DESERT WATER AGENCY
MARCH 1, 2016

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

REGULAR MEETING  8:00 A.M.  OPERATIONS CENTER - 1200 SOUTH GENE AUTRY TRAIL – PALM SPRINGS – CALIFORNIA

About Desert Water Agency:
Desert Water Agency operates independently of any other local government. Its autonomous elected board members are directly accountable to the people they serve. The Agency is one of the desert’s two State Water Contractors and provides water and resource management, including recycling, for a 325-square-mile area of Western Riverside County, encompassing parts of Cathedral City, Desert Hot Springs, outlying Riverside County and Palm Springs.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – February 16, 2016  CIOFFI

3. GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORT  KRAUSE

4. COMMITTEE REPORTS – A. Conservation & Public Affairs – February 19, 2016  CIOFFI
B. Executive – February 24, 2016  CIOFFI

5. PUBLIC INPUT:
Members of the public may comment on any item not listed on the agenda, but within the jurisdiction of the Agency. In addition, members of the public may speak on any item listed on the agenda as that item comes up for consideration. Speakers are requested to keep their comments to no more than three (3) minutes. As provided in the Brown Act, the Board is prohibited from acting on items not listed on the agenda.

6. ITEM FOR ACTION
PUBLIC HEARING ITEM:
A. Public Hearing for Adoption of Ordinance No. 65 Revising and Replacing Ordinance No. 63  KRAUSE

ITEM FOR ACTION
B. Request Adoption of Resolution No. 1128 (Statutory Pass-Through Payments)  KRIEGER

7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION
A. State Water Contractors’ Meeting – February 18, 2016  RIDDELL

8. PUBLIC INFORMATION  HUDGENS
A. Media Information
B. PI Activities

9. DIRECTORS COMMENTS AND REQUESTS

10. CLOSED SESSION
A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION
Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (d) (1)
Name of Case: Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians vs. Coachella Valley Water District, et al

B. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION
Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (d) (1)
Name of Case: Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians vs. County of Riverside, et al

C. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION
Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (d) (1)
Name of Case: Desert Water Agency vs. U.S. Department of Interior
D. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION
Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (d) (1)
Name of Case: Mission Springs Water District vs. Desert Water Agency

E. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS
Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8
Property: 1.17 acre lot North of the Northeast corner of Sunrise Way and Mesquite Avenue,
APN No. 502-560-038
Agency Negotiators: Mark S. Krause, General Manager and Steven L. Johnson, Asst. General Manager
Negotiating Parties: Chris Thomsen, New Mesquite HOA
Under Negotiation: Price and terms of possible acquisition

11. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION – REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION

12. ADJOURN
MINUTES
OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
DESERT WATER AGENCY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

February 16, 2016

DWA Board: James Cioffi, President
Joseph K. Stuart, Vice President
Kristin Bloomer, Secretary-Treasurer
Patricia G. Oygar, Director
Craig A. Ewing, Director

DWA Staff: Mark S. Krause, General Manager
Steve Johnson, Asst. General Manager
Martin S. Krieger, Finance Director
Sylvia Baca, Asst. Secretary of the Board
Ashley Hudgens, Public Information Officer
Irene Gaudinez, Human Resources Manager
Dustin Bird, Equipment Operator

Consultant: Michael T. Riddell, Best Best & Krieger
Linda Devlin, Ahern-Adcock-Devlin, LLP

Public: David Freedman, PS Sustainability Comm.
Harry Kolb, Palm Springs Elks Lodge
Jim Fuller, Palm Springs Elks Lodge

President Cioffi opened the meeting at 8:00 a.m. and asked everyone to join Director Ewing in the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Cioffi called upon General Manager Krause to introduce the new employees.

Mr. Krause introduced newly hired employees Dustin Bird, Equipment Operator (Construction) and Ashley Hudgens, Public Information Officer (Public Information).

President Cioffi called for approval of the February 2, 2016 Regular Board meeting minutes. He noted a correction to page 8629.

Director Ewing moved for approval, with the correction noted. After a second by Vice President Stuart, the minutes were approved as written (Director Oygar abstained due to her absence).
17405. President Cioffi called upon General Manager Krause to provide an update on Agency operations.

Mr. Krause provided an update for the Zone 1040 reservoir. He noted that the contractor has completed 85% of onsite steel installation work and is on schedule to complete the work by June 2016, per the contract.

17406. President Cioffi noted the minutes for the February 5, 2016 Conservation & Public Affairs Committee were provided in the Board’s packet.

17407. President Cioffi noted the minutes for the February 10, 2016 Executive Committee were provided in the Board’s packet.

17408. President Cioffi opened the meeting for public input.

Jim Fuller, representing the Palm Springs Elks Lodge spoke about the required sewer connection fee. He requested the Agency lower the fee, extend the time frame or provide a payment plan.

There being no one else from the public wishing to address the Board, President Cioffi closed the public comment period.

17409. President Cioffi called upon Secretary-Treasurer Bloomer to provide an overview of financial activities for the month of January 2016.

Secretary-Treasurer Bloomer reported that the Operating Fund received $1,592,904 in Water Sales Revenue and $74,568 in Reclamation Sales Revenue. Included in the Miscellaneous Receipts is $9,551 from SCE for Solar Field II Energy Rebate for November 2015. $2,340,350 was paid out in Accounts Payable. Year-to-date Water Sales are 12% over budget, Year-to-date Total Revenues are 13% over budget, Year-to-date Total Expenses are 10% under budget. There were 22,193 active services as of January 31, 2016.

Reporting on the General Fund, Secretary-Treasurer Bloomer stated $6,459,083 was received in Property Tax Revenue. $955,251 was received in Groundwater Assessments ($680,941 from Operating Fund) ($274,310 from private pumpers). $650,878 was received in State Water Project refunds. $3,106,728 was paid out in State Water Project charges, $149,564 to CVWD for DWA’s portion of the SNMP, and $17,100 paid to the USGS (quarterly billing).

Regarding the Wastewater Fund, $8,889 was received in Sewer Contract payments. There are a total of 76 sewer contracts with 32 delinquent (42%). $58,946 was paid out in Accounts Payable.
17410. President Cioffi called upon Finance Director Krieger to present staff’s request for acceptance of the Ahern-Adcock-Devlin, LLP Annual Audit for 2014-2015 Fiscal Year.

Mr. Krieger welcomed Linda Devlin of Ahern-Adcock-Devlin LLP and invited Ms. Devlin to present her report.

Ms. Devlin gave a brief overview of the audit report. She stated that the Agency adopted the provisions of GASB68 and GASB71. She then noted the following: Total assets increased $13 million, Operating revenues increased $2.5 million, and Capital assets increased $4.5 million. There was discussion on the calculation of pension liability.

Director Ewing made a motion to accept Ahern-Adcock-Devlin LLP’s audit for Fiscal Year 2014/2015. Director Oygar seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

17411. President Cioffi called upon Assistant General Manager Johnson to present staff’s request for acceptance of 2015/2016 Replacement Pipeline (Indian Canyon Drive, Stevens Road and Wawona Road).

Mr. Johnson stated that all work performed by Borden Excavating, Inc. has been completed. The project replaced approximately 1.25 miles of mains, an increase of .25 miles above the projected amount as discussed during the October 20, 2015 meeting. Staff recommends the Agency accept said work in the amount of $1,044,964.47.

Vice President Stuart made a motion to accept the 2015/2016 Replacement Pipeline project. After a second by Director Ewing, the motion carried unanimously.

17412. President Cioffi asked General Manager Krause to report on the January Water Use Reduction Figures.

Mr. Krause reported that the Agency and its customers achieved a 10 percent reduction during January 2016 compared to January 2013. He noted for future reports submitted to the state for consumption February through October 2016, the mandatory reduction will be lowered to 32 percent pursuant to the extension of the emergency regulation.

17413. President Cioffi called upon General Manager Krause to report on Conservation Enhancement Measures.

Mr. Krause stated despite significant investments in outreach and enforcement, the Agency is not seeing the savings needed to meet its target and eliminate the risk of costly fines from the state. Implementing DWA observed fines directly would save staff time and encourage customers to ensure that they are complying with the restrictions. Fines will
be mailed to the billing address. If unpaid, they would be applied to the customer’s water bill. In order to make this change the enforcement protocol, Ordinance No. 63 would need to be amended to remove the 3-day notice before fining procedure. This would require a noticed public hearing.

Mr. Krause then deferred to Public Information Officer Hudgens.


In response to Vice President Stuart, Ms. Hudgens stated that commercial projects are more efficient with less staff time.

President Cioffi stated that staff will be working with Legal Counsel Riddell on reviewing and amending Ordinance No. 63, in order to implement the proposed changes to the enforcement protocol.

Vice President Stuart noted his attendance at the Urban Water Institute Spring conference held at the Palm Springs Hilton. He noted discussions on the Salton Sea, desalination and the SWRCB panel.

Secretary-Treasurer Bloomer noted her attendance and noted discussions on water recycling and the local water supply.

President Cioffi noted his attendance and discussions on the State Water Project and desalination projects.

Director Ewing announced he will be out of town and unable to attend the next Board meeting.

At 9:23 a.m., President Cioffi convened into Closed Session for the purpose of Conference with Legal Counsel, (A) Existing Litigation, pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (d) (1), Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians vs. Coachella Valley Water District, et al; (B) Existing Litigation, pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (d) (1), ACBCI vs. County of Riverside, et al; (C) Existing Litigation, pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (d) (1), ACBCI vs. U.S. Department of Interior; (D) Real Property Negotiators, pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8, Property-APN 502-560-038, Agency Negotiators: Mark S. Krause, General Manager and Steven L. Johnson, Assistant General Manager, Negotiating Parties: Chris Thomsen, New Mesquite HOA, Under Negotiation: Price and terms of possible acquisition; and (E) Anticipated Litigation, pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2), One potential case.
Agency Counsel Riddell announced Item 10-E is regarding Mission Springs Water District’s intent to declare themselves the Groundwater Sustainable Agency (GSA) for portions of the same basins as already designated by DWA.

17417. At 10:39 a.m., President Cioffi reconvened the meeting into open session and announced there was no reportable action.

17418. In the absence of any further business, President Cioffi adjourned the meeting at 10:40 a.m.

________________________________________
James Cioffi, President

ATTEST:

________________________________________
Kristin Bloomer, Secretary-Treasurer
The General Managers of DWA, CVWD and MSWD met on Thursday Feb. 25, to discuss management of water resources in the Mission Creek Subbasin.

The 2004 Settlement Agreement Between DWA, CVWD and MSWD required the creation of a Management Committee composed of the Agencies General Managers. The committee is required to meet quarterly. The purpose of the meeting is to exchange information, express ideas regarding the management of water resources within the Mission Creek Subbasin, the Whitewater River (Indio) Subbasin, and the Garnett Hills Subarea. Discussions are to include costs proposed to be included in the replenishment assessments, quantities and timing of water to be recharged, water quality, water conservation activities, and recycled water issues.

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) is increasing the allocation of 2016 State Water Project (SWP) water for contractors from 15% to 30%. The allocation increase is made consistent with the current and projected hydrological conditions. This increased allocation percentage will result in 16,725 acre-feet for Desert Water Agency and 41,505 acre-feet for CVWD for a combined total 58,230 acre-feet.
The **Colorado River Aqueduct has been shut down** for annual maintenance and repair. The Desert and Eastern Regions have been out of service since February 2\textsuperscript{nd} and are expected to be back in service February 26\textsuperscript{th}.

**Desert Region**
- Tunnel cleaning, approximately 101 miles (MWD)
- CRA Canal Curbing and Liner Repair (Contractor)
- CRA Sand Trap rehabilitation (Contractor)
- North American Electric Reliability Corporation High-voltage electrical testing (MWD)
- Delivery Line Expansion Joint repairs (MWD)

**Eastern Region**
- Tunnel cleaning support, ventilation (MWD)
- San Jacinto Tunnel cleaning (MWD)
- Replace Flowmeters in Casa Loma Siphon 1st Barrel and Casa Loma Canal (MWD & Contractor)
- Install Repair Bands on Casa Loma Siphon 2nd Barrel (Contractor)
- San Diego Canal Flowmeter replacement (MWD & Contractor)

**Tunnel Cleaning Machine**
Minutes
Conservation & Public Affairs Committee Meeting
February 19, 2016

Directors Present: Jim Cioffi, Craig Ewing
Staff Present: Mark Krause, Ashley Hudgens

1. Discussion Items
   A. Review of proposed revisions to conservation ordinance
      Penalty letters and the enforcement process were discussed. The signage for vehicles and the draft letter for civil penalty notice was reviewed. Director Ewing requested that Legal Counsel review the existing ordinance language to determine if runoff should be added. The Committee requested that staff proceed with publishing a notice of public hearing.

   B. Regional symposium
      The Committee supported the idea of a forum with other water agencies to take place in April. The benefits of engaging seasonal residents early in the rate outreach process was noted. The current rate outreach schedule was reviewed. Speaker options were discussed.

2. Other
   A. Turf Buyback
      Turf buyback allocations were discussed. The Committee gave the direction that funds made available by dropouts should be spent down on 2015-2016 applicants, as is possible. Funds are to be aimed at existing HOA projects on a "best project" basis.

   B. Conservation Alternative Plans
      Conservation alternative plans were discussed. Vice Chair Ewing suggested that the General Manager may consider not allowing plans for applicants for plans to overseed.

3. Adjourn
Minutes
Executive Committee Meeting
February 24, 2016

Directors Present: Jim Cioffi, Joe Stuart
Staff Present: Mark Krause, Martin Krieger, Steve Johnson

1. Discussion Items

A. Review Agenda for March 1, 2016 Regular Board Meeting
   The proposed agenda for the March 1, 2016 Regular Board meeting was reviewed.

B. Public Records Act Request (Desert Sun)
   Staff informed the Committee of a Public Records Act request from the Desert Sun for the
   annual compensation for General Manager Krause and CalPers Actuarial reports from 2006-
   2012.

C. Replacement Pipeline Paving
   Staff informed the Committee that the City of Palm Springs has delayed the paving
   rehabilitation on Indian Canyon, Caballeros and Belding Drive. The City was supposed to move
   in immediately after our work and rehabilitate the street paving. Therefore, we did not complete
   the paving, but left the streets in rough condition. Now the paving is scheduled to be completed
   for this summer. We must now traffic stripe the streets and maintain them until that time.

2. Other

A. GM's Quarterly Meeting
   Staff informed the Committee that the quarterly General Manager's meeting required by the
   Mission Creek Settlement Agreement will be held on Thursday, February 25, 2016.

B. Rate Study
   The Rate Study was discussed.

C. Budget Schedule
   The Budget schedule was discussed.

3. Adjourn
STAFF REPORT
TO
DESERT WATER AGENCY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MARCH 1, 2016

RE: A PUBLIC HEARING FOR ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 65
REVISING THE ENFORCEMENT OF WATER USE RESTRICTIONS

At the February 16 Board meeting, an update on conservation enhancement measurements was given in light of two comparably low conservation months. Desert Water Agency customers have achieved 26% cumulative savings for June through January. Starting with February’s consumption, we will have a 32% requirement.

In order to increase conservation, avoid costly fines from the state and streamline agency staff time, staff recommends that the Board adopt Ordinance No. 65 to replace existing Ordinance No. 63. The modified Ordinance removes the language requiring that violators are allowed three days, without penalty, to resolve the issue. It also allows the Agency to enforce restrictions imposed by the State Water Resources Control Board in the event that there is a future restriction that is not enumerated in the Ordinance. The amount of the fines has not changed.

The Ordinance has been reviewed by legal counsel and was deemed to be compliant with SB 88, which took effect in 2015 and updated requirements for conservation fines and penalties.

The adoption of this ordinance would allow DWA representatives (staff and Board) to make reports on water waste that are directly actionable. Customers would still have the opportunity to request a hearing to petition the fine, but warning letters would be eliminated with DWA-observed reports. Customers would still receive courtesy letters when reported by concerned citizens.

The language in the new ordinance also gives General Manager Krause the ability to go directly to the Board of Directors for a civil penalty hearing, as appropriate. This further streamlines staff time spent on enforcement.

Implementing DWA-observed civil penalties directly would save staff time and encourage customers to ensure that they are complying with the restrictions. Fines will be hand delivered, door tagged or sent via certified mail.
Public Hearing:

In order to adopt Ordinance No. 65 replacing Ordinance No. 63, a noticed public hearing is required. On February 19, the Conservation & Public Affairs Committee met and reviewed the Ordinance language. A notice of this hearing (attached) was also published in The Public Record on February 23. There were no written comments received from the public.

If adopted, Ordinance No. 65 will go into effect immediately and will be published in The Public Record within 10 days after adoption. Staff will reach out to the community to reflect the change by: press release, media interviews, website update, social media updates, customer contact, public meetings and presentations, and outreach to City of Palm Springs, One PS and Cathedral City. Some Agency vehicles will also be marked as “Water Efficiency Enforcement”.

Staff recommends adoption of Ordinance No. 65, entitled: Establishing a Water Conservation Plan and Restricting the Use of Water During Threatened or Existing Water Shortage Conditions.
WHEREAS, Desert Water Agency (hereinafter “Agency”) is a public agency organized under the Desert Water Agency Law, California Water Code Appendix Section 100-1 et seq., to provide water service among other purposes to water users within the boundaries of the Agency; and

WHEREAS, the Agency is authorized by Water Code Appendix Section 100-15 (13) to restrict the use of Agency water during an emergency caused by a drought, or other threatened or existing water shortage, and during such periods to prohibit the waste or the use of Agency water for any purpose other than household uses or such other restricted uses as may be determined by the Agency to be necessary; and

WHEREAS, the Agency is further authorized by Water Code Sections 375-377 to adopt water conservation programs; and

WHEREAS, California is currently in the fourth year of a significant state-wide drought resulting in severe impacts to California’s water supplies and its ability to meet all of the demands for water within the state; and

WHEREAS, Governor Edmond G. Brown, Jr. declared a state-wide emergency on January 17, 2014, and due to continuing dry conditions, a continued state of emergency was declared on April 1, 2015; and

WHEREAS, Water Code Section 1058.5 grants the State Water Resources Control Board the authority to adopt emergency regulations in years when the Governor has declared an emergency based upon state-wide water shortage conditions; and

WHEREAS, on July 15, 2014, the State Water Resources Control Board formally adopted emergency rulemaking to adopt emergency regulations for urban water suppliers; and

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2015, and May 5, 2015, the State Water Resources Control Board formally adopted additional emergency regulations for urban water suppliers due to continuing water shortage conditions; and

WHEREAS, the three sets of emergency regulations adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board prohibit certain types of potable water use, orders all urban water suppliers to implement mandatory conservation measures, and orders water suppliers with 3,000 or more service connections to provide monthly data on water production; and

WHEREAS, the Agency is further authorized by Water Code Sections 375-377 to adopt water conservation programs; and

WHEREAS, California is currently in the fourth year of a significant state-wide drought resulting in severe impacts to California’s water supplies and its ability to meet all of the demands for water within the state; and

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WHEREAS, on March 17, 2015, and May 5, 2015, the State Water Resources Control Board formally adopted additional emergency regulations for urban water suppliers due to continuing water shortage conditions; and

WHEREAS, the three sets of emergency regulations adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board prohibit certain types of potable water use, orders all urban water suppliers to implement mandatory conservation measures, and orders water suppliers with 3,000 or more service connections to provide monthly data on water production; and

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WHEREAS, on March 17, 2015, and May 5, 2015, the State Water Resources Control Board formally adopted additional emergency regulations for urban water suppliers due to continuing water shortage conditions; and

WHEREAS, the three sets of emergency regulations adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board prohibit certain types of potable water use, orders all urban water suppliers to implement mandatory conservation measures, and orders water suppliers with 3,000 or more service connections to provide monthly data on water production; and
WHEREAS, the Agency wishes to adopt a water conservation program that implements the requirements set forth in the regulations adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board, and which will provide a framework that can be utilized by the Agency even after the current regulations adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board are no longer in effect if a local water shortage emergency were to arise; and

WHEREAS, the Agency finds and determines that the adoption of the water conservation program set forth herein is necessary to (1) comply with the mandates imposed by the State Water Resources Control Board, (2) protect the health, safety and welfare of the inhabitants of the Agency, (3) assure the maximum beneficial use of the water supplies within the Agency, and (4) ensure that there will be sufficient water supplies to meet the basic needs of human consumption, sanitation and fire protection;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Directors of Desert Water Agency as follows:

Section 1: DEFINITIONS.

1.1 “Agency” means Desert Water Agency.

1.2 “Board” means the Board of Directors of Desert Water Agency.

1.3 “General Manager” means the General Manager of Desert Water Agency.

1.4 “Measurable rainfall” means rainfall of 1/4 inch or more during any 24-hour period.

1.5 “Waste” means any unreasonable or non-beneficial use of water, or any unreasonable method of use of water, including, but not limited to, the specific uses prohibited and restricted by this Ordinance as hereinafter set forth.

1.6 “Water user” means any person, firm, partnership, association, corporation or political entity using water obtained from the water system of Desert Water Agency.

1.7 “Water” means water supplied by Desert Water Agency.

Section 2: NOTICED PUBLIC HEARING PRIOR TO MANDATORY CONSERVATION, STAGES 2 THROUGH 5.

Except when an emergency is caused by the breakage or failure of a dam, pump, pipeline or conduit, a noticed public hearing shall be conducted prior to the adoption of Stages 2, 3, 4 or 5 of the Water Conservation Plan as set forth in Sections 3.2, 3.3, 3.4 and 3.5 below. Notice of the time and place of hearing shall be published at least seven days prior to the date of hearing in a newspaper printed, published, and circulated within the area in which the water supply is distributed, or if there is no such newspaper, in any newspaper printed, published and circulated in the County of Riverside.
Section 3: WATER CONSERVATION PLAN STAGES.

3.1 Stage No. 1: Voluntary Conservation and Prohibited Uses.

Stage 1 shall apply whenever normal conditions are in effect. Normal conditions shall be in effect when the Agency is able to meet all the water demands of its customers in the immediate future, and when the State Water Resources Control Board or other regulatory body has not imposed restrictions on the use of water within the Agency. During normal conditions, all water users must continue to use water wisely. The waste or unreasonable use of water is prohibited. Unreasonable use of water shall include, but not be limited to, a use that produces unnecessary runoff onto adjacent property and non-irrigated areas, private and public walkways, roadways, and parking lots or parking structures. It shall also be an unreasonable use of water to irrigate landscapes within 48 hours after measurable rainfall. In addition, the following mandatory restrictions shall apply at all times:

1. Washing driveways, parking lots, building exteriors, or other exterior hard surfaced areas other than windows, solar panels and tennis courts, or as necessary to protect the public health, shall be prohibited; provided that the use of recycled water and the use of potable water from a bucket, use of a pressure washer, or use of a water broom for such purposes shall be permitted.

2. Running water shall not be used for washing vehicles. A bucket may be used for the washing of vehicles, and hoses equipped with shutoff nozzles may be used for rinsing.

3.2 Stage 2 Alert: Mandatory Conservation Measures.

When the State Water Resources Control Board or other regulatory body has imposed restrictions on the use of water within the Agency that warrant the restrictions set forth herein, or in the event of a threatened or existing water supply shortage that could prevent the Agency from meeting the water demands of its water users, the Board shall conduct a public hearing to consider declaring a Stage 2 Alert, during which water users shall have the opportunity to present their protests and respective needs to the Board. Upon such declaration the following restrictions shall take effect immediately, in addition to those specified in Section 3.1:

1. Outdoor irrigation shall be permitted only before 7:00 a.m. and after 7:00 p.m.

2. Restaurants and other eating establishments shall not provide drinking water to patrons, except upon request.

3.3 Stage 3 Warning: Mandatory Conservation Measures.

When the State Water Resources Control Board or other regulatory body has imposed restrictions on the use of water within the Agency that warrant the restrictions set forth herein, or in the event that a water shortage condition in fact will prevent the Agency from meeting the demands of its water users, following a public hearing as set forth in Section 3.2, during which water users shall have the opportunity to present protests and their respective needs to the Board,
the Board may declare that a Stage 3 Warning condition exists. Upon such declaration, the
following water conservation measures shall apply in addition to those set forth in Sections 3.1
and 3.2:

(1) Outdoor irrigation shall be restricted to no more than four days per week, after 7:00 p.m. and before 7:00 a.m.

(2) Commercial car washes shall be required to have recirculating water systems or shall drain used water into the sewer system where it can be recycled.

(3) The use of water for outdoor decorative water features shall be prohibited, unless recirculating water systems are installed and in use.

(4) Irrigation with potable water outside of newly constructed homes and buildings shall require drip irrigation or micro-irrigation systems as established by the California Building Standards Commission and the Department of Housing and Community Development.

3.4 Stage 4 Emergency: Mandatory Conservation Measures.

When the State Water Resources Control Board or other regulatory body has imposed restrictions on the use of water within the Agency that warrant the restrictions set forth herein, or in the event that a water shortage condition requires a significant reduction in water use, following a public hearing as set forth in Section 3.2, during which water users shall have the opportunity to present protests and their respective needs to the Board, the Board may declare that a Stage 4 Emergency condition exists. Upon such declaration, the following water conservation measures shall apply in addition to those set forth in Sections 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3:

(1) Outdoor irrigation shall be restricted to Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays before 7:00 a.m. and after 7:00 p.m.

(2) The use of potable water to irrigate ornamental turf within the street medians and within dedicated right of way on each side of a dedicated street shall be prohibited.

3.5 Stage No. 5. Water Allocations.

When the State Water Resources Control Board or other regulatory body has imposed restrictions on the use of water within the Agency that warrant the restrictions set forth herein, or in the event that a water shortage condition requires the Agency to allocate water supplies to water users or warrants a moratorium on new service connections, or both, following a public hearing as set forth in Water Code Sections 350 et seq., the Board may consider adoption of a resolution or ordinance that allocates water deliveries among the Agency’s water users, and that imposes penalties for consumption in excess of the allocated amounts. The resolution or ordinance may also, or instead, impose a limit on new water service connections. Violation of the provisions of such resolution or ordinance shall be deemed a violation of this Ordinance, and shall be subject to the enforcement provisions set forth herein.
Section 4: MODIFICATION OF WATER CONSERVATION MEASURES.

The specific requirements of each mandatory conservation stage identified in this Ordinance shall be effective upon adoption by the Board following a public hearing; provided that the Board may modify or amend such requirements at the time of adoption upon a showing of the need for such modification or amendment.

Section 5: IMPLEMENTATION AND TERMINATION OF MANDATORY COMPLIANCE STAGES.

The General Manager of the Agency shall monitor the supply and demand for water on a regular basis to determine the level of conservation required by the implementation or termination of the Water Conservation Plan stages set forth in this Ordinance, and shall notify the Board of the necessity for the implementation or termination of each stage. Each declaration of the Board implementing or terminating a water conservation stage shall be published at least once in a newspaper of general circulation, and shall remain in effect until the Board otherwise declares, as provided herein.

Section 6: EXCEPTIONS.

The General Manager of the Agency is hereby authorized to allow exceptions from the application of any provision of this Ordinance, due to exceptional circumstances, if the General Manager determines that the application of a provision would either: (a) cause an unnecessary and undue hardship to the water user or to the public; or (b) jeopardize the health, sanitation, fire protection or safety of the water user or of the public. Such exceptions may be granted only upon application therefor. Upon granting any such exception, the General Manager may impose any conditions the General Manager determines to be appropriate in the circumstance.

Section 7: CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS FOR VIOLATION.

The Board hereby determines that, pursuant to Water Code Section 377, it shall be a misdemeanor for any water user to use or apply water contrary to or in violation of any mandatory restriction or requirement established by this Ordinance and, upon conviction thereof, that water user shall be punished by imprisonment in the County jail for not more than 30 days or by a fine of not more than $1,000, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

Section 8: CIVIL PENALTIES AND ENFORCEMENT.

In addition to criminal penalties, violators of the mandatory provisions of this Ordinance shall be subject to civil penalties and enforcement action by the Agency staff, as follows:

8.1 First Violation.

For a first violation, the Agency staff shall issue a written notice of violation and, may serve a written complaint to impose civil penalties to the water user or account holder who is violating the provisions of this Ordinance or violating the water use restrictions imposed by the State Water Resources Control Board. Upon receipt of the notice of violation, the water user or account holder shall have three seven days to correct the violation, without penalty, or within
three days may request, in writing, a hearing by the General Manager or the General Manager’s designee to present evidence that a violation did not occur, pursuant to the procedures hereinafter set forth. If no hearing is requested or it is determined that the water user or account holder has committed a violation which has not been corrected within the time provided herein, the civil penalty shall be a civil penalty of $50 for a first violation at a single family residence and $100 for a first violation at a multi-family residential, commercial or institutional establishment may be levied.

8.2 Second Violation.

For a second violation of this Ordinance or water use restrictions imposed by the State Water Resources Control Board within any 12-month period, the Agency staff shall provide a written complaint to impose civil penalties on the water user or account holder with written notice thereof, and the water user or account holder shall have the same period of time set forth in Section 8.1 to correct the violation or to request a hearing. For a second violation within any 12-month period that is not corrected within the time provided herein, the civil penalty shall be $100 at a single family residence and $200 at a multi-family residential, commercial or institutional establishment.

8.3 Third Violation.

For a third violation of this Ordinance and for each subsequent violation within any 12-month period, the water user or account holder shall not be provided an opportunity to avoid the civil penalty by correcting the violation, but shall be subject to civil penalties and shall have the same opportunity set forth in Section 8.1 to request a hearing in the manner set forth in Section 8.1. For a third and each subsequent violation within any 12-month period, the civil penalty shall be $250 at a single family residence and $500 at a multi-family residential, commercial or institutional establishment.

8.4 Collection of Civil Penalties.

Civil penalties may be billed to the violating water user by separate invoice, or may be added to the water user’s invoice for water service as a separately itemized charge as determined by Agency staff. Civil penalties that are not paid may become a lien on the affected property in a manner provided by law to secure payment for water service. In addition, the Agency staff shall be authorized to discontinue water service for any violation of this Ordinance and for failure to pay a civil penalty within the period of time provided by the Agency staff for payment of invoices for water service. In the event that service is terminated, such service shall remain terminated for a period of at least 48 hours, unless such period is extended by action of the Board of Directors. A charge shall be imposed for reconnection and restoration of service in the amount normally charged by the Agency for restoration of service. Such restoration of service shall not be made until the General Manager has determined that the water user has provided adequate assurances that future violations of this Ordinance by such water user will not occur.

8.5 Notice/Service of Complaint.

Written notice may be given to the water user personally or by first class mail via the United States Postal Service addressed to the location where the violation is occurring or to the...
address provided for the mailing of invoices for water service. The Agency staff may also provide written notice by affixing a copy in a conspicuous place on the property where the violation is occurring or by delivering a copy to a person there residing, if such person can be found, and also by sending a copy through the United States mail. Said notice The complaint for civil penalties may be served personally, by certified mail or by affixing a copy of the complaint to the front entry of the property. The complaint shall contain, in addition to the facts of the violation, a statement of the possible civil penalties for the violation and a statement informing the water user of his or her right to a hearing.

8.6 Hearing and Appeal.

Upon Within seven days of receipt of a notice of violation complaint for civil penalties, the water user may request a hearing by the General Manager or the General Manager’s designee to present evidence that a violation did not occur. Within seven days after receipt of a written request for a hearing, the General Manager or the General Manager’s designee Agency will schedule a hearing for the water user to present evidence that a violation did not occur. The hearing shall take place no sooner than 30 days after the complaint has been issued to the violator, unless requested at an earlier date by the violator. Within seven days after the hearing, the General Manager or the General Manager’s designee shall issue a decision, in writing, to the water user. If the hearing is held by the Board of Directors, the decision issued at the time of the hearing shall be final. If the hearing is held by the General Manager or his designee, Within within seven days after issuance of a decision, the water user or account holder may file a request with the Agency to appeal the decision to the Board. Upon receipt of such request, the Board shall schedule the matter for consideration at a regular or special meeting of the Board within thirty days after receiving the request, and at that time, or thereafter, shall render its decision which shall be communicated to the water user in writing, and shall be final.

Section 9: CUMULATIVE REMEDIES.

The remedies for violations set forth in this Ordinance shall be cumulative to any other remedies available to the Agency according to law.

Section 10: SEVERABILITY.

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is for any reason held to be unconstitutional or invalid, such determination shall not affect the validity of the remaining provisions of this Ordinance.

Section 11: PUBLICATION.

The Secretary of the Board of Directors of the Agency shall attest to the adoption of this Ordinance and shall cause the same to be published in a newspaper of general circulation which is printed, published and circulated in the Agency within ten days after its adoption.

ADOPTED this 16th day of June, 2015first day of March, 2016.
Craig A. Ewing
James Cioffi,
Board President

ATTEST:

Sylvia Baca
Assistant Board Secretary
ORDINANCE NO. 65

ORDINANCE OF DESERT WATER AGENCY
ESTABLISHING A WATER CONSERVATION
PLAN AND RESTRICTING THE USE OF
WATER DURING THREATENED OR
EXISTING WATER SHORTAGE CONDITIONS

WHEREAS, Desert Water Agency (hereinafter “Agency”) is a public agency organized under the Desert Water Agency Law, California Water Code Appendix Section 100-1 et seq., to provide water service among other purposes to water users within the boundaries of the Agency; and

WHEREAS, the Agency is authorized by Water Code Appendix Section 100-15 (13) to restrict the use of Agency water during an emergency caused by a drought, or other threatened or existing water shortage, and during such periods to prohibit the waste or the use of Agency water for any purpose other than household uses or such other restricted uses as may be determined by the Agency to be necessary; and

WHEREAS, the Agency is further authorized by Water Code Sections 375-377 to adopt water conservation programs; and

WHEREAS, California is currently in the fourth year of a significant state-wide drought resulting in severe impacts to California’s water supplies and its ability to meet all of the demands for water within the state; and

WHEREAS, Governor Edmond G. Brown, Jr. declared a state-wide emergency on January 17, 2014, and due to continuing dry conditions, a continued state of emergency was declared on April 1, 2015; and

WHEREAS, Water Code Section 1058.5 grants the State Water Resources Control Board the authority to adopt emergency regulations in years when the Governor has declared an emergency based upon state-wide water shortage conditions; and

WHEREAS, on July 15, 2014, the State Water Resources Control Board formally adopted emergency rulemaking to adopt emergency regulations for urban water suppliers; and

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2015, and May 5, 2015, the State Water Resources Control Board formally adopted additional emergency regulations for urban water suppliers due to continuing water shortage conditions; and

WHEREAS, the three sets of emergency regulations adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board prohibit certain types of potable water use, orders all urban water suppliers to implement mandatory conservation measures, and orders water suppliers with 3,000 or more service connections to provide monthly data on water production; and
WHEREAS, the Agency wishes to adopt a water conservation program that implements the requirements set forth in the regulations adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board, and which will provide a framework that can be utilized by the Agency even after the current regulations adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board are no longer in effect if a local water shortage emergency were to arise; and

WHEREAS, the Agency finds and determines that the adoption of the water conservation program set forth herein is necessary to (1) comply with the mandates imposed by the State Water Resources Control Board, (2) protect the health, safety and welfare of the inhabitants of the Agency, (3) assure the maximum beneficial use of the water supplies within the Agency, and (4) ensure that there will be sufficient water supplies to meet the basic needs of human consumption, sanitation and fire protection;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Directors of Desert Water Agency as follows:

Section 1: DEFINITIONS.

1.1 “Agency” means Desert Water Agency.

1.2 “Board” means the Board of Directors of Desert Water Agency.

1.3 “General Manager” means the General Manager of Desert Water Agency.

1.4 “Measurable rainfall” means rainfall of 1/4 inch or more during any 24-hour period.

1.5 “Waste” means any unreasonable or non-beneficial use of water, or any unreasonable method of use of water, including, but not limited to, the specific uses prohibited and restricted by this Ordinance as hereinafter set forth.

1.6 “Water user” means any person, firm, partnership, association, corporation or political entity using water obtained from the water system of Desert Water Agency.

1.7 “Water” means water supplied by Desert Water Agency.

Section 2: NOTICED PUBLIC HEARING PRIOR TO MANDATORY CONSERVATION, STAGES 2 THROUGH 5.

Except when an emergency is caused by the breakage or failure of a dam, pump, pipeline or conduit, a noticed public hearing shall be conducted prior to the adoption of Stages 2, 3, 4 or 5 of the Water Conservation Plan as set forth in Sections 3.2, 3.3, 3.4 and 3.5 below. Notice of the time and place of hearing shall be published at least seven days prior to the date of hearing in a newspaper printed, published, and circulated within the area in which the water supply is distributed, or if there is no such newspaper, in any newspaper printed, published and circulated in the County of Riverside.
Section 3: WATER CONSERVATION PLAN STAGES.

3.1 Stage No. 1: Voluntary Conservation and Prohibited Uses.

Stage 1 shall apply whenever normal conditions are in effect. Normal conditions shall be in effect when the Agency is able to meet all the water demands of its customers in the immediate future, and when the State Water Resources Control Board or other regulatory body has not imposed restrictions on the use of water within the Agency. During normal conditions, all water users must continue to use water wisely. The waste or unreasonable use of water is prohibited. Unreasonable use of water shall include, but not be limited to, a use that produces unnecessary runoff onto adjacent property and non-irrigated areas, private and public walkways, roadways, and parking lots or parking structures. It shall also be an unreasonable use of water to irrigate landscapes within 48 hours after measurable rainfall. In addition, the following mandatory restrictions shall apply at all times:

1. Washing driveways, parking lots, building exteriors, or other exterior hard surfaced areas other than windows, solar panels and tennis courts, or as necessary to protect the public health, shall be prohibited; provided that the use of recycled water and the use of potable water from a bucket, use of a pressure washer, or use of a water broom for such purposes shall be permitted.

2. Running water shall not be used for washing vehicles. A bucket may be used for the washing of vehicles, and hoses equipped with shutoff nozzles may be used for rinsing.

3.2 Stage 2 Alert: Mandatory Conservation Measures.

When the State Water Resources Control Board or other regulatory body has imposed restrictions on the use of water within the Agency that warrant the restrictions set forth herein, or in the event of a threatened or existing water supply shortage that could prevent the Agency from meeting the water demands of its water users, the Board shall conduct a public hearing to consider declaring a Stage 2 Alert, during which water users shall have the opportunity to present their protests and respective needs to the Board. Upon such declaration the following restrictions shall take effect immediately, in addition to those specified in Section 3.1:

1. Outdoor irrigation shall be permitted only before 7:00 a.m. and after 7:00 p.m.

2. Restaurants and other eating establishments shall not provide drinking water to patrons, except upon request.

3.3 Stage 3 Warning: Mandatory Conservation Measures.

When the State Water Resources Control Board or other regulatory body has imposed restrictions on the use of water within the Agency that warrant the restrictions set forth herein, or in the event that a water shortage condition in fact will prevent the Agency from meeting the demands of its water users, following a public hearing as set forth in Section 3.2, during which water users shall have the opportunity to present protests and their respective needs to the Board,
the Board may declare that a Stage 3 Warning condition exists. Upon such declaration, the
following water conservation measures shall apply in addition to those set forth in Sections 3.1
and 3.2:

(1) Outdoor irrigation shall be restricted to no more than four days per week,
after 7:00 p.m. and before 7:00 a.m.

(2) Commercial car washes shall be required to have recirculating water
systems or shall drain used water into the sewer system where it can be recycled.

(3) The use of water for outdoor decorative water features shall be prohibited,
unless recirculating water systems are installed and in use.

(4) Irrigation with potable water outside of newly constructed homes and
buildings shall require drip irrigation or micro-irrigation systems as established by the California
Building Standards Commission and the Department of Housing and Community Development.

3.4 Stage 4 Emergency: Mandatory Conservation Measures.

When the State Water Resources Control Board or other regulatory body has imposed
restrictions on the use of water within the Agency that warrant the restrictions set forth herein, or
in the event that a water shortage condition requires a significant reduction in water use,
following a public hearing as set forth in Section 3.2, during which water users shall have the
opportunity to present protests and their respective needs to the Board, the Board may declare
that a Stage 4 Emergency condition exists. Upon such declaration, the following water
conservation measures shall apply in addition to those set forth in Sections 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3:

(1) Outdoor irrigation shall be restricted to Mondays, Wednesdays, and
Fridays before 7:00 a.m. and after 7:00 p.m.

(2) The use of potable water to irrigate ornamental turf within the street
medians and within dedicated right of way on each side of a dedicated street shall be prohibited.

3.5 Stage No. 5. Water Allocations.

When the State Water Resources Control Board or other regulatory body has imposed
restrictions on the use of water within the Agency that warrant the restrictions set forth herein, or
in the event that a water shortage condition requires the Agency to allocate water supplies to
water users or warrants a moratorium on new service connections, or both, following a public
hearing as set forth in Water Code Sections 350 et seq., the Board may consider adoption of a
resolution or ordinance that allocates water deliveries among the Agency’s water users, and that
imposes penalties for consumption in excess of the allocated amounts. The resolution or
ordinance may also, or instead, impose a limit on new water service connections. Violation of
the provisions of such resolution or ordinance shall be deemed a violation of this Ordinance, and
shall be subject to the enforcement provisions set forth herein.
Section 4: MODIFICATION OF WATER CONSERVATION MEASURES.

The specific requirements of each mandatory conservation stage identified in this Ordinance shall be effective upon adoption by the Board following a public hearing; provided that the Board may modify or amend such requirements at the time of adoption upon a showing of the need for such modification or amendment.

Section 5: IMPLEMENTATION AND TERMINATION OF MANDATORY COMPLIANCE STAGES.

The General Manager of the Agency shall monitor the supply and demand for water on a regular basis to determine the level of conservation required by the implementation or termination of the Water Conservation Plan stages set forth in this Ordinance, and shall notify the Board of the necessity for the implementation or termination of each stage. Each declaration of the Board implementing or terminating a water conservation stage shall be published at least once in a newspaper of general circulation, and shall remain in effect until the Board otherwise declares, as provided herein.

Section 6: EXCEPTIONS.

The General Manager of the Agency is hereby authorized to allow exceptions from the application of any provision of this Ordinance, due to exceptional circumstances, if the General Manager determines that the application of a provision would either: (a) cause an unnecessary and undue hardship to the water user or to the public; or (b) jeopardize the health, sanitation, fire protection or safety of the water user or of the public. Such exceptions may be granted only upon application therefor. Upon granting any such exception, the General Manager may impose any conditions the General Manager determines to be appropriate in the circumstance.

Section 7: CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS FOR VIOLATION.

The Board hereby determines that, pursuant to Water Code Section 377, it shall be a misdemeanor for any water user to use or apply water contrary to or in violation of any mandatory restriction or requirement established by this Ordinance and, upon conviction thereof, that water user shall be punished by imprisonment in the County jail for not more than 30 days or by a fine of not more than $1,000, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

Section 8: CIVIL PENALTIES AND ENFORCEMENT.

In addition to criminal penalties, violators of the mandatory provisions of this Ordinance shall be subject to civil penalties and enforcement action by the Agency staff, as follows:

8.1 First Violation.

For a first violation, the Agency staff may serve a written complaint to impose civil penalties to the water user or account holder who is violating the provisions of this Ordinance or violating the water use restrictions imposed by the State Water Resources Control Board. Upon receipt of the complaint for civil penalty, the water user or account holder shall have seven days to request, in writing, a hearing. If no hearing is requested or at the hearing it is determined that
the water user or account holder has committed a violation, a civil penalty of $50 for a first violation at a single family residence and $100 for a first violation at a multi-family residential, commercial or institutional establishment may be levied.

8.2 Second Violation.

For a second violation of this Ordinance or water use restrictions imposed by the State Water Resources Control Board within any 12-month period, the Agency staff may serve a written complaint to impose civil penalties on the water user or account holder with written notice thereof, and the water user or account holder shall have the same period of time set forth in Section 8.1 to request a hearing. For a second violation within any 12-month period the civil penalty shall be $100 at a single family residence and $200 at a multi-family residential, commercial or institutional establishment.

8.3 Third Violation.

For a third violation of this Ordinance and for each subsequent violation within any 12-month period, the water user or account holder shall be subject to civil penalties and shall have the same opportunity to request a hearing in the manner set forth in Section 8.1. For a third and each subsequent violation within any 12-month period, the civil penalty shall be $250 at a single family residence and $500 at a multi-family residential, commercial or institutional establishment.

8.4 Collection of Civil Penalties.

Civil penalties may be billed to the violating water user by separate invoice, or may be added to the water user’s invoice for water service as a separately itemized charge as determined by Agency staff. Civil penalties that are not paid may become a lien on the affected property in a manner provided by law to secure payment for water service. In addition, the Agency staff shall be authorized to discontinue water service for any violation of this Ordinance and for failure to pay a civil penalty within the period of time provided by the Agency staff for payment of invoices for water service. In the event that service is terminated, such service shall remain terminated for a period of at least 48 hours, unless such period is extended by action of the Board of Directors. A charge shall be imposed for reconnection and restoration of service in the amount normally charged by the Agency for restoration of service. Such restoration of service shall not be made until the General Manager has determined that the water user has provided adequate assurances that future violations of this Ordinance by such water user will not occur.

8.5 Service of Complaint.

The complaint for civil penalties may be served personally, by certified mail or by affixing a copy of the complaint to the front entry of the property. The complaint shall contain, in addition to the facts of the violation, a statement of the possible civil penalties for the violation and a statement informing the water user of his or her right to a hearing.
8.6 Hearing and Appeal.

Within seven days of receipt of a complaint for civil penalties, the water user may request a hearing to present evidence that a violation did not occur. Within seven days after receipt of a written request for a hearing, the Agency will schedule a hearing for the water user to present evidence that a violation did not occur. The hearing shall take place no sooner than 30 days after the complaint has been issued to the violator, unless requested at an earlier date by the violator. If the hearing is held by the Board of Directors, the decision issued at the time of the hearing shall be final. If the hearing is held by the General Manager or his designee, within seven days after issuance of a decision, the water user or account holder may file a request with the Agency to appeal the decision to the Board. Upon receipt of such request, the Board shall schedule the matter for consideration at a regular or special meeting of the Board within thirty days after receiving the request, and at that time, or thereafter, shall render its decision which shall be communicated to the water user in writing, and shall be final.

Section 9: CUMULATIVE REMEDIES.

The remedies for violations set forth in this Ordinance shall be cumulative to any other remedies available to the Agency according to law.

Section 10: SEVERABILITY.

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is for any reason held to be unconstitutional or invalid, such determination shall not affect the validity of the remaining provisions of this Ordinance.

Section 11: PUBLICATION.

The Secretary of the Board of Directors of the Agency shall attest to the adoption of this Ordinance and shall cause the same to be published in a newspaper of general circulation which is printed, published and circulated in the Agency within ten days after its adoption.

ADOPTED this first day of March, 2016.

_________________________________
James Cioffi, President

ATTEST:

_________________________________
Kristin Bloomer, Secretary-Treasurer
NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF DESERT WATER AGENCY ON THE PROPOSED ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 65, REVISING AND REPLACING ORDINANCE NO. 63 ESTABLISHING A WATER CONSERVATION PLAN AND RESTRICTING THE USE OF WATER DURING THREATENED OR EXISTING WATER SHORTAGE CONDITIONS

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of Desert Water Agency will conduct a Public Hearing on March 1, 2016 at 8:00 a.m. at 1200 South Gene Autry Trail, Palm Springs, California to consider Adopting Ordinance No. 65, entitled:

AN ORDINANCE OF DESERT WATER AGENCY
ESTABLISHING A WATER CONSERVATION PLAN
AND RESTRICTING THE USE OF WATER DURING THREATENED OR EXISTING WATER SHORTAGE CONDITIONS

All interested parties are invited to attend the public hearing and be heard in support of, or in opposition to, the proposed Water Conservation Plan; written comments may also be submitted to the Agency.

Mark Krause
General Manager-Chief Engineer
Desert Water Agency
1. I am a citizen of the United States, a resident of the City of La Quinta, County of Riverside, State of California, and over the age of 18 years.

2. I am the Administrator of Production of The Public Record, a newspaper of general circulation printed and published in the City of Palm Springs, County of Riverside, State of California. Said The Public Record is a newspaper of general circulation as that term is defined in Government Code section 6000, its status as such having been established by judicial decree of the Superior Court of the State of California in and for the County of Riverside in Proceeding No. Indio 49271, dated March 31, 1987, entered in Judgment Book No. 129, page 355, on March 31, 1987.

3. The Public Record is a newspaper of general circulation ascertained and established in the City of Palm Springs in the County of Riverside, State of California, Case No. RIC 358286, Filed June 8, 2001.

4. The notice, of which the annexed is a true printed copy was published in the newspaper on the following publication dates to with:
February 23, 2016

I Certify under penalty of perjury that the above is true and correct.
Dated at La Quinta, California, this 23rd Day of February 2016.

The Public Record
Administration

Admin@desertpublicrecord.com
RE: REQUEST ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 1128 STATUTORY PASS-THROUGH PAYMENTS

Staff received correspondence from the County of Riverside in regards to a proposed refunding bond issue of the Successor Agency to the Redevelopment Agency for the County.

Assembly Bill No. 1484 allows successor agencies to refund the bonds of their former redevelopment agencies to provide debt service savings. The County is planning to issue bonds in Fiscal 2015-16 in order to take advantage of lower bond costs to reduce their annual debt service payments.

By refunding the bonds and reissuing them at a lower cost, the County would have more money available to satisfy the statutory pass-through obligations. The refunding bond issue strengthens the Agency’s ability to receive pass-through payments.

In order for the County to proceed with the refunding bond issue, the County needs a subordination acknowledgement from DWA. Additionally, the refunding bonds will not be issued unless the new debt service is lower than the debt service on the existing bonds. Furthermore, if the Agency does not respond (with a resolution), the subordination will be automatically deemed approved by the Agency.

Legal Counsel has prepared Resolution No. 1128 for the Board’s consideration. Staff recommends adoption of Resolution No. 1128.
RESOLUTION NO. 1128

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF DESERT WATER AGENCY APPROVING THE SUBORDINATION OF STATUTORY PASS-THROUGH PAYMENTS TO DEBT SERVICE PAYMENTS ON REFUNDING BONDS TO BE ISSUED BY THE SUCCESSOR AGENCY TO THE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY FOR THE COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE FOR THE MID-COUNTY REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT AREA AND FOR THE DESERT COMMUNITIES REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT AREA

WHEREAS, the Redevelopment Agency for the County of Riverside has issued tax increment bonds that are currently outstanding to finance projects for the Desert Communities Redevelopment Project Area and for the Mid-County Redevelopment Project Area, both of which, or portions of both of which, are located within the boundaries of Desert Water Agency; and

WHEREAS, the Successor Agency to the Redevelopment Agency for the County of Riverside (“Successor Agency”) expects to issue refunding bonds to replace the currently outstanding bonds, to take advantage of lower interest rates available in the current bond market, the effect of which will be to lower the total debt service payments required to be collected from the real property located within those redevelopment project areas; and

WHEREAS, Desert Water Agency receives statutory pass-through payments of a portion of the tax increment revenue generated within both redevelopment project areas, as provided by law; and

WHEREAS, the Successor Agency has requested that Desert Water Agency acknowledge in writing that its statutory pass-through payments shall be subordinated to the debt service obligations for the refunding bonds to be paid from tax increment revenue collected from the properties within both redevelopment areas; and

WHEREAS, as provided by law, in order for Desert Water Agency to approve the requested subordinations, Desert Water Agency would be required to make a finding, based on substantial evidence, that the Successor Agency will not be able to pay the debt service on the
refunding bonds and the statutory pass-through payments that the Successor Agency is required
to pay to Desert Water Agency; and

WHEREAS, based on the information provided by the Successor Agency, Desert Water Agency believes that issuance of the refunding bonds will actually lower the annual tax burden on the properties within both redevelopment project areas, thereby enhancing the likelihood that the Successor Agency will be able to pay debt service on the refunding bonds and also pay the statutory pass-through payments required to be paid to Desert Water Agency; and

WHEREAS, the Successor Agency has further indicated that it will not issue refunding bonds unless the debt service on the refunding bonds will be lower than the debt service on the existing bonds to be refunded;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of Desert Water Agency hereby approves the subordination of its statutory pass-through payments to the debt service payments on refunding bonds to be issued by the Successor Agency for the Mid-County Redevelopment Project Area and for the Desert Communities Redevelopment Project Area, and does hereby authorize execution of written acknowledgments of same as requested by the Successor Agency and as provided by law.

ADOPTED this 1st day of March, 2016.

_________________________________________
James Cioffi, President

ATTEST:

____________________________
Kristin Bloomer, Secretary-Treasurer
MEMORANDUM

TO: GENERAL MANAGER AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS 
OF DESERT WATER AGENCY

FROM: BEST BEST & KRIEGER LLP

RE: FEBRUARY 18, 2016 MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE 
STATE WATER CONTRACTORS, INC.

The February 18, 2016 meeting of the Board of Directors of the State Water 
Contractors, Inc., was conducted at the Tsakopoulos Library Galleria in downtown Sacramento.

1. Board Action Items.

The SWC Board took action on several items, including authorizations to spend 
money on consultants in several endeavors. First, the Board authorized an increase of $45,000 in 
expenditures from the Energy Fund to support activities associated with the implementation of 
California’s post-2020 energy policy. In 2015 the Governor issued an executive order and the 
Legislature enacted SB 350. The Executive Order and the legislation established requirements to 
achieve post-2020 carbon reduction objectives. This will lead to greater coordination of the 
electrical transmission system and generation throughout the 14 western states as well as parts of 
Canada and Mexico. Regionalization of the grid will affect the economics and possibly the 
operation of the State Water Project. The SWC Energy Committee has identified a number of 
state, regional and federal proceedings that the SWC should engage in, including participation in 
public proceedings, one-on-one meetings with California energy principals, and coalition 
building. The Board approved the increase in expenditures from the Energy Fund for these 
activities.

The Board also authorized the General Manager to contract with the Essex Partnership for consulting services to provide continuing technical assistance for the Collaborative Adaptive Management Team through June, 2016. The total cost for this work will be up to $70,000, but will be shared equally with the San Luis and Delta-Mendota Water
Authority, resulting in a total SWC expenditure of up to $35,000. This expenditure was already planned in the budget.

The Board also authorized the SWC to contract for supplemental groundwater modeling services to refine the groundwater model developed to analyze stream flow depletions resulting from water extraction and transfers by Garden Highway Mutual Water Company, at an anticipated expense of $32,500. Recall that Garden Highway MWC had entered into agreements to pump groundwater for transfer to other parties. The work thus far suggests that the pumped water results in a 40% depletion from streams, and that the stream flow depletions could be as high as 60% in the winter. Thus, the purchasers would be purchasing the same water that they could have diverted themselves, without charge. This expenditure will come from the Bay Delta Fund and is available this year, although it will reduce the amount of carry over into the Bay Delta Fund next year.

The Board also took action to authorize the SWC to contract with a consultant team to reconstruct hydrology in the Delta spanning the period from 1850 to 1920. This is part of a larger effort to quantify historic water supply conditions in the Delta, and how that water supply changed over time with increasing development. The total expenditure is projected to be $123,000, but it is anticipated that the San Luis and Delta-Mendota Water Authority will also share half of that expense. The Board’s approval was for a 50% share of the total.

The Board also authorized the General Manager to prepare a letter in opposition to AB 1713, introduced by Assembly Member Eggman to require voter approval of new Delta conveyance facilities.”

Finally, the Board also authorized the General Manager to prepare a letter to DWR in support of the purchase of water from the Stanislaus River, for release to help satisfy Delta outflow requirements to protect the fish. The quantities involved are 50,000 acre-feet of water released in the Spring at a price of $300 per acre-foot, and 12,000 acre-feet released in the Fall at a price of $400 per acre-foot. Again, it is anticipated that the total cost of $35 million will be split equally between the State project and the Federal project. This proposed arrangement could continue in subsequent years as well, and possibly could be useful for settlement discussions in the San Joaquin River water rights proceedings.
2. **Water Supply Report.**

John Leahigh was present from DWR for a report on water supply conditions. After a series of good storms, John reported that the previous two weeks had been predominantly dry, and that dry conditions are expected to continue through the end of February. However, El Nino conditions do suggest a wet March. As of the date of the meeting, storage in Lake Oroville was at 1.72 million acre-feet, and storage in Lake Shasta was at 2.75 million acre-feet. Storage in Folsom was at 620,000 acre-feet. John added that there is a “decent” snow pack in the Sierra Nevada Mountains, significantly better than snow pack conditions last year. With two dry weeks, outflow from the Delta had diminished to less than 11,000 cubic feet per second, but he expected that to increase slightly with a small storm expected the following day. Combined exports from the Delta were at 5,800 cubic feet per second. John said that temperatures in the Delta have warmed, and that it would be necessary to release some water from storage for temperature control reasons to protect Delta smelt. Notwithstanding early storms, as of February 1 the State Water Project was still below a “median” condition in terms of the available water supply. The year is still officially categorized as “dry” making this the fifth straight year of dry or worse conditions, with nine out of the last ten years being dry or worse. Precipitation in the Northern Sierra is slightly above average, and the same is true in the San Joaquin region and in the Southern Sierra as well. The snow pack in the Northern Sierra is at 77% of average for a typical April 1 reading, and a little less as you go further south. Storage in Lake Shasta, as of the date of the meeting, was at 80% of average, and storage in Lake Oroville was at 71% of average.

3. **Energy Report.**

Energy prices have continued to decline, with continued drops in the price of oil and gas. The State Water Project delivered 200,000 more acre-feet of water this last year than in the previous year, resulting in greater hydropower generation. However, notwithstanding the increased generation, the revenue derived from that generation was less, due to the decline in prices charged for the sale of that power. Thus, generation was greater in 2015 than in 2014, but the total revenue was less due to the decline in energy rates. Net energy costs for 2015 will end up being approximately the same as net energy costs in 2014, notwithstanding the greater generation and sale of hydropower.
4. **Infrastructure Objectives Update.**

Attached to this memo is a copy of the power point presentation that was used to provide an update on infrastructure objectives. The discussion included a report on the upgrade of Unit No. 1 at the Hyatt hydropower facility, involving replacement of bearings at a cost of approximately $12 million. DWR is concurrently refurbishing the turbine shutoff valve at an estimated cost of $6.1 million.

The Oroville River valves were used extensively again this year to release water for temperature control. Approximately 336,000 acre-feet of water was released through the Oroville River valves. The valves currently are not in use, because higher flows in the Delta have made the use of those valves unnecessary. Therefore, DWR is proceeding with further repairs and refurbishment. A new baffle ring is being installed, and that work is projected to continue through March 24, 2016. The remaining work to restore the valves to full capacity will continue at an anticipated cost of $35 million.

Work is under way at Perris Dam, at a total projected cost of $75.5 million. Thirty-nine percent of the work is completed, and yet 44% of the total time allocated to complete the work has been consumed already, due to unanticipated delays and extra work. The contractor reportedly is back on course, and still believes that the work can be completed by the anticipated completion date.

The Pool 30 aqueduct repair work continues, and apparently is going very well. The event in Pool 30 revealed the need to repair the aqueduct at three locations.

MICHAEL T. RIDDELL
SWC FY 2015-16 Infrastructure Objectives
February 18, 2016 Update

Priority 1
- Aqueduct Subsidy and SWP Capacity Retention
- Hydrant Unit 1, 3, 5 New Ramps/Boating & TSV Rehabilitation
- Reservoir Dam Root Vaults
- Sick Dam Safety, Stability & Dam Repair Study

Priority 2
- Elimination Pump Replacements
- Motor Generator Replacements
- Ferro Dam - Remediation of Seismic Deficiency
- SWP Asset Management
- Tourism Plan/Problem Resolution

Bonus Items
- Pool 30 Repair Update
- CY 2017 B-132 Budgets

Priority 3
- Control System Upgrade
- Fire System Modernization
- Value Rehab Replacements
Unit #1 is the first unit for runner/bearing replacement

- Unit isolated in July '15, disassembly complete mid-March '16
- New runner ordered October '14 (due at plant July '16)
- New bearing ordered March '15 (due at plant September '16)
- Project running on schedule/budget
- Estimate Cost for Unit #1 runner/-bearing work: $12M
- Upon satisfactory performance (efficiency and downthrust), subsequent runner/ bearings will be commissioned.

Concurrent Unit #1 Turbine Shutoff Valve (TSV) refurbishment

- Removed in August '15; disassembled and shipped to Spokane machine shop for refurbishing in September '15
- Initial condition assessment: much less corrosion/wear than expected
- TSV will return to plant in October 2016
- Project is running on schedule/budget
- Estimated cost for just the TSV work: $6.1M

Schedule: Unit #1 to return to service August 2017
Oroville Dam River Valves

- River Valves Outlet System (RVOS) used extensively again in 2015 (released 336,000 acre-feet) to meet river water temperature requirements
- December 14, 2015: rising reservoir conditions allowed RVOS to be taken out of service for last stage of "emergency" rehab
  - Original fixed-cone energy dissipater valves removed & blind flanges installed – completed December 29, 2015
  - Contractor mobilized into the tunnel:
    - Steel coffer dam installed with rubber dam (Aquadam) were installed to isolate upstream tunnel from unit releases – completed January 16th
    - Work area devatered; scaffolding installed
    - Current work: removal of polychlorinated biphenyl (PCBs) on tunnel liner

Oroville Dam River Valves continued

- Upcoming work under current contract:
  - Installation of new baffle ring (deflector shield) on steel tunnel liner (recall the original baffle ring degraded with use and was removed in 2009)
  - Installation of new energy dissipater valves
  - This phase of refurbishment work is scheduled through March 24, 2016
  - Testing of the new baffle ring in Spring ‘16
  - Cost of RVOS emergency rehab ~$20M

- Remaining RVOS work (retrofit to store full capacity)
  - UWR still considering various alternatives outlined in MWH's August 2015 technical memorandum (TM-11).
  - Cost ~$35M
Hyatt Diversion Tunnel #2 – looking downstream at work area with scaffolding.

Coffer Dam
Sisk Dam Seismic Stability & Dam Raise Study

- Consultant Review Board (CRB) Meeting (October 6, 2015)
  - USBR/DWR Sought validation on revised material strengths (from supplemental exploration/testing) and stability/deformation analyses
  - CRB Letter/Report to DWR dated November 6, 2015
  - Approximately 20 recommendations provided by CRB
  - USBR/DWR are still considering/evaluating recommendations – an "Accountability Report" will be generated

---

Sisk Dam Seismic Stability & Dam Raise Study

- Rapid Drawdown Study (November 18, 2015 meeting)
  - Prompted by CVP Contractors seeking higher extraction rates ("operational flexibility") from San Luis reservoir
  - USBR re-examined back analysis following 1981 drawdown failure and subsequent upstream slope stability analyses
  - New three-stage drawdown modeling using SLOPE/W for two sections
  - Studies Recommendation: San Luis Reservoir drawdown should NOT exceed the current maximum of 2 feet per day
  - SWC concurs with that recommendation
Sisk Dam Seismic Stability & Dam Raise Study

- **Risk Reduction Workshop** *(December 7-11, 2015)*
  - Confirmed alteration (berms & crest raise) would sufficiently reduce risk to meet the USBR’s Public Protection Guidelines
  - Report on workshop being developed
  - Correction Action Study (CAS) to be completed September 2016
  - Schedule for final design still to be determined

- **Next Steps**: Requested another “routine” CAS update for SWP/CVP Contractors – expected in first quarter of 2016

---

Perris Dam – Remediation of Seismic Deficiency

- **$75.5M Contract with Pulice Construction**
  - Stability berms + deep soil cement mixing
  - NTBW 8/2014. Completion date 11/15/17
  - Estimated total cost $121.5M ($39.1M from Davis-Dolwig recreation)

- **Status**: 39% *work completed; 44% time expended*
  - Contractor resumed drilling/blasting work on the left abutment road
  - Rock processing plant reconfigured and quarry in operation
  - Full production of cement deep soil mixing in foundation (two 16hr shifts/day)
  - Installation of relief wells (row 2)
  - Construction of energy dissipater structure
  - Excavated foundation (sta. 114 thru 122), need abutment road to bring in required backfill
Bonus Item: Pool 30 Aqueduct Repairs

- **Three Areas of Repair:**
  - MM 248.97 (original boil site)
  - MM 245 & MM 244.6 (areas with previous liner failure).

- **MM 248.97 Status – Repair Complete**
  - Concrete liner removed, leak intake exposed/backfilled, new concrete liner placed, topped with Teranap geomembrane and shotcrete
  - Leak conduit was intercepted with a boring through levee crest, cavity was filled with approx. 1500 gallons of grout

---

Bonus Item: Pool 30 Aqueduct Repairs

- **MM 245 & 244.6 Status:**
  - Removed damaged concrete liner, embankment excavated/compacted/shaped, new concrete liner placed
  - Teranap geomembrane installation in progress

- **Additional work (via DWR staff) concurrent with outage:**
  - Silt/debris removed from channel and intake to BV plant
  - CAP inspections on idled BV units and appurtenant equipment

- **Schedule**
  - Concern re. Teranap procurement resolved, deliveries made
  - On schedule for February 27 water-up and February 29 unit start
Bonus Item: Pool 30 Aqueduct Repairs

Concrete liner placement near MP 244.6

SWC FY 2015-16 Infrastructure Objectives
February 18, 2016 Update

Bonus Item: Pool 30 Aqueduct Repairs

Close-up of concrete liner placement near MP 244.6. Note use of water stop in case Teranap wasn't available.

SWC FY 2015-16 Infrastructure Objectives
February 18, 2016 Update
Bonus Item: Pool 30 Aqueduct Repairs

MP 245 site: New concrete liner panels covered with Teramap, prepped for shotcrete application

Bonus Item: Preliminary O&M Budget

2017 B-132 Budget Review by OME Committee
- January 20: DWR provided preliminary budgets for O&M, DOE, SWPAO, HLPCO
- February 5: OME Committee held special budget review meeting with DWR
- DWR Executive's push for project prioritization and resource balancing (assuring adequate S, HR, parts) is refining O&M's and DOE's budgeting
- No major objections found by OME committee
### Bonus Item: Preliminary O&M Budget

Look back at CY 2015 Minimum Plan vs. Actuals

#### SWP Min Projection vs Actuals - December 2015

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<th>Division</th>
<th>Dec Avg Cost Projection</th>
<th>Dec Actual Expenditures</th>
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Note: O&M consumed $293.6M out of overall total $442.8M in SWP Minimum.

[SWC FY 2015-16 Infrastructure Objectives]

February 18, 2016 Update

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### Bonus Item: Preliminary O&M Budget

Look back at CY 2015 Capital Plan vs. Actuals

#### SWP Cap Projection vs Actuals - December 2015

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Note: O&M consumed $314.7M of overall $527M in SWP Capital in 2015.

Capital expenditures don't settle dollar-for-dollar on SOC during the year they occur.

[SWC FY 2015-16 Infrastructure Objectives]

February 18, 2016 Update
Bonus Item: Preliminary O&M Budget

Specialized (Capital, Extraordinary, Major Replacement) O&M Costs by Funding Category

Note: Extraordinary decreased after mid-2014 as projects shifted to Capital.

Planned costs which did not occur due to delays in work.

Bonu Item: Preliminary O&M Budget

Specialized O&M Costs/Budgets: Labor vs. OE&E

OE&E = All contracted labor, night, weekends.

Lower half DNR, and fully included with other O&M work.

SWC FY 2015-16 Infrastructure Objectives
February 18, 2016 Update
### Bonus Item: Preliminary O&M Budget

**2017 Capital and Extraordinary Budgets with Cost Contributors**

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**Questions??**
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Valley Voice: Retiring Dave Luker gave valley his all

Jim Barrett, Special to The Desert Sun  January 31, 2016

We all strive to achieve success, but how we define and measure it can be quite different. One universal metric of success is the mark a person makes on the world around them – how have your colleagues, your workplace and your community changed? One of our region’s leaders, longtime Desert Water Agency (DWA) General Manager-Chief Engineer Dave Luker has truly changed our industry and our community for the better.

After 23 years of service, Luker is retiring from the agency to spend more time with his growing family. But before Luker leaves the valley for the Lone Star State, I’d like to give him a proper sendoff with a tribute to his work.

It is difficult to put Dave’s contributions into perspective. Our agencies – DWA and the Coachella Valley Water District – work hand-in-hand to sustainably manage and actively replenish our region’s groundwater supplies. When Luker joined DWA in 1993, sustainable groundwater management was largely uncharted territory in America. Luker helped the Coachella Valley lead the way to defining what a sustainable basin should look like, while others were still hoping rain and runoff would replenish what they removed. It wasn’t until decades later that the rest of the state started to catch up – Governor Brown’s 2014 Sustainable Groundwater Management Act was modeled after our region’s approach – an approach that Luker helped design.

Since Luker joined DWA, he has put countless projects and policies in place that have greatly expanded our ability to replenish and manage our region’s groundwater supplies. The two agencies collaborated to increase imported water supplies and develop local Water Management Plans, which provide long-term paths to sustainability. Thanks to these efforts, the average water elevation in the groundwater basin has increased during the record-breaking drought.

Long before the current drought spurred heightened interest in stretching limited resources, Luker led DWA to make investments that would put the agency on a path to becoming a leader in water recycling and conservation. Luker helped expand the agency’s water recycling program so much that demand started to outweigh available recycled supplies. To keep up with the demand, Luker led the engineering team to develop a project that allows the agency to augment recycled supplies by reclaiming pockets of percolated water sitting just below the wastewater treatment plant. The innovative project also improves regional groundwater quality by preventing these non-potable supplies from percolating into the aquifer. Luker brought DWA into the solar energy business in 2005, enabling the agency to power its headquarters and produce a high volume of recycled supplies with a clean, cost-effective energy source.

Luker’s list of accomplishments goes on, but there is one that should not be overlooked. When talking to Luker’s staff, the great deal of admiration that they have for him is remarkably clear. The respect Luker has earned from his team, his board of directors, and from colleagues throughout California is a true testament to his leadership and his character.

The programs and policies that Luker has brought to our region will help sustain our resources into the future, ensuring that we can continue serving the Coachella Valley with a safe, affordable and reliable water supply for generations to come. His agency, the statewide water industry and our valley community have changed for the better because of Luker’s dedication to his career.

Dave, thank you for your 23-years of service to our community. On behalf of Coachella Valley Water District, I wish you all the best in your new adventures.

Jim Barrett is general manager of the Coachella Valley Water District. Email him at jim@cvwd.org.
Water-saving rules extended
The new regulation expires in October but could be revamped after the rainy season.

JANET ZIMMERMAN

STAFF WRITER

State regulators voted Tuesday to extend emergency water conservation through October, but will give providers a break on how much they must save based on their climate, housing growth and development of new supplies.

The current regulation spurred by Gov. Jerry Brown's order to cut potable water use by an average 25 percent statewide expires Feb. 13.

The State Water Resources Control Board approved an extension through Oct. 31. Board members agreed to revisit the issue after April 1 and could make additional adjustments for climate and other factors when they have a better idea of reservoir storage and spring runoff.

"We're just at halftime in this rainy season, and things could change," board Chairwoman Felicia Marcus said.

When the water board set the first round of rules last May, it had to act quickly to lay out guidelines for reaching the goal. Suppliers were ordered to cut as much as 36 percent, with the level determined by use during a baseline period.

Many of those at the upper conservation tiers are Inland districts. Those suppliers protested the regulation as unfair. Inland water managers said it didn't take into account hot summer temperatures, housing density or the millions of dollars spent on recycling and other conservation efforts that went online before the state's 2013 baseline period.

John Rossi, general manager of Western Municipal Water District in Riverside, said in written comments that the board's extension "imposes arbitrary limits to climate equity, ignores the true water needs resulting from economic growth, and discounts real investments made by forwardthinking communities to diversify and secure their water supply."

Water board staff worked with districts to amend regulations and address the one-size-fits-all approach. The state received 200 comments on a draft of the extension.
Not by much, but state hits water conservation target

Data show savings of 18.3 percent for December. Cooler, wetter weather helped.

JANET ZIMMERMAN

STAFF WRITER

Californians’ water conservation levels dropped again in the latest report to state regulators, but the cumulative seven-month total continued to squeak by the governor’s ordered 25 percent cuts.

The savings in December were 18.3 percent compared with the same month in 2013, thanks largely to cooler, wetter weather, officials with the State Water Resources Control Board said Tuesday.

That brings the statewide cumulative savings between last June and December to 25.5 percent.

Gov. Jerry Brown has ordered that residents cut 25 percent through February. To achieve that goal, the state water board ordered more than 400 large suppliers to cut use by 8 percent to 36 percent, depending on their past use.

"We're in field goal range," board Chairwoman Felicia Marcus said.

Californians have saved nearly 1.1 million acre-feet — enough to serve the combined populations of Riverside and San Diego counties, said Katheryn Landau, an environmental scientist with the board. The goal through February is 1.2 million acre-feet.

In December, per-person daily water use was 67 gallons, the lowest in seven months. That's down from 75 gallons in November and 98 gallons in June.

The state's emergency water-saving rules were prompted by four years of drought and record low snowpack in 2015. Despite recent rains and a better-than-average snowpack, the state’s reservoirs and groundwater basins remain depleted.

"We need to conserve until we know where we are," Marcus said.

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jzimmerman@pe.com
CVWD STATEMENT ON STATE’S CHANGES TO EMERGENCY WATER CONSERVATION REGULATIONS

The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) yesterday approved an extension of revised emergency regulations for urban water conservation. Based on the new regulations that take climate into account, Coachella Valley Water District’s (CVWD) mandatory conservation target is changed from 36 percent to 32 percent beginning March 1. The following is a statement from CVWD general manager Jim Barrett on the new regulations.

“Coachella Valley Water District appreciates that the state is recognizing the unique factors affecting various regions. The 4 percent change in CVWD’s conservation mandate, based on a climate for regions that are the hottest in the state, represents a more fair, equitable and achievable mandate that we are committed to achieve.

CVWD staff worked with the state and testified on behalf of our customers before the SWRCB to achieve this change and will continue to work with the state in support of future adjustments. CVWD also will continue to work with our customers to help them meet this mandate.”

A copy of CVWD’s policy recommendations to the state is available online.

The Coachella Valley Water District is a public agency governed by a five-member board of directors. The district provides domestic and irrigation water, agricultural drainage, wastewater treatment and reclamation services, regional stormwater protection, groundwater management and water conservation. It serves approximately 108,000 residential and business customers across 1,000 square miles, located primarily in Riverside County, but also in portions of Imperial and San Diego counties.
Water agency serving Desert Hot Springs cites drought, water quality standards in proposal getting vote Tuesday.

Kia Farhang, The Desert Sun, February 15, 2016

Mission Springs Water District customers could see higher water and sewer rates next month as the agency grapples with a revenue slump and new state water quality standards.

The district’s board will consider a move to bump up rates over the next five years at a Tuesday meeting. The water agency serves Desert Hot Springs and its outlying area.

If approved, the proposal would put the district’s average residential rates above those of the Desert Water Agency and Coachella Valley Water District, which together serve a majority of the Coachella Valley. Both of those agencies may also hike their rates in the future.

Mission Springs, like other districts, is selling less water during California’s epic drought, general manager Arden Wallum said. And it needs millions of dollars for capital improvement projects to meet new water quality standards and repair aging infrastructure.

“We have done everything we can do to be efficient,” Wallum said. “The only option we have is to look at our pricing.”

Water agencies across the desert are struggling to meet Gov. Jerry Brown’s mandated water consumption cutbacks, though recent data show a stormy January helped their efforts. Each agency is expected to cut usage based on 2013 consumption.

The state relaxed those requirements a bit earlier this month, bringing Mission Springs’ target to 24 percent reduction starting in March. The agency’s customers reduced consumption by 31 percent in January.

Consumption cuts mean lower bills for customers — and less revenue for the district, which relies more heavily on rates than agencies serving more affluent areas, Wallum said.

State officials were so concerned about the agency’s financial health that they obtained a court order mandating higher rates for Mission Springs, Wallum said.

The district also needs about $20 million for capital improvements to meet new state water quality standards. And some of its infrastructure is decades old.

“We are at that stage in our life where we have to start spending money on infrastructure,” Wallum said.

The proposal would hike the district’s average residential water rate to $1.76 per hundred cubic feet of water use starting next month, with further increases through 2020. The Coachella Valley Water District’s average base rate is about $1.44, depending on where customers live and how much they use. The Desert Water Agency charges a flat rate of $1.57 per hundred cubic feet.

The Mission Springs board will also consider boosting its monthly sewer rates and implementing or increasing fees for loan processing, leaks and other services.
Wallum noted that the new rates will still be lower than most other agencies across California.

And Mission Springs is not alone in considering higher rates. The Coachella Valley Water District is working on a plan to restructure some rates and raise others, spokeswoman Heather Engel said, and plans to begin public outreach next month.

Desert Water Agency customers “will see rates go up” as a result of an ongoing rate study, said Ashley Hudgens, a spokeswoman for the agency.

“We may be fairly average again when the other districts raise their rates,” Wallum said. “We just happened to do it right away.”
MWD proposes slashing its conservation budget; turf removal rebates could disappear

Taylor Goldenstein, Contact Reporter, February 15, 2016

When Gov. Jerry Brown ordered a 25% cut in urban water use last year — and singled out lawns as a prime target — Southern Californians began replacing turf in record numbers, motivated in part by cash rebates.

Marveling at the success of the program, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California officials quickly went all in, boosting the turf rebate budget to $340 million.

In the upcoming fiscal year, however, there may not be an MWD-funded turf removal program at all.

In a proposed budget for the next two fiscal years, agency staffers recommended $59 million for conservation programs — $27 million next year and $32 million the year after that.

That allocation would probably be used to fund rebates for water-conserving devices such as high-efficiency toilets and washing machines, said Deven Upadhyay, an MWD manager.

As of now, there are no plans to reopen a turf rebate program, he said. It would be up to the MWD board whether to once again reimburse customers for tearing out their lawns.

"It was a one-time thing to try to ramp up attention on having more drought-tolerant landscapes while we're in the drought," Upadhyay said. "I don't think it was ever envisioned as we would be able to do that every year from here on out."

The MWD in total set aside $450 million this fiscal year for rebates, including $110 million for water-efficient appliances and devices. Officials expect that about $50 million of the $450 million will be left over because of canceled turf-removal projects.

The unspent funds could be used for future rebate programs, Upadhyay said.

"We're still working through the largest conservation program we've ever done, and anybody's ever done," Upadhyay said. "I think that our investment in conservation has been historic."

Some environmental groups say it's not enough. Tracy Quinn, a policy analyst with the Natural Resources Defense Council, said dropping the turf rebate program would be a "huge missed opportunity."

"With so much uncertainty around our ability to replenish our reservoirs and groundwater basins over the next few years, this is not the time to back off investments in conservation and efficiency," Quinn said, adding that she'd recommend at least $100 million, given the agency's total budget. "We need to front-load those investments now while we have the public's ear."

Water officials have said that with the rebates, they hoped to spark enough interest in turf removal that residents and businesses would eventually decide to do it on their own, even without reimbursement.

But Bruce Reznik, executive director of environmental nonprofit L.A. Waterkeeper, said that's unrealistic, at least now. Reznik said he was "appalled" that the MWD was considering dropping or reducing funding for its turf rebate program.

"As soon as we have even a modicum of success in conservation, they walk back away from it," he said. "I think that provides a terrible message."

Upadhyay said the MWD wants to evaluate the success of the program before making another big financial commitment.

The proposed budget is being reviewed by the agency's finance and insurance committee and will be sent to the full board in April. The committee will meet again to discuss it Feb. 23.

taylor.goldenstein@latimes.com
Mission Springs approves water, sewer rate hikes

Anna Rumer, The Desert Sun, February 17, 2016

The Mission Springs Water District voted Tuesday to take the first step in a five-year rate increase for water and sewer rates, raising fees by less than $2 a month for the average customer beginning next month.

The bump was unanimously approved at the board’s monthly meeting by its four present members -- John Furbee was absent -- who cited new state water quality standards and a decline in revenue as the reason for the change.

General manager Arden Wallum told The Desert Sun that because of the statewide drought, the district is selling less water, which is resulting in less revenue with which to complete about $20 million worth of capital improvements required by new state water quality standards.

Gov. Jerry Brown’s mandated water consumption cuts required each agency to cut usage based on 2013 usage. Earlier in February, the state loosened this requirement, bringing Mission Springs’ goal to 24 percent reduction for March. In January, Mission Springs’ customers reduced their water use by 31 percent, partially helped by El Nino’s storms.

Because of this, the district has seen a 35 percent revenue loss in the last year, according to conservation and public affairs officer John Souliere.

Now, the average single family residential customer will pay $1.55 per hundred cubic feet of water used starting March 2. The average single family residential customer currently pays about $28.94 a month for water, according to contracted rate consultant Jonathan Barnes, and can expect to now pay $30.12 a month.

Rates are expected to rise through 2020, when it is expected to cost average customers $2.29 per hundred cubic feet of water used.

Mission Water District customers pay on average more than those of the Desert Water Agency and Coachella Valley Water District, but remains cheaper than most other California water agencies.

"You're not on the high end," Barnes said. "It's something we hope to keep from happening with utilities."

The average base rate of the CVWD is about $1.44 depending on where customers live and how much water they're using. The DWA charges a flat rate of $1.57 per hundred cubic feet.

Both agencies have expressed interest in raising rates in the futures as well.

The board also voted to increase sewer rates over the next five years. Beginning in March, the flat sewer rate for single-family residential customers will increased by about $5 to $36.92. By 2020, that will have risen to $50.16.

Mission Springs Board Director Jeff Bowman said while he understood the passionate pleas of the many district residents who were concerned about the increases, there's no better way to handle the situation.

"What we've been grappling with has been immense; it's been a heartburn for all of us," he said. "But if we want to make sure we have safe, clean drinking water, we have to make sure we're financially solvent."

Anna Rumer covers the Eastern Coachella Valley for The Desert Sun. She can be reached at (760) 285-5490, anna.rumer@desertsun.com or on Twitter @AnnaRumer.
CVWD lowers conservation mandate for water customers

Patrick Edgell, Digital Content Director, February 24, 2016

On Tuesday, the Coachella Valley Water District's Board of Directors approved a change in drought budgets for domestic water customers after the state adjusted its overall conservation target.

The state considers CVWD's cumulative domestic water use as compared to the same month in 2013 to determine the percentage.

Although the state compares the district's overall water use to the same month in 2013, officials said CVWD decided it would be unfair to ask customers to adhere to this approach. Instead, CVWD customers must cut back enough to meet their temporary drought budget, an approach that rewards those who have already cut their outdoor water use by allowing grass to go golden or by replacing grass with desert-friendly landscaping, according to the release.

"The 4% change to CVWD's conservation mandate, based on a climate for regions that are the hottest in the state, represents a more equitable and achievable mandate that we are committed to achieve," said CVWD General Manager Jim Barrett. "By adjusting our drought budgets for our customers, we are confident that more customers will be able to meet the mandate. We ask customers to keep up the good work and to consider letting grass go golden if they haven't already."

District officials said CVWD's rolling average conservation number through January is 25.5%, which is what the state uses to judge performance.
California drought: State to increase water deliveries

Ian James, The Desert Sun, February 24, 2016

California’s water outlook has improved a little as winter storms have brought snow to the mountains and boosted the levels of reservoirs across the state.

State regulators responded on Wednesday by increasing their estimate of how much water will flow through the canals and pipelines of the State Water Project to cities and farms this year.

The Department of Water Resources boosted projected water deliveries to 30 percent of full allotments, up from 15 percent a month earlier.

State officials initially had projected 10 percent in December and have revised the number as storms have rolled in since then. They cautioned that the drought is still far from over and that the amounts of water delivered could end up being more or less, depending on how much rain and snow falls in the next two months.

"After more than four dry years, we still have a critical water shortage,” DWR Director Mark Cowin said in a statement. "We need a lot more wet weather this winter to take the edge off drought. Using water carefully and sparingly is still the quickest, most effective way to stretch supplies."

Water districts across Southern California have been coping with minimal deliveries of water through the State Water Project for several years. Last year, they received 20 percent of full allotments. In 2014, they received just five percent. That was down from a high of 80 percent in 2011.

The pumping of water from the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta has also been limited due to protections for fish including endangered delta smelt and Chinook salmon. Cities and water districts haven’t received 100 percent of their water allocations since 2006.

In the Coachella Valley, that has meant less imported water flowing into a series of ponds near Palm Springs that were constructed decades ago to artificially replenish the supply of groundwater. Because the State Water Project doesn't reach the valley, the area's water districts trade their allotments of water for equivalent amounts from the Colorado River Aqueduct.

A total of 29 public agencies receive water from the State Water Project. The water supplies about 25 million people as well as farmland.

Early winter storms blanketed the Sierra Nevada with snow, but that was followed by a very dry February. As of Wednesday, monitoring stations across the Sierra Nevada showed the snowpack at 92 percent of average for the date.

The Department of Water Resources said that while key reservoirs are rising after the El Niño-influenced storms of December and January, most reservoirs remain low.

The department said the level of Lake Oroville in Northern California, for instance, is at 51 percent of its capacity and 74 percent of its average for the date. The level of San Luis Reservoir, one of the main reservoirs south of the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta, stands at 42 percent of its capacity and 50 percent of average for the date.
DESERT WATER AGENCY
PUBLIC INFORMATION
ACTIVITIES
FEBRUARY 2016

Activities:

2/1/16-2/29/16 Vicki Petek and Heather Marcks conducted 81 Turf Buy Back post-conversion and follow-up inspections.

2/2/16 Ashley Hudgens attended and spoke at the State Water Resources Control Board meeting to extend emergency regulations.

2/4/16 Ashley Hudgens was on a live conservation segment with KESQ on the State Water Resources Control Board ruling.

2/4/16 Ashley Hudgens was interviewed on the Joey English radio show about drought and conservation.

2/5/16 Ashley Hudgens attended and presented to Oasis Resort on drought and conservation.

2/11/16 Ashley Hudgens attended and presented to One PS Neighborhood Committee on drought and conservation.

2/11/16 Ashley Hudgens was on a live conservation segment with KESQ on January conservation and fines.

2/11/16 Ashley Hudgens presented at the Urban Water Institute on the drought and conservation.

2/13/16 Ashley Hudgens attended and presented to Sunrise East HOA on the drought and conservation.

2/16/16 #H2OResolution contest winner was announced and given $200 Lowe’s gift card (donated by Lowe’s).

2/18/16 Ashley Hudgens was on a live conservation segment with KESQ on hot weather and turf watering reduction.

2/24/16 Vicki Petek attended and judged at the Palm Springs Unified School District Science Fair at Desert Hot Springs High School.

2/25/16 Ashley Hudgens was on a live conservation segment with KESQ on Spring cleaning tips.
Public Information Releases:

February 3, 2016 - State Water Board Extends, Modifies, Emergency Conservation Regulation
Conservation Mandate for DWA Customers Drops to 32%

Water Conservation Reviews:

Andreas Hills HOA               Cerritos Community Assoc.
Bruce Cassirer                  Country Club Estates
Canyon Estates HOA              Greenhouse East
Canyon South I Condos          Kings Point Condos
Canyon Vista                   Palm Regency
Casa Sonora Condos             Sunrise East Condos

Water Conservation Reviews are annual mailings sent to large water users. The Reviews include a 5-year consumption report, facility map, and information brochures. The purpose is to help customers save water by summarizing their consumption, and offering suggestions for reducing usage. Occasionally, after viewing, the recipient may contact DWA for assistance in the form of a Mobile Lab Evaluation.
**Audience Overview**

Feb 1, 2016 - Feb 25, 2016

**Overview**

- **Sessions**: 4,184
- **Users**: 3,357
- **Pageviews**: 9,522

- **Pages / Session**: 2.28
- **Avg. Session Duration**: 00:01:49
- **Bounce Rate**: 48.06%

- **% New Sessions**: 64.89%

**Language**

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© 2016 Google
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Desert Water Agency
Facebook analytics
February 2016
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Feb 2016 - 24 days to go...

**TWEET HIGHLIGHTS**

**Top Tweet** earned 292 impressions
Interesting read on some SoCal residents running dry on conservation. #DontDismissTheDrought latimes.com/local/californ...

**Top mention**
MattieKoefffer @koeffferMatt
@TDIanJames @DWAwater Bet every sprinkler head in valley could be dialed back another 15% - 25% & law people would even notice.

Get your Tweets in front of more people
Promoted Tweets and content open up your audience on Twitter to more people.

**Top media Tweet** earned 267 impressions
Congratulations to newly retired GM, Dave Lukac & DWA veteran Mark Krause - our new GM!
desertsun.com/story/opinion/... pic.twitter.com/qkbz3j4lun

No new followers in February
Grow your audience and deliver your content to more people on Twitter.
Learn more about increasing your followers.

Enrich your Tweets with Twitter Cards
Using Twitter Cards gives you greater insight into your URL clicks, top hashtags, and Retweets.
Learn more about using Cards on Twitter.