to agency decision makers, and advises our clients on how best to respond to funding solicitations that positions any review in the most favorable light. For example, the USEPA's Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) provides highly subsidized assistance for water supply projects, including groundwater recharge. The ability to brief officials on a project before formal solicitations are announced allows for a comprehensive understanding of a project prior to the formal review process of an application that precludes such discussions.

Some of the management challenges that SCV Water may confront involve drinking water standards compliance, water and energy use efficiency standards and related technologies, and ecosystem or groundwater protection restoration. These federal mandates are evolving; especially under the current Administration's priority to develop standards that have an acceptable cost benefit ratio and can be implemented without needless delays that have become all too common when seeking to permit a project or address standards in general.

Our decades of federal employment and experiences representing public agencies, with a focus on California, coupled with our academic training in policy, engineering and public administration, provides us the insight into how best to deliver value and success. We understand the technical, political and administrative elements of the factors that influence regulatory outputs and outcomes. Our capabilities allow us to develop policy recommendations in collaboration with SCV Water and to communicate to policymakers and stakeholders views that are both technically and politically feasible.

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TAB E WORK PLAN

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WORK PLAN

Our proposed scope of work that addresses SCV Water's focuses on the many facets of protecting public health and ensuring a safe and reliable water supply for its service area. Federal advocacy before Congress and the Executive Branch demands an approach that is grounded in collaboration with SCV Water. This has been a winning approach that we have employed with success throughout the years, regardless of which party controls Congress or the Executive Branch. In these times of legislative and regulatory disruption, our experience and expertise provide the insights and capabilities to develop a strategy to secure desired outputs and to realize outcomes that meet the criteria of SCV Water's goals and objectives.

We will meet with SCV Water leadership to review its goals and objectives relative to the current legislative and regulatory environment. This review would then permit us to identify the legislative and regulatory priorities that offer the highest return for success, based upon SCV Water's mission of protecting public health and the environment, advancing cost effective water quality improvements, ensuring water supply reliability, and promoting effective and equitable infrastructure assistance for all facets of SCV Water's mission. We then would implement the federal strategy.

Scope of Work

We would work with SCV Water's General Manager or designee to ensure that our activities are consistent with agreed-upon priorities. To maximize success, our approach encompasses the following elements:

- Legislative and Executive Branch Liaison and Representation
- Washington-based Stakeholder Liaison

a. Legislative and Executive Branch Liaison and Representation

We would continue to rely upon the process that proved successful over the past years and as outlined below. This approach is especially relevant given SCV Water's new Member of Congress. With this point in mind, we believe the tasks identified below illustrate how specific categories of activities will be executed.

- i. Convene a meeting with SCV Water officials to review goals and objectives and reach agreement on legislative and regulatory program priorities;
- ii. Draft a strategy to achieve priorities for SCV Water officials to review and approve;
- iii. Communicate federal priorities to the congressional delegation and key congressional committee leadership including the House and Senate committees with jurisdiction over environmental policy and public infrastructure;
- iv. Track status of legislative, regulatory and grants proposals that offer opportunities (authorizations and appropriations) of interest and provide appropriate email alerts

- and analyses, detailed updates, and a matrix of consequential legislation and regulations to the SCV Water (Appendix 4 and 5);
- v. Track federal agency grant opportunities including a focus on infrastructure, climate resiliency, water conservation, and groundwater remediation at U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Department of the Interior and U.S. Department of Energy;
 - vi. Draft detailed legislative and regulatory communications, legislative language, report and regulatory language, testimony, and other appropriate materials for review, approval and use by SCV Water to support the identified goals and objectives and to update SCV Water;
 - vii. Provide frequent legislative and regulatory updates (Appendix 3);
 - viii. Draft for review issue papers, briefing materials, and talking points for use in meetings with Members of Congress, congressional committee staff, federal agency officials as well as stakeholders, including ACWA, NACWA, National League of Cities, NAFSMA, CASA, and other appropriate groups;
 - ix. Arrange and coordinate congressional and federal agency meetings for SCV Water officials independent or in conjunction with regional stakeholder visits to Washington;
 - x. Arrange and coordinate tours of SCV Water facilities by congressional delegation Members, their staff and committee staff and senior federal agency staff; and
 - xi. Work with the White House – Office of Management and Budget and Council on Environmental Quality and appropriate federal agencies to advance formal budget requests and/or programmatic increases of value to SCV Water.

We have provided a perspective federal agenda task timeline (Appendix 1) and staff time allocation chart (Appendix 2) as examples of how these tasks would be accomplished.

b. Washington-based Association Liaison

Over several decades, our team has either worked as lead staff to many of the key water-related trade associations in Washington or helped to launch such organizations. For example, we helped to transition the WateReuse Association from a state-based group to a nationally recognized organization, supported the creation of the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies, and served as a lead for the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (formerly AMSA). Over the years, we have developed strong working relationships with groups like U.S. Conference of Mayors, National League of Cities, Association of California Water Agencies and the Washington Office of the California Governor to name a select group of that play pivotal roles in the policymaking process.

We would work with key stakeholders located in Washington to enlist support for SCV Water policy and program initiatives. We would employ our extensive liaison network to achieve this support. Our liaison would target the State of California Governor's Washington Office, U.S. Conference of Mayors, National Association of Clean Water Agencies, Water Environment Federation, WateReuse Association of California Water Agencies, Natural

Resources Defense Council, California Association Sanitation Agencies, and National Association of Flood and Stormwater Managers.

ENS Subcontractor

ENS enjoys a collaborative relationship with Mr. Roger Cockrell whose biography is enclosed with our response. ENS relies on Mr. Cockrell to supplement our activities before Congress and the U.S. Department of the Interior and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. As a former senior USACE official and staff to the Committee on Appropriations for several Senators, including as the lead committee staff for water issues on behalf of Senator Dianne Feinstein, he provides exceptional guidance on behalf of our clients. ENS has worked with Mr. Cockrell for more than fifteen years on water resources, water quality and water supply policies and appropriations as they impact agencies like the SCV Water.

Demonstration of Strong Legislative and Executive Branch Capabilities

Our team has served in key positions at USEPA, USACE, and in Congress, the California State Legislature and the California Governor's office. ENS has the requisite experience and expertise to advocate policy initiatives before numerous federal departments and agencies including: the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Department of Justice, U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Department of Transportation, and the U.S. Department of Commerce. This knowledge is especially relevant to our ability to identify federal programs and funding sources, including grant opportunities that the SCV Water can seek to support its local needs. We would utilize our experience with the State of California policymaking process, including working with the Governor of California's Washington office, to help facilitate the successful implementation of SCV Water's defined federal initiatives.

Over more than five decades, ENS and its consultants developed an extensive working relationship throughout the Legislative and Executive Branches. We achieved this by serving in senior appointments in each Branch with responsibility for the Clean Water Act, Safe Drinking Water Act, Resource Recovery and Conservation Act, Superfund, WRDA, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the related annual spending bills impacting the implementation of these laws.

Through these positions and our ongoing activities to address local governmental needs, we enjoy solid professional working relationships with Members of the California Congressional Delegation, including SCV Water's direct delegation and the region at-large and/or their senior staff. This is complemented by our decades of representing public agencies before the key House and Senate committees with jurisdiction over water quality, water supply, water recycling, water resources mandates. In the House of Representatives, this includes working on a bipartisan basis with senior staff to the Committees on Transportation & Infrastructure, Energy and Commerce, Natural Resources, and Appropriations. In the U.S. Senate, our bipartisan approach with the Committees on Environment and Public Works, Energy and Natural Resources, and Appropriations provides meaning opportunities to provide substantive input on vital legislative issues of the moment. Similarly, at the Executive Branch our past

positions as well as representing our clients has equipped us to serve as a bridge for clients to communicate their needs cogently to political and career officials.

Cumulative Experience and Understanding of Municipal Utilities

Our team has extensive experience of representing public agencies, including special districts, either directly or indirectly through national trade associations. We represented the National Association of Clean Water Agencies, Association of Metropolitan Agencies, WaterReuse Association, Water Environment Federation. Additionally, we represent or represented regional water supply and wastewater treatment operations that serve the needs of numerous cities and whose Boards are comprised of elected officials.

As mentioned earlier in this response, our team is schooled in the policy matters affecting CA water agencies and special districts. Our academic training, tenure within the Legislative and Executive Branches and representation of local governmental agencies affords us a deep appreciation of the governmental operations of utilities. This, coupled with ongoing activities related to water quality and supply, provides critical insights into the political and technical factors influencing project funding and selection that are of importance to a utility like SCV Water.

TAB F COST PROPOSAL

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COST PROPOSAL

ENS proposes to provide the services outlined in the project plan based upon a monthly retainer of eight thousand dollars (\$8,000.00), not to exceed ninety-six thousand dollars (\$96,000.00) over a 12-month period. We propose to bill our travel costs for visits to meet with SCV Water officials as requested under the RFP.

Appendix 2 provides an approximate time allocation for anticipated tasks. It is important to highlight that the identified tasks and specific activities were developed based upon the RFP's stated needs, but we expect that other actions could be required to be initiated. Additional tasks would be added based upon the strategic planning exercise. It is also important to note that the activities would be conducted in a manner that allows for us to utilize the most appropriate team member working along with the project manager, Eric Sapirstein.

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TAB G REQUIRED STATEMENTS/DOCUMENTS

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REQUIRED STATEMENTS/DOCUMENTS

Consistent with the provisions of the RFP, ENS makes the following affirmations.

- No team members will be substituted without the approval of SCV Water staff.
- We have no known conflict of interest.
- The insurance requirements as outlined in the RFP are acceptable and will be complied with as part of any final contract agreement.
- The submitted proposal is not to be considered proprietary.
- This proposal remains valid for 12 months from date and time of closing.

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TAB H EXCEPTIONS

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EXCEPTIONS

We make no requests related to the requirements of the RFP, including the Sample Contract.

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TAB I COMPETENCY OF PROPOSERS

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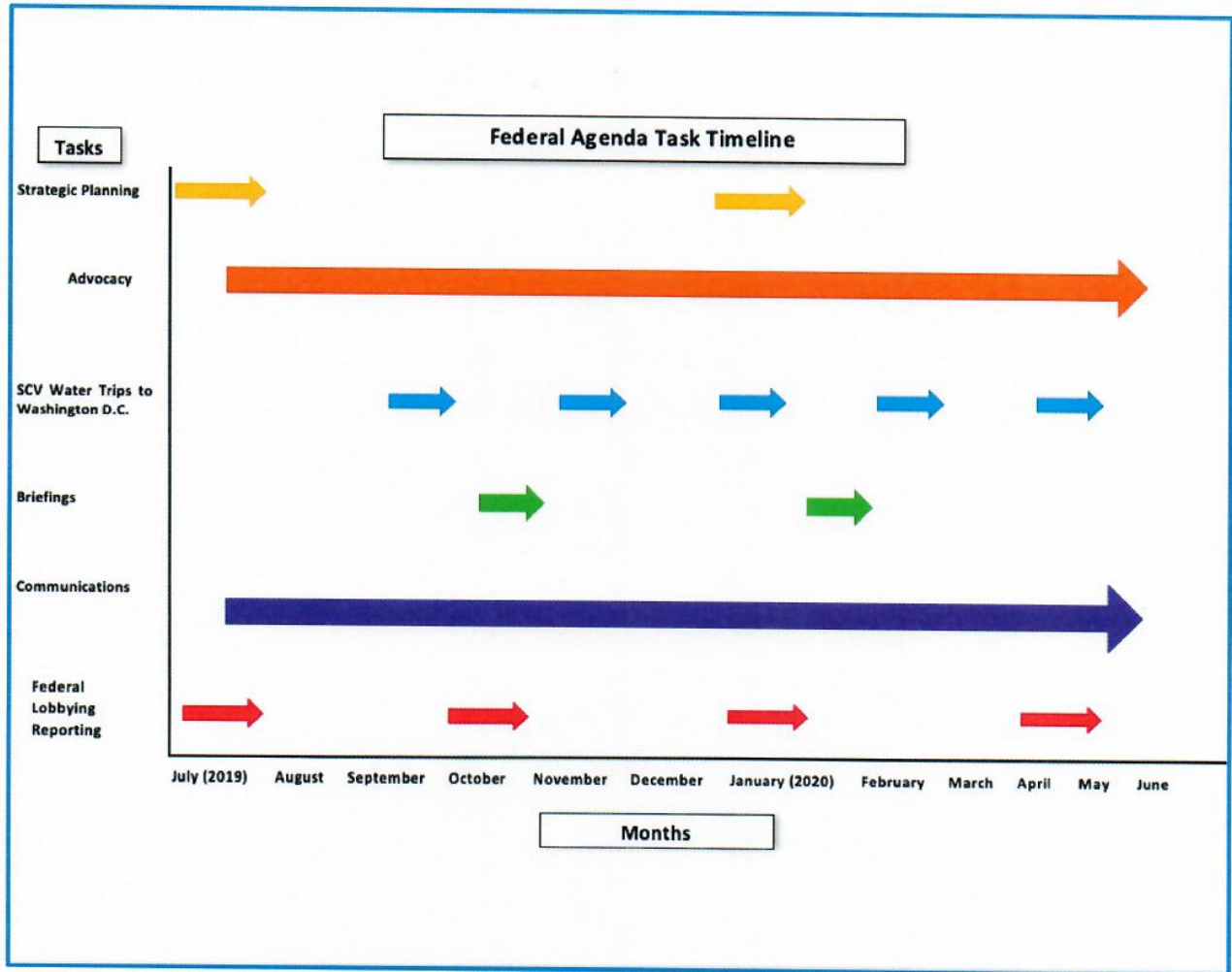
COMPETENCY OF PROPOSERS

The proposers can provide the services in a timely manner and have no pending bankruptcies, liens, stop payment notices, judgements, lawsuits, arbitrations, mediations, foreclosures and any similar actions filed or resolved in the past seven (7) years. There has not be a client termination with the firm for breach of contract.

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APPENDICES

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**LABOR RESOURCES ALLOCATION BY SCOPE OF WORK TASK TIMELINE
(HOURS PER MONTH UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED)**

TASK	ERIC SAPIRSTEIN	DAVID FRENCH	ROGER COCKRELL	SARAH SAPIRSTEIN	HOURS
STRATEGY (20 Hours)					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting with SCV Water to develop Strategic Plan and Priorities 	X	X	X		20 (one-time)
ADVOCACY (43 Hours)					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft and finalize, in coordination, with SCV Water legislative and regulatory positions, testimony, advocacy materials and other communications in support of Department priorities 	X	X	X		10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide advocacy and liaison before Legislative and Executive Branch on behalf of SCV Water 	X	X		X	10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct legislative and regulatory monitoring, analyzing and reporting (written and oral) on SCV Water priorities and interests related to legislation, regulations, budget and federal departments' and agencies' meetings to achieve goals and objectives 	X		X	X	15
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct stakeholder liaison to identify potential partners and challenges to further goals and objectives 	X				5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify grant opportunities and support development of grant assistance responses 	X	X	X	X	3

**LABOR RESOURCES ALLOCATION BY SCOPE OF WORK TASK TIMELINE
(HOURS PER MONTH UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED)**

TASK	ERIC SAPIRSTEIN	DAVID FRENCH	ROGER COCKRELL	SARAH SAPIRSTEIN	HOURS
COMMUNICATIONS (32.5 Hours)					
• Participate in bi-monthly teleconference updates	X	X	X	X	1.5
• Draft written and oral monthly updates (including matrix of legislation and regulations)	X	X			3.0
• Conduct meeting preparations and staffing of D.C. meetings by SCV Water (including drafting briefing papers, talking points and other materials)	X	X		X	20 per meeting
• Brief SCV Water twice a year	X		X		4 per meeting
• Assist in preparation of annual end of session report	X	X		X	8
ADMINISTRATION (4 Hours)					
• Comply with lobby registration requirements	X				1 per quarter

ENS WASHINGTON REPORT



Washington Policy and Regulatory Updates

Our ENS Federal Report provides a summary and the status on select legislative and regulatory actions. We normally issue a Report when both Chambers are in session.

ENS Federal Report – March 29, 2019

Congress Starts FY2020 Budget Process; Water Infrastructure Highlighted in Hearing

This week, the House and Senate Committees' on Appropriations subcommittees held hearings to consider the President's Fiscal Year 2020 budget request, including the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR), U.S. Department of the Interior, and the U.S. Forest Service. Members denounced the budget request's proposed cuts. Below are key points raised at the hearings.

House Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies

The USACE and USBR budget requests received withering reviews. Chairwoman Marcy Kaptur (D-OH), opened the hearing stating that water is one of most vital resource for the country and identified water infrastructure as essential infrastructure in need of investment in order to ensure resilient operations. She stated that the budget request woefully underfunds water infrastructure. Ranking Member Mike Simpson (R-ID) agreed with Kaptur, stating that again, the budget requests large cuts to the agencies' water infrastructure programs and that he hopes the subcommittee will address this issue as they develop their budget.

House Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies

The hearing on the FY 2020 Budget for the U.S. Forest Service, Chairwoman Betty McCollum (D-MN) praise the request for the budget \$1.95 billion to address fire suppression costs. However, she was critical of proposed cuts to forest management programs. McCollum highlighted a proposed 46% reduction to the State and Private Forest Program, stating that the subcommittee will not accept these proposed cuts. Rep. Mike Simpson (R-ID) placed blame for the reductions on overall spending levels set by the Budget Control Act of 2011 for defense and non-defense discretionary programs through FY 2021. Simpson urged his colleagues to increase the caps to provide for appropriate funding to address forest management needs. Vicki Christiansen Chief, U.S. Forest Service testified that the budget supports collaborative decision-making with States and partners to increase treatment across forest landscapes. Christiansen emphasized that the Forest Service is actively implementing forest management reforms, authorized in the 2018 Omnibus and 2018 Farm Bill, to reduce wildland fire risk and improve forest and grassland conditions.

The hearing on the FY 2020 budget request for the U.S. Department of the Interior (USDOI), Principle Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget Scott Cameron testified to the Administration's budget request for USDOI. During the hearing's discussion, Representative Brenda Lawrence (D-MI), noted the important role USDOI plays in monitoring and reporting on the nation's water quality. She asked Cameron how USDOI can fulfill these responsibilities when the agency's budget is limited. Cameron responded that the agency provides water quality data to the appropriate regulating agencies and that USDOI will continue to provide scientific information. Cameron added that when the FY2020 budget is finalized, USDOI will prioritize based on highest known risk to human health.

Now that the subcommittees have considered the Administration's budget request, members begin developing FY2020 budgets for the agencies. Fiscal Year 2020 begins on October 1.

LEGISLATIVE MATRIX

116th Congress - 1st Session								
Bill Number	Title	Introduced	Sponsor	Cosponsors	Latest Action Date	Last Action	Committees	Summary
H.R. 34	Energy and Water Research Integration Act of 2019	1/3/19	Johnson, Eddie Bernice (D-TX)	1	3/27/19	Reported out of Subcommittee on Energy as amended by voice-vote	House: Science, Space, and Technology	To ensure consideration of water intensity in the Department of Energy's energy research, development, and demonstration programs to help guarantee efficient, reliable, and sustainable delivery of energy and clean water resources.
H.R. 535	PFAS Action Act of 2019	1/14/19	Dingell, Debbie (D-MI)	32	2/7/19	Referred to the Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials	House: Energy and Commerce, Transportation and Infrastructure	Requires the USEPA Administrator to designate per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances as hazardous substances under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980.
H.R. 658	National Infrastructure Development Bank Act.	1/17/19	DeLauro, Rosa (D-CT)	61	2/7/19	Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management	House: Energy and Commerce, Transportation and Infrastructure, Financial Services, Ways and Means	Facilitates efficient investments and financing of infrastructure projects and new job creation through the establishment of a National Infrastructure Development Bank, and for other purposes
H.R. 1162	Water Recycling Investment and Improvement Act	2/13/19	Napolitano, Grace (D-CA)	24	3/4/19	Referred to Subcommittee on Waters, Oceans, and Wildlife	House: Natural Resources	To establish a grant program for the funding of water recycling and reuse projects, and for other purposes.
H.R. 1497	Water Quality Protection and Job Creation Act of 2019.	3/5/19	DeFazio, Peter (D-OR)	18	3/6/19	Referred to Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment	House Transportation and Infrastructure	Provides nearly \$23.5 billion in direct infrastructure investment over the next five years to address wastewater infrastructure and local water quality challenges. This bill allocates \$20 billion in grants for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund.

REGULATORY MATRIX

Issue	Title & Status	Background Information	Contact(s)	Comments	Link to Federal Register
Integrated Water Management	Integrated Municipal Stormwater and Wastewater Plans Final Framework released June 2012.	Framework for public agencies to develop integrated municipal stormwater and wastewater planning. USEPA proposes to allow agencies to address stormwater controls and general wastewater plans through an integrated management process that would establish priorities within otherwise competing water quality mandates. Any integrated plan would be subject to full Clean Water Act enforcement. Adopting an Integrated Planning Approach to CWA obligations is voluntary. This effort is a collaborative one between USEPA, NPDES permit authorities and USEPA and State enforcement officials. The intent is to use the flexibilities in both permits and enforcement to work with communities towards common goals.	Deborah Nagle, Director, Water Permits Division nagle.deborah@epa.gov Mark Pollins, Director, Water Enforcement Division pollins.mark@epa.gov	USEPA and local governments are meeting to clarify how the Clean Water Act (CWA) provides flexibility to consider a community's financial circumstances when developing schedules for municipal projects necessary to meet CWA obligations. On January 18, 2013, USEPA issued a memorandum to USEPA Regions that described the status of the dialogue.	Link to Final Framework: http://cfpub.epa.gov/npdes/integratedplans.cfm
Water Quality	Perchlorate	EPA made a determination to regulate perchlorate under the SDWA on 2/2/11. Draft EPA Science Advisory Board report held up for months over the scientific evidence to regulate perchlorate.	Russ Perkinson, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; telephone (202) 564-4901 or by email to perkinson.russ@epa.gov.	Last public meeting 3/29/2013. SAB submitted final report to EPA using novel method for assessing risk to children 5/29/2013. Draft MCL delayed until 2015.	
Water Quality	Chromium VI California	California proposed MCL of 10 ppb on 8/22/13. Current state standard for total chromium is 50 ppb and the federal standard is 100 ppb. Total chromium and chromium VI added to EPA's UCMR 3 5/2/12.	Ted Berner, National Center for Environmental Assessment telephone: 703-347-8583	State released final proposed regulatory package establishing the MCL at 10 ppb on 4/15/14. It will become effective on 7/1/2014. EPA added Chrom. VI to agenda of June meeting on IRIS and released scoping documents for public comment on 4/17/14.	Federal Register Volume 76, Number 70 (Pages 20349-20350)
Water Quality	Water Quality Standards Regulatory Clarifications	EPA is extending the comment period for the proposed rule "Water Quality Standards Regulatory Clarifications" published 4 September 2013. EPA is extending the comment period in response to stakeholder requests for a 30-day extension. Comments must be received on or before 2 January 2014. The comment period was originally scheduled to end on 3 December 2013.	Janita Aguirre, EPA Headquarters, Office of Water, Office of Science and Technology, at 202-566-1860 or email: WQSRegulatoryClarifications@epa.gov	Rule focuses on 6 areas: determination that a new or revised standard is necessary; designated uses; triennial review requirements; enhanced implementation of antidegradation; procedure to allow variances; and compliance schedule authorization.	Federal Register http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2013-11-27/html/2013-28522.htm



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Jason Larrabee, Senior Policy Advisor
202-298-1800
larrabeej@vnfsolutions.com

April 29, 2019

Kathie Martin
Public Information Officer
SCV Water
26501 Summit Circle, Santa Clarita, CA 91350
kmartin@scvwa.org

RE: Federal Legislative Advocate Services

Dear Kathie Martin:

VNF Solutions LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Van Ness Feldman LLP (VNF or firm), is pleased to submit this proposal to provide federal legislative advocate services to the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency (SCV Water or Agency).

Since our inception over 40 years ago, VNF has offered clients substantive, bipartisan representation before Congress and the Executive Branch. The vision of our policy practice by our founders remains the dominant mission of our practice today—to provide thought leadership and policy strategy to clients navigating the complex intersection between business and government.

VNF Solutions draws on the diverse experience of all of the professionals at VNF in order to provide clients with non-legal advisory services and solutions to complex issues in energy, environment, natural resources, infrastructure, transportation, cyber security, tax, real estate, land use, and health care areas.

The approach at VNF Solutions is to make available all of our team members to produce the best results for our clients. While this will be true for SCV Water, the lead federal advocate will be Jason Larrabee, Senior Policy Advisor.

VNF Solutions is well situated to assist SCV Water with their federal advocacy goals, having also provided federal advocacy representation to several public agencies in California and

throughout the west, including the Tri-Dam Project (wholly owned by Oakdale and South San Joaquin Irrigation Districts), the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, and the West Stanislaus Irrigation District.

Per instructions in the Request for Proposal (RFP), we have thoroughly reviewed the terms and conditions in the RFP and the professional services agreement and acknowledge receipt of all amendments and/or addenda to the RFP.

I will be serving as the main point of contact for this response, and my contact information can be found above. If you have any questions about the materials contained herein, please do not hesitate to contact me. We look forward to having the opportunity to discuss our proposal with you in person, if we are deemed qualified.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jason Larrabee', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Jason Larrabee
Senior Policy Advisor

A. QUALIFICATIONS OF FIRM

Firm Profile

VNF Solutions LLC is a wholly owned subsidiary of Van Ness Feldman LLP, a nationally recognized law firm providing legal counsel, thought leadership, and policy strategy to clients navigating the complex intersection between business and government.

Founded in Washington, DC in 1977 by four former Congressional and Executive branch legal counsel, VNF has grown to include over 100 lawyers and policy professionals in our Washington, DC, Seattle, and San Francisco Bay Area offices.

Over the years, our team has grown with an influx of both lawyers and public policy professionals who have worked for Democratic and Republican Administrations and Members of Congress. With this bipartisan and interdisciplinary team, we have been able to help our clients succeed through many transitions in administrations and in both houses of Congress. The firm is best known for its work in energy, environment, land use, natural resources, and native affairs matters.

The firm’s public policy professionals serve a diverse clientele. VNF has represented a large number of interests in the Western United States, including cities, and local and regional agencies both small and large. The firm has also done legislative and regulatory work on behalf of a multitude of cities, counties, and states throughout the country. In addition, we represent, and participate in, a wide variety of trade associations, and numerous federal policy coalitions, which broadens our reach and knowledge base.

The lead federal advocate for the SCV Water will be Jason Larrabee, Senior Policy Advisor, who will be responsible for team coordination and communication with the Agency. Tracy (Nagelbush) Tolk, Partner, and Sean Taylor, Senior Director, will lead specific tasks and assist the overall representation of the SCV Water Agency in Washington, D.C. More specific details on the team and tasks is outlined below.

Experience and References

Client Name, Contact, and Dates of Work Performed	Nature of Work	VNF Solutions Contact
<p>Tri-Dam Project Ron Berry, General Manager PO Box 1158 Pinecrest, CA 95364 Phone: (209) 965-3996 , ext. 120 Email: RBerry@TriDamProject.com (2018-present)</p>	<p>Coalition building and policy advocacy to influence federal regulations before Congress, Department of the Interior, and Environmental Protection Agency</p>	<p>Jason Larrabee</p>

Client Name, Contact, and Dates of Work Performed	Nature of Work	VNF Solutions Contact
<p>Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) Winifred Yancy Director of Federal, Local, and Community Relations 111 N. Hope Street, Room 1531 Los Angeles, CA 90012 Phone: (213) 367-0025 E-mail: winifred.yancy@ladwp.com (2012-present)</p>	<p>Policy advocacy to influence federal regulations before Congress, Department of Energy, and Environmental Protection Agency</p>	<p>Tracy (Nagelbush) Tolk</p>
<p>Metropolitan Water District of Southern California Dee Zinke Deputy General Manager, External Affairs 700 North Alameda Street Los Angeles, CA 90012-2944 Phone: (213) 217-6139 E-mail: dzinke@mwdh2o.com (2016-present)</p>	<p>Policy advocacy before Congress, Department of the Interior, White House, Environmental Protection Agency, Bureau of Reclamation, and Army Corps of Engineers</p>	<p>Sean Taylor</p>
<p>West Stanislaus Irrigation District Bobby Pierce General Manager 116 E Street Westley, CA 95387 Phone: (209) 894-3091 E-mail: bobby.pierce@weststanislausid.org (2019-present)</p>	<p>Coalition building and federal funding before Congress, the Bureau of Reclamation and White House to secure federal appropriations to construct a new fish screen facility</p>	<p>Jason Larrabee</p>

B. QUALIFICATIONS OF TEAM

VNF Solutions adheres to the concept of firm representation, whereby the collective talents, expertise, and contacts of the firm are available and fully utilized to maximize the quality of our representation to each client. For purposes of this representation, the Agency would have access to the full resources of all Members of the firm in assisting them in achieving its objectives. As stated previously, Jason Larrabee would serve as the primary lead and day-to-day boots on the ground in Washington, DC. While all of our professionals would be at the Agency's disposal, we will not substitute the individual team members listed below without the Agency's prior approval.

Brief biographies about the proposed team members are below:

Core Team



Jason Larrabee, Senior Policy Advisor: Jason has over 20 years of advocacy, public policy, management and public affairs experience. Throughout his career, he has worked as a liaison between elected officials and government, representing businesses, non-profit organizations and private citizens in their dealings with local, state and federal government. He has worked extensively with senior Members of Congress and congressional staff, senior

officials in the Executive Branch, federal agencies, trade associations, and local and state elected officials in California. From 2017-2018, Jason was the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks at the U.S. Department of the Interior where he provided oversight of day-to-day operations as well as policy development and implementation for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Park Service, which encompass over \$6.5 billion annually in federal spending and 30,000 employees. Prior to joining the Department, Jason was Chief of Staff to Congressman Jeff Denham (R-CA) managing all aspects of his Congressional offices. Jason previously worked for former Congressmen Doug Ose and John T. Doolittle, handling their energy and natural resources, agriculture, transportation and affiliated portfolios. Jason's practice at the firm primarily focuses on providing clients with policy guidance and strategic advice on agriculture, energy, natural resources, and transportation funding and policy.

larrabeej@vnfsolutions.com



Tracy (Nagelbush) Tolk, Partner: Tracy is a forceful advocate for clients in need of effective communications with the federal government on public policy matters in the climate change, clean technology, transportation, alternative energy deployment, cybersecurity, energy efficiency, and natural resources development areas. She understands the needs and language of both business people and decision-makers inside the beltway and is

experienced at finding creative solutions and for building lasting relationships across party lines. As a seasoned veteran of Capitol Hill, she brings clients the benefit of many connections and strong bipartisan relationships on the Hill and with federal agencies, thereby advancing clients' goals and protecting their interests.

Prior to coming to the firm, Tracy's rich political background included serving as a senior advisor to former Congressmen Jay Inslee (D-WA), now Governor of Washington State, and Jim Davis (D-FL). During her tenure on Capitol Hill, she managed all energy, environment, and

transportation policy issues for the Congressmen who were assigned to the Energy and Commerce and Natural Resources Committees as well as the Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming. NagelbushT@vnfsolutions.com



Sean Taylor, Senior Director: Sean Taylor has over a decade of experience representing municipalities and local governments on water infrastructure, agriculture, transportation, federal regulations, public lands issues, and a variety of appropriations matters. Sean began his career in the U.S. Senate working for Senator Connie Mack of Florida and Senator Judd Gregg of New Hampshire, before serving as a Natural Resources Policy Analyst to

Governor Jeb Bush of Florida. As Governor Bush's lead staffer in Washington, DC, Sean gained considerable experience developing regional and national coalitions to help mold national energy legislation, influence ocean policy, and expand aquatic ecosystem restoration, and land & water conservation programs for the state. Sean has spent the last 14 years representing cities and agencies throughout the State of California on a variety of federal policy issues.

taylor@vnfsolutions.com

C. STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS AND LEAD BY TASK

VNF Solutions' policy professionals and lawyers are a bipartisan array of former senior Congressional Members and staffers with hands-on experience in energy and environmental policy, budget and appropriations, transportation, agriculture, and disaster recovery. In addition, many of our colleagues formerly served as senior officials at the Environmental Protection Agency, Department of the Interior, Department of Energy, Department of Transportation, the Council on Environmental Quality, and the White House. By combining this diverse federal expertise with a team approach to clients, we are able to provide a thorough and sophisticated suite of services.

Building on their past government service, our professionals work with Members of Congress, Congressional authorizing and appropriations committees, the White House and Executive Branch agencies, state and local agencies, coalitions, and trade associations to identify policy issues and opportunities, develop creative solutions, and promote specific policy or program goals. We annually secure federal funding for our clients, help clients engage effectively on key legislative and regulatory issues, and work with clients to successfully navigate the changing agendas of Congress and the Administration. We have a unique understanding of the rules and decision-making processes of Congress and the Executive Branch; know how to efficiently identify and reach key policymakers; and excel at effectively positioning our clients to succeed in the federal policy arena.

As stated earlier, the lead federal advocate for the Agency will be Jason Larrabee, Senior Policy Advisor, who will be responsible for team coordination and communication with the Agency. Tracy (Nagelbush) Tolk, Partner, and Sean Taylor, Senior Director, will lead specific tasks and assist the overall representation of the SCV Water Agency in Washington, D.C.

D. SCOPE OF WORK

To support the SCV Water's priorities and goals, VNF Solutions will (task lead):

- Maintain a presence in Washington, D.C. on behalf of SCV Water and represent the Agency daily at the federal level by fostering and nurturing relationships within Congress, Federal agencies, and the water community. (All)
- Develop and maintain strong working relationships between SCV Water and the California congressional delegation, key congressional committees, federal agencies, and the Executive Branch. (All)
- Identify potential federal funding opportunities that match the Agency's funding needs and priorities, focusing on groundwater, water storage, conservation and recycled water supplies. (Jason/Sean)
- Work with SCV Water officials in the identification and application of grants offered by federal agencies, and provide follow-up support on competitive applications. (Jason/Sean)
- Actively engage with water industry associations and coalitions such as ACWA, CalDesal, and NWRA for relationship building for the benefit of SCV Water. (Jason/Sean)
- Monitor the progress of funding and grant applications through appropriate federal agencies on behalf of the Agency. (Jason/Sean)
- Travel, as appropriate, to work with the SCV Water Board of Directors and staff to identify federal goals, objectives, and discuss legislation and proposals which will benefit SCV Water. (All)

Federal Funding

Our team has a long history of assisting clients in accessing federal funds for critical projects. With the Congressional ban on earmarks, and uncertainty surrounding Congress's ability to reliably pass annual spending legislation, increased control over federal funding decisions has moved from Congress to the departments and agencies of the Executive Branch.

Federal Initiatives

Our team has been involved in a wide range of legislative debates, including securing appropriations for projects large and small throughout the country; infrastructure projects through highway and water resources development bills; environmental cleanups and brownfields redevelopment; and important economic development issues related to local commerce, industry, and tourism.

Our professionals are intimately familiar with federal appropriations and funding, and the underlying authorizations, having in many cases participated in the development of these statutes and processes while working in the federal government. Our team will monitor and identify funding opportunities relevant to SCV Water throughout the Congressional budget and appropriations process and across the Executive Branch for the full range of federal funding opportunities that could support the Agency's priorities.

The current political environment in Washington, DC, has created many questions about the future of federal funding, including for the Environmental Protection Agency, Bureau of Reclamation, and Army Corps civil works projects. There is tremendous pressure to refocus federal spending on near-term and transformative projects that reduce the federal government's role in future funding. Earmarks are not available to individual Members of Congress at this time; therefore a concise focus on grants is key to securing federal funding.

Ground Water Remediation, Water Reclamation, & Recycling

Our proposed team has extensive experience working with communities throughout the country to secure federal funding through the Army Corps of Engineers for alternative water supply projects. These projects ensure economic stability for the region, preserve natural habitat that relies on ground water and surface water flows, and decrease the reliance on costly and unreliable imported water. We have strong relationships with the Los Angeles District office of the Army Corps and can facilitate conversations between SVC Water and the Army Corps on relevant issues, such as remediation efforts of groundwater.

Establishing a funding stream through federal, state, and local partnerships is important for successfully addressing groundwater contamination. Our team has worked closely with other California communities including Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) and the San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority (WQA) to authorize federal remediation projects to address perchlorate contamination and other volatile organic compounds VOC's found in the local water supply. These federal appropriations have contributed to the design, construction, and operation of water projects to contain and treat spreading groundwater contamination in the San Gabriel and Central Groundwater Basins. To date, we have successfully secured over \$85 million in direct federal funding to support these cleanup efforts.

The federal government offers a number of funding and financing programs to help alleviate the local burden on these projects. Programs include the EPA's low interest loan program (WIFIA) established by Congress in 2014, the Bureau of Reclamations Title XVI water recycling and restoration program, and the State Revolving Loans (SRF) program through the EPA.

Federal funding for large groundwater remediation projects has been stymied in recent years due to the lack of congressionally directed earmarks. However, even with the focus moving to the federal agencies, Congress holds the power of the purse and is responsible for overseeing Agency allocation of funding. Our firm's past experience and proven success places our team in an ideal position to assist the Agency with its groundwater contamination needs.

Legislative Monitoring and Guidance Efforts

VNF has nationally recognized expertise providing strategic policy guidance and legislative advocacy services to clients on a wide array of issues. Our team's broad exposure to the workings of Congress and the Executive Branch will enable the firm to closely monitor activities of interest to SCV Water.

We will seek to capture content generated by SCV Water to share with the California Congressional Delegation and key federal contacts, and we will provide writing and editorial support to the Agency in drafting background and position papers, testimony, correspondence,

and legislative language, as necessary. Furthermore, we will provide the following services to meet the goals set forth by SCV Water:

- Identify federal legislation of interest to SCV Water, monitor action on these initiatives, and advocate for the Agency's interests when appropriate.
- Communicate the Agency's interests to the appropriate elected representatives and staff, key Committee members, federal agencies, and other individuals.
- Provide full witness preparation services, including development of briefing papers and talking points when SCV Water officials are requested to testify before a Congressional committee or meet with legislative staff.
- Work with appropriate federal agencies and officials to resolve issues on Agency's behalf.
- Provide grass roots advocacy guidance in an effort to build broad local and regional support for SCV Water's priorities.

Communications/Deliverables

VNF Solutions will provide the City with written monthly updates and an annual report detailing developments on significant issues and actions taken to address SCV Water interests and priority issues. In addition, we will monitor relevant activities pertinent to any legislation, rules, or regulations, and other Federal policies or programs that may affect the Agency and its citizens, either directly or indirectly, and provide briefings, as needed.

E. WORK PLAN

Once selected, our team will work immediately with SCV Water Board of Directors and staff to:

- Understand existing project funding agreements with federal agencies, proposals, and appropriations requests submitted and develop an action plan. (first 30 days)
- Travel to SCV Water for meetings with SCV Water Board of Directors and staff and perform site visits of SCV Water facilities and projects. (first 30 days)
- Identify upcoming grant opportunities that meet the goals and objectives of SCV Water's strategic plan and legislative platform and assist Agency staff in drafting, editing, and reviewing proposals prior to submission. (first 30 days and ongoing)
- Alert SCV Water staff to legislation which the Agency can support or oppose. (first 30 days and ongoing)
- Engage with the congressional delegation members and staff who represent the SCV Water in Congress of the Agency's priorities and objectives. (first 30 days and ongoing)
- Alert the water industry associations and coalitions of SCV Water priorities and objectives. (first 30 days and ongoing)
- Represent SCV Water priorities within Congress by tracking legislation and regulations which benefit SCV Water and its customers. (ongoing basis)
- Develop a funding strategy for SCV Water's capital projects. (within 3 months)
- Provide an appropriations status report on funding amounts and riders of importance to SCV Water, as well as an overall legislative synopsis of year-end activities. (within 4 months and ongoing)
- Develop, draft, and introduce any legislative measures meeting SCV Water's strategic plan or legislative platform as directed by the Agency. (within 4 months and ongoing)
- Assist SCV Water with requests for the fiscal year 2021 appropriations cycle, including drafting and submittals. (within 9 months)
- Provide an annual report to SCV Water on activities and accomplishments of our team on behalf of the Agency. (within 12 months)

F. COST PROPOSAL

Van Ness Feldman is committed to providing efficient and valuable work to our clients. Based upon the scope of work included in the RFP, and the issues that SCV Water wishes to address at the federal level, we propose a monthly retainer of \$15,000.00, plus any reimbursable expenses, for year one of the contract.

Reimbursable expenses would consist of reasonable lobbying expenses (i.e. ground transportation to and from meetings) and any additional travel expenses incurred as a result of a request by the SCV Water for meetings with Agency officials and staff to establish and implement federal goals and objectives.

If selected, we welcome further discussions about our cost proposal during our initial negotiation process.

G. PROPOSAL VALIDITY

This proposal and its contents will remain valid until April 29, 2020 and constitutes our acceptance of all terms and conditions within the RFP.



PROPOSAL TO PROVIDE FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE ADVOCATE SERVICES FOR THE:

Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency

Submitted by:

*Geoff Bowman & Pete Evich
Van Scoyoc Associates Inc.
800 Maine Avenue Southwest
Suite 800
Washington, D.C. 20024
202-737-8165
gbowman@vsadc.com*

April 26, 2019

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Cover Letter

April 26, 2019

Kathie Martin
Public Information Officer
Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency
26501 Summit Circle
Santa Clarita, California 91350

Dear Ms. Martin:

On behalf of Van Scoyoc Associates, Inc., (VSA) I am honored to provide you with our qualifications for federal advocacy services to the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency (SCV Water). We have extensive experience working on behalf of water districts, advocating for federal funding, passing legislation, and modifying regulations and agency policies to address local and regional concerns.

VSA is uniquely qualified to represent SCV Water. Our proposed team has experience influencing legislation, regulations, guidance, and permitting in ways that can expedite projects and programs. This knowledge has been gained through our backgrounds as former Capitol Hill staff, as well as our decades of experience representing local government entities on issues dealing with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Department of the Interior, and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

We have assembled a team for SCV Water that I believe is ideally suited to meet your needs. Vice Presidents Geoff Bowman and Pete Evich will be your VSA team for SCV Water.

Mr. Bowman recently served as the Staff Director for the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee's Water Resources and Environment Subcommittee, where he shepherded passage of the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act of 2016. He has almost 20 years of experience in public policy as it pertains to the nation's water resources development infrastructure. He can be contacted at 202-737-8165 or gbowman@vsadc.com regarding questions relating to these qualifications.

Mr. Evich has been helping water agencies and local government entities achieve their federal priorities before Congress and Executive Branch agencies for over 16 years as a principal at Van Scoyoc Associates. Mr. Evich, a former Legislative Director for a California House Member who served on the Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee and Chaired the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water and Power. He can be contacted at 202-737-8728 or pevich@vsadc.com regarding questions relating to these qualifications.

Thank you for the consideration of our qualifications. VSA's proposal will be valid for a period of twelve months from the closing date of this solicitation. VSA would be honored to work on behalf of the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency and help achieve your federal objectives.

Sincerely,



H. Stewart Van Scoyoc, President and CEO

*Van Scoyoc Associates Inc | 800 Maine Ave, SW, Suite 800 | Washington, D.C. 20024
202.638.1950 | www.vsadc.com*

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Experience

Demonstrated Successes

The availability of water and the maintenance and growth of water infrastructure and treatment services are major issues for entities throughout the nation, including the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency (SCV Water). According to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates, national clean water needs exceed \$270 billion, while national drinking water needs exceed \$380 billion.

VSA has extensive experience representing water districts, cities, counties, and state agencies to address water resource issues of supply, quality, water, stormwater management, and flood control. Our professionals also have a broad range of expertise related to the laws that impact these issues, like the Water Resources Development Act, the Clean Water Act, the Endangered Species Act, the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, the National Environmental Policy Act, and countless other statutes that govern the nation's water resources and public lands. We have helped our clients achieve success in water infrastructure issues including the development of water supply and reuse, stormwater management, improvement of wastewater treatment systems, planning and construction of flood damage reduction projects, and guiding clients through contentious processes involving biological opinions. VSA also advocates each year for funding for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund, the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund, and the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) loan program.

VSA has experience working closely with the Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), the Bureau of Reclamation, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Defense, the United States Department of Agriculture, and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. Additionally, VSA has strong working relationships with the House and Senate Appropriations Committees, the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, the House Natural Resources Committee, the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, and the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee. VSA also coordinates with many national associations such as the National Water Resources Association, the National Association of Clean Water Agencies, the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies, the National Association of Flood and Stormwater Management Agencies, the National Waterways Conference, the Association of California Water Agencies, the California Association of Sanitation Agencies, and the WaterReuse Association, on issues of national importance.

VSA has had continued success over the years engaging with the Army Corps of Engineers on behalf of our clients. We ensure that we are up-to-date on the major policy proposals and changes at the Army Corps of Engineers, while maintaining focus on our clients' individual projects. We have helped clients get a feasibility study initiated or accelerate a current study or construction project. We work to ensure that both Congress and the Army Corps of Engineers understands the importance of projects to the local community and help to advance projects towards completion.

VSA prides itself on demonstrated success in securing funds for projects and programs of interest to SCV Water. We have worked extensively with the Army Corps of Engineers to help clients receive federal funding in the absence of earmarks for water infrastructure projects. Over the past three years, VSA has helped two water districts receive over \$11 million in funding from the Army Corps of Engineers annual work plan for environmental infrastructure projects and obtained a significant reimbursement for a client that funded part of a federal flood damage reduction project. VSA has also obtained several project authorizations and project modifications on behalf of our clients in the 3 most recent Water Resources Development Acts in 2014, 2016,

and 2018. We have also worked directly with the Corps to solve problems with projects or studies, encouraged the Corps to take quick action on studies, and worked proactively with the Corps to address potential problems.

In Fiscal Year 2019 alone, Van Scoyoc Associates was responsible for obtaining more than \$200 million for its clients through Army Corps of Engineers programs. These funds cover a spectrum of activities, including operation and maintenance, construction initiation and continuation, and funds to initiate phases of project studies, like preconstruction, engineering, and design.

Recently, VSA worked on behalf of our clients to make necessary changes to the Bureau of Reclamation Title XVI Reclamation and Reuse program. VSA was very engaged with Congressional Members and staff in both the House and the Senate regarding proposed language to convert the existing Title XVI program into a competitive grant program. Ultimately, the language was incorporated into the final bill passed in the 114th Congress, the “Water Infrastructure for Improvements to the Nation (WIIN) Act.”

VSA has the ability to form coalitions to help our clients achieve success. VSA helped organize a coalition of local government entities working with the National Association of Counties, the National League of Cities, and the U.S. Conference of Mayors to modify pending stormwater mandates for local governments. The success of this coalition effort resulted in subsequent EPA regulations that established less costly requirements for municipalities whose separate storm sewer systems would be treated as industrial dischargers. Our efforts helped persuade EPA not to move forward with additional stormwater regulations that would have proven to be very costly to local governments. Additionally, VSA works with several national associations on the Army Corps of Engineers and Environmental Protection Agency’s recent rule to define the Waters of the United States (WOTUS).

References

VSA is proud of our track record representing local government entities. Below are a few of our current clients.

Eastern Municipal Water District, CA

Van Scoyoc Associates has represented Eastern Municipal Water District (EMWD) since 2005 on water supply, water reliability, groundwater recharge, and water desalination. VSA has successfully represented EMWD before the Corps of Engineers, helping EMWD receive over \$10 million in work plan funds over the last four fiscal years. VSA also helped EMWD receive grant funding from the Bureau of Reclamation for a water desalination pilot project.

Contact: Jolene Walsh, Senior Director of Public and Governmental Affairs
Eastern Municipal Water District
2270 Trumble Road
Perris, CA 92570
(951) 928-3777 x 4347
walshj@emwd.org

West Basin Municipal Water District, CA

Van Scoyoc Associates has represented West Basin Municipal Water District (WDMWD) since 2017 on water supply, water reliability, groundwater recharge, and water desalination. One of our key efforts has led to obtaining legislation modifying an existing Corps of Engineers environmental infrastructure project in the vicinity of Los Angeles, California. The modification includes increasing the authorized level of funding by \$35 million to expand the distribution system for the Harbor-South Bay project. This legislation is currently incorporated in

both House and Senate Water Resources Development Acts, which is anticipated to be enacted before the end of 2018.

Contact: E.J. Caldwell, Esq.; Water Policy and Resources Development Manager
West Basin Municipal Water District
17140 S. Avalon Boulevard
Carson, CA 90746
(310) 660-6286
Edwardc@westbasin.org

San Joaquin County Flood Control Agency, CA

Van Scoyoc Associates has represented the San Joaquin County Flood Control Agency (SJAFCA) since 2005 on flood control and flood insurance issues. VSA has successfully represented SJAFCA before the Corps of Engineers, helping SJAFCA receive funding for the Lower San Joaquin River Feasibility Study in work plan over the last several fiscal years. Last year, VSA assisted SJAFCA is securing Congressional language to authorize the agency's \$1 billion flood control project in a major water measure that was signed into law. Additionally, VSA has helped SJAFCA address policy and regulatory issues with the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Contact: Chris Elias, Executive Director
San Joaquin Area Flood Control Agency
22 E. Weber Avenue, Room 301
Stockton, CA 95202
(209) 937-8339
Chris.Elias@stocktonca.gov

Description of Your VSA Team

VSA has extensive experience representing water districts in Washington, D.C. We are uniquely qualified to ensure effective advocacy for the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency (SCV Water) most critical federal legislative issues. VSA will help SCV Water define specific goals and objectives, develop strategies to achieve those objectives, and undertake all the work necessary to secure funding and authorization for SCV Water's projects and programs. Your VSA team will bring close working relationships with House and Senate leaders of both parties and will use them to ensure that SCV Water's interests are advocated at the highest levels of Congress.

Geoff Bowman is one of the nation's leaders on water resources and infrastructure policy. Having spent 15 years as a Professional Staff Member at later Staff Director on the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, Geoff offers clients an insider's perspective on the policy, players, and politics involved in those issues.

Before joining VSA 18 months ago, Geoff was the Staff Director of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee's Water Resources and Environment Subcommittee, where he shepherded passage of the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act of 2016. Prior to that, he was instrumental in the passage of WRDA 2007, WRRDA 2014, and other critical water quality laws. Geoff has also worked closely with the many federal agencies under the Committee's jurisdiction, including the Army Corps of Engineers and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Geoff's nearly two decades of water and infrastructure policy experience make him a valuable resource to states, communities, and other organizations looking to partner with the federal government. He can guide clients through both the legislative process and the bureaucracy at the Corps, EPA, and other relevant federal agencies.

Pete Evich has been providing advice on a wide range of issues to Members of Congress and to clients for over two decades. Drawing on his experience as a top aide for a Member of the California Congressional Delegation and Appropriations Committee, Pete guides his clients through the often complex legislative and administrative processes in the areas of appropriations, health care, transportation, and natural resources.

Clients particularly value Pete's wealth of relationships with Members and staff on key Committees and throughout the federal agencies. As a Vice President at VSA, he is well-regarded for his experience and know-how in developing and implementing advocacy plans tailored to achieve the specific goals of each client. He has an impressive record helping clients achieve their federal objectives, including securing legislative language, stopping or amending adverse Congressional proposals or agency regulatory policies, and securing federal funding.

In addition to providing federal representation to cities, water districts, and other public entities, Pete has become a leading policy expert in integrative health. He serves as a voice in Washington for long-established trade associations in the dietary supplement and homeopathic drug industry.

Qualifications

Van Scoyoc Associates (VSA) is a bipartisan, full-service federal government relations firm that provides comprehensive Legislative and Executive Branch strategic advice, liaison service, and advocacy. VSA's strength lies in our ability to work with federal decision-makers to achieve our clients' objectives. VSA is known for substantive and procedural knowledge and broad experience, allowing VSA to develop and implement creative solutions to seemingly intractable problems. Simply put, we are known for achieving results.

VSA was established in Washington, D.C. in 1990 by H. Stewart Van Scoyoc. Our office is located minutes from Capitol Hill and many federal agencies and houses all our employees. The company's organization is anti-bureaucratic and designed for quick action. Our personalized team approach allows us to tailor a government relations strategy to fit each client's needs. The formula for our success lies in the fact that we remain engaged with our clients daily through every step of the legislative and regulatory process. This hands-on approach assures our clients they receive the highest level of professional service, resulting in greater success. Thus, our retention rate is higher than our competitors.

We have a strong track record of working with key legislators, committee staff, and federal agency officials under the highest ethical standards and professional conduct. We are well experienced in all aspects of federal advocacy and can help ensure the SCV Water's federal agenda is fully implemented. We have assembled a team for that is ideally suited to meet your needs. These professionals have the knowledge, skills, and relationships in Washington to successfully represent and carry out your agenda. While Geoff Bowman and Pete Evich will be working on your behalf on a day to day basis, they will be able to access the skills and relationships of the entire VSA workforce of 60 professionals if needed.

Geoff Bowman and Pete Evich have spent decades working with and working on behalf of municipal water districts. Both Geoff and Pete are sought after for their experience with the Army Corps of Engineers, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Bureau of Reclamation. However, it is not uncommon for municipal water districts like SCV Water to interface with other federal agencies like the Department of Defense, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Commerce, and other relevant federal agencies on behalf of our municipal water district clients.

By way of example of ongoing work, Geoff Bowman and Pete Evich are currently working with municipal water district clients in California and Texas related to Department of Defense installation sustainability initiatives to ensure stable and secure sources of water supplies for decades in the future for the Department of the Air Force and the Department of the Army respectively.

Scope of Work

VSA will be SCV Water's "eyes and ears" and "arms and legs" in Washington, D.C., providing timely information on all legislative and budgetary issues of concern. We will provide up-to-the-minute information and analysis to SCV Water officials and staff. We will identify and define short and long-term funding trends well before they become apparent and identify the intersection of SCV Water's priorities and federal opportunities. We will work with SCV Water's Congressional delegation and their staff, key authorizing committees, and officials at the federal departments and agencies to emphasize your budget and policy priorities, and in that context, help shape your legislative strategy.

VSA will maintain day-to-day contact with Senators Dianne Feinstein, as well as Representative Katie Hill and other Congressional leaders and senior staff. We will provide liaison services as needed to the Congressional committees to implement SCV Water's legislative strategy. We will also reach out to other Congressional offices in California on issues of regional or national significance. VSA will keep your Congressional delegation abreast of the SCV Water's funding and legislative priorities. In addition, VSA will help raise SCV Water's profile among the Congressional committees and federal agencies, making the SCV Water more competitive for grant funding and ensuring that legislation addresses your needs.

VSA will monitor all legislation and federal agency actions important to SCV Water. Based on your priorities, VSA will track the progress of legislation and advocate your position on pending legislation, seeking to introduce, support, revise, or halt bills that affect SCV Water. VSA will also monitor regulations and policy developed in the federal agencies. We will confer with agency officials to ensure that the SCV Water's concerns are addressed. We have influenced federal actions in such diverse matters as navigation improvements, floodplain management, stormwater, and the environment. VSA will coordinate actions with many national associations such as the National Water Resources Association, the National Association of Clean Water Agencies, the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies, the National Association of Flood and Stormwater Management Agencies, the National Waterways Conference, the Association of California Water Agencies, the California Association of Sanitation Agencies, and the WaterReuse Association to ensure SCV Water priorities are also their priorities.

VSA has extensive experience representing municipal water districts in Washington, D.C., and we are uniquely qualified to ensure effective advocacy for SCV Water's most critical federal legislative issues. VSA will help SCV Water define specific goals and objectives, develop strategies to achieve those objectives, and undertake the work necessary to secure funding and authorization for SCV Water's projects and programs.

For instance, each year VSA advocates for increased funding levels for programs of importance to our clients. We work with agencies, as well as the Office of Management and Budget to ensure project-specific items are included in the President's budget. As the Congressional appropriations process follows, VSA engages Members of Congress and the Committees of jurisdiction to advocate for programmatic funding in the annual appropriations bills.

VSA will leverage our experience with the federal agencies and program contacts to track and anticipate upcoming grant opportunities and eligible program funding based on budget execution plans and federal appropriations. We will identify short-term and long-term funding trends and opportunities, often before they become officially announced. We will work with SCV Water to seek agency advice and understand agency priorities prior to the submission of your grant applications. We will list strategies, review criteria, milestones, schedules, responsible assignees for input, and recurring coordination to measure progress. As part of the

specific coordination steps, VSA will include meeting with the agency grant representatives during the preannouncement time window to screen proposal ideas, eligibility, and other criteria. Additionally, we will let the federal agencies know that SCV Water plans to submit a grant application. This approach has led to successful grant awards for our clients.

VSA will reach out to your Congressional delegation to engage them at the appropriate time in support of your authorizations, funding, and grant requests. In addition, we will identify and seek out the key Committee Members and their staffs to educate. VSA will schedule meetings so that SCV Water is delivering the right message to the right person at the right time. VSA will work with SCV Water to produce materials to leave behind at meetings that succinctly describe the ask. Also, VSA will draft letters to legislators, regulators, and administration officials as well as draft letters for legislators to send to those officials expressing support for the SCV Water agenda. VSA will draft legislative language and amendments as needed to achieve SCV Water's goals.

Washington has seen significant changes in advocacy in recent years. Securing federal funding or affecting legislation and regulations now requires an understanding of the new environment and an ability to work with both the Congress and the federal agencies. Your federal advocates need to understand every aspect of working with your Congressional delegation, the leadership of Congressional committees, and federal agency staff. They need to have the ability to access a Senator's office, understand program requirements, prepare detailed legislative submissions, and be aware of how policy proposals will impact SCV Water and your customers. For these reasons, securing the federal resources needed to advance your priorities will require vigilance, expertise, and a coordinated and sustained effort.

VSA's professionals also have extensive experience working with Executive Branch departments and agencies, having either carried out oversight actions while on Capitol Hill, helped write the laws that impact these departments and agencies, or with them to help clients resolve policy or regulatory issues. We know how to help SCV Water navigate the policy, budgetary, and legislative processes to secure funding, grants, and address changes in regulations. We have worked issues from the lowest levels of an agency through the Office of Management and Budget and the White House. The VSA team for SCV Water brings an insider's understanding of how, when, and where decisions are made on budget proposals, legislative initiatives, new regulations, and grant awards that affect municipal water districts. We meet regularly with both senior political appointees and career officials at the Bureau of Reclamation, the Army Corps of Engineers, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Department of Agriculture, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the Department of Defense. VSA will use these connections, coupled with our experience, to ensure that federal agencies understand your needs and how federal programs either help or adversely impact your customers.

Communication is critical to the success of any relationship. Through the course of our work experience, we have found that it is not uncommon to spend as much time communicating with the client as we spend advocating your agenda to federal officials. VSA prides itself on ensuring the client has the most up-to-date information available and that opportunities and progress toward achieving them are well-understood. VSA will establish open lines of communication with SCV Water officials and staff through both regularly scheduled and time-sensitive phone calls and emails. We also anticipate and commit to at least one visit each year to SCV Water to meet with officials and senior staff as appropriate.

VSA will work with SCV Water to draft and implement a federal advocacy plan. Additionally, VSA is committed to preparing and submitting regular reports on activities and meetings, as well as time-sensitive reports on federal activities that affect each part of this process. These reports may include summaries of Congressional hearings, committee meetings, floor debates, regulatory actions, budgetary proposals, and third-party analysis

of issues of concern. VSA will also draft legislation as needed, analyze relevant federal proposals, and prepare briefings and updates for dissemination to SCV Water officials and staff.

VSA will work with SCV Water to build and communicate local grass roots support for each project and activity to demonstrate local needs and benefits, and work with SCV Water to communicate local and regional support of priorities to the Congressional delegation. VSA will also work to mobilize the support of national coalitions and organization to advance SCV Water's agenda to ensure your interests are reflected in the broader efforts of these associations.

VSA will maintain day-to-day contact with your Congressional delegation and other Congressional leaders and senior staff. We will provide liaison services as needed to the Congressional Committees to implement SCV Water's legislative strategy. We will also reach out to other Congressional offices in California on issues of regional or national significance. VSA will keep your Congressional delegation abreast of the SCV Water's funding and legislative priorities. In addition, VSA will help raise SCV Water's profile among the Congressional committees and federal agencies, making SCV Water more competitive for grant funding and ensuring that legislation addresses your needs.

VSA will handle all aspects of coordinating SCV Water's Washington, DC lobby trips. Prior to your arrival in Washington, VSA will prepare a list of potential meetings for SCV Water officials and staff to attend. Once the SCV Water has reviewed and approved the potential meeting list, VSA will schedule all meetings on Capitol Hill and with the federal agencies. Upon arrival in Washington, VSA will brief SCV Water officials and staff prior to our meetings to ensure that the proper message and tone is conveyed in each meeting. We will attend all meetings and complete all follow-up items resulting from the meetings.

The VSA team has close working relationships with House and Senate leaders of both parties and will use them to ensure that IRWD's interests are advocated at the highest levels of Congress. On the Senate side, VSA has close relationships with Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, Majority Whip John Thune, and Democratic Leader Senator Chuck Schumer. On the House side, we have close working relationships with senior staff in the Offices of Speaker Nancy Pelosi, Majority Leader Steny Hoyer, Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy, and Minority Whip Steve Scalise. In addition, your VSA team's experience working for Congressional committees and advocating for existing clients before both House and Senate has allowed us to maintain working and personal relationships with key committee Members and their staffs. The upcoming election and retirements and reassignments will bring new faces to leadership positions. VSA can quickly identify the new targets that need to be approached and educated.

Similarly, we have worked with the Army Corps of Engineers, the Bureau of Reclamation, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Office of Management and Budget for decades. At those, and other Executive Branch agencies, we maintain relationships with the political appointees, high-level leaders, and senior executives.

Work Plan

The House and the Senate have placed a moratorium on earmarks. In the absence of earmarks, VSA is equally effective in advocating for federal program funding important to clients and seeking discretionary grants from federal agencies. VSA is well-positioned to help the SCV Water navigate this changing environment in Washington, D.C. It is increasingly important to work with the various federal agencies to secure discretionary grant funding. VSA prides itself on demonstrated success in securing funds for projects and programs of interest to SCV Water. Without earmarks, more of the project funding decisions are made in the federal agencies. We can help SCV Water manage the policy, budgetary, and legislative processes to secure grants.

VSA follows each step of the federal funding process to find opportunities to input clients' fiscal requirements. Each year, VSA advocates for increased funding levels for programs of importance to our clients in the President's budget. We work with agencies, as well as the White House Office of Management and Budget, to ensure project-specific items are included in the President's budget, and annual agency work plans. As the Congressional appropriations process follows, VSA engages Members of Congress and the appropriate committees to advocate for programmatic funding in the annual appropriations bills.

VSA will reach out to your Congressional delegation, Senators Dianne Feinstein and Kamala Harris, as well as Representative Katie Hill, to engage them at the appropriate time in support of your grant and other funding requests. We can also explore new initiatives with federal agencies, allowing you to develop programs and projects consistent with federal objectives. Additionally, should SCV Water submit a grant application and be unsuccessful, VSA can help set up a debriefing meeting with the respective federal agency to find out how the City can submit a more competitive application in the future.

The Request for Proposal mentions several SCV Water funding priorities, like emergency storage, recycled water, stormwater capture, emergency repairs, and water conservation. In addition, the region has sought and continues to seek funding for groundwater remediation due to perchlorate contamination. VSA has also reviewed the 2019 Legislative Platform, which was adopted by the SCV Water Board of Directors on November 15, 2018.

After award of a contract, Geoff Bowman and Pete Evich would visit SCV Water for a brief tour and overview of your facilities. Following that, VSA would propose to hold strategic discussions to review each one of SCV Water's funding, legislative, and regulatory priorities, and then identify potential federal funding programs and other federal initiatives applicable to the specific water challenge. This strategic mapping exercise allows SCV Water to set priorities and provides clear guidance to VSA professionals who will carry out the monitoring, strategic development, and advocacy for each of the priorities.

VSA professionals are monitoring and influencing as many as 3 federal budget cycles at one time. Geoff Bowman and Pete Evich are working on behalf of clients who are receiving funding through Fiscal Year 2019 Appropriations, working on behalf of clients who are seeking funding through Fiscal Year 2020 Appropriations, and working on behalf of clients who are seeking funding through the Fiscal Year 2021 President's Budget, due for delivery to Congress in February 2020. In addition, some federal agencies like FEMA have unspent funds from previous natural disasters stretching back to 2005.

In carrying out strategic planning for funding priorities for SCV Water for Fiscal Year 2020, VSA would recommend immediate engagement with its Congressional delegation and with the House and Senate

Committees on Appropriations. While the Committees have largely completed their hearings for Fiscal Year 2020, the annual House of Representatives Appropriations bills will be “marked up” during the month of May 2019 and likely approved on the Floor during the month of June 2019. Typically, the Senate process runs a few weeks behind the House process, with a goal of having all the Appropriations bills delivered to the President for his signature no later than the end of the Fiscal Year 2019 on September 30, 2019.

However, since the 1990’s, Congress has missed the Fiscal Year deadline for most of the Appropriations bills. By way of example, for Fiscal Year 2019, while several bills were sent to the President on September 21, 2018, including legislation funding the Bureau of Reclamation and the Army Corps of Engineers, a significant number of the Fiscal Year 2019 Appropriations bills were not sent to the President until February 2019.

VSA begins its planning process for the next fiscal year and following fiscal year during the summer and fall of the current fiscal year. For instance, VSA would recommend begin setting priorities for the President’s Fiscal Year 2021 Budget and Fiscal Year 2021 Congressional Appropriations no later than the period between July and September 2019. This provides SCV Water the opportunity to influence decision-makers at the agencies like the Bureau of Reclamation, the Army Corps of Engineers, and the Environmental Protection Agency during the development of the President’s Fiscal Year 2021 Budget. We would also recommend engaging with the White House Office of Management and Budget at this time to ensure they are aware of SCV Water’s priorities.

After engaging the Executive Branch in the summer and fall of 2019, VSA would encourage SCV Water to engage its Congressional delegation and the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations in February or March 2020 to ensure they are familiar with SCV Water’s priorities for Fiscal Year 2021. To ensure your voices are heard, VSA would recommend executives and Board Members of SCV Water take 1 or 2 trips annually to Washington, D.C.

Rate Schedule

Van Scoyoc Associates structures its relationships with clients in a way that ensures complete and open communication. We typically charge a flat fee for services on a monthly retainer basis. We believe this payment structure allows for open and unhindered communication with our clients. We base our retainer rates on the number of principals and staff devoted to a client and the expected scope of work.

While negotiable, based on our initial analysis of the scope of work for SCV Water, VSA proposes a full and complete Professional Government Relations Advocacy Services for a monthly retainer of \$10,500, with the addition of reasonable costs for directly related business expenses, which VSA would offer to cap at \$5,000 annually. Long-distance, pre-approved travel, if required, would be in addition to these amounts. All legislative advocacy services/activities outlined in the proposal would be included in the monthly retainer rate. As previously stated, VSA's proposal will be valid for a period of twelve months from the closing date of this solicitation.

GEOFF BOWMAN

800 Maine Avenue SW, Suite 800, Washington, D.C. 20024, 202-737-8165, gbowman@vsadc.com

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2017-Present Vice President, Van Scoyoc Associates

Washington consultant and advocate for municipal water districts, public and private seaports and inland ports, flood control districts, and other entities with water resources development challenges. Represent clients before the U.S. Congress and federal agencies. Specialize in issues related to water supply, water quality, navigation improvements, flood damage reduction improvements, environment, water rights, transportation, public works, and energy. Negotiate and write federal legislation and regulations. Work effectively with all level of government, private business, and news media. Organize coalitions of interest groups and individuals seeking to influence public policy.

2003-2017 Professional Staff (2003-2014) and Staff Director (2014-2017), House of Representatives Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

Advised Members of Congress on legislative matters within the jurisdiction of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. Developed and evaluated policy alternatives for matters within the Committee's jurisdiction through specialized knowledge and expertise. Represented the Committee during legislative and policy negotiations, discussions, and other activities. Directed, managed, and promoted Committee agenda related to issues relevant to the United States Army Corps of Engineers, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Tennessee Valley Authority, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, the National Ocean Service, the International Boundary and Water Commission, and the St. Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation.

2000-2003 Senior Legislative Assistant, Representative Walter Jones (R-NC)

Drafted legislation, floor statements, speeches, and constituent correspondence. Developed and evaluated legislation related to natural resources, transportation, energy, commerce, budget, appropriations, agriculture, and trade. Managed constituent and interest group relations in relevant areas. Responsible for all of Congressman Jones's parochial matters on the House Committee on Natural Resources, including forest health, public lands, and fisheries.

1999-2000 Legislative Director/Senior Legislative Assistant, Representative Rick Hill (R-MT)

Drafted legislation, floor statements, speeches, and constituent correspondence. Developed and evaluated legislation related to natural resources, transportation, energy, commerce, budget, appropriations, agriculture, and trade. Managed constituent and interest group relations in relevant areas. Responsible for all of Congressman Hill's parochial matters on the House Committee on Natural Resources and House Committee on Small Business.

1995-1999 Manager, Congressional Relations, The Environmental Industry Associations

Advocate, and grassroots program manager for national trade association representing waste management, equipment, and technology industries. Monitored legislative and regulatory activities for three trade associations, National Solid Waste Management Association, Hazardous Waste Management Association, and WASTEC.

1993-1995 Staff Assistant, Senator Conrad Burns (R-MT)

Wrote letters to constituents regarding legislative issues and other general information. Assisted systems administration and maintenance, user support and troubleshooting, and active mailroom operations.

EDUCATION

B.A. in Political Science, Elon University, Burlington, NC, 1993.

PETER J. EVICH

800 Maine Avenue SW, Suite 800, Washington, D.C. 20024, 202-737-8728, pevich@vsadc.com

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2006 - Present **Vice President, Van Scoyoc Associates, Inc.**

Washington consultant and advocate for municipal governments, water districts, transportation districts, trade associations and energy and defense companies. Represent clients before the U.S. Congress and federal agencies. Specialize in issues related to land use, economic development, environment, water rights, transportation, public works, health care, energy, and bio-defense. Negotiate and write federal legislation and regulations. Work effectively with all level of government, private business, and news media. Organize coalitions of interest groups and individuals seeking to influence public policy.

2003 – 2006 **Associate Vice President, Van Scoyoc Associates, Inc.**

Washington advocate for municipal governments, water districts, transportation districts, trade associations and energy and defense companies. Represent clients before the U.S. Congress and federal agencies. Specialize in issues related to land use, economic development, environment, water rights, transportation, public works, health care, energy, and bio-defense. Negotiate and write federal legislation and regulations. Work effectively with all level of government, private business, and news media. Organize coalitions of interest groups and individuals seeking to influence public policy.

1998 – 2002 **Legislative Director, U.S. Representative John Doolittle (R-CA)**

Advised and consulted directly with Member of Congress on all legislative areas with a special focus on the Member's assignment to the House Appropriations Committee. Responsible for handling several issues, including: appropriations, transportation, health care, energy & natural resources, environment, defense, and business & regulatory related matters. Formulated and developed policy positions and initiatives. Recommended and implemented legislative strategies and tactics. Coordinated long-term and short-term legislative planning. Acted as a point of contact for corporations, interest groups, and key constituents for most legislative areas. Monitored and reported to Member on day-to-day legislative activity.

1994 – 1998 **Legislative Aide, U.S. Representative Dan Manzullo (R-IL)**

Assisted in the development of policy positions and legislative initiatives for the following issues: budget, appropriations, taxes, transportation, social security, health care, and business & labor. Prepared policy statements, drafted speeches, and wrote legislative briefing papers. Assisted in the drafting of press releases and coordination of media events. Recommended and managed several legislative initiatives.

EDUCATION

B.A. Political Science, St. Joseph's University, Philadelphia, PA, 1993. M.A. Public Policy, George Washington University, DC, 1995.



WATER STRATEGIES LLC

4 E Street SE, Washington, DC 20003 ▪ (202) 698-0690 phone ▪ (202) 698-0694 fax

April 22, 2019

Ms. Kathie Martin
Public Information Officer
SCV Water
26501 Summit Circle
Santa Clarita, CA 91350

Dear Ms. Martin:

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the Request for Proposal for Federal Legislative Advocate Services by the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency (SCV Water). We are honored to be considered.

SCV Water is unique; it is the result of exceptional forward thinking by the board of directors and a management team who were not afraid to create something that did not exist before. We believe SCV Water represents the future of municipal water management in California and the nation. Similarly, Water Strategies LLC is a unique government relations firm. With our exceptional legislative team, magazine publications, and Capitol Hill office location, we have also created something new.

Per your request, we have assembled the attached proposal of our services. Should you have any questions or should you require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me directly by phone at (703) 517-3962 or by e-mail at kris.polly@waterstrategies.com.

Again, thank you for this opportunity.

Sincerely,

Kris Polly
President and CEO

Attachments

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Introduction

Water Strategies LLC formally submits our federal advocacy services for the consideration of the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency (SCV Water).

Water Strategies represents 20 clients across the West, supplying legislative and regulatory expertise in the field of water resources. Our mission is to provide clients with comprehensive government relations expertise to address water resources needs, to help procure funding for water infrastructure maintenance and development, and to advocate for our clients' legislative and regulatory positions.

Since 2009, our team has successfully advocated on behalf of irrigation districts, water utilities, water associations, and manufacturers before Congress, the Bureau of Reclamation, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the U.S. Department of the Interior, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Water Strategies also offers an added dimension of service and access through its publications. Our magazines, *Irrigation Leader* and *Municipal Water Leader*, serve as a platform for our clients to share their stories, successes, and challenges with state and national leaders.

Our Team

Kris Polly, president and CEO of Water Strategies, would be the lead lobbyist representing SCV Water. Kris brings 25-plus years of experience in the field of water resources management and public policy and has dedicated his career to finding practical and effective solutions to water resources issues.

Kris would be assisted by his legislative team and counsel. Senior Vice President **Ian Lyle** has over 15 years of government and government relations experience, including 10 years working in Congress, with 3 of those years on the House Natural Resources Committee. Director of Government Relations **Abbey Linsk** has 6 years of federal advocacy experience and has most recently served as a water resources advisor in the United States Senate. Legislative Assistant **Tyler Young** has 4 years of government relations experience. **John Crotty** is counsel to Water Strategies and represents the firm from his location in Kennewick, Washington. He specializes in Reclamation policy and Army Corps issues.

A detailed description of personnel qualifications, as well as the rest of the Water Strategies team, is available in Attachment—Profiles.

In addition to our lobbying team, **The Honorable Robert Johnson**, former commissioner of the Bureau of Reclamation, **Mr. Steven Stockton**, former director of civil works for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and **The Honorable Doc Hastings**, former chairman of the House Natural Resources Committee, are all senior advisors with our firm.

Our Philosophy

Our goal is to help clients cultivate and maintain positive working relationships with key federal agency officials and congressional representatives and their staff. The establishment of those relationships is critical to navigating the regulatory landscape and successfully applying for and receiving federal funds in the current, post-earmark environment on Capitol Hill.

Our Experience

We are pleased to provide several relevant lobbying experience examples below.

Regulatory. Water Strategies successfully worked with the solicitor of the U.S. Department of the Interior to clarify Bureau of Indian Affairs right-of-way easement regulations on behalf of the Desert Water Agency in Palm Springs, California. Additionally, Water Strategies has drafted and submitted dozens of regulatory comments on behalf of our clients. These include comments on the Waters of the United States rule, EPA and Army Corps regulatory reform, and the National Environmental Policy Act.

Bureau of Reclamation. Water Strategies has been working with the Kennewick Irrigation District (KID) to obtain title of transferred works facilities currently managed by KID. Water Strategies drafted the title transfer legislation, which was recently reintroduced by KID's representative Congressman Dan Newhouse (R-WA) and was the subject of a House Water, Power and Oceans Subcommittee hearing in the prior Congress. In addition, Water Strategies coordinated two opportunities during the last Congress for KID's general manager to testify before the House Committee on Natural Resources. Water Strategies drafted committee testimony and prepared the general manager through a mock hearing.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Water Strategies was instrumental in obtaining funding for feasibility studies for two of the Lower Platte Natural Resources Districts in Nebraska. The first, a flood risk management project in Lincoln, was approved for \$10 million in federal assistance under section 205 of the Flood Control Act of 1948. The second, a \$1.5 million for watershed study resumption, was included in the Army Corps' 2018 Work Plan to Congress.

National Monument. We have a successful track record ensuring that water infrastructure access is maintained in federal land designations. On behalf of the Desert Water Agency, Water Strategies worked closely with multiple congressional offices to avoid the designation of the water utility's service lands as part of the Sand to Snow National Monument. Our communications helped to ensure the continuation of necessary maintenance and operations and enabled the utility to support the monument designation. We have worked closely with federal officials and water managers in Colorado to advocate for H.R. 74 and S. 57 legislation providing access to water infrastructure works within the Holy Cross Wilderness Area. During their tenure on Capitol Hill, our staff also worked successfully to protect water infrastructure in the Rocky Mountain National Park Wilderness Area designation, P.L. 111-11, §§ 1952 and 1953.

Federal Budget and Funding Issues. Water Strategies successfully obtained report language in the Senate FY 2019 Energy & Water Appropriations bill for two clients, the Columbia Basin Development League and St. Mary Rehabilitation Working Group. On behalf of our clients, Water Strategies has also successfully pushed for increased funding for the Bureau of Reclamation and its Title XVI program. Water Strategies has submitted many requests and testimony for multiple clients to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees.

Hearings and Testimony. Water Strategies has a strong record of securing invitations for our clients to testify. In Congress, testifying before a committee is always by invitation, and obtaining a witness slot is a high honor. Below is a table listing the number of Water Strategies clients who have testified before a House or Senate committee over the past 5 years and the committees they testified before. On each occasion, Water Strategies wrote the testimony or assisted the client in writing the testimony. All witnesses were coached and prepared prior to the hearings.

Year	Number of witnesses	House and Senate committees
2014	3	House Natural Resources Committee; House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee
2015	5	House Natural Resources Committee; Senate Environment and Public Works Committee
2016	2	House Natural Resources Committee
2017	5	Senate Agricultural Committee; Senate Energy Committee; House Natural Resources Committee
2018	3	House Natural Resources Committee
2019	1	House Natural Resources Committee
Total	19	

Coalitions. Successfully tackling regulatory challenges to water infrastructure development often involves building a coalition of like-minded organizations and businesses to generate momentum around an issue. Water Strategies has organized the Safe Pipe Coalition, which consists of steel, plastic, and concrete pipe manufacturers, to defend Reclamation’s strong metallic pipe corrosion standards and ensure the longevity of Reclamation-funded water projects. Water Strategies also organized the Low Head Hydro Working Group to simplify the development and licensing process for small hydroelectric turbines. The working group had members from five western states and was active for 2 years until relevant legislation (P.L. 113-6, the Hydropower Regulatory Efficiency Act of 2013, and P.L.113-24, the Bureau of Reclamation Small Conduit Hydropower Development and Rural Jobs Act) was passed and signed into law.

Our Work Plan and Approach

Water Strategies will engage in a program of **relationship building**, **strategic advocacy** and **messaging**, and legislative and regulatory **monitoring and reporting**. Water Strategies will work with SCV Water to develop an advocacy work plan that lays out the agency's goals and objectives.

Relationship Building. Strong relationships are the foundation of any effort to achieve legislative solutions or regulatory relief. To those ends, Water Strategies will

- maintain strong ties with key congressional staff and federal officials as well as helpful water groups
- plan meetings and provide advocacy materials in Washington, DC as well as local district offices
- facilitate the participation of SCV Water leadership in congressional hearings, if needed
- arrange tours for agency and congressional representatives
- provide space in our *Municipal Water Leader* magazine for regular public service messages and articles about SCV Water's activities and issues of concern

Coupled with Water Strategies' continuous communication with key congressional and agency personnel, these steps will ensure that SCV Water has strong relationships when applying for competitive grants or addressing legislative issues before Congress.

Strategic Advocacy and Messaging. Water Strategies believes in setting short- and long-term advocacy goals to address programmatic needs. We will work with SCV Water to identify and target

opportunities for funding; for regulatory improvements at Reclamation, the Army Corps, and the EPA; and for legislative advances. Additionally, Water Strategies will work with SCV Water on key messaging, for example, through our *Municipal Water Leader* and *Irrigation Leader* magazines.

Monitoring and Reporting. Water Strategies will tailor our communications to ensure that we provide the frequency and detail of communications that best fit SCV Water's needs. We can provide SCV Water with timely legislative and federal agency action information via email, teleconference, or in-person briefings. We will also produce briefing papers, articles for newsletters, presentations to boards of directors, and monthly federal reports as needed.

Water Strategies has access to critical real-time information due to our extensive congressional and agency contacts. Water Strategies will serve as the eyes and ears of SCV Water in Washington, DC, providing information on legislation, regulations, and budgets related to your projects. Our team will provide information and analysis on, among other items, congressional hearings, committee meetings, and regulatory actions, and identify opportunities to advance SCV Water's priorities. We will work with members of Congress, the staff of key congressional committees, and Reclamation and Army Corps officials to help shape your advocacy and project strategies.

Additionally, we closely monitor water issues in Washington, DC, and across the country through our subscriptions to the *E&E News* services. Water Strategies will monitor the *Federal Register* to inform SCV Water of regulatory developments relevant to its operations.

Our Clients

Water Strategies knows western water. We are proud to advocate on behalf of irrigation and water districts, as well as water-related businesses, throughout the West. Our list of clients includes the following:

Central Platte Natural Resources District	Kinsey Irrigation District
Colorado River Water Conservation District	Loup Basin Reclamation District
Columbia Basin Development League	Lower Platte Natural Resources Districts
Desert Water Agency	National Water Resources Association
Diamond Plastics Corporation	Northwest Pipe Company
Elephant Butte Irrigation District	Roosevelt Water Conservation District
Greater Wenatchee Irrigation District	Republican River Basin Coalition
HDR Engineering, Inc.	Rubicon Water
Imperial Valley Conservation Research Center	St. Mary Rehabilitation Working Group
Kennewick Irrigation District	Washington State Water Resources Association

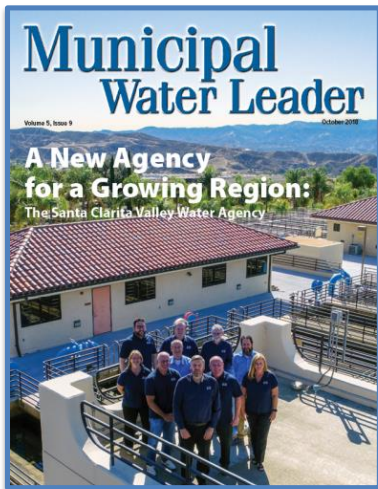
Potential Conflicts. Water Strategies is committed to transparency in its actions and responsibilities. With each new client and issue, Water Strategies cross-checks its new advocacy efforts with existing advocacy efforts. In the event that Water Strategies determines that there may be a potential client or issue conflict, we will immediately communicate the issue to both SCV Water and the existing client and begin a dialogue about the nature and extent of the potential conflict.

Upon review, Water Strategies has not identified any issue or advocacy conflicts between SCV Water and its existing client base. However, we do think it is important to note that Water Strategies is the managing firm for the National Water Resources Association, of which SCV Water is a member.



Our Magazines

We began publication of *Irrigation Leader* magazine in October 2010 and *Municipal Water Leader* magazine in July 2015. Both magazines are published 10 times each year with July/August and November/December as combined issues. In both publications, we focus on solutions and the people who developed the solutions. Our rule is to never say anything critical about an individual, a business, or a government entity. It is possible to talk about difficult topics without saying unkind or unwelcome things. Additionally, all articles are reviewed by the people they are written about before publication. This insures correct spellings and quotes and happy people. In the 9 years we have published our magazines, we have never received an angry e-mail or phone call about anything we have written.



Irrigation Leader magazine focuses on the people and issues associated with irrigation in the 17 western states and provides a forum for irrigators and engineers to share solutions and technology. It is mailed to all irrigation district managers and their boards of directors in the 17 western states; the leadership and key staff of Reclamation; every member of Congress and the staff of key congressional committees; and a growing list of water-related organizations, engineering firms, and individuals. The magazine is also sent to every governor's office and state legislator in the 17 western states. Since our debut issue in October 2010, our circulation has more than tripled. Over 10,000 individuals receive hard copies of the magazine.

Municipal Water Leader magazine highlights the work of the people leading municipal water entities across the United States. *Municipal Water Leader* is supported by partnerships and advertising. In return for monthly financial support, our magazine partners receive a

package of full-page advertisements and editorial suggestions for articles. Hard copies are mailed at no expense to the 700-plus drinking and wastewater managers with annual budgets of \$10 million or more in all 50 states; EPA, Reclamation, and Army Corps officials; members of Congress and key committee staff; and a growing number water-related organizations and interested individuals. Additionally, every governor and member of Congress in all 50 states receives *Municipal Water Leader*. Total hard copy circulation is nearly 10,000.

SCV Water Goals

The following table is taken directly from the SCV Water Request for Proposal. Water Strategies has added response language for each goal for the review and consideration of SCV Water management.

SCV Water goals	Water Strategies services
<p>Maintain a representative presence in Santa Clarita Valley, Sacramento, and Washington, DC, which monitors issues of importance to SCV Water, and the Santa Clarita Valley community as a whole, and keeps respective offices informed of issues of interest to the Agency.</p>	<p>Our office is located at 4 E Street SE, in Washington, DC; a 5-minute walk from the House Longworth Building.</p>
<p>Monitor and engage as necessary with issues of common interest in Ventura County and Los Angeles County.</p>	<p>Water Strategies has a history of partnering and working well with others on federal issues.</p>
<p>Foster and nurture relationships with elected representatives and staff, relevant committees/staff, regulatory agencies, and other key people of influence in the water industry, on behalf of SCV Water.</p>	<p>The Water Strategies business model is based on creating and building strong working relationships with key member office, committee, and regulatory agency staff members.</p>
<p>To actively engage with water industry associations and coalitions, including but not limited to SCV Chamber of Commerce and the Valley Industry Association, to foster relationships with key personnel, and to perform related activities such as advocate for Agency positions and attend meetings as necessary.</p>	<p>Water Strategies has worked closely with the Association of California Water Agencies, the National Endangered Species Act Reform Coalition, and the National Stream Gauge Coalition. We are happy to attend meetings as requested by SCV Water.</p>
<p>Foster and nurture relationships with non-profit, community and environmental groups with interests in the health of the watershed, both upstream and downstream.</p>	<p>Our <i>Municipal Water Leader</i> and <i>Irrigation Leader</i> magazines provide us with the ability to focus on the positive efforts of individuals and organizations and to bring attention to important issues. Our magazines have been key in helping our clients create and build strong working relationships with others.</p>
<p>Pursue opportunities for funding for capital projects and other initiatives to benefit SCV Water and its customers, including but not limited to emergency water storage, recycled water, stormwater capture and recharge, emergency repairs, conservation and outreach.</p>	<p>Water Strategies has successfully submitted funding requests on behalf of our clients in the key House and Senate appropriations committees. Additionally, we have helped our clients pursue and obtain Reclamation WaterSMART grants, other Reclamation funding, and Army Corps funding.</p>

SCV Water goals**Water Strategies services**

Monitor funding opportunities, whether through bond measures or the budget process, including advocating for inclusionary language in developing bond measures, that would assist in securing funding for Agency projects and initiatives.

Water Strategies currently monitors the budgets of Reclamation, the Army Corps, and the EPA on behalf of our clients. Additionally, we monitor the House and Senate appropriations process.

Act on those funding opportunities by assisting in the development of appropriate project/funding request submittals, and shepherding the proposals through the process.

Water Strategies has experience submitting funding requests in a timely manner and working with clients and their respective congressional delegations to secure funding commitments.

Seek funding for groundwater remediation of perchlorate, volatile organic compounds and other contaminants or broader water quality issues that may arise.

Water Strategies has facilitated the creation of coalitions for the purpose of improved regulatory efforts and funding. We would work with SCV Water to bring attention to your groundwater contamination issues and seek collaboration with others to obtain improved remediation funding.

Monitor and track proposed legislation and regulations for impacts on SCV Water or its customers, on any of the ten principles identified in the SCV Water Legislative Policy Guidelines.

Key issues and legislation will be identified with SCV Water and tracked by Water Strategies. Information and reports will be provided in the form and frequency desired by SCV Water.

Monitor, track and advise on major water industry initiatives including but not limited to the WaterFix, Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, and efforts to establish a water tax.

Water Strategies clients have worked on key California water initiatives. We have substantial experience working on groundwater issues in Nebraska and Washington State.

Actively advocate in support of or opposition to proposed legislation or regulations, to the benefit of SCV Water and its customers, in accordance with the adopted legislative guidelines.

Water Strategies has a 10-year track record of effectively supporting or opposing legislation and regulatory efforts at the federal level on behalf of our clients.

Work with SCV Water's board of directors and staff to identify any areas which might require the initiation of legislation.

We believe in open and regular communications with our clients and pride ourselves on seeking resolutions to issues before they are problems that require legislation. Should legislation be needed, we have experience in securing agency drafting assistance as congressional legislative counsel via committee and member offices.

SCOPE OF PROPOSED SERVICES

Work plan development	Water Strategies will work with SCV Water’s management and board of directors to develop and execute a work plan that addresses all the goals and objectives of the agency and that includes completion times for major tasks and milestones.
Federal advocacy	In coordination with the goals and objectives of the work plan, Water Strategies will execute a lobbying effort that includes tracking, promoting, opposing, and commenting on legislation according to the positions of SCV Water.
Witness opportunities	Water Strategies will work to secure invitations from key committees for SCV Water hearing witness opportunities as well as testimony submissions.
Congressional and federal agency meetings	Water Strategies will schedule and coordinate meetings with congressional member offices, committees, and federal agencies for SCV Water management and board representatives. This includes the creating talking points and pre-meeting coaching. Frequency of Washington, DC, meetings should be no less than twice a year.
Relationship building	Water Strategies will assist SCV Water in building and maintaining strong working relationships with key staff of congressional member offices, House and Senate committees, Reclamation, the Army Corps, and the EPA.
Partnerships and coalitions	Where overlapping interests exist, Water Strategies will work to position SCV Water as a helpful and active partner with other water agencies, associations, and local government entities.
Funding	Water Strategies will assist in locating all possible funding sources for the needs of SCV Water, including in the congressional budget process and the programs and budgets of Reclamation, the Army Corps, and the EPA.
Information	Information on Congress, federal agency actions, and water issues in general will be provided by Water Strategies to SCV Water in the form and frequency as requested by SCV Water management and the board of directors. Information can be conveyed via e-mail, phone calls, video calls, written reports, and in-person presentations.

Messaging	Water Strategies will use our <i>Municipal Water Leader</i> and <i>Irrigation Leader</i> magazines to identify issues and promote messages on behalf of SCV Water. Specifically, SCV Water will be provided with a full-page advertisement/public service announcement in each issue of <i>Municipal Water Leader</i> magazine. Additionally, a minimum of 5 articles regarding SCV Water issues will be published in the magazines during the year.
Capitol Hill office	Located 3 blocks from the Capitol, our office will be available for the use of SCV Water–related meetings, receptions, and events.
Executive apartment	All SCV Water personnel will have access to our fully furnished and provisioned executive apartment, located in the lower level of our office building. The apartment can accommodate a family of four and has kitchen and laundry facilities. We charge a one-time cleaning fee per stay.
<i>Cost of Proposed Services—\$7,500.00 Monthly Retainer</i>	
<i>Proposal Validity—Water Strategies will honor this proposal for a period of 12 months from date of submission.</i>	

References

Mark Krause, General Manager

Desert Water Agency
1200 S. Gene Autry Trail
Palm Springs, CA 92264
(760) 323-4971

Shane Leonard, General Manager

Roosevelt Water Conservation District
2344 S. Higley Road
Gilbert, AZ 85295-4794
(480) 988-9586

Chris Treese, External Affairs Manager

Colorado River Water Conservation District
201 Centennial, Suite 200
Glenwood Springs, CO 81601
(970) 945-8522

Water Strategies Contact

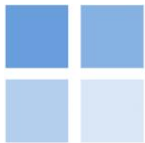
Kris Polly, President and CEO

Address 4 E Street SE
Washington, DC 20003

Office (202) 698-0690

Direct (703) 517-3962

E-mail kris.polly@waterstrategies.com



Attachment—Profiles

Kris Polly, President and CEO

Kris brings 25-plus years of experience in the field of water resources management and policy and has dedicated his career to finding practical and effective solutions to water resources issues. As deputy commissioner for external and intergovernmental affairs at the Bureau of Reclamation, Kris was the executive responsible for Reclamation's national relationships with federal, state, and local governments, as well as citizen and other nongovernmental groups. Then, as deputy assistant secretary for water and science at the U.S. Department of the Interior, Kris managed and directed programs supporting the development and implementation of western water policy and earth observation science.

Prior to his work for Reclamation, Kris worked 15 years for the National Water Resources Association, a national nonprofit association that represents water users throughout the western United States; his final position there was vice president for government relations. Kris is from Nebraska, where his family has farmed for five generations. He credits his irrigated agriculture background as being helpful in understanding the practical challenges his clients face.

Ian Lyle, Senior Vice President

Ian brings over 15 years of experience working in government and government relations to Water Strategies. Ian's experience includes a decade spent working in Congress. He split his tenure on Capitol Hill, working 5 years in the United States Senate and 5 years in the U.S. House of Representatives. Throughout this time, Ian worked extensively on natural resources and appropriations issues, including working 3 years for the House Committee on Natural Resources, where he focused on western water and power issues.

Ian is a knowledgeable and recognized leader in water resources policy. He has presented at numerous conferences, including the Wharton School of Business TrendLab and the Association of California Water Agencies. Ian also serves as the executive vice president of the National Water Resources Association. Ian lives in Washington, DC, but grew up in Colorado and still considers the West home. His experience, knowledge, and affinity for the West make him a valuable asset and a successful advocate for our clients.

Abbey Linsk, Director of Government Relations

Abbey has worked in federal affairs in Washington, DC, for more than 6 years. She began her career at Morgan Meguire, a boutique lobbying firm that specialized in public power and irrigation, particularly in the West. She continued working on these issues as water resources advisor in the United States Senate. Abbey has worked on a number of water issues, including those related to the Colorado River, surface water storage, and Indian irrigation systems.

Abbey graduated from Indiana University with a bachelor of science in nonprofit management and a minor in political science. During college, Abbey gained valuable federal affairs experience through internships at the EPA and the U.S. Department of Energy.

John Crotty, Counsel

John has more than 6 years of experience in business and natural resources law and policy. He is a licensed attorney in the District of Columbia. Prior to working at Water Strategies, John was a program coordinator for the Trust for Public Land and a secondary education volunteer in the United States Peace Corps. In addition to serving as Water Strategies' counsel, John specializes in Reclamation policy and Army Corps issues.

Tyler Young, Legislative Assistant

Tyler coordinates Capitol Hill visits for our clients, produces policy memorandums, and works with congressional offices to draft testimony and legislation. He joined the firm in February 2018 as a staff assistant. Before joining Water Strategies, he served as project manager in both Jackson, Mississippi, and Little Rock, Arkansas, for a software firm that provided eGovernment and payment processing services. In 2015, Tyler obtained a degree in political economics with a public policy focus from Rhodes College in Memphis, Tennessee. During his undergraduate years, he worked for a lobbying firm and an agriculture trade association and served in a district office for a U.S. senator.

Senior Advisors

Robert Johnson, Senior Advisor

Robert Johnson spent more than 40 years working for the Bureau of Reclamation in a variety of capacities, including as regional director of Reclamation's Lower Colorado Region from 1995 to September 2006. As regional director, he initiated and directed significant changes in the management of the Colorado River, including the first water-sharing agreements among Arizona, California, and Nevada and the first water supply guidelines to define conditions for surplus and shortages on the Lower Colorado River. Confirmed as Reclamation's commissioner on September 30, 2006, Mr. Johnson became the 20th person to lead Reclamation. Among his many accomplishments in the position, Mr. Johnson implemented the Managing for Excellence program, which focused on improved customer collaboration, accountability, and efficiency; developed the Water for America program to address water-related problems associated with drought and climate change; and worked to implement loan guarantee and rural water planning legislation.

Doc Hastings, Senior Advisor

Doc Hastings served as the U.S. Representative for Washington's 4th congressional district from 1995 until his retirement in 2015. Congressman Hastings chaired the House Ethics Committee from 2005 to 2007 and the House Committee on Natural Resources from 2011 until he left office. Congressman Hastings has two decades worth of experience working through the congressional gridlock.

Steven Stockton, Senior Advisor


Steven Stockton spent more than 40 years working for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in a variety of capacities, including as director of engineering and technical services from 1998 to 2005. From 2005 to 2016, Mr. Stockton served as the Army Corps' director of civil works. In that position, he led, managed, and directed the policy development, programming, planning, design, construction, contingency and emergency response, operation, and maintenance activities of the \$10 billion Army Civil Works Program. He serves on several national and international water resources committees.



BOARD MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 7, 2019

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Dirk Marks 
Director of Water Resources

SUBJECT: Approve a Resolution Authorizing the General Manager to Enter into a Funding Agreement with DWR for Preliminary Planning and Design Costs Related to a Potential New Delta Conveyance Option

SUMMARY

Staff is seeking authorization to enter into an agreement with the Department of Water Resources (DWR) to authorize DWR to use previously authorized funds for the now defunct California WaterFix planning and design for initial planning efforts for a new Delta conveyance option. This proposed action would not constitute a project as funds will be used for planning analysis, information gathering and other similar activities and is therefore exempt under CEQA.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

On June 5, 2018, SCV Water's Board adopted Resolution No. SCV-42 authorizing participation in the California Water Fix and authorizing the General Manager to enter into a gap funding agreement for its share of ongoing planning and initial design costs of California WaterFix facilities. SCV Water entered into the gap funding agreement in September 2018. SCV Water's share of gap funding is \$1,040,513 which is billed on a monthly basis through the State Water Project (SWP) statement of charges. To date approximately 7.7% of these funds have been expended, leaving an unspent balance at approximately \$960,000.

In early 2019, Governor Newsom indicated his administration intended to take a fresh look at possible Delta conveyance options. On May 2, 2019, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) rescinded its approval of the California WaterFix and initiated a new planning effort for an alternative SWP Delta conveyance option. DWR's ability to fund these planning efforts is limited. Therefore, as an initial step, it has requested the SWP Contractors enter into an agreement making unencumbered gap funding money available for this new planning effort.

SCV Water remains interested in advancing a Delta conveyance solution. The aging through-Delta conveyance system is vulnerable to levee failure and salinity intrusion from seismic events, climate change and ongoing Delta island subsidence. Further, the ability to export water from the Delta has diminished over the last 30 years due to regulatory restrictions related to declining Delta ecosystems. Previous DWR planning documents have predicted the current 60% reliability could be reduced to 45% without action to address Delta conveyance challenges.

On July 24, 2019, DWR and the SWP Contractors initiated negotiations to develop an agreement in principle for allocating cost and benefits for a future Delta conveyance option. Upon completion of these negotiations, it is believed that the level of interest of various SWP Contractors in potentially participating in a future Delta conveyance option will be better defined.

This will inform future efforts to fund Delta conveyance planning costs beyond this proposed transfer of existing gap funding. Such costs are anticipated to be several hundred million dollars and be expended over the next few years.

The recommended action proposed under this memorandum, however, only involves the authorization for DWR to utilize unspent funds from SCV Water's original gap funding agreement of approximately \$960,000 for initial planning and design.

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE ACT (CEQA)

The proposed action merely authorizes the expenditure of certain funds to cover planning and initial design cost necessary for review and evaluation of a potential Delta conveyance project including environmental review and analysis under CEQA, California Endangered Species Act (CESA), and other related environmental laws. The proposed resolution would not authorize the expenditure of funds on any construction, land acquisitions or any other implementation actions that may or may not be required for a Delta conveyance option, in the event any such option is approved. Additionally, the proposed resolution does not grant any vested entitlement, does not bind SCV Water to issuing any future approvals related to a Delta conveyance option and does not restrict SCV Water's consideration of feasible alternatives (including a "no project" alternative) or mitigation measures in the event that any future project approvals are requested from SCV Water. As such the expenditures authorized through the proposed agreement do not constitute the approval of any project under CEQA, CESA, or any other law, and the planning analysis, information gathering, and similar activities contemplated are otherwise exempt from CEQA. (See State CEQA Guidelines, §§ 15262, 15306, 15378)

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Under the terms of the existing gap funding agreement, SCV Water is obligated to pay DWR \$1,040,513 in calendar year 2019. These expenses are incorporated into the State Water Fund in the Fiscal Year 2018/19 and 2019/20 Budgets. Therefore, no modification of the budget would be required if the Board authorizes entering into the proposed agreement.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board of Directors approve the attached resolution (1) authorizing the General Manager to enter into a funding agreement with DWR and take any necessary action related to such, that authorizes DWR to use the remaining gap funding agreement funds for DWR's planning and design costs related to a potential new Delta conveyance option and (2) determining that such expenditures under that proposed funding agreement do not constitute a project under CEQA, CESA or any other law and that activities contemplated under the proposed funding agreement are exempt from CEQA.

DSM

Attachment



RESOLUTION NO. __

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY AUTHORIZING THE GENERAL MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A FUNDING AGREEMENT WITH DWR FOR PRELIMINARY PLANNING AND DESIGN COSTS RELATED TO A POTENTIAL NEW DELTA CONVEYANCE OPTION

WHEREAS, on June 5, 2018, the Board of Directors of Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency (“Agency”) adopted Resolution No. SCV-42, which adopted CEQA responsible agency findings and took other CEQA actions, which authorized the Agency’s financial participation in California WaterFix, and which authorized the General Manager to execute a gap funding agreement with the Department of Water Resources (“DWR”) to provide funds to help fund DWR’s preconstruction costs of the California WaterFix Project; and

WHEREAS, the Agency subsequently executed such gap funding agreement with the Department in September 2018; and

WHEREAS, the DWR Director rescinded DWR’s approval of the California WaterFix Project on May 2, 2019; and

WHEREAS, as a result of DWR’s action, there is no longer a California WaterFix Project and the DWR notified the Agency that it would not expend funds contributed under the gap funding agreement for any other purpose absent specific authorization. To date, approximately 7.7% of the gap funding agreement funds have been spent; and

WHEREAS, in a letter to State Water Project Contractors dated May 2, 2019, the DWR Director indicated that the Governor intends to take a fresh look at a potential new Delta Conveyance option; and

WHEREAS, the Delta needs to be modernized to protect State Water Project reliability and the environment, and exploring a potential new Delta Conveyance option of some kind is in the best interest of the Agency; and

WHEREAS, it is in the Agency’s interest to enter into a new funding agreement with DWR to authorize the remaining unencumbered gap funding agreement funds to be used for preliminary planning and design costs incurred after May 2, 2019 related to a potential new Delta Conveyance option; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Agency desires to authorize its General Manager to execute a funding agreement with DWR in an amount equal to the remaining gap funding agreement funds for preliminary planning and design costs incurred after May 2, 2019 related to a potential new Delta Conveyance option; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Agency similarly desires to clarify that any current and/or future actions are not based upon and do not rely upon DWR’s decertified WaterFix EIR or DWR’s rescinded WaterFix approvals.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the Agency does hereby find and determine and resolve as follows:

1. Authorization to General Manager: The General Manager is authorized to enter into a funding agreement with DWR, and take any necessary actions related to such, that authorizes DWR to use the remaining gap funding agreement funds, which equal approximately \$960,000 for DWR's planning and design costs related to a potential new Delta Conveyance option.

2. No project approvals: This action merely authorizes the expenditure of certain funds to cover planning and design costs necessary for the careful review and meaningful evaluation of a potential new Delta Conveyance option by DWR, including but not limited to costs associated with the completion of environmental review and analysis under the California Environmental Quality (CEQA), California Endangered Species Act (CESA), and other related environmental laws. This Resolution, however, does not authorize the expenditure of funds on any construction, land acquisitions, or any other implementation actions that may or may not be required for a Delta Conveyance option, in the event any such option is ever approved. Additionally, this Resolution does not grant any vested entitlement, does not bind the Agency to issuing any future approvals related to a Delta Conveyance option, and does not restrict the Agency's consideration of feasible alternatives (including the "no project" alternative) or mitigation measures in the event that any future project approvals are ever requested from the Agency. As such, the expenditures authorized through this Resolution do not constitute the approval of any Delta Conveyance project under CEQA, CESA, or any other law, and the planning, analysis, information gathering, and similar activities contemplated by this Resolution are otherwise exempt from CEQA. (See State CEQA Guidelines, §§ 15262, 15306, 15378.)



ITEM NO.
6.3

BOARD MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 20, 2019
TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Director Robert DiPrimio, Chair
Ad Hoc Compensation and Reimbursement Committee
SUBJECT: Consider and Approve an Amendment to the Board of Directors Policies and Procedures

SUMMARY/DISCUSSION

As part of the transition process with the formation of the new Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency, last year the Board reviewed and made changes to its Director Compensation and Expense Reimbursement policy. These changes put limits on the number and types of meetings Directors can attend. Now that the new policy has been in place for a year, President Cooper reinstated a five-member Ad Hoc Committee and asked them to meet and review the policy in light of the existing data and determine if they have any recommended changes. After holding one meeting, the Ad Hoc Committee intends to discuss the policy with the Board and present some recommended changes for consideration.

There are two recommended changes. First, that Directors be allowed to attend pre-approved single day events (Category 2 events) within the Agency service area at the Agency's expense and not have such events count towards the Category 2 limit of twelve per year if the Director does not request and receive Per Diem for attending. Second, that language be added to the policy to allow for more reasonable pre and post conference or event lodging when events start or end at times that make travel on the same day difficult.

RECOMMENDATION

The Ad Hoc Compensation and Reimbursement Committee recommends that the Board of Directors discuss and consider the attached proposed changes to the Board's policy on Directors Compensation and Reimbursement.

Attachment

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G. Directors' Compensation and Expense Reimbursement

1. Board Meetings and Committee Meetings

Each Director may claim and receive up to the Board authorized Per Diem payment (Per Diem) for attendance at each regular, adjourned regular, special or adjourned special meeting of the Board. A Director may also claim and receive Per Diem for attendance at meetings of those standing or special Committees to which the Director has been appointed, including meetings with staff in connection with such committee meetings if required and at the request of the committee chair. At the next regular Board meeting, Directors shall provide a report, orally or in writing, of attendance at such meetings or events in which Per Diem and/or expenses are provided.

2. Conferences, Meetings and Events

Subject to specific approval of the Board and pursuant to this Section G, Directors may claim and receive Per Diem for each day's attendance at conferences, meetings, events, or other authorized activities relevant to the business of the Agency. Authorized conferences, meetings, events, and activities constitute the performance of official duties for which compensation and reimbursement may be provided and may include, but are not limited to, educational conferences and similar gatherings, meetings of other public agencies or organizations that involve discussions of specific interest to the Agency, attendance at Agency-related ceremonial functions, or formal appearances before or meetings with administrative, regulatory agencies, legislators, and their staff. Directors are encouraged to educate themselves about current issues, policies and best practices that are relevant to the business of the Agency. The Board Secretary shall provide the Board with information regarding relevant conferences, meetings and events.

Unless specifically approved by the Board or otherwise provided in this Section G, Director compensation and/or expense reimbursement for attendance at conferences, meetings, or events relevant to the business of the Agency shall be in accordance with the below categories and corresponding rules and restrictions. Participation in meetings or events related to Agency business, including meetings with staff, at the request of the General Manager, Board President or the Board is not subject to the below rules and restrictions and Directors may claim and receive Per Diem and expense reimbursement.

Category 1 – Multi-Day Events. Directors may receive Per Diem payments and expenses for up to three (3) multi-day events per fiscal year. A “multi-day event” is a conference, meeting or event that takes place over two or more days and requires at least one night's lodging at Agency expense. The following are preapproved multi-day events for which Board approval is not required to attend.

- Association Of California Water Agencies (ACWA) Conferences and Events
- ACWA JPIA Conferences and Events
- California Special Districts Association Conferences and Events
- California Water Policy Conference

- KHTS Sacramento Event
- National Water Resources Association Conferences and Events
- Urban Water Institute Conferences
- WaterReuse Conference
- Water Education Foundation Events

A multi-day event not appearing on the above pre-approved list may be attended and Per Diem and expenses may be paid subject to advance approval of the Board. When deciding whether to approve such a request, the Board shall take into account the cost of the multi-day event and the benefit to the Agency. Attendance at any such multi-day event shall count towards the Category 1 limit of three (3) per fiscal year unless the Board makes a specific exemption.

Directors who attend pre-approved multi-day events as part of his or her authorized role on the governing Board or a Committee of the host organization may attend and receive Per Diem payments and expenses for such multi-day events and such will not count towards the Category 1 limit of three (3) multi-day events per fiscal year.

Category 2 – Single-Day Events. Directors may receive Per Diem payments and expenses for up to twelve (12) single-day events per fiscal year. A “single-day event” is a conference, meeting, or event that occurs on one day, regardless of the duration of the event during that day, and requires no more than one night’s lodging at Agency expense. The following are preapproved single-day events for which Board approval is not required.

- ACWA Events
- ACWA Region 8 Events
- Alliance for Water Efficiency Events
- Association of Ventura Water Agencies Meetings
- BizFed Meetings
- Building Industry Association Meetings
- California Special Districts Association Conferences and Events
- County Economic Outlook Meeting
- Integrated Regional Water Management Meetings
- Legal Seminars
- Public Officials Night Event
- Santa Clara River Watershed Meetings
- SCV Chamber of Commerce Events and Meetings
- Service Organization Events and Meetings, such as the Rotary Club of Santa Clarita
- Southern California Water Coalition Events
- Southern California Water Dialogue Events
- State of the City Luncheon
- State of the County Luncheon
- Urban Water Institute Events
- Valley Industry Association Events and Meetings

- Valley Industry and Commerce Association Events and Meetings
- Water Education Foundation Events

A single-day event not appearing on the above pre-approved list may be attended and Per Diem and expenses may be paid subject to advance approval of the Board. When deciding whether to approve such a request, the Board shall take into account the cost of the single-day event and the benefit to the Agency. Attendance at any such single-day event shall count towards the Category 2 limit of twelve (12) per fiscal year unless the Board makes a specific exemption [or no Per Diem is paid as described below](#).

Directors who attend a pre-approved single-day event as part of his or her authorized role on the governing Board or a Committee of the host organization may attend and receive Per Diem payments and expenses for such single-day event and such will not count towards the Category 2 limit of twelve (12) single-day events per fiscal year.

[In addition, Directors may attend approved single-day events within the Agency service area at the expense of the Agency without such event counting towards the Category 2 limit of twelve \(12\) single-day events per fiscal year if the Director does not request and does not receive Per Diem for attending such event.](#)

3. Restrictions and Conditions

Per Diem payments may be claimed only for attendance at meetings of the Board or for each day's service rendered as a member of the Board. The Board shall determine in advance if a particular activity constitutes a meeting for the purpose of a Director claiming and receiving a Per Diem payment. As reasonably necessary, days spent traveling to and from an authorized event shall be considered compensable days of service.

No Director shall receive more than one Per Diem payment for any one day regardless of the number of meetings attended and/or events of service to the Board performed during that day.

No Director shall receive more than ten (10) Per Diem payments in any one calendar month for any combination of meeting attendance or service rendered as a member of the Board.

A Director-elect shall not be entitled to any Per Diem payments for traveling to or attending any meeting or conferences prior to assuming office.

Directors who attend an out-of-state conference or meeting as part of his or her authorized role on the governing Board or a Committee of the host organization may attend and receive Per Diem payments and expenses for such out-of-state conference or meeting and such will not count towards the Category Section G(2) limits. Directors may not attend any other out-of-state conference, meeting, or event without the prior approval of the Board or at the request of the Board President in connection with Agency business.

If a Director becomes aware of a conference, meeting, or event that requires Board approval after the conclusion of the most recent Board meeting and the conference, meeting, or event is taking place prior to the next Board meeting, the Director may only attend with the approval of the Board President. Unless subsequently determined by the Board, attendance at any such conference, meeting, or event shall count towards the corresponding category limits established above.

Directors may not serve on a board or committee of another organization on behalf of the Agency without the prior approval of the Board.

Directors who attend authorized events are attending as representatives of the Agency and not in their personal capacities and are expected to identify themselves as Directors of the Agency.

4. Directors' Compensation Rate

Pursuant to Section 13(c) of the Act, Directors are authorized to receive compensation equal to the amount authorized for Castaic Lake Water Agency Directors as of December 31, 2017, which is \$228.15, for each days attendance at meetings of the Board, or for each days service rendered as a member of the Board not to exceed ten meetings per month. The Board may adjust this compensation amount in accordance with Water Code Section 20200 et. seq.

Changes to Directors' compensation shall be done by ordinance adopted after a public hearing, notice of which has been published in a newspaper of general circulation once a week for two weeks, and shall not become effective for 60 days after adoption. Increases are subject to referendum.

5. Expense Reimbursement

Directors shall be reimbursed for reasonable and necessary expenses incurred incidental to services provided on behalf of the Agency and for authorized travel on Agency business, including two (2) hours of ethics training, subject to the following limits and restrictions. Such expenses will not be reimbursed when incurred for family members of the authorized Director. The President may review Directors requests for expense reimbursement and may disallow amounts deemed improper or otherwise not properly accounted for. In the case of requests for reimbursement by the President, the Vice President(s) may review such requests and disallow amounts deemed improper or otherwise not accounted for. Agency staff responsible for issuing payments to reimburse Directors for incurred expenses shall bring questionable matters to the attention of the President, or the Vice President(s) if the matter concerns the President, before check execution and payment.

A request for reimbursement shall be submitted on an expense report form provided by the Agency as soon as practicable after the expenses are incurred. The request shall be accompanied by detailed receipts or other documentation evidencing each expense and the Directors' payment thereof. A copy of a program agenda or such other document as may provide proof of attendance and/or that Agency-related business was conducted may also be required.

All documents related to reimbursable Agency expenditures are public records subject to disclosure under the California Public Records Act, Government Code §6250 *et seq*; AB 1234, Government Code §§53232 – 53232.3.

6. Payment Interval

Directors shall receive Per Diem payments and shall be reimbursed for any properly submitted and approved expenses on a monthly basis.

H. Types of Expenses

1. Transportation

Directors who attend approved Agency functions shall use the appropriate commercial or private means of transportation in the most efficient manner consistent with scheduling needs and cargo space requirements. In the event a more expensive means of transportation is used, the reimbursable amount shall be limited to the cost of the most reasonably economical means of transportation available.

No reimbursement shall be made for transportation expenses incurred to travel to a destination within Agency boundaries, if the travel begins and ends within Agency boundaries. Any travel made without approval shall be the sole personal responsibility of the involved Director.

When a Director elects to use a private vehicle for transportation, reimbursement shall be made at the currently approved rate per mile established and adjusted from time to time by the United States Internal Revenue Service for business use of a vehicle. This reimbursement rate shall be considered to fully compensate for all vehicle operation and ownership expense. Reasonable mileage used for conducting Agency business as a Director will be reimbursed. Reasonable mileage is the most direct route to and from Agency business, unless traffic or unforeseen circumstances require an alternate route. Proof of mileage must be attached to a request for reimbursement. Proof may be obtained using one of the free, on-line map/driving direction providers (i.e. MapQuest) or an equivalent method. Agency staff may assist with the submittal of such proof.

Airplane travel shall be by air coach or economy class and, unless there is no alternative, shall be the lowest refundable fare. Directors may make their own travel arrangements or may request that the Board Secretary pre-purchase airplane tickets. Long-term parking should be used for travel exceeding 24 hours, however if Directors use other parking options they are responsible for paying the difference. If a Director travels to Agency business in an airplane that he or she owns, the reimbursement amount for such travel shall be the equivalent coach or economy class lowest refundable fare of a major commercial airline. The reimbursement rate for travel by personal plane to locations where there is no reasonable commercial fare, shall be the same as if the Director had travelled by private car. Other reimbursable transportation expenses may include, but are not limited to, ground transportation to and from airports and hotels, car rental, taxis (and reasonable tips) and parking fees. The expense of any traffic citation is not reimbursable (AB 1234, Government Code §53232.2(c)).

2. Meals and Lodging

Expenditures for food and lodging shall be moderate and reasonable. Such expenses will not be reimbursed when incurred for family members of the authorized Director.

Directors shall be entitled to receive reimbursement for the reasonable cost of meals, including tips, not to exceed \$150 per person per day. Expenses incurred as a result of the presence of guests shall be reimbursable to the extent allowed by law in the event that their presence is appropriately related to Agency business. Reimbursements will not be made for alcoholic beverages.

Tippling Guidelines: Restaurant and food service providers have varying policies concerning tips. Some providers include tips in the food cost. Others provide a customer selection of tip percentages. Most providers leave the amount of the tip at the total discretion of the customer. Another factor to consider is the amount of time and special service that is required of the food server. It is the policy of the Agency that tips should be generally 15% to 20% of the cost of food depending on service and/or restaurant policy for larger group tables. Tips of a higher amount are subject to the reasonable and best judgment of the Director considering all such factors. If the tip for the cost of food is substantially more than such limit, the excess amount must be reasonably justified and approved by the President.

Lodging costs shall not exceed the maximum group rate published by the conference or activity sponsor, provided that lodging at the group rate is available to the Director at the time of the booking. If the government or group rate is not available, the rate paid may be 25% higher than the government or group rate, whichever is higher. Where reasonably possible, accommodations shall be obtained in proximity to the conference or meeting site. All expenses that do not fall within these guidelines shall be approved by the Board, in a public meeting before the expense is incurred. No reimbursement request for overnight accommodations shall be approved for expenses incurred within the Agency's service area, except upon approval of the Board or President.

Reasonable Pre and post-conference or event lodging will be reimbursed for national travel requiring extensive travel time. Pre-conference or event lodging will be reimbursed for regional travel if the conference or event starts at an unreasonably early hour for travel or before 9:00 a.m. and post-conference or event lodging will be reimbursed for regional travel if the conference or event ends after an unreasonable hour for travel. The President may pre-approve exceptions to this section.

3. Communications

Reasonable personal telephone calls will be reimbursed. Hotel internet/email or similar communication access will be reimbursed if used for reasonable Agency purposes (Government Code §§53232.2(a) and (f)).

4. Personal Expenses

The costs of medications, laundry/dry-cleaning, in-room movies, personal entertainment, the personal portion of any trip, and other personal expenses are not reimbursable (Government Code §§53232.2(a) and (g)).

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ITEM NO. 11.1

DIRECTOR AB 1234 REPORT

Director Name: Jerry Gladbach

Meeting Attended: ACWA's Region 8 Nominating Committee, by phone

Date of Meeting: July 29, 2019

Board Meeting to be Presented at: August 20, 2019

Points of Interest:

We developed the following slate for the Region 8 Board, after discussing each applicant:

Region Chair: Steve Blois - Calleguas MWD

Region Vice-Chair: Gloria Gray - West Basin MWD

Board Members: Brian Bowcock – Three Valleys MWD

Anselmo Collins – LA DWP

Bill Cooper – Santa Clarita Valley WA

Anthony Fellows – Upper San Gabriel Valley MWD

Leonard Polan – Las Virgenes MWD

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AGENDA

Region 8 Nominating Committee	
Monday, July 29, 2019 – 1:00 p.m.	Conference Call
Dial in Number: (712) 770-4644	Access Code: 236114

Agenda

- | | |
|--|-------------------|
| 1. Review Nominating Committee Instructions | Michael Cervantes |
| 2. Appoint Committee Chair | Committee |
| 3. Region Rules & Regulations - nuances to keep in mind | Michael Cervantes |
| 4. Candidate Discussion | Committee |
| a) Discuss potential recruitment of additional candidates | |
| 5. Recommended Slate Selection | Committee |
| 6. Approve/Submit Official Region Recommended Slate | Chair |

Meeting Materials:

- Region Map and Agency List
- Candidate Packets
- ACWA Region Election Timeline
- Region 8 Rules and Regulations
- Region Nominating Committee Instructions
- Region Nuances

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ITEM NO. 11.2

DIRECTOR AB 1234 REPORT

Director Name: Jerry Gladbach

Meeting Attended: Lunch with Matt

Date of Meeting: August 1, 2019

Board Meeting to be Presented at: August 20, 2019

Points of Interest:

Matt discussed various things that is going on at the Agency. He talked a lot about PFAs etc. and the need to have a fast track on getting the treatment resins or GAC in order to meet the water demands next summer. He also talked how great the Task Force is that is working on this subject, and it includes representatives from many areas of the Agency.

It is always good to have lunch with Matt and learn some things that I was not aware of.

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ITEM NO. 11.3

DIRECTOR AB 1234 REPORT

Director Name: Jerry Gladbach

Meeting Attended: NWRA's Calif. Caucus, conference call

Date of Meeting: August 2, 2019

Board Meeting to be Presented at: August 20, 2019

Points of Interest:

Reviewed the agenda for NWRA's Western Water Seminar, August 6-9 in Portland. Some sessions are the Colorado River Drought Contingency Plan, Endangered Species Act, Community outreach, Report on what is happening in Washington, D.C.

We also discussed options to improve the benefits of NWRA, and provide more transparency. ACWA will set up a task force to go into this deeper

It was a good call and will make the Seminar and Board meeting more effective.

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AGENDA – NWRA ORGANIZATIONAL CALL – AUGUST
2, 2019
10:30am – 11:30am PST

Call-In Information: +1 (312) 757-3121
Access Code: 379-477-205

- | | | |
|----|---|-----------------|
| 1) | Arrival times/dates for Western Water Seminar | Dave Reynolds |
| 2) | Dinner plans | Dave Reynolds |
| 3) | Draft Agenda | Dave Reynolds |
| 4) | Budget Transparency Discussion | Ron S./ Dave E. |
| 5) | Other Business | Dave Eggerton |

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ITEM NO. 11.4

DIRECTOR AB 1234 REPORT

Director Name: Jerry Gladbach

Meeting Attended: The National Water Resource Association's Western Water Seminar

Date of Meeting: August 6-9, 2019

Board Meeting to be Presented at: August 20, 2019

Points of Interest:

There was a dinner meeting on Tuesday night to discuss ways to improve NWRA to make it more meaningful to its members as well as to attract new members. Suggestions were to improve transparency, have annual audits and to have a session on the water issues of where the meeting is being held.

At committee meetings on Wednesday we discussed the preliminary budget and suggested that it should include the actuals for 2018 and the projected end of year for 2019. It was agreed that NWRA would work with AWWA and others regarding the activity on PFAS, PFOS, PFOA and others.

Commissioner Burman, of the Bureau of Reclamation, pointed out that California grows 80% of the food consumed in the US, and that we need a reliable supply of water. She pointed out that by raising Shasta Dam by 16 feet it would provide an additional 600,000 acre-feet of water. They have been working hard on all of the preliminary work to raise it. She gave examples of how the Bureau is still active in construction, such as the repowering of Grand Cooley Dam, the renovation of Derby Dam, near Reno, which was the first Bureau dam. She also pointed out

that the storage of Lakes Mead and Powell is 60,000,000 acre-feet, which is 4 times the average flow of the Colorado River. She also pointed out that President Trump has the most focus on western water than any President since Kennedy.

Peter Nelson, the Chairman of the Colorado River Board of California, (CRB) pointed out that Lake Mead was 95% full in '99, and it was 45% full in '04. He also pointed out that MWD and the Imperial Irrigation District are preparing position papers and the CRB is developing an implementation plan.

Rebecca Mitchell, Director, Colorado Water Conservation Board, said that Colorado is looking at a Demand Management Program which will include the potential water savings.

During the session on Endangered Species, the work on the DeSchutes dam was described and what has been done to protect the salmon. They have spent \$100,000,000 on their Habitat Conservation Plan.

The PR panel pointed out that PR can be used to inform, advocate, or request action. One agency takes a large water tank to community events. One's slogan is: CODE, create, once, distribute, everything. One speaker pointed out that they got a lot more publicity from rescuing a dog from a water canal than many other events.

During the session on Wildfires, it was pointed out that a big problem in California is that there are only 2 lumber mills and that they are too far away from many of the forests that need to have the undergrowth cleared and some trees removed. It was pointed out the Forest Service with Smokey Bear was formed after a massive fire in Idaho where many lives were lost and 3,000,000 acres of forest burned. Historically there

were 50-80 trees per acre in a good forest, now there are 800, and the interim goal is 150 with the ultimate goal of getting to 80. There are 6,000,000 acres that need active management in the west. Remember that a healthy forest means clean water and then great beer.

The Senate is writing a Reauthorizing Act regarding ESA, the last one was in 1988 and it expired in 1992, The House is also working on one. The new ESA regulations have been proposed and should be out soon, which is under previous acts.

The Bureau of Reclamation is streamlining its approval process, improving water reliability, and Interior is moving to put all of its district agencies to have the same regional boundaries.

Bureau still has money for grants, especially in the Drought Relief Program and the Cooperative Watershed Management Program. They pointed out that the best way to improve your chances of getting a grant is to talk to them, and don't be intimidated.

It is a great place to meet with personnel from the Federal Government. I was able to talk with the following personnel, about SCVWA and our needs financially, from the Bureau of Reclamation: Brenda Burman, Commissioner, Shelby Hagenauer, Deputy Commissioner (she is from the Antelope Valley), and David Palumbo, Deputy Commissioner. I also talked with Lane Dickson, lead staff person to the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. All of which I have known for sometime. I also met and hosted lunch for Ada Benavides, Senior Policy Advisor, for the Corps of Engineers.

It was a great seminar and I appreciated the opportunity to attend.

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2019 Western Water Seminar

Portland, Oregon

Hilton Portland Downtown, 921 SW Sixth Avenue Portland, OR

Tuesday, August 6, 2019

12:00 – 5:00 pm State Executives Meeting
Atrium Ballroom

Wednesday, August 7, 2019

8:00 am NWRA Memorial Golf Tournament / Fundraiser
Rose City Golf Course - 2200 NE 71st Ave., Portland, Oregon 97213 (503) 253-4744

12:00 – 5:00 pm Registration in Lobby
Pavilion Foyer

1:00 – 2:30 pm Budget and Finance Committee Meeting
Broadway III/IV

2:30 – 3:30 pm Strategic Planning Committee Meeting
Park

2:30 – 3:30 pm Nominations Committee Meeting
Broadway I/II

3:30 – 4:30 pm Policy Development Committee Meeting
Pavilion Ballroom West

4:30 – 5:30 pm Irrigation Caucus Meeting
Pavilion Ballroom West

4:30 – 5:30 pm Municipal Caucus Meeting
Broadway I/II

4:30 – 5:30 pm Groundwater Caucus Meeting
Park

5:30 – 6:30 pm Welcome Reception
Skyline I

Thursday, August 8, 2019

7:45 am – 3:00 pm Registration in Lobby
Pavilion Foyer

7:45 – 8:00 am Conference Welcome: Cheryl Zittle and Christine Arbogast
Pavilion Ballroom



2019 Western Water Seminar Portland, Oregon

Hilton Portland Downtown, 921 SW Sixth Avenue Portland, OR

8:00 – 8:30 am Pavilion Ballroom	Keynote Session: The Honorable Brenda Burman, Commissioner, Bureau of Reclamation
8:30 – 9:30 am Pavilion Ballroom	General Session: Colorado River Drought Contingency Plan - Next Steps Moderator: Jim Broderick, Executive Director, Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District Peter Nelson, Chairman, Colorado River Board of California Rebecca Mitchell, Director, Colorado Water Conservation Board
9:30 – 10:00 am Pavilion Foyer	Networking Break
10:00 – 11:00 am Pavilion Ballroom	General Session: Endangered Species Act and the Deschutes Basin Conservation Plan – Legal, Irrigation, and Conservation Perspectives David E. Filippi, Partner, Stoel Rives LLP Mike Britton, General Manager, North Unit Irrigation District Craig Horrell, Managing Director, Central Oregon Irrigation District
11:00 – 12:00 pm Pavilion Ballroom	General Session: Public Affairs – Key Steps to Community Outreach Jennifer Persike, JP & Co. Ashley Metzger, Outreach and Conservation Manager, Desert Water Agency Karry Rathje, Public Information Manager, Washington County Water Conservancy District Chris Treese, External Affairs Manager, Colorado River Conservation District
12:00 – 1:30 pm	Lunch on Own: Portland has some of the most innovative and delicious restaurants in the world. Step outside our conveniently located hotel and explore a wide variety of incredible dining options.
1:30 – 2:30 pm Pavilion Ballroom	General Session: Wildfire – Identifying Solutions and Protecting Watersheds Moderator: Dave Eggerton, Executive Director, Association of California Water Agencies Andy Fecko, Placer County Water Agency Mark Stern, Forest Restoration Program Director, The Nature Conservancy, Oregon Chris Marklund, Chief of Staff, Office of the Undersecretary for Natural Resources and Environment, USDA
2:30 – 3:30 pm Pavilion Ballroom	General Session: Columbia River – Managing This Great Resource Moderator: Paul Arrington, Executive Director, Idaho Water Users Association Kristin Meira, Executive Director, Pacific Northwest Waterways Association Jaime A. Pinkham, Executive Director, Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission
3:30 – 4:00 pm Pavilion Foyer	Networking Break



2019 Western Water Seminar

Portland, Oregon

Hilton Portland Downtown, 921 SW Sixth Avenue Portland, OR

4:00 – 5:00 pm
Pavilion Foyer

General Session: Biological Opinions – Major BiOps Affecting Western Water Users
Moderator: Dave Solem, South Columbia Basin Irrigation District
Paul S. Simmons, Executive Director, Klamath Water Users Association
Jordan Smith, Executive Director, National Endangered Species Act Reform Coalition (NESARC), Van Ness Feldman

5:00 – 6:00 pm
Stoel Rives Rooftop
760 SW Ninth Ave.,
Suite 3000
Portland, OR

Women and Water Scholarship Celebration
The first-ever Women in Water scholarship will be awarded this year.
All are welcome and encouraged to join the Women in Water founding members to celebrate the next generation of water leaders.

6:30 – 10:00 pm
Atrium Ballroom

NWRA Western Family BBQ & Internship Silent Auction
BBQ Welcome: Eric Stokes, Northwest Pipe Company
Spend an evening enjoying delicious food and great company. Those interested in participating in some good-natured competition can take part in the internship silent auction. All proceeds go toward the NWRA internship fund to help fund future interns.
Please Note: The Western Family BBQ is complimentary for all registered attendees. All spouses and guests must purchase tickets online prior to event.
Hosted Bar 6:00 – 7:00 pm | Dinner Served at 6:30 pm | Cash Bar 7:00 – 10:00 pm

Friday, August 9, 2019

7:00 – 8:00 am
Pavilion Ballroom

Federal Affairs Coffee – Expert Update from Washington, DC
Christine Arbogast, Kogovsek and Associates
Shelby Hagenauer, Deputy Commissioner, Bureau of Reclamation
Ada Benavides, Senior Policy Advisor, Army Corps of Engineers

8:00 – 8:30 am
Pavilion Ballroom

Keynote Session: David Palumbo, Deputy Commissioner of Operations, Bureau of Reclamation

8:30 – 10:00 am
Pavilion Ballroom

General Session: Federal Funding – Funding Opportunities at the Bureau of Reclamation, Department of Agriculture, and Army Corps of Engineers
Steve Stockton, Former Director of Civil Works, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Mark Mazzanti, Army Corps of Engineers, Chief of Programs Southwestern Division
Jay Gibbs, Oregon State Conservationist (Acting), USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service
Avra Morgan, Program Analyst, Policy and Administration, Bureau of Reclamation

9:00 – 10:00 am
Broadway I/II

Policy Development Committee Meeting Follow Up

10:00 am
Grand Ballroom II

NWRA Board Meeting

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Lynne Plambeck
ACWA Groundwater Committee
8-7--19
ACWA Office
910 K St.
Sacramento

This meeting date was organized with multiple committee meetings so that those traveling to Sacramento and on more than one committee could attend everything at once. – good idea!

Presentation by Aaron Fukuda, GM Tulare Irrigation District, about the GSA in his area. Covers 800 wells. There has been an uptick in Dairy farms and a downturn in almonds. Created a system that shows where water is coming from, who it accrues to and who has rights to run off. **They are opposing concrete lining because unlined ditches are the best re-charge right now – have formally adopted a resolution to keep the ditches open.** They have identified locations where any excess water can be directed to recharge ponds (In Visalia). Are also looking at flooding dairy farms with excess flows. Can't flood almonds and walnuts because strong winds can blow over trees whose roots are saturated. Not such a problem with pistachios. They are working on a 500 acre re-charge farm. They are using a soil identification tool to locate the sandy bands of soil that will work best for re-charge. They are having some political issues with people just outside their area continuing to over pump. They show a balanced yield, but the basin is still being depleted.

Short review about the committee appointment process. ACWA Groundwater is an open committee – anyone can be on it. Sept. 30th deadline.

Discussion of Newsom Administration's water resilience portfolio. ACWA will be submitting detailed comments. A draft was available at the committee meeting and will be circulated.

Groundwater Replenishment Discussion – ACWA is developing a Replenishment Initiative and has asked for examples of what member agencies are doing in their areas. Sam Bolen-Brien from Water Rights Div., SWRCB, gave a PowerPoint on what the Board is doing to streamline underground storage projects. Must be a finding of no effect on fish and wildlife, show urgent need and no impact on senior water rights. Also cannot change flow more than 11-20% depending on stream source.

SIGMA Related Updates

Presentation on Bulletin 74 Well Standard updates – why it is needed. Most well standards are controlled by County oversight, but state is trying to unify and codify the regulations so that they are easily available and up to date.

Enforcement update – SWRC Board is still trying to encourage compliance with grants and technical tools rather than using the enforcement stick.

The SIGMA state portal has info on grants that will be available in a new round of funding, Meetings on these opportunities will be held on Aug 20th and 21st as well as a webinar on line.

Western Groundwater will be holding a multiday event starting on Sept 17th.

NWRA is looking for new Board members. Next Ground water committee meeting will be held at ACWA Conf. on Dec. 3rd.

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