Friant Water Authority
Executive Committee Meeting Agenda

This meeting will consist of a simultaneous teleconference call at the following location(s):
DM Camp & Sons
31798 Merced Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93380

9:00 a.m., Monday, July 17, 2017 at Lindsay Office Conference Room
854 N. Harvard Ave, Lindsay, CA 93247

At the discretion of the Executive Committee, all items appearing on this agenda, whether or not expressly listed for action, may be deliberated upon and may be subject to action by the Committee. Order of agenda items is subject to change.

1. **Call to Order.**
2. **Additions to and approval of the agenda.** Items identified after posting of the agenda, for which there is a need to take immediate action, may be added to the agenda. Addition of an item requires a two-thirds vote of the Committee members (or if less than two-thirds of the members are present, a unanimous vote of the members present). [Government Code section 54954.2(b)]
3. **Approval of the June 12, 2017 meeting minutes.**
4. **Public Comment. (**GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54954.3) – This is the time set aside on the agenda where members of the public may comment on any matter within the jurisdiction of the Committee that is not on the agenda. Comments will be limited to 3 minutes per speaker, 15 minutes per subject and 30 minutes overall for the entire public comment period, unless otherwise approved by the chair of the meeting, to ensure that all interested parties have an opportunity to speak. The Committee cannot take action on items not on the agenda; and therefore, comments on such items may be taken under advisement, referred to the appropriate staff for response or directed to be placed on a future agenda. Public comment on items on the agenda will be allowed at the time the Board considers the item.

OPEN SESSION

5. **Water Resources Coordinator's Report.**
   - A. **Update on Temperance Flat Dam Project.**
6. **Government Affairs Manager's Report.**
   - A. **Review of pending state and federal legislation.**
   - B. **Staff coverage during upcoming leave.**
7. **General Counsel's Report. Updates and other items of interest to the Executive Committee, not already covered in the agenda.**
8. **Chief Operating Officer's Report. Updates and other items of interest to the Executive Committee, not already covered in the agenda.**
   - A. **Subsidence Issues – An update on subsidence issues.**
   - B. **Pump-back Project Update – An update on the pump-back project.**

9. Chief Executive Officer's Report. Updates and other items of interest to the Executive Committee, not already covered in the agenda.

A. Draft Strategic Plan Accomplishment Report

B. Update on FWA Membership - Consideration of the acceptance of Chowchilla Irrigation District as an Associate Member.

CLOSED SESSION

10. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION [Government Code section 54956.9(d)(1)] – Name of matter: *NRDC v. Murillo, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of California (Sacramento Division), Case No. 88-cv-1658-LKK-GGH.*

11. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION: Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9(d)(2): 1 potential matter.

12. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL—INITIATION OF LITIGATION [GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.9(d)(4)]—Initiation of Litigation: 3 potential cases.

13. Announce reportable action taken during closed session as required by Government Code Section 54957.1.

14. Adjournment.

A person with a qualifying disability under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 may request the Authority to provide a disability-related modification or accommodation in order to participate in any public meeting of the Authority. Such assistance includes appropriate alternative formats for the agendas and agenda packets used for any public meetings of the Authority. Requests for such assistance and for agendas and agenda packets shall be made in person, by telephone, facsimile, or written correspondence to Toni Marie, at the office of Friant Water Authority, at least 48 hours before a public Authority meeting.

Friant Water Authority
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

This meeting will consist of a simultaneous teleconference call at the following location(s):

Arvin-Edison W.S.D.
20401 Bear Mountain Blvd
Arvin, CA 93203

9:00 a.m., Monday, June 12, 2017 at Lindsay Office Conference Room 854 N. Harvard Ave, Lindsay, CA 93247

At the discretion of the Executive Committee, all items appearing on this agenda, whether or not expressly listed for action, may be deliberated upon and may be subject to action by the Committee. Order of agenda items is subject to change.

1. **Call to Order. Call to Order. Chair Kent Stephens called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Committee members present: Stephens, Tantau, Borba, Borges (Alt. for White), Camp; Staff present: Phillips, DeFlitch, Marie, Davis, Payne, Biering, Ottemoeller, Luce, Bezdek, Hickernell. Others: Collup, Geivet, Morrissey, Edwards, Demetriff, Swanson, Dalke; Committee members absent: White, Loeffler**
2. **Additions to and approval of the agenda. The agenda was approved. (Borba/Tantau); approved unanimously) Ayes – Stephens, Tantau, Camp, Borges, Borba; Nays – none; Absent – White**
3. **Approval of the April 17, 2017 meeting minutes. The minutes were approved. Borba/Tantau); approved unanimously) Ayes – Stephens, Tantau, Camp, Borges, Borba; Nays – none; Absent – White**
4. **Public Comment. (**GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54954.3) – **None.**

CLOSED SESSION

5. **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION [Government Code section 54956.9(d)(1)] – Name of matter: *NRDC v. Murillo, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of California (Sacramento Division), Case No. 88-cv-1658-LKK-GGH.***
6. **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION: Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9(d)(2): 1 potential matter.**
7. **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL—INITIATION OF LITIGATION [GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.9(d)(4)]—Initiation of Litigation: 2 potential cases.**
8. **Announce reportable action taken during closed session as required by Government Code Section 54957.1. There was no reportable action taken during closed session.**

Friant Water Authority
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

OPEN SESSION

9. **Water Resources Coordinator's Report.**

   A. **Update on Temperance Flat project.** Jeff Payne, Water Resources and Operations Coordinator, introduced Bill Swanson, MWH/Stantec, who gave an update on the status of the Temperance Flat Reservoir Water Storage Investment Program Application which is due for submittal on August 14, 2017. The Executive Committee thanked Mr. Swanson for the update.

10. **Government Affairs Manager's Report.**

    A. **Review of pending state and federal legislation.** Alex Biering, Government Affairs and Communications Manager reported briefly the status of both Federal and State legislation as outlined in the Agenda Detail Sheet (ADS) included in the packet.

    B. **Review of state legislative and budget deadlines and milestones.** Alex Biering also reported that the Friant-Kern Canal Pump-back Project funding provided for in AB 97 (Ting) may be in the Resources trailer bill; trailer bills have historically not been passed until August.

11. **General Counsel's Report. Updates and other items of interest to the Executive Committee, not already covered in the agenda.** No updates at this time.

12. **Chief Operating Officer's Report. Updates and other items of interest to the Executive Committee, not already covered in the agenda.**

    A. **O&M Budget – The Committee will consider recommending to the Board the acceptance of the Authority's draft FY 2018 and FY 2019 Operating & Maintenance Budgets for the 60-day public review.** The EC approved a recommendation to the Board that they accept the Authority's FY 2017 and FY 2018 draft O&M Budgets and release them for the required 60-day public review; and also recommended that the Board consider directing staff to develop a long-term analysis of extraordinary O&M items. (Borges/Stephens); (Approved) Ayes – Stephens, Tantau, Borges, Borba; Nays – none; Abstain – Camp; Absent – White

    B. **Subsidence Issues – An update on subsidence issues.** CEO Phillips and COO DeFlitch reported on subsidence issues. CEO Phillips said that the subsidence issue was a main topic of conversation during his Washington DC meetings with Senator Feinstein and Congressman McCarthy pledging to assist Friant in their efforts to help resolve the problem. The Bureau of Reclamation has directed a team of individuals to work with FWA to prepare a project description and a rough cost estimate by Friday, June 16, 2017 so that monies could be used from the 2017 Storage budget under the WIIN Act. A subsidence meeting will be held on Thursday, June 15 at the Wyndham.

    C. **Pump-back Project Update – An update on the pump-back project.** COO DeFlitch reported on the Pump-back Project and noted that a kick-off meeting was held on June 7, 2017.

    D. **Review of monthly O & M.** Provided in packet as an informational item.

13. **Chief Executive Officer's Report. Updates and other items of interest to the Executive Committee, not already covered in the agenda.** CEO Phillips reported briefly on the DC trip meetings.

14. **Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Friant Water Authority Executive Committee Meeting
July 17, 2017
Agenda Detail Sheet

AGENDA TOPIC: Update on Temperance Flat Dam Project

DESCRIPTION: The San Joaquin Valley Water Infrastructure Authority (SJVWIA) was formed to "solicit grants…to fund water infrastructure improvement projects…and to administer the disbursement and expenditure of said funds on qualified infrastructure projects including but not limited to local surface storage projects, groundwater recharge projects and construction of the Temperance Flat Dam project …"

On August 2, 2016, the SJVWIA asked FWA to assist in completing the Temperance Flat Dam analysis and study. On August 26, 2017, FWA responded, noting our interest in participating in the development of a project description and operational formulation for Temperance Flat Dam and Reservoir.

Subsequently, FWA signed a joint letter agreement with SJVWIA, the San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Water Authority, and the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority, contributing $50,000 toward the completion of the technical studies necessary for the application for funding under the Water Quality, Supply and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 ("Prop. 1").

A second letter from SJVWIA was received in April, which precipitated a need for a face-to-face meeting.

On July 5th, representatives of SJVWIA (Mario Santoyo (Exec. Director of SJVWIA), Victor Lopez (mayor of the City of Orange Cove), Chris White (GM of Central California ID and chair of the Technical Advisory Committee for the Temperance Flat Dam project), Buddy Mendes (Fresno County Supervisor and Vice President of SJVWIA), and Steve Worthley (Tulare County Supervisor and President of SJVWIA)) met with an ad hoc group of FWA directors (Edwin Camp, Georgeanne White, Jim Erickson, and Eric Borba) along with Jeff Payne and Bill Luce.

SJVWIA representatives made the following points:

- They intend to keep the option for Prop 1 funding open.
- SJVWIA board members feel passionately that this project is important for facing the region's challenges (SGMA, etc.).
- Dues are $50,000 per year; since FWA was not a member last year, the $50,000 dues from last year would also be expected (for a total cost to FWA of $100,000 to join).
- There is a sense of urgency, since the deadline to apply for Prop. 1 funds is August 14, 2017.

- The next SJVWIA board meeting is on July 14, so they need our response in advance of that date.

As a result of the urgency of moving forward, a Special FWA Board of Directors meeting was held telephonically on July 10, 2017. The Board voted for FWA to join the SJVWIA, considering the following information:

- SJVWIA has done good job of keeping project alive and providing a forum for discussion of project for host of regional benefits;
- SJVWIA represents a broad coalition of political support that would be necessary for any project implementation;
- Friant support will be critical for any project to be taken seriously by the California Water Commission (the entity that decides what projects get funded under Prop. 1);
- Joining the SJVWIA lends the FWA "brand" to all SJVWIA actions;
- Based on conversation at the July 5th meeting and consistent with the terms of the JPA, SJVWIA's role is limited to submitting the Prop. 1 application and administering any grant funds, it envisions transition to a different entity for implementation of the project to be necessary in the near future;
- Friant has spent $50 k in support of engineering services, like other entities, in addition to the $30 k on the ACWA Integration Study that showed Temperance among the highest yielding options under consideration. The ad hoc group of FWA directors have suggested using this $80,000 as cost-share credit toward membership, and paying the balance of $20,000 along with in-kind services to keep staff engaged in the weeks leading up to an application submittal;
- There is no provision in the JPA for the payment of past fiscal year dues – only an initial membership contribution of $50,000, and after that all members are assessed equally. See Article 15.

A resolution was passed authorizing FWA to participate in the SJVWIA as a member. In addition, the Board Chair and the Chief Operating Officer and the General Counsel, or their designee, is authorized to sign the Agreement on the Authority's behalf and take such other actions as may be necessary to become a member of SJVWIA, including payment of any initial membership contribution to the SJVWIA.

RECOMMENDATION: Informational only.

BUDGET IMPACT: Initial contribution of $20,000. It is not expected that this will result in an additional call for funding. If FWA remains a member of the SJVWIA, it will be subject to proportionate share of the SJVWIA's expenses in future fiscal years.

SUGGESTED MOTION: None needed.

Friant Water Authority Executive Committee Meeting
July 17, 2017
Agenda Detail Sheet

AGENDA TOPIC: **Review of State and Federal Legislative Activity**

DESCRIPTION:

Upcoming State legislative schedule:

- July 21: Last day for policy committees to meet and report bills. Summer Recess begins.
- Aug. 21: Legislature reconvenes.
- Sept. 15: Last day for any bill to be passed. Interim recess begins on adjournment.
- Oct. 15: Last day for the Governor to sign or veto bills.
- Jan. 3: Legislature reconvenes.

Friant-Kern Canal Pump-back Project funding update: On June 15 the Legislature passed the 2018 California budget bill, AB 97 (Ting). Governor Jerry Brown signed it on June 27; he did not use his line-item veto power, which means that the version passed by the Legislature is the enacted budget. It includes $4 million in funding appropriated to the California Department of Water Resources to be used to fund the Friant-Kern Canal Pump-back Project.

RECOMMENDATION: None; informational only.

BUDGET IMPACT: None.

SUGGESTED MOTION: None; informational only.

ATTACHMENTS: Legislative tracking matrix (updated 7/12/2017)

Legislative Tracker

FRIANT WATER AUTHORITY

July 12, 2017[1]

State Bills

Bill	Title (Author) & Date	Description	Positions	FWA	Status
S-Support; S/A – Support if Amended; S&A – Support and Amend; F – Favor; W-Watch; O-Oppose; O/A – Oppose Unless Amended; NF – Not Favor; NYC – Not Yet Considered					
AB 18	California Clean Water, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018 (Garcia) – 2/23 version	Would enact an act which, if approved by the voters, would authorize the issuance of bonds in an amount of $3,105,000,000 pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law to finance a clean water, climate, coastal protection, and outdoor access for all program. This bill contains other related provisions.	PRO: Audubon, League of CA Cities, TNC, land trusts, park advocates OPP: None	NYC	**Senate Natural Resources & Water as of 6/28**
AB 176	Water project: Friant-Kern Canal (Salas) – 1/18 version	Would appropriate $7,000,000 from the General Fund to the Department of Water Resources for the Friant-Kern Canal Pump-back Project. Current law requires DWR, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to provide funding for the project (under AB 935 passed and signed in 2016). This bill also contains other related provisions for implementation.	PRO: FWA, California Citrus Mutual, 48 individuals, California Fresh Fruit Association, Sun World International, South Valley Water Association & districts OPP: None	S	**Portion of funding proposed incorporated into signed 2018 CA Budget**
AB 313	Water (Gray) – **7/3** version	Would effectively eliminate the State Water Resources Control Board by reassigning its major responsibilities and regulatory authorities to DWR and the Office of Administrative Hearings, and would also move oversight and administration of the State Water Project to a new state commission under the California Natural Resources Agency. Recent amendments are technical in nature.	PRO: Ag/growers associations and groups, Westlands Water District, SLDMWA, other irrigation districts OPP: Audubon, Sierra Club, and other enviro NGOs	NYC	**Passed from Senate Judiciary to Appropriations on 7/11**
AB 321	Groundwater sustainability plans (Mathis) – 4/27 version	Would require groundwater sustainability agencies under SGMA to involve farmers and ranchers in the development of groundwater sustainability plans.	PRO: Calif. Water Association OPP: ACWA	NYC	**Senate passed 7/3; on the Governor's desk**

[1] Updates since the last version are included in **bold text**.

Bill	Title (Author) & Date	Description	Positions	FWA	Status
AB 791	Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta: State Water Project and federal Central Valley Project: new conveyance facility (Frazier) – 3/21 version	Would require, before a water contractor enters into a contract to pay for costs related to WaterFix, that the lead agency provide the breakdown of costs for each water contractor entering into a contract and what benefits each contractor will receive based on the proportion it has financed of the proposed conveyance project.	PRO: Clean Water Action, Sierra Club, NGOs OPP: Water agencies, industry	NYC	Failed to be acted on by deadline for 2017, and may be acted on in January 2018 (two-year bill)
AB 975	Natural resources: wild and scenic rivers (Friedman) – 5/4 version	Would make California's Wild and Scenic River requirements consistent with the federal Wild and Scenic River Act requirements. This includes (1) extending protected areas of the river to include adjacent lands in a ¼-mile buffer on either side of the river (currently the definition includes only up to the river's line of riparian vegetation) and (2) recognizing additional "values" of the river including historical, cultural, geologic, ecological, botanical, hydrological, and other "similar" values. Currently, state Wild and Scenic Rivers include mostly north state and north coast rivers, as well as a few that drain into the Lahontan basin. These rivers were placed under federal Wild and Scenic River Act protection in 1980, also, so at the federal level #1 and #2 already apply.	PRO: Enviro NGOs, sport fishing groups OPP: None	NYC	Ordered to "inactive" file at request of Asm. Friedman on 6/5
AB 1369	Water quality and storage (Gray) – 2/17 version	Would require the Department of Water Resources to increase statewide water storage (ground or surface) capacity by 25% by January 1, 2025, and 50% by January 1, 2050, using revenue generated and collected in the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund. The Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund is the repository of funds collected by the California Air Resources Board through auction or sale of emissions allowances under the state's "cap-and-trade" market-based emissions reduction program.		NYC	Ref'd to Water, Parks & Wildlife on 3/27; failed to be acted on by deadline for 2017, and may be acted on in January 2018 (two-year bill)
AB 1427	Water: underground storage (Eggman) – 3/21 version	Current law provides for the reversion of water rights to which a person is entitled when the person fails to beneficially use the water for a period of 5 years. Current law declares that the storing of water underground, and related diversions for that purpose, constitute a beneficial use of water if the stored water is thereafter applied to the beneficial purposes for which the appropriation for storage was made. This bill would revise the above declaration to additionally provide that certain uses of stored water while underground constitute beneficial use.	PRO: None OPP: MWD, Cucamonga Valley Water District, Three Valleys Municipal Water District, Westlands Water District, Coachella Valley Water District, Mojave Water Agency, Antelope Valley East Kern Water Agency, Alameda County Zone 7 Water Agency	NYC	Failed to be acted on by deadline for 2017, and may be acted on in January 2018 (two-year bill)

Bill	Title (Author) & Date	Description	Positions	FWA	Status
AB 1667	Agricultural water management planning (Friedman) – **7/3** version	Current law requires an agricultural water supplier to prepare and adopt an agricultural water management plan with specified components on or before December 31, 2012, and to update that plan on December 31, 2015, and on or before December 31 every 5 years thereafter. This bill would revise the components of the plan and additionally require the agricultural water management plan to quantify measures to increase agricultural water use efficiency, describe the agricultural water supplier's water management strategy with specified elements, and include a drought plan describing the actions of the agricultural water supplier for drought preparedness and management of water supplies and allocations during drought conditions. Applies to districts with 10,000 acres or more.		NYC	**Held in committee (Senate Natural Resources & Water) on 7/11. Comments from agencies and individuals due 7/21.**
SB 5	California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018 (De León) – 5/26 version	Senate version of AB 18. Would enact the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018, which, if approved by the voters, would authorize the issuance of bonds in an amount of $3,500,000,000 pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law to finance a drought, water, parks, climate, coastal protection, and outdoor access for all program. This bill contains other related provisions.	PRO: see AB 18, but longer; Santa Clara Valley Water District, Grasslands Water District; Orange County Water District OPP: None	NYC	**Assembly Water, Parks & Wildlife**
SB 49	California Environmental, Public Health, and Workers Defense Act of 2017 (De León) – **5/26** version	The Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act regulates the discharge of pollutants into the waters of the state. The California Safe Drinking Water Act establishes standards for drinking water and regulates drinking water systems. The California Endangered Species Act requires the Fish and Game Commission to establish a list of endangered species and a list of threatened species and generally prohibits the taking of those species. The Protect California Air Act of 2003 prohibits air quality management districts and air pollution control districts from amending or revising their new source review rules or regulations to be less stringent than those rules or regulations that existed on December 30, 2002. This bill would prohibit state or local agencies from amending or revising their rules and regulations implementing the above state laws to be less stringent than the baseline federal standards, as defined, and would require specified agencies to take prescribed actions to maintain and enforce certain requirements and standards pertaining to air, water, and protected species.	PRO: Enviro NGOs OPP: Cal Chamber, CFBF, CMTA, Western Growers, other industry groups	NYC	**Passed from Assembly Judiciary (8-3, party line) and sent to Appropriations on 7/11**
SB 372	**San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Groundwater Sustainability Agency – (Cannella) – 7/3 version**	**Would create the San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Groundwater Management Agency.**	**PRO: Exchange Contractors, ACWA OPP: None**	**NYC**	**Passed from Assembly Water, Parks & Wildlife (15-0) and sent to Appropriations on 7/11**

Bill	Title (Author) & Date	Description	Positions	FWA	Status
SB 623	**Water quality: Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund (Monning) – 7/3 version**	**Would establish the Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund in the State Treasury and would provide that moneys in the fund are continuously appropriated to the office. The bill would require the State Water Resources Control Board to administer the fund to assist communities and individual domestic well users to address contaminants (primarily nitrates) in drinking water that exceed safe drinking water standards, as specified. The bill would authorize the board to provide for the deposit of federal contributions and voluntary contributions, gifts, grants, or bequests. Funds would be contributed through payments and tax increases on agricultural and municipal water districts.**	**PRO: Enviro NGOs, Western Growers Association, Latino coalitions, clean water groups, labor groups, some valley cities** **OPP: ACWA, municipal water districts and utilities, some ag water districts, sportfishermen, NorCal enviro NGOs**	**NYC**	**Passed from Assembly Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials, Natural Resources and sent to Appropriations on 7/11**

Federal Bills

Bill	Title (Author)	Description		FWA	Status
S-Support; S/A – Support if Amended; S&A – Support and Amend; F – Favor; W-Watch; O-Oppose; O/A – Oppose Unless Amended; NF – Not Favor; NYC – Not Yet Considered					
HR 23	Gaining Responsibility on Water Act (Valadao) – **7/12** version	Would enact a number of policies related to California water law and water users. The bill includes a number of elements from other water legislation introduced in Congress in recent years, including related to increased monitoring and incidental take limit for Delta smelt, the San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement and Act (which the bill seeks to repeal), and fast-tracking feasible storage projects such as Temperance Flat.		S&A	A**mendments debated in the Rules Committee and subsequently passed on the House floor (230-190) on 7/12**
HR 434	New Water Available To Every Reclamation State Act (Denham) – 1/11 version	Would authorize the Department of the Interior, for 15 years after this bill's enactment, to provide financial assistance, such as secured loans or loan guarantees, to entities that contract under federal reclamation law to carry out water projects within the 17 western states served by the Bureau of Reclamation, other states where the Bureau is authorized to provide project assistance, Alaska, and Hawaii.		NYC	Ref'd to the Subcommittee on Water, Power and Oceans on 2/7

Friant Water Authority Executive Committee Meeting
July 17, 2017
Agenda Detail Sheet

AGENDA TOPIC: **Staff Coverage During Upcoming Leave**

DESCRIPTION: Government Affairs and Communications Manager Alexandra Biering is anticipated to go on maternity leave July 21. Her firm return date is TBD but her leave is expected to be approximately 5-6 months. During her absence, FWA staff will assume many of her responsibilities on policy issues. For certain activities, FWA will continue to lean on outside consultants to provide continuity. These include:

- Federal legislative matters: Ferguson Group
- State legislative matters: Villines Group
- Communications and Media Relations: Clerici Consulting

RECOMMENDATION: None; informational only.

BUDGET IMPACT: None.

SUGGESTED MOTION: None; informational only.

ATTACHMENTS: Resume of John Clerici

John Clerici

Senior Outreach Specialist

Areas of Expertise

- Strategic Communications Planning
- Public Involvement/Relations
- Project Management
- Meeting Facilitation
- Crisis Communications Planning
- Water Resources
- Transportation Planning

Years of Experience

25

Education

BS/Natural Resources Management-Forestry/1981/ University of California, Berkeley

Affiliations

Mayor -- City of Placerville

SACOG Board of Directors

Overview

More than 25 years of communications experience with emphasis on stakeholder outreach and engagement, strategic communication planning, project management, neutral facilitation, and leadership development. Comfortable in dealing with top-level company, as well as public agency executives. Well regarded in the water, transportation, and environmental communities. Exceptional attributes include:

- Strategic communications counsel related to issues at the regional, state and national level in the following fields: water resources, energy, transportation, air quality, watershed management, fisheries and refuge biology, construction management, land use, forestry, and health/environmental implications related to the above
- Coalition building among diverse groups on environmental/environmental justice issues. Groups include private companies, public agencies, NGOs
- Business development, project management and team supervision for communications agency projects ranging from $25,000 to $1,000,000
- Office management/Leadership development/Communications training (client and in-house) including budget and strategic planning, program initiation, recruitment, staff development and training

Overview of experience

- Provided senior-level strategic and tactical counsel to companies, associations, government agencies, NGOs on environmental-, water- and transportation-related issues
- Developed and implemented effective and respected communications and community relations programs at the local, regional, and statewide level
- Empowered clients to get their voices heard in the media, legislative and regulatory arenas and public forums by establishing credible relationships and messages, allowing clients to be considered part of the solution to issues of public interest
- Utilized research and 25+ years of experience in risk perception and risk communications to understand stakeholder interests and develop risk communications and crisis communications programs centered around multiple interests
- Facilitated controversial and highly-charged public meetings for federal and state agencies, earning praise from participants and clients
- Coached and mentored high-level professionals in leadership awareness, attributes and skills
- Extensive contacts in business, all levels of public agencies, media, environmental groups, academics, public policy professionals

Mr. Clerici is a communication and resource professional with more than 25 years of experience in stakeholder outreach, media relations, public education and program management in community planning, transportation, water, flood, NEPA/CEQA development, and other resource related issues.

He has extensive knowledge of environmental process communications requirements, working with a variety of energy, water, resource and transportation agencies throughout California and Nevada. He has been a leader in developing strategies and communications plans to meet the needs of changing transportation energy, water, flood management and resource issues. Mr. Clerici has been instrumental in providing effective communication on many complex planning and environmental efforts and understands the relationship between client objectives and the communications requirements to make them successful. Mr. Clerici has expertise in transportation planning, FERC relicensing, CEQA/NEPA outreach, developing and implementing public education programs, talking point and media relations, consensus building, meeting facilitation, and communications. His broad range of experiences include:

- Planning and execution of stakeholder outreach for the relicensing of the hydropower facilities at Oroville Dam

- Planning and execution of agency and stakeholder communications for the California High Speed Rail Program

- Lead Facilitator for the Folsom Dam Road Closure EIR/EIS

- Lead Facilitator for the Half Moon Bay Historic Bridge Rehabilitation project

Mr. Clerici has designed and implemented numerous public involvement programs, and participated in and facilitated collaborative processes in a variety of environments. His work experience include work with the State Department of Water Resources, Bureau of Reclamation, Western Area, Power Authority, Pacific Gas and Electric Company, Army Corps of Engineers, Caltrans, Department of Defense, and the Bureau of Land Management as well as collaboration with numerous, planning, water, energy and irrigation agencies throughout California on a variety of environmental and resource planning processes.

Mr. Clerici has been instrumental in providing effective communication on many complex planning and environmental efforts and understands the relationship between client objectives and the communications requirements to make them successful. Based in the Central Valley, Mr. Clerici has expertise in strategic planning, interactive community outreach, conflict resolution, consensus building, and meeting facilitation. Mr. Clerici has designed and implemented numerous public involvement programs, and participated in and facilitated collaborative processes in a variety of environments. These efforts include single and multi-day

planning workshops, design charettes, and single-subject community boot camps.

Additionally, Mr. Clerici's educational background in natural resources management and forestry, as well as his work experience as a transportation planner, provide him with a rich diversity of skills to draw from. Mr. Clerici understands that outreach and communications is not a means unto itself, but an integral component of any project. He has designed and implemented communications with that in mind. Helping stakeholders with diverse, and sometimes conflicting, points of view find common ground and move critical issues and projects forward.

Project Specific Experience

Water Resources

Strategic Communications Manager, North Sacramento Valley Conjunctive Management Evaluation, Willows, CA, Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District: Mr. Clerici served as strategic communications manager for conjunctive management investigation providing assistance with stakeholder outreach, meeting facilitation, press releases, crisis management and communications, and information materials development.

Strategic Communications Support, North of the Delta Offstream Storage Investigation (NODOS), Sacramento Valley, CA, USBR, Time and Materials: Mr. Clerici has developed and is currently implementing a multi-stakeholder/agency strategic communications plan for the joint USBR and DWR, NODOS investigation.

Strategic Communication Support, Bay Delta Conservation Program, Bay-Delta Region, California Department of Water Resources (DWR): Mr. Clerici is assisting the Resources Agency with multi- stakeholder outreach effort focusing on developing conservation measures for the Bay Delta Conservation Plan.

Facilitator, San Luis Drain Feature Re-evaluation Environmental Impact Statement, Central California, USBR-San Luis Unit CVP, T&M: Mr. Clerici served as Facilitator for the USBR focused outreach effort to determine a cost effective drainage solutions for drainage impaired lands in the San Luis Unit.

Facilitator, Lake Casitas and Lake Cachuma Resource Management Plans, Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties, USBR: Mr. Clerici facilitated and mediated the dialogue among key stakeholders (Lake Casitas Water District, Lake Cachuma Park Commission, recreational interests, businesses, private landowners, Federal resource agencies, local government, and environmental organizations).

Logistic Support, Central Valley Project Improvement Act, Central Valley, CA, USBR, T&M: Mr. Clerici served as Facilitator for logistic

support for stakeholder and agency outreach for the USBR's CVPIA Environmental Impact Statement Development.

Facilitator, Eastside Central Valley Project Integrated Management Plan, Stanislaus and San Joaquin Counties, CA, USBR: Mr. Clerici served as Facilitator and strategic communications support for USBR's initial efforts to develop an Integrated Water Management Plan for the CVP's East Side Unit.

Communication Support, San Luis Low Point EIS, San Joaquin Valley, CA, USBR: Mr. Clerici provided strategic assistance associated with the development of the Environmental Impact Statement for the San Luis Low Point project.

Strategic Communications Support, Water Storage and Conveyance Strategic Communications Program, Sacramento, CA, USBR: Mr. Clerici served as document manager for the USBR's effort to develop a series of fact sheets and informational brochures for all conveyance and storage projects currently being pursued by the Mid Pacific region.

EIR/EIS

Facilitator, San Luis Transmission Project EIR/EIS, Western San Joaquin Valley, CA, Western Area Power Authority: Mr. Clerici has developed and implemented a multi-stakeholder/agency strategic communications plan for the joint Western, Bureau of Reclamation, San Luis Delta-Mendota Authority EIR/EIS for a new transmission line to provide power for the SWP/CVP.

Facilitator, Folsom Dam Combined Federal Effort EIS, Sacramento County, CA, USBR: Mr. Clerici served as Facilitator, strategic support for all public involvement activities associated with the seismic retrofit and development of flood capacity improvements for the USBR's Folsom Dam facility.

Facilitator, Environmental Water Account EIS, Various Locations CA, USBR: Mr. Clerici served as Facilitator for all stakeholder outreach associated with the development of USBR's Environmental Impact Statement for both the short- and long-term EWA.

Facilitator, Mill Creek Project Environmental Impact Report, Ukiah, CA, Mendocino County: Mr. Clerici provided strategic and logistic support for stakeholder outreach associated with the development of the Mill Creek Management Plan.

Transportation

Facilitator, Mariposa Multi-modal Transit Study, Mariposa County, CA. Mr. Clerici is currently leading a stakeholder based outreach efforts in Mariposa in their efforts to develop multi-modal transportation options for this historic community. Efforts are focused on melding wayfinding,

transit solutions, and additional parking to help enhance regional commerce and tourism while addressing local values.

Facilitator, Half Moon Bay Historic Bridge Evaluation, City of Half Moon Bay, CA. Lead early efforts to develop viable replacement/rehabilitation options for the historic bridge in heart of this coastal community. Worked with business, environmental and historic preservation leaders to help identify community values and concerns, that would help inform city leaders decision making efforts.

Strategic Communications Support, California High Speed Train San Joaquin Valley, CA, California High Speed Rail Authority, T&M: Mr. Clerici prepared and implemented strategic communications plan for High Speed Train project for the Sacramento to Merced and Merced to Fresno sections. Provided outreach support to technical team developing preferred right-of-way environmental compliance documents.

Facilitator, Folsom Dam Road Environmental Impact Statement, Folsom, CA, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR: Mr. Clerici served as Facilitator for strategic and logistical support for community outreach, facilitation and agency coordination.

Strategic Communications Support – Atwater Merced Expressway, Merced, CA, Merced County Association of Governments: Mr. Clerici managed all outreach associated with the development and environmental assessment of the Atwater-Merced Expressway. His work included multiple community meetings, discussions with elected officials, and outreach to environmental justice communities. Mr. Clerici worked with stakeholders to identify community preferred routes for the project, as well as record sentiment on specific project design criteria.

Strategic Communications Support – Blueprint Visioning Process, Merced, CA, Merced County Association of Governments: Mr. Clerici managed development of high impact presentation materials to assist in the nine-county regional Blueprint process. Through a series of focused, interactive workshops, Mr. Clerici worked with local elected officials, planning staff and stakeholders to help develop the Blueprint brand, a multimedia Blueprint presentation and document template. Mr. Clerici held multiple focused stakeholder meetings to help identify, flesh-out and finalize images, concepts and ideas representing the ideals and aspirations of the San Joaquin Valley region.

ESA Planning

Lead Facilitator, Upper Yuba River Studies Program, Nevada, Placer, and Yuba Counties, CA, CALFED: Mr. Clerici lead all strategic communications for the development of a series of feasibility studies to determine the feasibility of introducing salmon to the upper reaches of the Yuba River. Duties included facilitation, meeting logistics, coordination with elected officials, and focused outreach to targeted stakeholder groups.

Flood Control

Facilitator, Yuba Feather Work Group, Marysville, CA, Calfed, T&M: Mr. Clerici provided all strategic communications support to stakeholder group of water, agency and environmental interests focused on improving flood management on the Yuba/Feather/Bear River systems. Work included charette influenced workshops with regional and community stakeholders to build consensus around project parameters and specific flood management projects (notably set-back levees)

FERC

Outreach Support, Oroville Facilities Hydroelectric Relicensing Project, Oroville, CA, California Department of Water Resources (DWR): Mr. Clerici provided all logistic support and periodic facilitation support for stakeholder outreach on DWR's FERC relicensing of their Oroville hydro-electric facilities. Included outreach to focused stakeholder groups, tribal interests, and local elected officials. This included support and facilitation for study and plenary group meetings, focused task forces, as well as the development of meeting and other outreach materials.

Outreach Support and Facilitator, PG&E Hydro-divestiture Environmental Document, Statewide, PG&E (California Public Utilities Commission): Mr. Clerici provided logistic and strategic communications support to a broad range of stakeholder groups including water, agency, tribal, recreation, business and environmental interests focused on the proposed sale of PG&E's network of dams, reservoirs, and power generation facilities.