

**BAY AREA WATER SUPPLY AND CONSERVATION AGENCY  
BOARD POLICY COMMITTEE**

**October 11, 2006– 1 p.m.  
155 Bovet Road, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Conference Room**

**MINUTES**

**1. Call to Order: 1:10 p.m.**

The meeting was called to order by committee Chair, Rosalie O’Mahony at 1:10. Five (5) members of the committee were present, constituting a quorum. A list of directors present (5) and absent (1), and members of the community attending is attached.

**2. Public Comments:** There were no public comments.

**3. Reports:**

a. Comments by Chair: The agenda includes two proposed committee action to recommend support of AB 1881 and the Bay Area IRWMP. The committee will receive an update on the proposal to drain Hetch Hetchy. Changes on the WSIP and its effects on the wholesale customers will be reviewed.

b. Comments by Committee Members: The committee agreed to move the meeting time of the Board Policy Committee to 1:30pm beginning December 13, 2006.

c. General Manager’s Reports:

Water System Improvement Program – Project Schedule Changes: Mr. Jensen stated that he will further discuss with Tony Irons the interpretation and significance of the earned value graphs provided in the June 2006 quarterly progress report. At the September BAWSCA Board meeting, Mr. Sklar stated that the earned value graphs are irrelevant during the design phase. However, Mr. Irons has told the board that project management is relatively easier during construction and that the planning, permitting and design phases are critical to keeping the program on schedule. Clearly, tracking progress and budget during the earlier phases is important and should be possible.

The SFPUC now expects delays in completing several projects. Project delays or deletions require the SFPUC to notify the State [Water Code, Section 73502(d)]. BAWSCA will continue to work with San Francisco to understand the potential significance of any project delays, and will keep the BAWSCA board informed.

Potential Impacts of Climate Change on Hetch Hetchy Water Supply System: The potential impacts of climate change on the Hetch Hetchy water supply system was

discussed by President Sklar at the September BAWSCA board meeting. A letter will be sent to President Sklar requesting when a scientific report by San Francisco on the potential impacts of climate change will be available.

Bay Area Water Stewards (BAWS) Symposium: The water use efficiency experts who comprised the panel at the September 28<sup>th</sup> BAWS Symposium were pleased with the high attendance by BAWSCA agencies. The panel and the question and answer portion was well-managed, and there were no surprises. BAWSCA will look into the ideas offered by the expert panel.

Mr. McDevitt stated that the experts were thoughtful and well-organized in analyzing the water demand projections put together by the SFPUC and the member agencies in 2004. The experts' opinions were that the wholesale customers' water demand projections are unclear and water conservation efforts are not enough. BAWSCA is working with legal counsel in assessing the need to clarify information that was misused or mischaracterized.

Seismic Safety Improvements to Local Water Systems – Status Report: Since the year 2000, BAWSCA agencies have been evaluating and improving the ability for local systems to deliver water to customers following a major seismic event. The California Seismic Safety Commission noted that even after the SFPUC completes the Water System Improvement Program, the SFPUC will be unable to ensure that water reaches 30 percent of the turnouts to local systems, and that the public should be informed of this risk.

The Commission also recommended that the reliability of local water distribution systems, both inside and outside San Francisco, be evaluated and improvements made if necessary.

The General Manager's Technical Advisory Committee formed a subcommittee to address the recommendations related to local water distribution systems. At a meeting held on September 25<sup>th</sup>, the subcommittee considered five objectives to identify: what is expected of each agency, what actions are needed, how will progress be reported, how existing efforts can be used and how additional efforts be resourced.

The TAC reviewed a list of questions identified by the subcommittee to establish a baseline of each agency's status with seismic improvements. A preliminary questionnaire will be developed and an outline for reporting consolidated progress and status will be drafted. The TAC and the subcommittee will coordinate how goals and standards will be specified, and what public information activities might be involved.

Proposal to Drain Hetch Hetchy: Observations from the October 10<sup>th</sup> Hearing before the Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee: The hearing on the proposal to drain Hetch Hetchy was a well-organized effort by Committee Chair, Assemblymember Lois Wolk, and committee members, Bill Emmerson, Barbara Matthews, Joseph Canciamilla, and Michael Villines. Congressman George Miller sat with the committee and stated his openness to consider the concept of restoring the Hetch Hetchy Reservoir. Congressman

Miller referred to what other western water supply projects have achieved, and noted that public values have changed over time.

Presentations were made by the authors of the Department of Water Resources (DWR), report. The Committee had solicited testimony by a variety of stakeholders, including proponents of the proposal, the SFPUC, BAWSCA, Modesto and Turlock Irrigations Districts. The hearing focused on possible next steps. The next level of studies would reportedly cost about \$25 million. Committee chair Wolk appeared determined to move forward.

BAWSCA position focuses on protecting the interests of the water customers. In addressing the next steps, BAWSCA's statement calls for a three-stage process: develop an alternative, reliable and high-quality supply of water; establish legally enforceable agreements and operating permits; and have all facilities operational and all agreements executed prior to further study of valley restoration.

The next level of study is expected to cost \$25 million, and Assemblymember Wolk will pursue additional funding. Hearings can be expected to take place around the State.

Pending matters for November, December and January: Upcoming matters for the board in the meetings scheduled for November, December and January include the BAWSCA and BAWUA audit reports for FY 05-06, San Francisco's PEIR on the Water System Improvement Program, BAWSCA's mid-year budget review, and the election of officers for the BAWSCA and RFA boards of directors.

**4. Action Calendar:**

- a. Approval of the minutes of the August 9, 2006 Meeting: Director Reynolds provided clarification on the third sentence of the paragraph referring to Agenda Item 4B on page 5, to say, "Mr. Jensen stated that the snowpack that relates to Hetch Hetchy typically amounts to about 600,000 acre-feet, or two thirds of the storage at Hetch Hetchy watershed.

**M/S/C (Kasperzak/Fergusson/Unanimous) that the minutes of August 9, 2006 be approved with the clarification provided by Director Reynolds.**

- b. Integrated Regional Water Management Plan: BAWSCA is a participating agency in the nine (9) Bay Area county effort to develop an Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) that coordinates a strategic approach to regional water resources management. BAWSCA is also a co-applicant of projects submitted for grant funding through the Bay Area IRWMP. The draft Bay Area IRWMP was released in September. The plan will be finalized in late November, and must be adopted by participating agencies, including BAWSCA, by January 1, 2007. BAWSCA's participation in developing the Bay Area IRWMP has been included in BAWSCA's workplan for the past 3 years.

**M/S/C (Kaskperzak/Wykoff/Unanimous) to recommend that the board of directors adopt the Bay Area IRWMP.**

- c. **AB 1881 (Laird)**: AB 1881 promotes conservation and water use efficiency through implementation of new guidelines and ordinances for a water efficient landscape. The bill offers opportunities to save water, money, and promote reliable supply, by requiring DWR to update the model landscape ordinance by January 1, 2009, and for local agencies to adopt by January 1, 2010, the updated ordinance, or their own, provided that it is as effective as the State's. BAWSCA member agencies are encouraged to consider meeting the requirements sooner than the timeline provided in the legislation, and take affirmative actions to enforce the ordinance.

**M/S/C (Kasparzak/Fergusson/Unanimous) to recommend that the board of directors encourage member agencies to proactively implement the applicable provisions of AB 1881 as soon as possible**

5. **Adjournment**: The next meeting is scheduled for December 13, 2006, at 1:30pm in the first floor conference room of the BAWSCA office building, 155 Bovet Road, San Mateo.

Respectfully submitted,



Arthur R. Jensen, General Manager and Secretary

ARJ/le

Attachments: 1) Attendance Roster

**BAY AREA WATER SUPPLY AND CONSERVATION AGENCY  
Board Policy Committee  
October 11, 2006**

**Attendance Roster**

**Committee Members Present:**

Rosalie O'Mahony	City of Burlingame (Chair)
Kelly Fergusson	City of Menlo Park
Mike Kasperzak	City of Mountain View
Chris Reynolds	Skyline County Water District
Rick Wykoff	Esterro Municipal Improvement District

**Committee Members Absent**

Bern Beecham	City of Palo Alto (Vice-Chair)
--------------	--------------------------------

**BAWSCA Staff Members Present:**

Arthur Jensen	General Manager
John Ummel	Senior Administrative Analyst
Lourdes Enriquez	Assistant to the General Manager
Ray McDevitt	Hanson, Bridgett, Marcus et al.
Bud Wendell	Management Communications

**Guests:**

Vivian Blumenkamp	League of Women Voters
Jane Ratchye	City of Palo Alto
Sharyn Saslafsky	San Francisco Public Utilities Commission