AGENDA
MESA WATER DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Thursday, May 28, 2015
1965 Placentia Avenue, Costa Mesa, CA 92627
3:30 p.m. Special Board Meeting

LEGISLATIVE & PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING
Thursday, May 28, 2015 at 3:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Non-Agendized Matters: Members of the public are invited to address the Board on matters which are not on the Agenda. Each speaker is limited to three (3) minutes. The Board will set aside thirty (30) minutes for public comments.

Agendized Matters: Members of the public may comment on Agenda items before action is taken, or after the Board has discussed the item. Each speaker is limited to five (5) minutes.

PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS:
Items recommended for approval at this meeting will be agendized for approval at a future Board meeting.

None

ACTIONS ITEMS:
1. Association of California Water Agencies Region 10 Board Nomination

REPORTS:
2. Advocacy Consulting Services Report
3. Legislative Consulting Services Report
4. Report of the General Manager
5. Directors’ Reports and Comments

INFORMATION ITEMS:
6. Outreach Update

In compliance with California law and the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need disability-related modifications or accommodations, including auxiliary aids or services in order to participate in the meeting, or if you need the agenda provided in an alternative format, please contact the District Secretary at (949) 631-1206. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable Mesa Water District (Mesa Water®) to make reasonable arrangements to accommodate your requests.

Agenda materials that are public records, which have been distributed to a majority of the Mesa Water Board of Directors (Board), will be available for public inspection at the District Boardroom, 1965 Placentia Avenue, Costa Mesa, CA and on Mesa Water’s website at www.MesaWater.org. If materials are distributed to the Board less than 72 hours prior or during the meeting, the materials will be available at the time of the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT
MEMORANDUM

TO: Legislative & Public Affairs Committee
FROM: Stacy Taylor, Public & Government Affairs Manager
DATE: May 28, 2015
SUBJECT: Association of California Water Agencies Region 10 Board Nomination

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a resolution of support nominating Jim Atkinson to the Association of California Water Agencies Region 10 Board of Directors.

STRATEGIC PLAN

Goal #4: Increase public awareness about Mesa Water® and about water.
Goal #7: Actively participate in regional water issues.

PRIOR BOARD ACTION/DISCUSSION

None.

DISCUSSION

On May 11, 2015, Mesa Water District (Mesa Water®) received notification from the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) seeking nominations for candidates for the Region 10 Board of Directors for the 2016-2017 term. The ACWA Region 10 Board is comprised of a Chair, Vice Chair, and up to five additional Board member positions, with three of those positions open to Orange County candidates for the 2016-2017 term.

On May 4, 2015, Director Atkinson was appointed to the ACWA Region 10 Board, and he has expressed his desire to be elected to the Board for the 2016-2017 term. According to ACWA’s Region 10 Rules and Regulations, each candidate must submit a copy of a resolution of support approved by the candidate’s agency. A copy of the resolution must be submitted to ACWA, along with the official Call for Candidate form, and any additional candidate information by June 30, 2015.

The ACWA Board election begins on July 31, 2015, when the Region nominating committees announce their recommended slate of candidates. An official electronic ballot identifying the recommended slate and any additional candidates for consideration will be sent to all ACWA member agencies on that date. Only one ballot per agency will be accepted. All region election ballots must be received at ACWA by Sept. 30, 2015, and election results will be announced on Oct. 5, 2015.

For ACWA Region 10, the Orange County nominating committee members are Phil Anthony, Orange County Water District Director, and Robert Hill, El Toro Water District General Manager, and they determine candidates for the Orange County slate.
FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no financial impact.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: Draft Resolution
RESOLUTION NO. XXXX

RESOLUTION OF THE
MESA WATER DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS
PLACING IN NOMINATION JAMES ATKINSON
AS A BOARD MEMBER OF THE
ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA WATER AGENCIES
REGION 10 POSITION

WHEREAS, the Mesa Water District (Mesa Water®) is a county water district organized and operating according to California law; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of Mesa Water® encourage and support the participation of its members in the affairs of the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA); and

WHEREAS, James F. Atkinson has indicated as desire to serve as a Board member of ACWA Region 10.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MESA WATER DISTRICT DOES HEREBY RESOLVE, DETERMINE, AND ORDER AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Does place its full and unreserved support in the nomination of James F. Atkinson for the position of Board member of ACWA Region 10.

Section 2. Does hereby determine that the expenses attendant with the service of James F. Atkinson in ACWA Region 10 shall be borne by the Mesa Water District.

ADOPTED, SIGNED, and APPROVED this XX day of MONTH 2015 by a roll call vote.

AYES: DIRECTORS:
NOES: DIRECTORS:
ABSENT: DIRECTORS:
ABSTAIN: DIRECTORS:

Shawn Dewane
President, Board of Directors

Coleen L. Monteleone
District Secretary
State of California
County of Orange

I, Coleen L. Monteleone, District Secretary of the Board of Directors of the Mesa Water District, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution No. ____________ was duly passed and adopted by the Board of Directors of the Mesa Water District at its Board meeting held on ______________, 2015 by the following vote:

AYES: DIRECTORS: 
NOES: DIRECTORS: 
ABSENT: DIRECTORS: 
ABSTAIN: DIRECTORS: 

Coleen L. Monteleone
District Secretary
MEMORANDUM

TO: Legislative & Public Affairs Committee
FROM: Stacy Taylor, Public & Government Affairs Manager
DATE: May 28, 2015
SUBJECT: Advocacy Consulting Services Report

RECOMMENDATION

This item is provided for information only. No action is requested at this time.

STRATEGIC PLAN

Goal #4: Increase public awareness about Mesa Water® and about water.
Goal #7: Actively participate in regional water issues.

PRIOR BOARD ACTION/DISCUSSION

This item is updated for the monthly meeting of the Legislative & Public Affairs Committee.

DISCUSSION

Staff will provide a verbal report to the Board.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

$48,000 was budgeted in the FY 2015 budget for advocacy consulting services, funded from the Public & Government Affairs department’s expense budget. An additional $12,000 was allocated in September 2014, followed by an additional $18,000 allocated in December 2014, for a grand total of $78,000 in the FY 2015 budget for advocacy consulting services, funded from the Public & Government Affairs department’s expense budget. To date, $56,840 has been spent, with a remaining balance of $21,160 in this account.

ATTACHMENTS

None.
MEMORANDUM

TO: Legislative & Public Affairs Committee
FROM: Stacy Taylor, Public & Government Affairs Manager
DATE: May 28, 2015
SUBJECT: Legislative Consulting Services Update

RECOMMENDATION

This item is provided for information only. No action is requested at this time.

STRATEGIC PLAN

Goal #4: Increase public awareness about Mesa Water® and about water.
Goal #7: Actively participate in regional water issues.

PRIOR BOARD ACTION/DISCUSSION

This item is updated for the monthly meeting of the Legislative & Public Affairs Committee.

DISCUSSION

Mesa Water District (Mesa Water®) receives legislative consulting services from Townsend Public Affairs (TPA). As part of its service to Mesa Water®, TPA submits a monthly report of its activities on behalf of the District. Staff will provide TPA’s written report for its May support and services to Mesa Water®.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

$36,000 was budgeted in the FY 2015 budget for legislative consulting services, funded from the Public & Government Affairs department’s expense budget. An additional $12,000 was allocated in December 2014, for a grand total of $48,000 in the FY 2015 budget for legislative consulting services, funded from the Public & Government Affairs department’s expense budget. To date, $36,000 has been spent, with a remaining balance of $12,000 in this account.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: Legislation Matrix
# Mesa Water®
## Priority Legislation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BILL</th>
<th>AUTHOR</th>
<th>HIGH PRIORITY</th>
<th>SUMMARY</th>
<th>LATEST ACTION</th>
<th>MESA WATER POSITION</th>
<th>OTHER POSITIONS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AB 1</td>
<td>Brown [D]</td>
<td>PRIOR</td>
<td>Drought: local governments: fines. Would prohibit a city, county, or city and county from imposing a fine under any local maintenance ordinance or other relevant ordinance for a failure to water a lawn or having a brown lawn during a period for which the Governor has issued a proclamation of a state of emergency based on drought conditions.</td>
<td>5/7/2015 - Referred to Com. on GOV. &amp; F.</td>
<td>ACWA-NYC</td>
<td>Met- NYC MWDOC-Support OCWD-NYC IRWD-NYC CSDA-NYC</td>
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<td>AB 2</td>
<td>Alejo [D]</td>
<td>PRIOR</td>
<td>Community revitalization authority. Would authorize certain local agencies to form a community revitalization authority (authority) within a community revitalization and investment area, as defined, to carry out provisions of the Community Redevelopment Law in that area for purposes related to, among other things, infrastructure, affordable housing, and economic revitalization. The bill would provide for the financing of these activities, among other things, the issuance of bonds serviced by tax increment revenues, and would require the authority to adopt a community revitalization plan for the community revitalization and investment area that includes elements describing and governing revitalization activities.</td>
<td>5/11/15 - In Senate. Read first time. To Com. on RLS. for assignment.</td>
<td>ACWA-NYC</td>
<td>Met- NYC MWDOC-NYC OCWD-NYC IRWD-NYC CSDA-Support</td>
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<td>AB 149</td>
<td>Chavez [R]</td>
<td>PRIOR</td>
<td>Urban water management plans. The Urban Water Management Planning Act requires an urban water supplier to submit to the Department of Water Resources a copy of its urban water management plan and requires the department to prepare and submit to the Legislature, on or before December 31, in the years ending in 6 and 1, a report summarizing the status of plans adopted pursuant to the act. This bill, commencing January 1, 2017, would instead require an urban water supplier to update its plan at least once every 5 years on or before December 31 in years ending in 6 and one. The bill would instead require the department to submit its report to the Legislature, on or before December 31, in years ending in 7 and two.</td>
<td>5/7/2015 - In Senate. Read first time. To Com. on RLS. for assignment.</td>
<td>ACWA-NYC</td>
<td>Met- Support MWDOC-Support OCWD-NYC IRWD-NYC CSDA-Support</td>
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<td>AB 291</td>
<td>Medina [D]</td>
<td>PRIOR</td>
<td>California Environmental Quality Act: local agencies: notice of determination: water. Would authorize a local agency, for certain water projects, to file the notice with the county clerk of the county in which the local agency’s principal office is located in lieu of the county clerk of each county in which the project is located and would, if the local agency exercises this authorization, require the local agency to file the notice with the Office of Planning and Research. This bill contains other existing laws.</td>
<td>4/30/2015 - In Senate. Read first time. To Com. on RLS. for assignment.</td>
<td>ACWA-Support</td>
<td>Met- Support MWDOC-Support OCWD-NYC IRWD-NYC CSDA-NYC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bill</td>
<td>Sponsor [Party]</td>
<td>Bill Title</td>
<td>Status</td>
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<td>AB 327</td>
<td>Gordon [D]</td>
<td><strong>Public works: volunteers.</strong> All workers employed on public works projects are required to be paid not less than the general prevailing rate of per diem wages for work, except as specified. Current law governing public works does not apply to specified work performed by a volunteer, a volunteer coordinator, or a member of the California Conservation Corps or a community conservation corps. These provisions are effective only until January 1, 2017, and as of that date are repealed. This bill would extend those provisions until January 1, 2024, at which date those provisions would be repealed. The bill would also delete an obsolete provision. This bill contains other existing laws.</td>
<td>5/11/2015-Read second time. Ordered to Consent Calendar.</td>
<td>ACWA-NYC Met-NYC MWDOC-NYC OCWD-NYC IRWD-NYC CSDA-Support</td>
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<td>AB 341</td>
<td>Achadjian [R]</td>
<td><strong>Financial affairs: reports.</strong> Current law requires the officer of each local agency, who has charge of the financial records of the local agency, to furnish to the Controller a report of all the financial transactions of the local agency during the next preceding fiscal year within 90 days of the close of each fiscal year, or within 110 days if the report is furnished in an electronic format. This bill would require the report to contain underlying data from audited financial statements, as specified, if this data is available.</td>
<td>5/6/15-Re-referred to Com. on L. GOV. Calendar 5/13/15 A-LOCAL GOVERNMENT 1:30 p.m. - State Capitol, Room 447 MAIENSCHIEIN, Chair</td>
<td>ACWA-NYC Met-NYC MWDOC-NYC OCWD-NYC IRWD-NYC CSDA-Support</td>
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<td>AB 585</td>
<td>Melendez [R]</td>
<td><strong>Outdoor Water Efficiency Act of 2015: personal income tax credits: outdoor water efficiency.</strong> The Personal Income Tax Law allows various credits against the taxes imposed by that law. This bill, for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2015, and before January 1, 2021, or an earlier specified date, would allow a credit equal to 25% of the amount paid or incurred by a qualified taxpayer for water-efficiency improvements made to outdoor landscapes on qualified real property in this state, not to exceed $2,500 per taxable year, as specified. This bill contains other related provisions.</td>
<td>5/4/2015-In committee: Set, first hearing. Referred to suspense file.</td>
<td>MET-Support</td>
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<td>AB 603</td>
<td>Salas [D]</td>
<td><strong>Income taxes: turf removal tax credit.</strong> Would, under Personal Income Tax Law and the Corporation Tax Law, for taxable years beginning on and after January 1, 2015, allow a credit to a taxpayer participating in a lawn replacement program, as defined, in an amount equal to $2 per square foot of conventional lawn removed from the taxpayer's property. The bill would make findings and declarations in this regard. This bill contains other related provisions.</td>
<td>4/13/2015-In committee: Set, first hearing. Referred to REV. &amp; TAX. suspense file.</td>
<td>MET-Support</td>
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<td>Bill</td>
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<td>AB 606</td>
<td>Levine [D]</td>
<td><strong>Water Conservation.</strong> Would, when the Department of General Services replaces landscaping or irrigation on public property or when new public property is added to the department's statewide property inventory, require the department to reduce water consumption and increase water efficiencies for that property, where feasible, through replacement of landscaping, irrigation timers, or spray sprinkler heads, implementation of recycled water irrigation, or any combination thereof.</td>
<td>5/13/2015 Re-referred to Com. on APPR.</td>
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<td>ACWA-NYC Met- Support MWDOC-NYC OCWD-NYC IRWD-NYC CSDA-NYC</td>
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<td>AB 617</td>
<td>Perea [D]</td>
<td><strong>Groundwater.</strong> Would revise the definition of “groundwater recharge” for the purposes of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act to permit the inclusion of in-lieu recharge through delivery of water to persons that otherwise extract groundwater, leaving groundwater in the basin. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.</td>
<td>5/6/2015 In committee: Set, first hearing. Referred to APPR. suspense file.</td>
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<td>ACWA-Support Met- NYC MWDOC-NYC OCWD-NYC IRWD-NYC CSDA-NYC</td>
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<td>AB 1139</td>
<td>Campos [D]</td>
<td><strong>Personal income taxes: credit: turf removal.</strong> The Personal Income Tax Law allows various credits against the taxes imposed by that law. This bill would, for taxable years beginning on and after January 1, 2015, allow a credit to a taxpayer participating in a lawn replacement program, as defined, in an amount equal to $2 per square foot of conventional lawn removed from the taxpayer's property, up to $50,000 per taxable year, as provided. The bill would make findings and declarations in this regard.</td>
<td>5/4/2015 In committee: Set, first hearing. Hearing canceled at the request of author.</td>
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<td>ACWA-NYC Met- Support MWDOC-NYC OCWD-NYC IRWD-NYC CSDA-NYC</td>
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<td>AB 1201</td>
<td>Salas [D]</td>
<td><strong>Fish and wildlife: Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta: predation by nonnative species.</strong> Under the California Endangered Species Act, the Department of Fish and Wildlife may authorize the take of listed species if the take is incidental to an otherwise lawful activity and the impacts are minimized and fully mitigated. This bill would require the department, by June 30, 2016, to develop and initiate a science-based approach that addresses predation by nonnative species upon species of fish listed pursuant to the act that reside all or a portion of their lives in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.</td>
<td>5/6/2015 In committee: Set, first hearing. Referred to APPR. suspense file.</td>
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<td>ACWA-Support Met- NYC MWDOC-NYC OCWD-NYC IRWD-NYC CSDA-NYC</td>
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<td>AB 1315</td>
<td>Alejo [D]</td>
<td><strong>Public contracts: water pollution prevention plans: delegation.</strong> Would prohibit a public entity, charter city, or charter county from delegating to a contractor the development of a plan, as defined, used to prevent or reduce water pollution or runoff on a public works contract, except as provided. By requiring a public entity, charter city, or charter county to prepare a plan, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.</td>
<td>4/30/15 From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 9. Noes 0.) (April 29). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.</td>
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<td>ACWA-NYC Met- NYC MWDOC-NYC OCWD-NYC IRWD-NYC CSDA-Oppose</td>
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<td>Bill Number</td>
<td>Sponsor [Party]</td>
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<td>AB 1347</td>
<td>Chiu [D]</td>
<td>Public contracts: claims. Would establish, for contracts entered into on or after January 1, 2016, a claim resolution process applicable to all public entity contracts. The bill would define a claim as a contractor's written demand or assertion, including a request for a modification, contract amendment, or change order, seeking an adjustment or interpretation of the terms of the contract documents, payment of money, extension of time, or other relief, including a determination of disputes or matters arising out of, or related to, the contract documents or the performance of work on a public work. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.</td>
<td>4/29/2015 From committee: Do pass and re-reference to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 9, Noes 0.) (April 29). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.</td>
<td>ACWA-NYC Met- NYC MWDOC-Oppose OCWD-NYC IRWD-NYC CSDA-NYC</td>
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<td>SB 143</td>
<td>Stone [R]</td>
<td>Diamond Valley Reservoir: recreational use. Current law, with certain exceptions, prohibits recreational use, in which there is bodily contact with water, in a reservoir in which water is stored for domestic use and establishes water standards for those exempted reservoirs. This bill would exempt from this prohibition recreational activity in which there is bodily contact with water by any participant in the Diamond Valley Reservoir if certain standards are met. This bill contains other related provisions.</td>
<td>4/14/2015-April 15 set for second hearing canceled at the request of author.</td>
<td>Oppose ACWA-NYC Met- Oppose MWDOC-Oppose OCWD-NYC IRWD-Oppose CSDA-NYC</td>
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<td>SB 355</td>
<td>Lara [D]</td>
<td>San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy. Would require that only one member of the Orange County Division of the League of California Cities be a voting member of the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, and would require that a resident of a city bordering the Lower Los Angeles River, appointed by the Senator Committee on Rules, be a voting member. The bill would also increase the number of nonvoting members to 9, and would require that one Member of the Senate, appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules, and one Member of the Assembly, appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly, serve as those nonvoting members.</td>
<td>5/14/15 Passed out of Assembly, Referred to Senate Committee on Natural Resources</td>
<td>OCWD - Oppose unless amended</td>
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<td>SB 385</td>
<td>Hueso [D]</td>
<td>Primary drinking water standards: hexavalent chromium: compliance plan. Would authorize, until January 1, 2020, the State Water Resources Control Board, at the request of a public water system that prepares and submits a compliance plan to the state board, to grant a period of time to achieve compliance with the primary drinking water standard for hexavalent chromium by approving the compliance plan, as prescribed. This bill would require a public water system to provide specified notice regarding the compliance plan to its customers and the public water system to send written status reports to the state board.</td>
<td>5/12/2015 Action From JUD.: Do pass as amended. To APPR.</td>
<td>ACWA-Support Met- Support MWDOC-NYC OCWD-NYC IRWD-NYC CSDA-NYC</td>
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<td>SB 553</td>
<td>Wolk [D]</td>
<td><strong>Water conservation.</strong> Would require the Department of General Services to identify each public property in the department's state property inventory where it is feasible for water consumption to be reduced and water efficiencies to be achieved through implementation of the relevant recommendations made in the model water efficient landscape ordinance and would require the department to implement the relevant recommendations where feasible, except as specified. This bill contains other existing laws.</td>
<td>5/11/2015-May 11 hearing: Placed on APPR. suspense file.</td>
<td>ACWA-NYC Met- Support MWDOC-NYC OCWD-NYC IRWD-NYC CSDA-NYC</td>
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REPORTS AND INFORMATION ITEMS:

4. REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER:
REPORTS AND INFORMATION ITEMS:

5. DIRECTORS' REPORTS AND COMMENTS:
MEMORANDUM

TO: Legislative & Public Affairs Committee
FROM: Noelle Collins, Public Affairs Coordinator
DATE: May 28, 2015
SUBJECT: Outreach Update

RECOMMENDATION

This item is provided for information only. No action is requested at this time.

STRATEGIC PLAN

Goal #4: Increase public awareness about Mesa Water® and about water.
Goal #6: Provide outstanding customer service.
Goal #7: Actively participate in regional water issues.

PRIOR BOARD ACTION/DISCUSSION

This item is updated for the monthly meeting of the Legislative & Public Affairs Committee.

DISCUSSION

In addition to ongoing communications, industry and internal relations, legislative relations, media relations (News Bureau), publications, water education and the annual Water Issues Study Group (WISG) series, the Mesa Water District (Mesa Water®) outreach program includes constituent relations via Community Outreach events, Speaker’s Bureau opportunities, Town Hall talks, and “Well Wisher” meetings.

Each of these activities is designed to connect Mesa Water® with its constituents in order to achieve the awareness goal in the District’s strategic plan. These activities are also designed to achieve the human resources, customer services, and/or regional water issues involvement goals by educating and informing the District’s constituents about Mesa Water®, water issues, and water in general.

Mesa Water® constituents include external audiences -- such as customers; community members; elected officials; industry colleagues, water districts and special districts; and, media -- as well as internal audiences such as current and former Mesa Water® staff and Board members.

Following is an update on outreach activities designed to educate and inform the District’s constituents about Mesa Water®, water issues, and water in general.

1. Community Outreach Events – Staff has planned Mesa Water’s participation in and/or sponsorship support of the following events since the last Legislative & Public Affairs Committee meeting: Costa Mesa Fish Fry on Saturday, May 30th; 5th Grade Assemblies at Killybrooke Elementary and Adams Elementary on June 9th.
2. Speaker’s Bureau – Includes presentations by Mesa Water Board and/or staff member(s) in the community as well as media interviews, including Mesa Water Reliability Facility (MWRF) tours. Staff is hosting the AWWA ACE15 conference at the MWRF on June 9th from 8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.; and planning the Water Issues Study Group Alumni meeting for Saturday, June 27th from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

3. Town Hall Talks – For FY 2015, Mesa Water® hosted a District-wide Town Hall event in August, 2014; and, the 2nd anniversary of the dedication of the Mesa Water Reliability Facility (MWRF) as a Town Hall event and mixer on Friday, March 13, with 10 elected officials in attendance and 45 customers and community members.

4. “Well Wisher” Meetings – To date, Mesa Water® has received 300 “Well Wisher” support cards and hosted 870 constituents at the MWRF.

Staff will continue to provide updates to the Board regarding Mesa Water’s Community Outreach events, Speaker’s Bureau opportunities, Town Hall talks, and “Well Wisher” meetings.

For the “Well Wisher” meetings, staff will continue to develop, prioritize, and update the contact information list of appropriate representatives at key businesses, charities, churches, community service organizations, customers, HOAs, Mesa Water former directors/staff, WISG alums, and other groups/individuals in the District’s service area. Also, staff will work with the Board to designate the appropriate Mesa Water® representative(s) to participate in specific “Well Wisher” meetings, arrange the “Well Wisher” meetings, and notify the appropriate Mesa Water® representative(s).

Following are the benefits of Mesa Water’s outreach program:

- Informing constituents about Southern California’s perpetual drought, the historical drought now facing California, and the importance of developing local and cost-effective sources of safe, reliable water for Mesa Water’s service area and the region at large;
- Educating Mesa Water® constituents about the importance of water -- and water stewardship -- in order to sustain Southern California’s population, quality of life, business, and economy;
- Educating constituents about Mesa Water’s stewardship of ratepayer funds and financial responsibility to fund, invest in, and save for the current and future provision of safe and reliable water for the District’s service area;
- Informing Mesa Water® constituents of the District’s infrastructure improvements to ensure water quality and water reliability for its service area;
- Learning from constituents and evolving as a well-informed Board of Directors;
- Promoting water use efficiency to Mesa Water’s customers (ratepayers) and community members to help them save water, money, and the environment;
- For public health and safety reasons, ensuring that Mesa Water® customers and community members know the District as their water provider and as the source of information about water in emergency situations;
• Supporting Mesa Water’s service area as an actively involved participant in programs that provide added value and benefits to the community;

• Informing the media of Mesa Water’s activities that benefit the District’s customers and community;

• Empowering Mesa Water’s Board and staff with information that will help them provide the best possible service to the District’s customers and community members; and,

• Strengthening Mesa Water’s industry relations to provide opportunities for improving the District’s business and operations -- including the areas of financial and human resources strength, infrastructure and technological innovation, and setting/supporting policies that have a positive impact on Mesa Water’s service area -- so that the District can continue to provide safe, high-quality, reliable, and affordable water to its customers.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The Public & Government Affairs department’s FY 2015 expense budget totals $609,656 (representing the initial $388,925 budget, plus $42,000 for additional advocacy, and $178,731 for “drought-reach”). To date, $455,150 has been spent, with a remaining balance of $154,506.

ATTACHMENTS

None.