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West Valley Water Association

WEST VALLEY WATER ASSOCIATION PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

Summary of the August 22, 2019 Planning Committee Meeting held at Oasis Water Campus, 7070 W. Northern Avenue, Glendale.

PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Ron Whittler, Chair, City of Buckeye	Derek Castaneda, City of El Mirage
Christine Nunez, Chair, City of Surprise	Doug Dunham, EPCOR Water
Lacey James, Vice-Chair, City of Avondale	Gretchen Erwin, City of Goodyear
Drew Swieczkowski, City of Glendale	Daniel Kiel, City of Peoria
Frank Milam, City of Phoenix	Stuart Peckham, Salt River Project
Melinda Whittington, Arizona Water Co	Jennifer Davidson, City of Surprise
Terri Sue Rossi, Arizona Water Co	Amy Peterson, City of Surprise

INTERESTED PARTIES

John Rasmussen, Reclamation	Martin Stiles, CAP
Austin Carey, CAP	Scott Miller, APS

1. Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 1:31 pm by Christine Nunez, Planning Committee Chair, followed by a round of introductions.
2. Approval of Minutes
Chair Christine Nunez asked for a motion to approve the meeting notes from the July 18, 2019 Planning Committee meeting. Committee Member Stuart Peckham moved to approve the meeting notes and Committee Member Drew Swieczkowski seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
3. Reports

Executive Director's Report: Teresa Makinen stated that invoices for dues have been sent out and some members have asked for us to complete vendor forms. As soon as we have bank account information, she will complete those forms but this is a process as we move to become independent, so may take some time.

Teresa also stated that she is working with Director Terry Lowe who was elected Treasurer at the recent Board meeting.

4. Officers:

Chair Christine Nunez informed the Planning Committee that she was resigning, and this would be her last Planning Committee Meeting. She also noted that Jennifer and Amy would be the representatives of Surprise moving forward. The Planning Committee thanked her for her engagement and contributions to WVWA.

According to the WVWA by-laws, Vice Chair Ron Whitley will transition to the position of Chairman of the Planning Committee and the Committee will need to elect a new Vice-Chair. Chairman Ron Whitley yielded the gavel to Former Chair Christine Nunez to lead the remainder of the Planning Committee Meeting. Former Chair Christine Nunez asked for nominations for Vice-Chair and nominated Committee Member Lacey James who accepted the nominations. Hearing no further nominations, a vote was called and Lacey James, City of Avondale, was unanimously elected Vice-Chair.

5. Reclamation: Basin Study Update

John Rasmussen with Reclamation informed the Planning Committee that Nathan was finishing up the final figures for the groundwater model so we should have that soon.

John added that the list provided to the Board consisted of a document comprised of goals and objectives. This also opened a discussion regarding future water needs and after some discussion about quantity of water and ways to convey it, Teresa stated that it's going to be important to walk the Board of Directors and ultimately our organizations and the public through the numbers and issues so they better understand. She stated that perhaps she and John can work on a presentation regarding mitigation/adaptation strategies and goals and objectives for the next Planning Committee meeting. Once refined enough, the presentation could be provided to the Board of Directors. She reminded the members that the outcomes of the basin study are our recommendations and work; we shouldn't look at it as though these are Reclamation's recommendations alone, we are partners in this study.

Teresa reminded the Planning Committee the public meeting is around the corner; however, the Board did indicate they would be more comfortable once the draft report is put together to then have the public meeting, which would be sometime early 2020. That being said, we would first need to meet with the Basin Study Advisory Group (BSAG), and the Board indicated their preference would be for that to be a joint Board, Planning Committee and BSAG meeting.

6. Beyond the Basin Study

Discussion arose and ideas were shared regarding what the Planning Committee should focus on once the Basin Study is completed. Teresa mentioned that the two ideas which seemed to be the most important based on the Board's discussion were:

- Legislative engagement
- Fact sheet of city's individual resources

Drew emphasized the importance of ensuring that whatever vision the WVWA arrives at in regard to their future, it needs to be shared with AMWUA to ensure both organizations are on the same path together.

Teresa said that when it comes to legislative opportunities, it is important to think as a collective group what changes need to be made. She also stated that we'll need to get some sort of information or fact sheet together for the Board related to individual water resources. She stated that a presentation was provided several years ago to the Board when each Planning Committee member presented their information. Teresa stated that she has the original presentation and Vice-Chair Lacey James asked if she could take a first look at that and then have the Planning Committee members add information.

7. Other Association Updates

Christine Nunez said it was important for a member of the Planning Committee to attend the upcoming WESTMARC meeting. Vice-Chair Lacey James and Committee Member Drew Swieczkowski stated they will attend to represent WVWA.

8. Legislative/Regulatory Update

Drew Swieczkowski provided a legislative update.

9. New Business

Vice-Chair Lacey James asked the Planning Committee members to please speak with their Directors on the Board so they are well informed. As an action item from the Board meeting, Teresa asked what the next steps are for the designation process from the earlier presentations and Drew Swieczkowski stated he will work to discuss the topic and have something for the Board.

10. Call to the Public

None.

11. Member Updates – Cascading Messages

Christine Nunez noted the importance of determining where the organization is headed.

Teresa Makinen reminded members of that we'll need information for the Board meeting and to please discuss with your Directors the mitigation/adaptation strategies, and goals/objectives information that was provided.

Derek Castaneda gave a heads up about the process of getting redesignated and that getting out ahead of it is a good idea.

12. Next Meeting and Adjourn

The committee decided the next meeting will be Wednesday, September 18, 2019 at 1:30pm. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:01pm.