

HELIX WATER DISTRICT

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2011 - 6:00 P.M.
7811 University Avenue, La Mesa, CA 91942-0427**

1. President Verbeke called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The Roll Call showed Directors Verbeke, Linden, Hedberg, and Smith present. Director Muse was absent.

Staff Present: Weston, Lugo, Umphres, Hayman, Irvine, Annett, Bartlett-May, Salois, Tang, Clark, Valdez, Young, Covarrubias, and Counsel Hull

Others Present: Customers John Wood and Lori Kern

2. Director Smith offered the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Agenda approved:

Motion: Linden
Second: Hedberg
Vote: 4 ayes

4. Opportunity for members of the public to address the Board on any item under the subject matter jurisdiction of the District. No one wished to be heard.

5. Consent Agenda approved:

Motion: Smith
Second: Linden
Vote: 4 ayes

- a) Operating Account checks submitted for ratification

- i. list dated 11/08/11
ii. list dated 11/15/11

- b) Warrant(s), as listed, submitted for approval

<u>Warrant No.</u>	<u>Date Issued</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Amount</u>
1797	11/15/11	HWD Operating Account	\$ 761,347.25
1798	11/15/11	HWD Operating Account	\$ 700,000.00
1799	11/15/11	HWD Operating Account	\$ 1,100,000.00
1800	11/15/11	HWD Operating Account	\$ 900,000.00
	Total		\$ 3,461,347.25

- c) Memorandum dated November 16, 2011 from Board Secretary submitting expense and per diems for approval

- d) Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 2, 2011
 - e) The Board adopted the following Resolutions:
 - i. 11-62 declaring facilities complete and authorize filing a Notice of Completion for La Mesa Civic Center Extension (WO 1610)
 - ii. 11-63 declaring facilities complete and authorize filing a Notice of Completion for Helix Charter High School Extension (WO 2431)
 - f) Reports for the month of October 2011:
 - i. Claims Report
 - ii. Treasurer’s Report
 - iii. Budget Summary
 - iv. Rainfall, Use, and Storage Report
 - v. System Demand Report
 - vi. Conservation Status Report
 - vii. Monthly Demand Report
 - g) Attendance Consideration:
 - i. Legislative Roundtable with Assemblymembers Garrick, Harkey, & Hueso San Diego County Water Authority November 4, 2011, 8:00 a.m.
6. The Board authorized staff to call for bids for the Large Valve Replacements Project and approved Wednesday, December 14, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. as the bid opening date and time (WO 3395)

Motion: Smith
Second: Linden
Vote: 4 ayes

7. The Board adopted the following Resolution:
- i. 11-64 rejecting the apparent low bid as nonresponsive due to an incomplete bid submitted; awarding construction of the Small Valve Replacement Project Fiscal Year (FY) 2011-12 to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder, SC Valley Engineering, Inc. of El Cajon, CA, in the amount of \$398,622; and appropriating funds in the amount of \$450,000 from Schedule 64, Item 20, of the FY 2011-12 Budget for the construction of the Small Valve Replacement Project (WO 3382)

Motion: Smith
Second: Hedberg
Vote: 4 ayes

8. The Board appropriated \$40,000 from Schedule 64, Item 14, of the Fiscal Year 2011-12 Budget for the design of Pipeline Project El Monte Rd., Main St., Magnolia Ave., Dennstedt Pl., Murray Dr., alley south of Main St., and surrounding easements (WO 3615).

Motion: Linden
Second: Hedberg
Vote: 4 ayes

INFORMATION:

- A. The Board received and filed information regarding Helix Water District’s Emergency Power Needs Assessment.
- B. The Board received and filed the report regarding Medical Plan renewals effective January 1, 2012.

Director Hedberg inquired how much the reduction of the Kaiser co-pay from \$5 to \$0 affected the 7.2% cost increase.

Director of Administrative Services Lisa Irvine stated that the change in the preventative care services co-pay from \$5 to \$0 is consistent with the Healthcare Reform that is currently moving forward and better aligns the Kaiser plan with the Anthem Blue Cross plans. She indicated that she will provide the Board with information regarding how much of the 7.2% Kaiser rate increase was due to the co-pay decrease.

DISCUSSION:

- A. President Verbeke acknowledged comments received from members of the public regarding excellent customer service by Customer Service Representatives Jerry Andrade, Tracy Powell, and Alicia Macias; and Senior Maintenance Ranger David Acevedo.
- B. The Board members submitted their reports on meetings attended in writing and they are attached to these minutes.
- C. General Manager Mark Weston reported that every two years, Helix sends out a letter to any property owner that has an easement on their property. In the next few days, Helix will send 4,800 letters advising these property owners of the easement. Mr. Weston stated that at the next Board Meeting, staff will be bringing a Board Report which will clarify some of the issues around the direct potable reuse piece of legislation for raw water augmentation. The San Diego County Water Authority (Water Authority) is onboard and will be taking it to their Board Meeting on December 8, 2011. Mr. Weston believes the Water Authority is going to recommend they sponsor the bill. The hope is that if water is treated to this very high level (called Advanced Treated Purified Water), which far exceeds the quality of imported water supplies, that it would be included in the evaluation by the Health Department due 2016. Helix staff would like the Health Department to set criteria to allow the Advanced Treated Purified Water as a supplemental water supply to the raw water supplies, upstream of permitted water treatment plants. Mr. Weston reported that the

Mt. Helix customers have been well notified about the shutdown on November 17. Staff expects a routine shutdown and replacement of three valves. A considerable amount of attention was spent on communication with the residents in the shutdown area and staff has received many good comments from customers in the field as the preliminary work was taking place. Mr. Weston shared some photos with the Board of a rock about the size of a Volkswagen Bus found while excavating for a pipeline replacement. The District's consultant rerouted the pipeline around the giant rock. Lastly, Mr. Weston reported that in the next couple of Board Meetings, staff plans to bring a Board Report regarding the protest on the solar charges tariff change. Sophie Akins from Best Best and Krieger will be in attendance at that meeting.

D. The next regular Board Meeting will be Wednesday, December 7, 2011, at 3:00 p.m.

The Board went into Closed Session at 7:01 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION:

A. PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT
(Government Code Section 54957)
Title: General Manager

The Board reconvened in Open Session at 7:30 p.m. There was no reportable action.

The Board Meeting was adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

Secretary

President

President's Report

DeAna Verbeke

November 16, 2011

11/3 East County EDC – SEED Committee (Support Education and Economic Development) (no per diem)

Rick Urban, COO, Quality Controlled Manufacturing in Santee, gave an overview of QCMI and how the business has grown over the past couple years by securing contracts previous given to China. However, they are experiencing a gap in locating skilled labor for their equipment. Rick explained how they are filling the void with internal training.

East County Chamber of Commerce is planning a customer service academy and Middle Schools are offering Leadership Training by Ken Blanchard.

11/3 Santee/East County Chambers of Commerce Mixer at Jet Air (no per diem)

Jim Slattery spoke about his business operation at Jet Air and Millennium Labs and stated he chose to locate in San Diego area for the high level of talented people. He chose Gillespie Field for ease of in and out and plans to continue adding vintage aircraft to his collection for a total of 40. Expects his collection to be a bigger draw of the public than the Midway downtown. A great venue and great event.

11/4 SDCWA Legislative Roundtable (per diem)

Introductory remarks by Assemblymember Martin Garrick, Assemblymember Diane Harkey, and Assemblymember Ben Hueso. Harkey stated water issues are North vs South. However, if water is a state owned product, then we should be able to move it around. Hueso believes "sustainability" is the key word in our economy. He believes desal will increase our independence. California provides 50% of the world's food supply and we must find ways to support agricultural. He commends CWA for the lawsuit against MET.

Question: There is an anti-business attitude in California. When business leaves, so do jobs. What can we do to improve our economy?

Hueso: California is the leader in many areas, such as technology. We need to make capital available for businesses – bring more in from Mexico – reduce border wait time.

Harkey: We have the greatest universities, bio-tech, bio-med, however, aerospace is leaving. Ports are importing but ships leave empty – we are losing manufacturing. Water & power are too expensive. We educate and people leave.

Garrick: Went to Texas to see what they are doing to create jobs. California's tax structure and regulations prohibit job creation. Attitude of legislatures and actions toward small business create hurdles for California businesses. 11,783 bills were introduced in the last five years.

Question: Tree crops are at a critical point. Ag gets blamed for taking all the water. We can manage our droughts if we can plan and store water.

Answers: Need to pass the water bond by getting Los Angeles on board. If LA doesn't assist, other parts of the state will. So Calif starts just south of Sacramento. Water should be shared. Need to streamline the process for permitting; reduce what is required to get a discretionary permit; integrate planning; remove the economic process of law suits that delay projects. Calif hired 1000 more regulators. There is incentive to regulate. We are no longer serving the cause – serving the bureaucracy.

11/5 The Water Conservation Garden Fall Show (no per diem)

A wonderful, well attended event. The Garden was beautiful the day after rain. Took two friends with me, both planning to re-landscape their yards with drought-tolerant. One friend made an appointment with a landscaper and also became a member of The Garden.

11/7 Padre Dam Municipal Water District renaming of Water Recycling Facility (no per diem)

Ceremony to rename Water Recycling Facility after Ray Stoyer.

11/8 East County EDC – Membership Committee (no per diem)

Debriefing of bus tour and reviewed results of survey. Discussed ways to improve.

11/14 East County EDC – Board Meeting (per diem & mileage)

Reviewed the financials and will be breaking down accounts in the future for clear explanation of labor and projects. Reviewed funded and proposed Connectory projects. Tule Wind Project Ad Hoc committee presented their findings and recommendation to support the project in view of SDG&E's requirement to meet 30% renewables by 2020. However, the board voted to not take a position on the project. Debriefing of bus tour with the full board and the survey results which were very positive. Reports from Membership Committee, Gillespie Field Committee, and SEED committee. Reports from offices of state and federal elected officials.

11/14 General Manager Screening Committee (no per diem)

11/15 Council of Water Utilities (per diem)

Bylaws were changed to state guests and members of the public may attend meetings.

Presentation by Andrea Cook, Program Manager, Climate Change, California Center for Sustainable Energy, on "Greening Your World." The Center offers \$4,000 of incentives to make your home energy efficient. Focus is on energy – carbon – water nexus. The Center advocates using water sources that require the least amount of energy to supply to take priority first. Direct potable reuse is least cost supply of water; also storm water harvesting and redirecting runoff.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT OF CONFERENCE/MEETING ATTENDANCE

DIRECTOR JOHN LINDEN

11/4/11 – CWA LEGISLATIVE ROUND TABLE : WITH ASSEMBLY MEMBERS MARTIN GARRIK K, DIANE HARKEY AND BEN HUESO.

THIS WAS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR WATER AUTHORITY STAFF TO SUMMARIZE ALL OF THE PRO-ACTIVE \$1.5 BILLION AGENCY IMPROVEMENTS THAT WE ARE MAKING TO BECOME SELF SUFFICIENT. OUR ESTEEMED PRESIDENT DEANA VERBEKE TOOK NUMEROUS NOTES WHICH WILL SUFFICE.

11/10/11 – CWA SPECIAL IMPORTED WATER MEETING: WITH REPRESENTATIVE FROM METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT, ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER ROGER PATTERSON , BYRON BUCK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR STATE AND FEDERAL CONTRACTORS AUTHORITY, MIKE MACHADO, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE DELTA PROTECTION COMMISSION, TOM HOWARD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD AND PHIL ISENBERG, CHAIR OF THE DELTA STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL.

COMMENTS BY PHIL ISENBERG (35 YRS IN GOVERNMENT) "DO IT ON YOUR OWN, GOVERNMENT HAS NO MONEY"! MATCH REALITY WITH EXPECTATIONS. BE SELF-RELIANT. INTERRUPTION COULD BE SIX TO THIRTY SIX MONTHS. WITHOUT TAXES/FEES, HOW WILL IT WORK?

OTHER SPEAKERS MENTIONED THE NEED FOR LEADERSHIP. TOO MANY LAYERS OF REGULATIONS, POLITICAL WILL. OTHER ISSUES INCLUDED RECREATION, PUBLIC SAFETY, CULTURAL ISSUES, ECONOMIC, POLLUTION, ETC.

11/14/11 – EAST COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL: AD HOC COMMITTEE PRESENTATION DISCUSSED TULE WIND PROJECT, DECLINED TO SUPPORT THE PROJECT.

BUS TOUR SURVEY SHOWED SUPPORT FOR TOUR EVERY TWO YEARS. FOUND IT TO BE SUCCESS WITH INCREASING KNOWLEDGE OF EAST COUNTY.

11/15/11 – COUNCIL OF WATER UTILITIES : ANDREA COOK, PHD WITH CENTER FOR SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

DISCUSSED INTERACTION WITH 43 WORKSHOPS , FOR GARDENERS, LANDSCAPERS, ARCHITECTS, AND THE PUBLIC IN CONSERVING ENERGY. ALSO DISCUSSED AMOUNT OF ENERGY USED IN PUMPING WATER FROM NORTHERN TO SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA. THE TERM "TOILET TO TAP" WAS USED TO DESCRIBE RECYCLED OR AUGMENTATION AND WAS QUESTIONED WHY THEY USE THIS NEGATIVE TERM BY VARIOUS MEMBERS ATTENDING.

Memorandum

TO: Donna Bartlett-May, Board Secretary

FROM: Director Kathleen Coates Hedberg, P.E., M.P.H.

DATE: November 16, 2011

SUBJECT: Meetings Attended Since November 2, 2011

Since the last Board Meeting on November 2, 2011, I attended the following events representing Helix Water District:

November 7, (no per diem/no expenses) Padre Dam Water Recycling Facility, 50 Year Anniversary and dedication to Ray Stoyer. Mr. Stoyer was the General Manager who came up with the idea to turn sewage into recreational lakes 50 years ago.

November 8, (no per diem/no expenses) on behalf of California Special Districts Association and as President of the San Diego Chapter, I delivered 9 checks ranging from \$100 to \$1000 of a total of nearly \$6000 to teachers and schools around the County. The grants were to teachers to use at their school for a project that also has a nexus with Special Districts. All of the teachers, principals and students I met were overjoyed and appreciative. Many press releases were issued by schools and special districts. Thank you to Kate Breece, Helix Water District for helping me send out a Countywide Press Release.

November 10, (no per diem/no expenses) attended my kids walkathon at Padre Dam Water District Santee Lakes, beautiful facility and day. It was great walking with the kids and also educating them on the wonderful use of recycled water.

November 15, Council Water Utilities Meeting, presentation by Ms. Andrea Cook, Program Manager, Climate Change, California Center for Sustainable Energy "Greening Your World". Good overview of their services and goals to reduce carbon emissions/footprint by helping agencies, businesses and the general public become more energy efficient.

Activities since last Board Meeting

Chuck Muse

Nov. 3 – San Diego River Conservancy

Nov. 4 – 1st Friday Breakfast

Nov. 8 – La Mesa City Council

Nov. 15 – Council of Water Utilities

Notice of Public Meeting San Diego River Conservancy

A public meeting of the Governing Board of
The San Diego River Conservancy
will be held Thursday,

**November 3, 2011
2:00 pm – 4:00 pm**

Meeting Location

**County of San Diego Administration Center (CAC)
1600 Pacific Highway, Room 302
San Diego, California 92101**

Tele-Conference Locations

**Natural Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street, Room 1310
Sacramento, CA 95814**

**Department of Finance
State Capitol, Room 1145
Sacramento, CA 95814**

(877) 287-0283 / Pass code 606349

**Contact: Michael Nelson
(619) 645-3183**

Meeting Agenda

- 1. Roll Call**
- 2. Approval of Minutes**
- 3. Public Comment**

Any person may address the Governing Board at this time regarding any matter within the Board's authority. Presentations will be limited to three minutes for individuals and five minutes for representatives of organizations. Submission of information in writing is encouraged.
- 4. Chairperson's and Governing Board Members' Report**

5. Deputy Attorney's General Report

6. San Diego River Trail: Status

Intergovernmental Working Group-Status
Michael Nelson, Executive Officer

County of San Diego: Gaps Analysis – Assessment of Segments
Megan Hamilton, Department of Parks and Recreation

7. San Diego River Conservancy: Strategic Plan / 2012 -2017

Scope of Work and Budget Estimate
Ann Miller Haddad, Michael Nelson SDRC
Peter MacCracken, Strategic Communications

8. Department of Transportation: Auction/ Former Old Town Office

Draft Environmental Impact Report
Michael Nelson, Executive Officer

9. City of San Diego/ Carlton Oaks Golf Course: Proposed Sale / 68 acres

City Council of San Diego / Land Use and Housing Committee: October 5, 2011
Michael Nelson, Executive Officer

10. Executive Officer's Report

The following topics may be included in the Executive Officers Report. The Board may take action regarding any of them:

- SDRC 2012 Meeting Schedule
- SDRC/SDRPF: Board of Director's Workshop
- SDRC/SCC/DGS: Transfer of Administrative Services
- Hellx Water District: El Monte Valley Mining, Reclamation and Groundwater Recharge Project

11. Adjournment

Accessibility

If you require a disability related modification or accommodation to attend or participate in this meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please call Michael Nelson at 619-645-3183



**CITY OF
LA MESA**
JEWEL of the HILLS

Art Madrid
Mayor

Ernest Ewin
Vice Mayor

Ruth Sterling
Councilmember

Dave Allan
Councilmember

Mark Arapostathis
Councilmember

David Witt
City Manager

Glenn Sabine
City Attorney

Mary Kennedy
City Clerk

Eldon Vogt
City Treasurer

City of La Mesa
8130 Allison Avenue
La Mesa, California 91942
Tel: 619.463.6611
Fax: 619.667.1131
www.cityoflamesa.com

LA MESA CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA

A Regular Meeting

Tuesday, November 8, 2011

4:00 p.m.

**City Council Chambers
La Mesa City Hall
8130 Allison Avenue
La Mesa, California**

The purpose of a Council meeting is to accomplish the public's business as productively, efficiently and professionally as possible.

AGENDA

NOVEMBER 8, 2011

4:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL

INVOCATION – COUNCILMEMBER ALLAN

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

COMMUNITY BULLETIN REPORTS

PRESENTATIONS

RECOGNIZING STUDENT VOLUNTEERS FOR ASSISTING IN THE “SUSTAIN LA MESA” ENVIRONMENTAL FESTIVAL HELD OCTOBER 8, 2011

BUDGET MONITORING REPORT

CITY TREASURER’S QUARTERLY REPORT

ADDITIONS AND/OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

CONSENT CALENDAR

(Items 1 through 5)

The Consent Calendar includes items previously considered by the Council. Unless discussion is requested by members of the Council or audience, all Consent Calendar items may be approved by one motion.

1. **APPROVAL OF MOTION TO WAIVE THE READING OF THE TEXT OF ALL ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS AT THIS MEETING**
2. **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMITTAL OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF RESOURCES RECYCLING AND RECOVERY WASTE TIRE ENFORCEMENT GRANT APPLICATIONS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO-SOLID WASTE LOCAL ENFORCEMENT AGENCY AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO TO ACT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF LA MESA TO EXECUTE ALL NECESSARY GRANT DOCUMENTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF SECURING GRANT FUNDS AND TO IMPLEMENT AND CARRY OUT THE SPECIFIED GRANT ACTIVITIES**

Staff Reference: Mr. Humora

3. **RESOLUTION AWARDED A CONTRACT FOR SPECIALIZED PROFESSIONAL SERVICES TO PSOMAS FOR THE DESIGN OF THE STATE ROUTE 125 SEWER CROSSING PROJECT**

Staff Reference: Mr. Humora

STAFF REPORTS

9. REPORT ON ASSEMBLY BILL 109 – PUBLIC SAFETY REALIGNMENT

Staff Reference: Police Chief Aceves

10. REVIEW OF WIRELESS COMMUNICATION FACILITY REGULATIONS IN LA MESA

Staff recommends that maps of existing and proposed wireless communication facilities be added to the City's website and that all schools and day care centers in La Mesa be notified (on a one-time basis) on how to access the City's current information on existing and proposed wireless communication facilities.

Staff Reference: Mr. Chopyk

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS (3 MINUTE LIMIT)

AB 1234 REPORTS (GC 53232.3(d))

COUNCIL INITIATED

- 11. DISCUSSION REGARDING TROLLEY NOISE IN THE VICINITY OF SEVERIN DRIVE AND MURRAY DRIVE – VICE MAYOR EWIN**
- 12. UPDATED STATUS REPORT ON THE PROPERTY BASED IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (PBID) PROCESS AS WE REACH DIFFERENT MILESTONES – VICE MAYOR EWIN**

CITY ATTORNEY REMARKS

ADJOURNMENT

November 16, 2011

From: Director Richard K. Smith

To: Donna Bartlett-May, Board Secretary

Re: Meetings Attended

Since our last Board Meeting on November 2, 2011, I have attended the following meetings as a representative of the HWD:

On November 15, 2011 I attended the Council of Water Utilities Meeting in Poway. Ms. Andrea Cook, Program Manager, Climate Change, California Center for Sustainable Energy. She spoke on the nine current programs that outreach to schools and business on the emerging issues of water, energy, carbon nexus, and wildfire. She stressed the importance of water: where do we get it now and where will it come from in the future and the need for better water utilization. She spoke on the energy issues such as the high energy used to move and treat water. Showed water costs are using 3 times more energy in Southern California. She also briefly touched on the Climate Change/Sea Level Rise issue. It was an interesting presentation.

Meetings attended since our November 2, 2011 meeting as the Helix representative to the San Diego County Water Authority:

November 2, 2011, earlier in the day, I attended the Board Officers meeting followed by the Officers/Delegates meeting.

On Friday, November 4, 2011 I attended the Legislative Roundtable where Assembly members Diane Harkey, Martin Garrick and Ben Hueso.

Dennis Cushman gave an excellent overview of the CWA/MWD Rate Litigation for the Assembly members.

Assemblymember Garrick introduced himself as a friend of water, who's District represents some 9 Cities. He expressed his unhappiness with the delays on the Carlsbad Desal Project which he described as the pilot or lead Desal project on our South Coast. He addressed the time/money value issue, stating the longer it is delayed the more costly it will be.

He addressed the Texas job loss issue, stating that there are too many bills being brought to the State Legislature that are becoming law all of which impact job/business growth resulting in business moving to Texas and elsewhere.

He expressed concerned with the cost of AG water on the AG industry as a whole, noting a drop of 68 to 71% in Avocado growing that has occurred in our County.

Lastly, He gave his support to the SDCWA Rate Case Litigation.

Assemblymember Harkey wants to see a more cooperative effort Statewide on the water issue. She stated the waters of California belong to all of the State, it is a statewide resource. On the self-sufficiency issue, the Northern California delegates need to come south to see what we've done and why and how we do it.

On groundwater issues, she expressed her concerns about overdraft, the quality of recycled water and the recharge contamination issue. These all need to be addressed for use to grow and achieve water stability.

On the Jobs/Economy issues, she spoke to the Aero-Space versus the air quality issues; the Import/Export issues where incoming is plentiful while outgoing is nil; she mentioned AB 32 issues; and asked what does the business community really need and want.

She stated that AG often gets blame for using too much water and feels this is tied to the need for more storage statewide. We need AG as a viable industry in the state which is in trouble.

Her comments regarding the Bay/Delta issue. It is a state resource that must be fixed and its costs must be shared statewide. She foresees a difficult time with the Bond issue.

Regarding State Regulatory Agencies, she feels they are a detriment; they appear to be generating work for themselves to create income for the State.

She also expressed support for the SDCWA Rate Case Litigation.

Assemblymember Hueso also wants to see the Carlsbad Desal Plant to move forward and expressed praise for the Sweetwater Authority's Brackish Water efforts. He stated we have to realize that many location issues along the California coast are not suitable for Desal plants.

He stated he feels SDCWA is doing a great job in water stewardship, and is a strong supporter of additional storage. He wants to see a larger effort on recycled water and wants SDCWA to work harder on the Poseidon Desal issue.

On Jobs and Economic Development, he states it a science of employing the right strategy. The legislature must make the right economic decisions regarding jobs and economic development. He supports streamlining the permit processes for business/development/plans. The 10+ years spent to process a project is wrong regarding EIR/EIS issues and lawsuit delays.

He cited that 50% of the food supplies in the US come from California farms. He has great concern over the impact of water cut backs on the AG industry in north County.

Regarding the Bay/Delta issue, he supports the concept that user demand on the water should bear the cost of that water. He also agrees that California's water belong to the entire state.

Lastly, he expressed a willingness to work with SDCWA on the MWD lawsuit issue.

It was time well spent, in my opinion.

On November 7 and 8, 2011, I attended the MWD Board of Directors Meeting in Los Angeles. The trip was an enlightening and educational experience and offered an insight into CWA/MWD relations. Our MWD delegates , Fern Steiner, Keith Lewinger and Lynne Heidel together with CWA staff members Dennis Cushman, Amy Chen and Denise Vedder, did an excellent job of shepherding me around and introducing me to various MWD Directors as well as reviewing the points of contention at the various committee meetings. Our MWD delegates and staff are patient, professional and do a great job of representing SDCWA interests at the MWD Board. It is not a friendly environment.

On the morning of November 10, 2011, I attended the 2 ½ hour Confidential: Attorney-Client Board Officers, MWD Delegates and Imported Water Committee Chair Policy Meeting.

In the afternoon, I attended the Special Meeting of the Imported Water Committee Bay-Delta Workshop where we heard presentations by:

Phil Isenberg, Chair of the Delta Stewardship Council; Mike Machado, Executive Director Delta Protection Commission; Byron Buck, Executive Director State and Federal Water Contractors Authority; Roger Patterson, Assistant General Manager Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, and Tom Howard Executive Director State Water Resources Control Board.

Each speaker addressed the board on their involvement with the Bay-Delta and their thoughts on the Delta Plan Draft Environmental Impact Report. Each responded to many questions from the assembled Directors. It was an informative 3 hour meeting.