

Salton Sea Authority Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, February 23, 2017
10:00 a.m.

Salton Community Services District
1209 Van Buren Avenue, Suite 1
Salton City, CA 92275
(760) 394-4446



AGENDA: BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
DATE: Thursday, February 23, 2017
10:00 a.m.
LOCATION: Salton Community Services District
1209 Van Buren Avenue, Suite 1
Salton City, CA 92275
(760) 394-4446

I. CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

II. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

This is the time set aside for any Board Member to ask questions or address any issue posed by a member of the public.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

*Any member of the public may address and ask questions of the Board relating to any matter within the Authority's jurisdiction. **This time is reserved for matters not already on the Agenda. Remarks shall be limited to a maximum of three (3) minutes unless additional time is authorized by the Board.***

IV. CONSENT CALENDAR – Receive, Approve, and File (see attached)

- A. Minutes of January 26, 2017
- B. Warrant Register Ratification for December 2016
- C. Internal Financial Report for: 7/01/2016 – 12/31/2016
- D. Resolution for ACWA Region 9 Board representative from SSA
- E. Resolution Designating Authorized Signatories for Rabobank Accounts
- F. Change-of-Date Request for December 2017 SSA Board Meeting

V. PRESENTATIONS

- A. SSMP 10-Year Plan – (Bruce Wilcox, Assistant Secretary for Salton Sea Policy, California Natural Resources Agency)
- B. Audubon Approach to Salton Sea Collaborative – (Frank Ruiz, Salton Sea Program Director, Audubon California)

VI. REPORTS

- A. General Manager's Report on Activities – (Phil Rosentrater, GM/Executive Director, Salton Sea Authority)
- B. Legislative Update – (Phillip Johnson, Assistant Executive Director, Salton Sea Authority)...(*see attached*)
- C. Standing Report
 - 1. FEDERAL: US Bureau of Reclamation Interim Program Manager for Salton Sea – (Marc Maynard)
 - 2. STATE: Assistant Secretary for Salton Sea Policy – (Bruce Wilcox)
- D. Salton Sea Action Committee – (Juan DeLara, President)

VII. ADJOURNMENT

NEXT MEETING TIME & LOCATION:

Thursday, March 23, 2016
10:00 a.m.
Coachella Valley Water District
Steve Robbins Administration Building
75515 Hovley Lane East
Palm Desert, CA 92260
(760) 398-2651

Any public record, relating to an open session agenda item, that is distributed within 72 hours prior to the meeting is available for public inspection in the lobby at the front desk of the County Law Building located at 82995 Highway 111, Indio, CA 92201.



OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
SALTON SEA AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
January 26, 2017

I. CALL TO ORDER

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Salton Sea Authority (“Authority” or “SSA”) Board of Directors (“Board”) was called to order by Ryan E. Kelley, President, at 10:10 a.m., Thursday, January 26, 2017, at the North Shore Yacht Club, 99155 Sea View Drive, Mecca, CA 92254, (760) 393-0602.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Director Ryan Kelley led the Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL:

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Ryan E. Kelley, President *
G. Patrick O’Dowd, Vice President
Marion Ashley, Director *⁺
Cástulo R. Estrada, Director
James C. Hanks, Director *
Thomas Tortez, Director *

AGENCY

Imperial County
Coachella Valley Water District
Riverside County
Coachella Valley Water District
Imperial Irrigation District
Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla

DIRECTORS ABSENT

Frank Durgin, Director
John Renison, Director
(Pending)
(Pending)

AGENCY

Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla
Imperial County
Riverside County
Imperial Irrigation District

** Directors Kelley, Ashley, Hanks, and Tortez are carrying two votes today.*

⁺ Director Ashley had to leave at 11:30 a.m.

*In keeping with the Salton Sea Authority Bylaws, there being at least three of the five member agencies represented, and a *single Director carrying the vote of both Directors when the second Director of the same agency is absent, a Quorum was declared, and the meeting proceeded.*

SALTON SEA AUTHORITY STAFF PRESENT

Phil Rosentrater, Executive Director/General Manager
Bob Hargreaves, Best Best & Krieger, Legal Counsel

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT

Bruce Wilcox
Jeff Geraci
Marina Witenko
Ed Schiller
Robert Cheng
Jose Renteria
Tevita Moce
Davy Aker
Michael Flores
Allan Seymour
Felicia Sirchia
Javier Aceves
Alan Hurt
Jack Jessup
Geno Sexton
Luis Plancarte
Suzie Earp
Juan Perez
Brian Nestande
Dan Farris
Alan Pace
Josh Zipperman
Edwin Delgado
R. Mitchel Beauchamp
Jim Hudson
Carla Scheidlinger
Ruth Davis
Kelly Claar
Tom Sephton
Juan DeLara
Alberto Ramirez
Vickie Doyle
Jacqueline Lopez
Oralia Vladimirov
Pat Cooper
Kerry Morrison

AGENCY

CNRA
CRWQCB R-7
Visitor
ILC
CVWD
Salton Sea SRA
SeAthletes
SeAthletes
CDFW
ClassicSurf.com
USFWS
Cabazon Band of Mission Indians
COD
Think Outside the Box Committee
Congressman Raul Ruiz, MD
Imperial County
WRI CSUSB
WRI CSUSB
Riverside County
CVWD
Petra/SSAC
BRC
IV Press
Pacific Southwest Biological Services
FPN-USA
Amec Foster Wheeler
Visitor
State Parks
Visitor
SSAC, Federated Ins./Travertine Point
Torres Martinez Tribe
IID
Asm. Eduardo Garcia
Visitor
Supervisor John J. Benoit
Ecomedia Compass, West Shores
Salton Sea

II. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

- A. Director Kelley commented, as he opened the meeting, that this was the first SSA Board meeting at the North Shore Yacht Club and, if holding the Board meetings in new venues around the Sea is successful, then we will continue.

Director Kelley announced that Director Dessert of the Imperial Irrigation District has taken a position as a County of Imperial Air Pollution Control Officer and vacated his position as an IID Director; therefore, Director Hanks gets to vote twice for the IID.

Director Kelley asked for a moment of silence in respect for Supervisor Benoit, who passed in December, who was a very active member of the SSA and helped champion some of the agency's petitions and arguments with the State of California.

As that vacancy is going through its process, Director Ashley will also have two votes for the representation of the County of Riverside on the Salton Sea Authority Board.

- B. Director Kelley invited recently-elected Imperial County District 2 Supervisor Luis Plancarte to introduce himself.

- C. Director O'Dowd commented that he regrettably was unable to attend Supervisor Benoit's memorial because he was in attendance at an NWRA (National Water Resources Association) conference. The NWRA has been working on Infrastructure Financing at the federal level. Director O'Dowd is diligently continuing Supervisor Benoit's efforts to make sure that the Salton Sea has a seat at the table and, as the financing opportunity comes forward through them, that the SSA is informed and involved throughout that process...and also at the State level with ACWA.

- D. Director Hanks stated that the Imperial Irrigation District (IID) had a reorganization of their divisions, and now, instead of elections at large, their directors are now elected by divisions. Director Erik Ortega has replaced Mr. Benson for his district; and will replace Director Matt Dessert as the IID's representative on the Salton Sea Authority Board of Directors. Mr. Ortega lives in the Calexico area.

He said that there is a drought contingency plan being put together on the Colorado River, and the State is looking to IID to heavily participate in that as far as elevation building.

- E. Director Torte commented on behalf of the Torres Martinez that water has always been important to the Torres Martinez reservation. Having been contacted by several news agencies, he wanted to make a point that they stand with Standing Rock on the Dakota Access Pipeline because it's a water issue also. Torres Martinez is part of this local community, also, and stands with the community/SSA on all of its water issues.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- A. Kelly Claar, Sector Superintendent at Salton Sea sector, which includes the Salton Sea Recreation Area, and Jose Renteria, their interpretive member who is at the visitor's center most of the time, gave an update on the Salton Sea Recreation Area. Prior to the update, Ms. Claar expressed, on behalf of California State Parks,

condolences on the loss of Supervisor John Benoit. They flew their flag at half-mast in his honor.

At the Salton Sea State Recreation Area: Ms. Claar reported that they are doing their best to keep the launch open; it's a constant battle to keep the sediment back and the water level up. They did have to dredge the boat ramp again. Recent rains were appreciated. She told of recent and coming events at the Sea.

As interest goes up, and more people are requesting events at the Recreation area, she wants all to be aware that there is a permit process because they are a state agency. She will do her best to make these events happen, but she does have requirements that they have to follow, by law. Permits are required for buses and for filming at the sea.

They are in need of volunteers at the park and to serve as Board members on the Sea-and-Desert Interpretive Association board.

Mr. Renteria showed the activity calendar and pointed out that they have lots of Salton Sea-focused activities: kayak tours, bird watching tours, nature walks, educational programs for children and adults, and more.

- B. David Akers and Tevita Moce of SeAthletes (a non-profit organization) told of the upcoming second annual North Shore Xtreme paddle race and the Kaiwai.club that they started in response to Desert Recreation District's request for them to develop a water program. 95 kids have signed up and go kayaking on the Sea once a month. They welcome sponsorships to provide the basics the kids need for these activities.
- C. Geno Sexton, new District Director for Congressman Ruiz, introduced himself.
- D. Kerry Morrison, Executive Director of Ecomedia Compass and Mayor at West Shores Salton Sea gave an update on recent and upcoming events: SOS Wednesdays, a February 25-26 walk , and an April 22 event at Desert Shores.

IV. CONSENT CALENDAR – Receive, Approve, and File

- A. Minutes of December 15, 2016
- B. Warrant Register for November 2016
- C. Internal Financial Report for: 7/01/2015 – 11/30/2016

*The opportunity to discuss being presented but none taking place, Chairman Kelley invited a motion to approve. Director Ashley **moved** that the Consent Calendar be approved. **Seconded** by Director Hanks. **Unanimously carried.***

V. PRESENTATIONS

- A. Outreach: Interagency Cooperation: Demonstration of Kiosk at North Shore Yacht Club

Phillip Johnson, Assistant Executive Director of the Salton Sea Authority, described the kiosk he developed that is located in the entry room of the North Shore Yacht Club. The kiosk area was designed as an informational stop. The poster boards he

developed include the history of the North Shore Yacht Club building and architect Albert Frey who designed the building. The kiosk currently contains information about recreation around the Sea, partners around the Sea, history, wildlife (including information from the Audubon Society), and weather. Mr. Johnson told of other features he's looking to add to it and is currently working on.

Those present were invited to try out the kiosk after the meeting.

VI. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Officer succession for SSA board vacancies for offices of Secretary and Treasurer

At the Chairman's invitation to open this item, Mr. Rosentrater commented that the SSA had lost two of its Board members who held officer positions, which positions are now vacant: the position of secretary was held by Director Dessert, and the position of treasurer was held by Director John Benoit. The SSA bylaws provide that the Board has the option to appoint, at whatever time they choose, nominations to fill those vacancies. The term of those positions would be from the time of appointment until the last meeting (June) of the fiscal year in which they took office, at which time the Board has the option to extend those terms or make additional appointments. Mr. Rosentrater invited the Board's direction in this matter.

*Chairman Ryan Kelley opened nomination for the office of secretary. Director Kelley **nominated** Director Torte, who agreed to accept the position of secretary.*

Seconded** by Director Hanks. **Unanimously carried.

*Chairman Ryan Kelley opened nomination for the office of treasurer. Director Ashley **nominated** Director Estrada, who agreed to accept the position of treasurer.*

Seconded** by Director Kelley. **Unanimously carried.

B. Discussion of SSMP Ten-Year Plan

Bruce Wilcox, Assistant Secretary for Salton Sea Policy, California Natural Resources Agency, reported that a draft of the ten-year plan being developed by the State of California was sent out to some of the stakeholders three to four weeks ago for review.

The ten-year plan is like an amalgamation of other plans, looking at the north and south ends of the Sea primarily: working closely with the Torres Martinez at the north end; and, at the south end, the water backbone structure and habitat and air quality around those areas. The State is in the process of finalizing a contract with a consultant to help them develop that plan.

Mr. Wilcox mentioned the projects that have been started, one of which is nearly completed, and another that will be started this year. His assumption is that they would start the construction of SSMP projects in 2018. Public outreach meetings or workshops may begin in March.

He acknowledged that the state is struggling with funding. \$20 million is designated for consulting and design; \$60 million for construction at the west side of the New River, probably something on the north end, and possibly a little on the other side of

the New River at the south end. The purpose in starting in the New River area is to stay out of the way of the geothermal area until the subdivisions are worked out. The design is such that it looks at 5-year increments of exposure. In an effort to get more funding, the state has reached out to the federal government on a couple of occasions. The MOU that came out some months ago outlined \$30 million worth of funding.

Some Q-and-A was entertained.

VII. ACTION ITEMS

A. Resolution for ACWA Region 9 Board representative from SSA

ACWA (Association of California Water Agencies) is seeking nominations to fill a vacant seat of the board for Region 9, which includes San Bernardino, Riverside, and Imperial Counties.

Director O'Dowd said that he is the Region 9 chair for ACWA. The Region 9 board is largely comprised of water agencies. Mr. Rosentrater would bring to the board his other experiences, which include water agencies, as well as the significance of the Salton Sea to the water industry as a whole. He would be in favor of that movement on Mr. Rosentrater's part.

*Director O'Dowd **moved** that Mr. Rosentrater be approved to submit his nomination to ACWA for the open board position. **Seconded** by Director Ashley. **Unanimously carried.***

VIII. REPORTS

A. General Manager's Report on Activities

Phil Rosentrater, GM/Executive Director of the SSA, asked the Board if they had any questions about the report he had submitted to them recently. There being none, he shared that the SSA was asked to provide a presentation at the Palm Desert Garden Club. The Garden Club provides an honorarium to speakers to give to a non-profit organization. SSA asked that the check be written to the Salton Sea Action Committee (SSAC) rather than to the SSA, as the SSA is not a 501(c)(3) organization. Mr. Rosentrater gave that check to Director Kelley to be presented to the SSAC.

B. Legislative Update

Phillip Johnson, Assistant Executive Director of the SSA, quickly covered the updates included in his written report that was part of the Board agenda packet, and reviewed the status of a few potential new administration cabinet members of relevance to the SSA

C. Standing Report

1. **FEDERAL: US Bureau of Reclamation Interim Program Manager for Salton Sea (Marc Maynard)**

Mr. Wilcox extended Mr. Maynard's apologies for not being present; he'll present a report next meeting. The person they had selected to take Val Simon's place was unable to accept the opportunity, so the position is being readvertised. Mr. Rosentrater called the Board's attention to the copy of Secretary of the Interior's Order No. 3344 regarding drought response in their handouts.

2. STATE: Assistant Secretary of Resources for Salton Sea

Mr. Wilcox covered this report during the Ten-Year Plan discussion in VI.B.

Director Ashley had to leave the meeting at 11:30 a.m. at this point in the proceedings.

D. Water Resources Institute (WRI)

CSUSB's Water Resources Institute Director, Suzie Earp, reported that WRI is continuing to digitize their archives. They got a grant to digitize hidden collections not previously accessible to the public, and will start digitizing scientific and technical reports as soon as possible. Ms. Earp said that if a report has been written about the Salton Sea and published, the Archive can find it for you. She encouraged the Board to take a look at a new report published by Doug Barnum of USGS about the Salton Sea: in the appendix is an article about the importance of digitizing documents about the Salton Sea so they would be available to everyone. Ms. Earp introduced Juan Perez as the archivist and point of contact for the archive, and thanked the SSA for their continued support.

E. Salton Sea Action Committee (SSAC)

Juan DeLara, SSAC President, acknowledged members of the SSAC team present, and told about the Salton Sea tour that they put on in January. They will put on another tour, and will put together a road show with input from Bruce Wilcox and Phil Rosentrater to make sure the message is compatible and as accurate as possible. They have had several requests to speak. Director Kelley presented Mr. DeLara the check, mentioned earlier, that Mr. Rosentrater had received from the Palm Desert Garden Club.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, *Director Renison invited a motion to adjourn. Director O'Dowd so moved. Seconded by Director Estrada. Unanimously carried.* The meeting adjourned at 11:38 a.m.

NEXT MEETING TIME & LOCATION:

Thursday, February 23, 2017
10:00 a.m.

Salton Community Services District
1209 Van Buren Avenue,
Salton City, CA 92274
(760) 394-4446

11:02 AM

02/09/17

Accrual Basis

Salton Sea Authority
Balance Sheet by Fund
As of December 31, 2016

	101 General	214 Wetlands Grant	310 RCPP - NRCS	702 Fish Clean Up Trust	TOTAL
ASSETS					
Current Assets					
Checking/Savings					
0001010 - Cash - Checking	-2,976.29	15,963.83	-127.50	0.00	12,860.04
0001011 - Cash - Money Market	670,267.35	7,200.00	0.00	20,991.43	698,458.78
0001012 - Cash - RivCo Fund	10,660.78	0.00	0.00	0.00	10,660.78
0001015 - Cash - Petty Cash	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	200.00
Total Checking/Savings	678,151.84	23,163.83	-127.50	20,991.43	722,179.60
Accounts Receivable					
0001210 - Accounts Receivable	0.00	81,825.64	0.00	0.00	81,825.64
Total Accounts Receivable	0.00	81,825.64	0.00	0.00	81,825.64
Total Current Assets	678,151.84	104,989.47	-127.50	20,991.43	804,005.24
TOTAL ASSETS	678,151.84	104,989.47	-127.50	20,991.43	804,005.24
LIABILITIES & EQUITY					
Liabilities					
Current Liabilities					
Accounts Payable					
0002010 - Accounts Payable	31,594.32	73,941.87	0.00	0.00	105,536.19
Total Accounts Payable	31,594.32	73,941.87	0.00	0.00	105,536.19
Credit Cards					
0002015 - Credit Card Payable	2,524.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,524.70
0002016 - Credit Card Payable AE	1,127.84	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,127.84
Total Credit Cards	3,652.54	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,652.54
Other Current Liabilities					
0002820 - Deferred Revenue	-310,000.00	24,048.09	0.00	0.00	-285,951.91
Total Other Current Liabilities	-310,000.00	24,048.09	0.00	0.00	-285,951.91
Total Current Liabilities	-274,753.14	97,989.96	0.00	0.00	-176,763.18
Total Liabilities	-274,753.14	97,989.96	0.00	0.00	-176,763.18
Equity					
0003009 - Fund Balance	301,084.14	-277,704.83	0.00	20,991.43	44,370.74
Net Income	651,820.84	284,704.34	-127.50	0.00	936,397.68
Total Equity	952,904.98	6,999.51	-127.50	20,991.43	980,768.42
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	678,151.84	104,989.47	-127.50	20,991.43	804,005.24

Salton Sea Authority Revenue & Expenditure by Fund July through December 2016

	101 General	214 Wetlands Grant	310 RCPP - NRCS	TOTAL
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
0004662 · Local Gov/Member Assessments	920,000.00	0.00	0.00	920,000.00
0004660 · State of California Grants	0.00	460,180.54	0.00	460,180.54
0004710 · Pooled Cash Allocated Interest	611.91	0.00	0.00	611.91
Total Income	920,611.91	460,180.54	0.00	1,380,792.45
Expense				
1020000 · SSA ADMINISTRATION				
1025010 · Salaries				
Salaries - RivCo EDA	49,078.60	0.00	0.00	49,078.60
Salaries - Admin Support A	19,162.91	0.00	0.00	19,162.91
Total 1025010 · Salaries	68,241.51	0.00	0.00	68,241.51
1025500 · Employee Benefits				
Employee Benefits - RivCo EDA	13,170.42	0.00	0.00	13,170.42
Employee Benefits - SSA	10,310.72	0.00	0.00	10,310.72
Total 1025500 · Employee Benefits	23,481.14	0.00	0.00	23,481.14
1026050 · Contract Svc/Professional				
Contract Svc/Prof - Adm Sup C	14,332.50	0.00	0.00	14,332.50
Contract Svc/Prof - Adm Sup D	19,389.55	0.00	0.00	19,389.55
Contract Svc/Prof - Exec Sup	32,469.23	0.00	0.00	32,469.23
Contract Svc/Prof - Finance	30,885.50	0.00	0.00	30,885.50
Total 1026050 · Contract Svc/Professional	97,076.78	0.00	0.00	97,076.78
1026010 · Contract Svc/Attorney				
Contract Svcs/Attorney - Genera	7,913.94	0.00	0.00	7,913.94
Total 1026010 · Contract Svc/Attorney	7,913.94	0.00	0.00	7,913.94
1026095 · Contract Svc/Equipment Maint	3,564.00	0.00	0.00	3,564.00
1028551 · Capital Equipment <\$5,000	788.13	0.00	0.00	788.13
1026096 · Contract Svc/Equipment Lease	174.96	0.00	0.00	174.96
1026120 · Insurance	9,523.94	0.00	0.00	9,523.94
1027030 · Office Exp/Operating Supplies	1,785.98	0.00	0.00	1,785.98
1027035 · Office Exp/Online Services	594.72	0.00	0.00	594.72
1026450 · Postage, Mail	502.31	0.00	0.00	502.31
1026470 · Printing Services	458.67	0.00	0.00	458.67
1026439 · Dues, Subscriptions	5,497.00	0.00	0.00	5,497.00
1026350 · Communications	2,173.74	0.00	0.00	2,173.74
1026370 · Travel/Meetings	29,870.18	0.00	0.00	29,870.18
1026430 · Advertising	138.00	0.00	0.00	138.00
1026060 · Contract Svcs/WRI,Archive Mgmt	16,666.67	0.00	0.00	16,666.67
Total 1020000 · SSA ADMINISTRATION	268,451.67	0.00	0.00	268,451.67
6020000 · WETLANDS GRANT ADMINISTRATION				
6026010 · Contract Svcs/Attorney	339.40	0.00	0.00	339.40
6026014 · Contract Svcs/TM Proj Mgmt	0.00	25,063.75	0.00	25,063.75
Total 6020000 · WETLANDS GRANT ADMINISTRATION	339.40	25,063.75	0.00	25,403.15

11:03 AM

02/09/17

Accrual Basis

Salton Sea Authority
Revenue & Expenditure by Fund
July through December 2016

	101 General	214 Wetlands Grant	310 RCPP - NRCS	TOTAL
6040000 - WETLANDS GRANT TECHNICAL				
6046020 - Contract Svcs/AMEC - update	0.00	-787.50	0.00	-787.50
6046025 - Contract Svcs - AMEC/NSYC	0.00	3,949.71	0.00	3,949.71
6046040 - Contract Svcs/Design	0.00	1,713.99	0.00	1,713.99
6046070 - Contract Svcs/LCP	0.00	1,536.25	0.00	1,536.25
6046080 - Contract Svcs/Construction	0.00	144,000.00	0.00	144,000.00
Total 6040000 - WETLANDS GRANT TECHNICAL	0.00	150,412.45	0.00	150,412.45
608000 - RCPP NRCS PROGRAM EXPENSES				
6085013 - Contract Services - Accountant	0.00	0.00	127.50	127.50
Total 608000 - RCPP NRCS PROGRAM EXPENSES	0.00	0.00	127.50	127.50
Total Expense	268,791.07	175,476.20	127.50	444,394.77
Net Ordinary Income	651,820.84	284,704.34	-127.50	936,397.68
Net Income	651,820.84	284,704.34	-127.50	936,397.68

Warrant Register
Dec 1, 2016 through Dec 31, 2016



Warrant Date	Warrant Number	Vendor Name	Amount
12/07/2016	EFT	Rabobank Credit Card	3,018.90
12/12/2016	EFT	American Express	2,489.41
12/13/2016	16155	Alliant Consulting Inc	1,091.25
12/13/2016	16156	Reliable Tree Care - 214	136,800.00
12/13/2016	16157	Best, Best & Krieger	1,709.50
12/13/2016	16158	Johnson, Phillip	393.02
12/13/2016	16159	OfficeTeam	6,041.72
12/13/2016	16160	Petty Cash	102.92
12/13/2016	16161	Rosentrater, Phil	82.58
12/13/2016	16162	Sampson, GJ Acct	3,768.88
12/13/2016	16163	SystemGo IT LLC	594.00
12/13/2016	EFT	Pitney Bowes	87.48
12/23/2016	EFT	Verizon Wireless	187.79
12/31/2016	EFT	Rabobank	25.00
Total \$			156,392.45

Memorandum

To: Salton Sea Authority Board of Directors
From: Phil Rosentrater, GM/Executive Director
Date: February 23, 2017
Re: Resolution - SSA Representative for ACWA Region 9 Board
CM No. IV.D – 02-23-2017

BACKGROUND:

At the January 26, 2017 Salton Sea Authority (SSA) Board meeting, the Board of Directors approved SSA General Manager/Executive Director Phil Rosentrater's application for nomination to fill a vacant seat on the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) Region 9 Board. Mr. Rosentrater was notified February 7, 2017, that he had been selected to fill that position.

The Association of California Water Agencies requires that a resolution stating the points that appear in the attached SSA Resolution No. 17-01 be approved and signed by the SSA Board in order for Mr. Rosentrater to be considered for the open position. A draft of this resolution was included in the application packet submitted by Mr. Rosentrater. ACWA accepted the draft to permit the application process to go forward, in anticipation of the original resolution being approved and signed at SSA's February 23, 2017 Board meeting.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Salton Sea Authority Staff recommends that the Salton Sea Authority Board approve Resolution 17-1 in support of the nomination of SSA GM/Executive Director Phil Rosentrater to fill the vacant seat on the ACWA Region 9 Board.

Respectfully submitted,

Phil Rosentrater
GM/Executive Director



**SALTON SEA AUTHORITY
RESOLUTION NO. 17-01**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
THE SALTON SEA AUTHORITY
PLACING IN NOMINATION PHIL ROSENTRATER
AS A MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA WATER AGENCIES
REGION 9 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors (Board) of the Salton Sea Authority (SSA), assembled in regular meeting this 23rd day of February, 2017, as follows:

A. Recitals

- (i) Whereas, The Board of the SSA does encourage and support the participation of its members in the affairs of the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA);
- (ii) Whereas, The Board of the SSA has adopted Guiding Principles urging its staff and member agencies to “Assert Local Leadership” where feasible to advance the shared objectives of revitalizing the Salton Sea;
- (iii) Whereas, the SSA is a member in good standing with ACWA and;
- (iv) Whereas, SSA General Manager Phil Rosentrater is currently serving as a member of the Energy Committee for ACWA and has indicated a desire and willingness to serve as a member of the Board of ACWA Region 9;

B. Resolves

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SALTON SEA AUTHORITY

- (i) Does place its full and unreserved support in the nomination of Phil Rosentrater for the Board of ACWA Region 9.
- (ii) Does hereby determine that the expenses attendant with the service of Phil Rosentrater in ACWA Region 9 shall be borne by the Salton Sea Authority.

Adopted and approved this 23rd day of February, 2017.

Ryan E. Kelley
President

Memorandum

To: Salton Sea Authority Board of Directors
From: Phil Rosentrater, GM/Executive Director
Date: February 23, 2017
Re: SSA Resolution No. 17-02 Updating Signatories on SSA Bank Accounts
CM No. IV.E – 02-23-17

BACKGROUND:

At the January 26, 2017 Salton Sea Authority Board meeting, Director Cástulo R. Estrada was elected treasurer by the SSA Board of Directors.

Traditionally, the SSA treasurer has been added as a signatory to the Salton Sea Authority bank accounts, and it was agreed at the January 26, 2017 Board meeting that Director Estrada would be added as a signatory.

The bank requires a copy of a resolution from the Board to authorize the new signatory on Salton Sea Authority's accounts and to remove any who are no longer valid. The names shown on the attached proposed resolution include the addition of Director Estrada as a signatory, confirmation of the three existing signatories, and the removal of any others who might remain in the bank's records.

Attached please find proposed Salton Sea Authority Resolution 17-02, entitled, "Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Salton Sea Authority Designating Officials Authorized to Sign Warrants and Checks, Transfer Funds, and Access Safe Deposit Box," for your consideration, which adds Director Cástulo R. Estrada as a signatory.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Salton Sea Authority Staff recommends that the Salton Sea Authority Board approve SSA Resolution No. 17-02, entitled, "Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Salton Sea Authority Designating Officials Authorized to Sign Warrants and Checks, Transfer Funds, and Access Safe Deposit Box."

Respectfully submitted,

Phil Rosentrater
GM/Executive Director



**SALTON SEA AUTHORITY
RESOLUTION NO. 17-02**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
THE SALTON SEA AUTHORITY DESIGNATING OFFICIALS
AUTHORIZED TO SIGN WARRANTS AND CHECKS,
TRANSFER FUNDS, AND ACCESS SAFE DEPOSIT BOX**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Salton Sea Authority (Authority), assembled in regular meeting this 23rd day of February, 2017, that the Rabobank is instructed to honor Authority warrants or checks written on accounts in the name of the Salton Sea Authority executed by any two of the following designated officials: Ryan Kelley, President; G. Patrick O'Dowd, Vice President; Cástulo R. Estrada, Treasurer; and Phil Rosentrater, General Manager/Executive Director; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Rabobank is instructed to honor any transfer of funds by means of written instructions by order of any two designated officials: Ryan Kelley, President; G. Patrick O'Dowd, Vice President; Cástulo R. Estrada, Treasurer; and Phil Rosentrater, General Manager/Executive Director; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all warrants and checks, and instructions to transfer funds will require at least one original signature of those persons herein defined whose signatures appear at the foot of this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the second signature for warrants and checks, and instructions to transfer funds may be an original signature or a facsimile signature (stamp) appearing at the foot of this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Rabobank is instructed to honor access to safe deposit box(es) executed by any two of the following designated officials: Ryan Kelley, President; G. Patrick O'Dowd, Vice President; Cástulo R. Estrada, Treasurer; and Phil Rosentrater, General Manager/Executive Director, whose signatures appear at the foot of this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that prior authorizations to sign warrants and checks, transfer funds and access safe deposit box(es) are hereby rescinded; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Secretary is hereby directed to furnish a certified copy of this resolution to Rabobank.

Ryan Kelley
President

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
SALTON SEA AUTHORITY) ss.
OFFICE OF SECRETARY)

I, Thomas Tortez, Secretary of the Salton Sea Authority, a Joint Powers Agency of the State of California, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of Resolution No. 17-02 adopted by the Board of Directors of said Salton Sea Authority at a regular meeting thereof duly held and convened on the 23rd day of February, 2017, at which meeting a quorum of said Board was present and acting throughout.

Dated this 23rd day of February, 2017.

Thomas Tortez
Secretary of the Salton Sea Authority
and of the Board of Directors thereof

Memorandum

To: Salton Sea Authority Board of Directors
From: Phil Rosentrater, GM/Executive Director
Date: February 23, 2017
Re: **Reschedule SSA December 14, 2017, Board Meeting to December 7, 2017**
CM No. IV.F. – 02/23/17

GENERAL:

It was recently noted that the scheduled December 14, 2017, SSA Board meeting is now in conflict with the 2017 Colorado River Water Users Association (CRWUA) Conference. Last year nearly half of the Salton Sea Authority (SSA) Board was missing from the December meeting because of the CRWUA calendar conflict.

Changing the Board meeting to December 7 would allow directors and staff to attend the CRWUA conference, the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) conference, and the Salton Sea Authority Board meeting.

SSA by-laws require a vote of the board to alter the Board meeting schedule.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Salton Sea Authority Staff recommends that the Salton Sea Authority Board approve the change of date of the December 14, 2017 SSA Board of Directors meeting to December 7, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

Phil Rosentrater
GM / Executive Director

Memorandum

To: Salton Sea Authority Board of Directors
From: Phil Rosentrater, GM/Executive Director
Date: February 23, 2017
Re: SSMP 10-Year Plan
CM No. V.A – 02-23-2017

BACKGROUND:

At the November 15, 2016 Salton Sea workshop for the State Water Resources Control Board, stakeholders and partner agencies of the Salton Sea Authority (SSA) called upon the state of California to provide greater definition of its priorities, plans and commitments for progress within the next ten years.

The urgency of this request is underscored by mounting pressures from drought on the Colorado River system in addition to looming deadlines for acceleration of water transfers in accord with the Quantitative Settlement Agreement. While the federal government, other states and water rights holders on the Colorado seek certainty of their supply, the certainty of a reciprocal commitment to offset potential impacts to the Sea is not as certain. Thus, stakeholders around the Sea have expressed strong interest in establishing greater surety for a valid restoration strategy in the next decade for the Sea prior to risking commitment of additional local resources.

In response, the California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) has adjusted the draft Salton Sea Management Plan (SSMP) to propose projects and timelines that will adhere to a ten year time frame. This plan is still in circulation for internal review and comment, and has not been made public. However, the Assistant Secretary of CNRA for Salton Sea Policy has agreed to discuss the draft with the SSA board at the February 23, 2017 meeting, in advance of the release of the final draft of the 10-Year Plan.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Salton Sea Authority Staff recommends that the Salton Sea Authority Board consider the draft report on the 10 Year Plan as discussed by the Assistant Secretary of CNRA. No action to be taken at this time.

Respectfully submitted,

Phil Rosentrater
GM/Executive Director

Staff Report

To: Salton Sea Authority Board of Directors
From: Phil Johnson, Assistant Executive Director, SSA
Date: February 23, 2017
Re: **Legislative Update**
CM No. **VI.B – 02/23/2017**

Staff members from agencies of the Salton Sea Authority are coordinating a unified response to threats and opportunities in the legislative arena at both the state and federal levels.

SSA and its member agencies jointly engaged in the following activities to drive legislative and policy initiatives supported by the Salton Sea Authority Board of Directors:

California Senate/Assembly Bill Summaries

AB 2896 (Garcia) - Water quality: funding for planning, environmental, and design documents: Salton Sea.

SSA Position: **Staff recommends SUPPORT**

Status: **Introduced on March 1st, 2016. Re-referred to Com. on RLS. pursuant to Senate Rule 29.10(c). From Senate committee without further action on November 30th, 2016.**

AB 2896 would appropriate much needed funding in the form of grants to be used in the development of planning environmental and design documents on projects that would positively impact the public health and safety risks from drainage of wastewater and runoff into tributaries of the Salton Sea.

The recommendation of staff is that the SSA supports this bill as it aligns with the SSA platform. Staff is continuing to follow 2017-2018 session to see if this bill is re-introduced.

AB-18 California Clean Water, Climate, and Coastal Protection and Outdoor Access for All Act of 2018.

SSA Position: SUPPORT

Status: Introduced on December 5th, 2016, may be heard in committee January 5th. Referred to Com. on W., P. & W on January 19th, 2017. Re-referred to Com. on APPR on Feb. 8th, 2017.

AB 18 would authorize the issuance of \$3.005 billion in State General Obligation bonds to finance parks, water, climate adaptation, coastal protection, and outdoor access programs. This bond would be placed on the June 5th, 2018 statewide primary direct election.

The main funding categories for the bond are as follows: 1) safe neighborhood parks in park-poor communities; 2) local and regional parks; 3) state parks, with a focus on deferred maintenance in existing parks; 4) trails and waterfront access; 5) rural community recreational needs; 6) river parkways; 7) state conservancies and regions not covered by conservancies; and 8) habitat needs, including wildlife corridors, climate change adaptation, and healthy soils and forests.

Of note for the SSA this bond would specifically grant \$30 million to the Salton Sea Authority. Of this amount, not less than \$10 million shall be available for purposes consistent with the New River Water Quality, Public Health, and River Parkway Development Program. This funding along with the possibility of other pockets of funding from the bond provides the basis for the SSA Board of Directors to support AB 18.

The Senate bill version, SB-5 California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access for All Act of 2018 introduced by Senator De León of note grants \$40 million to the Salton Sea Authority.

SB 859 - Public resources: greenhouse gas emissions and biomass

SSA Position: Staff Recommends SUPPORT

Status: Introduced on Jan. 7th, 2016. Chaptered by Secretary of State. Chapter 368, Statutes of 2016 on Sept. 14th, 2016.

SB 859 appropriates \$1.4 million from the Waste Discharge Permit Fund for the State Water Board to provide grants for the projects that eliminate public health and safety risks for wastewater, agricultural and other discharge of urbanized areas of tributaries of the Salton Sea. The FY 2016-17 beginning balance is approximately \$14.6 million.

Under the current fee schedule, total revenue is anticipated to be approximately \$124.6 million and total expenditures are anticipated to be approximately \$127.5 million.

The recommendation of staff is that the SSA supports this bill as it aligns with the SSA platform, and to follow up with the State Water Board to how best apply for said grant.

SB 1416 (Stone) - Voluntary contribution: Revive the Salton Sea Fund

SSA Position: SUPPORT

Status: Approved by the Governor and Chaptered by Secretary of State. Chapter 219, Statutes of 2016 on August 26th, 2016.

SB 1416 would create a Revive the Salton Sea Fund allowing voluntary designation of personal income tax refunds to be deposited in the Revive the Salton Sea Fund. This bill would prohibit a voluntary contribution designation for the Revive the Salton Sea Fund from being added on the tax return until another voluntary contribution designation is removed or a space is available. Contributions will be allocated to the Natural Resources Agency for distributions of competitive grants to provide funds or supplement funding of the state, county and local agencies, nonprofit, and projects identified as necessary for the restoration and maintenance of the Salton Sea and to develop a mechanism to provide ongoing public awareness, as specified.

The contributions to the fund shall be used for the following items. (1) Programs to create statewide public awareness and grassroots support for the restoration of the Salton Sea. (2) Programs to engage the public through promotion and education about the Salton Sea. (3) Current and future projects identified as necessary for restoration and maintenance of the Salton Sea, including projects identified by the Salton Sea Authority.

Staff will monitor the progress of this fund as well as the usage of donated funds.

SB 1074 (Hueso) - Energy Federal Trust Fund: geothermal projects

SSA Position: Staff Recommends SUPPORT

Status: Introduced on Feb. 2nd, 2016. Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 539, Statutes of 2016 on Sept. 23rd, 2016.

SB 1074 authorizes revenues to recover lithium, metals, and other beneficial minerals from highly mineralized geothermal brines at existing geothermal facilities that are in

disadvantaged communities. These activities will provide economic growth and local employment opportunities.

Specifically this bill directs \$2.5 million of Federal Trusts Funds for competitive grants in mineral recovery from geothermal brine, such as lithium recovery projects. The recommendation of staff is that the SSA supports this bill as it aligns with the SSA platform.

Staff will follow up with the Geothermal Grant and Loan Program (GRDA) about the requirements specific to the special solicitation being offered pursuant to Senate Bill 1074.

SB 231 (Hertzberg) - Local government: fees and charges.

SSA Position: Watch

Status: Introduced on Feb. 2nd, 2017.

SB 321 defines the term “sewer” and would also make findings and declarations relating to the definition of the term “sewer” under the existing law of Proposition 218 Omnibus Implementation Act.

Of note for the SSA SB 231 clarifies that storm water and sewer can be treated the same under Prop 218. This may open new financial options that have not previously been available to agencies that fall under the sewer and storm water distinctions. Thus the Salton Sea Authority will continue to watch this bill’s progress.

Federal Bill Summaries

S. 2012 (Murkowski) - North American Energy Security and Infrastructure Act of 2016

SSA Position: Watch

Status: Introduced to Senate on Sept. 9th, 2015. Currently on the Senate Floor voting upon amendments as of Feb 4th, 2016. Passed the Senate as of April 20th. Rules Committee Resolution H. Res. 744 Reported to House. The resolution provides for consideration of S. 2012 and H.R. 5233 on May 24th, 2016. Message on House action received in Senate and at desk: House amendment to Senate bill and House requests a conference May 26th, 2016. The House had named their conferees for the joint committee

however the Senate has not, as talks have stalled as of June 20th, 2016. Senate disagrees to the House amendment to the Senate bill, agrees to request for conference, and the Presiding Officer appoints the following conferees: Murkowski, Barrasso, Risch, Cornyn, Cantwell, Wyden, and Sanders on July 12th, 2016. Conference Cmte Held on Sept. 8th, 2016. Murkowski pushing for action on the bill, but House GOP looking to hold off on energy bill until the next administration on November 27th, 2016.

The relevance of adding S. 2012 on to the SSA legislative report is that S. 1407 (Heller) Supported by the SSA, has been added to this bill via amendment. S. 1407 has been added by way of amendment 3286 to amendment 2953. Amendment 2953 was passed by the Senate; however our “revenue sharing provision” in S.1407 in which we supported the bill did not make the cut.

The SSA should continue to watch and send out letters of support for the addition of the “revenue sharing provision” to S.2012 as the Senate and House try to compromise between S.2012 and its House counterpart H.R. 8. As the final “energy bill” may hold value to the SSA.

Staff will continue to keep tabs on what shapes up to be the 2017 Energy Bill as Senators Murkowski and Bishop discussed the possibility of reviving parts of the legislation in the New Year. Staff will be meeting with staff from Senator Murkowski office to discuss possibility of 2017 Energy Bill.

S. 32 (Feinstein) - California Desert Protection and Recreation Act of 2017

SSA Position: Support

Status: Introduced to the Senate on Jan. 5th, 2017.

Of note for the SSA the “disposition of revenues” section has remained the same as in S. 2568, the previous year’s bill concerning this issue. The specifics that affect SSA and “of note” this only applies to the development of wind or solar energy land managed by the BLM are as follows:

- 25% of the payments go to counties involved
- 35% of the payments go to “Renewable Energy Resource Conservation Fund” which is managed by the Sec. of the Interior.

- Areas that are eligible for such “funds” that are of note for the SSA are ones around wind or solar development areas that are in need of restoring and protecting such as: wildlife habitat, wildlife corridors, and water resources.

With the “disposition of revenues” section in mind the SSA should support S. 32 going forward.

S.612 (Cornyn) - Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act

SSA Position: SUPPORT

Status: Introduced to the Senate on February 27th, 2015. Became Public Law No: 114-322, on December 16th, 2016.

This bill provides for the conservation and development of water and related resources, to authorize the Secretary of the Army to construct various projects for improvements to rivers and harbors of the United States, and for other purposes.

Of note for the SSA Section 4011 modifies the WRDA 2007 authorization of Salton Sea Restoration Pilot Projects by striking the term “pilot” and adding “Salton Sea Authority or other non-federal interest” as potential parties for implementation agreements.

The SSA Board supports S. 612 due to the bill specifically designating the SSA as a preferred partner for the funding agreements to be established with the Army Corps as well as the re-authorization of appropriations in the amount of \$30 million for Salton Sea projects from WRDA 2007.

Terminology Reference

Chaptered - After a bill has been signed by the Governor, the Secretary of State assigns the bill a Chapter Number, for example, “Chapter 123, Statutes of 1998,” which subsequently may be used to refer to the measure.

Held under submission - action taken by a committee when a bill is heard in committee and there is an indication that the author and the committee members want to work on or discuss the bill further, but there is no motion for the bill to progress out of committee. This does not preclude the bill from being set for another hearing.

Inactive file - The portion of the Daily File containing legislation that is ready for floor consideration, but, for a variety of reasons, is dormant. An author may move a bill to the inactive file if he or she wishes to take it up at a later date. Once a bill is on the inactive file, one day’s public notice is needed to place it back on the agenda.

Suspense File - A bill or set of bills, with a fiscal impact, set aside in Appropriations Committee by a majority of Members present and voting. These bills may be heard at a later hearing.

Potential New Administration Cabinet Members of Relevance to the Salton Sea Authority

Elaine L. Chao - Transportation Secretary

Senate hearing took place: Jan. 11, 10:15 A.M.

Confirmed: 93-6 on Jan. 31st

Ms. Chao, who was labor secretary all 8 years under President George W. Bush, would oversee President Trump's campaign pledge to increase funding to rebuild America's transportation infrastructure.

Ms. Chao's nomination has faced little opposition from lawmakers. She spent most of her hearing promising to further study the issues she will oversee.

Ms. Chao is married to Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell. She was also the first Asian-American woman to serve in a cabinet-level job. Chao attended Harvard Business School, served as a fellow in the Reagan White House and as deputy secretary of transportation in the administration of President George H.W. Bush.

Ryan Zinke - Interior Secretary

Senate hearing took place: Jan. 17, 10 A.M.

Awaiting a floor vote. Approved by the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee on January 31.

The representative from Montana would decide the fate of Obama-era rules that stop public land development; curb the exploration of oil, coal and gas; and promote wind and solar power on public lands.

When asked about climate change during his hearing, Mr. Zinke broke with President Trump, saying that he did not believe it was a hoax.

Zinke earned an M.B.A. from National University, an M.S. in global leadership from the University of San Diego, as well as an undergraduate in geology from the University of Oregon and served as a Navy SEAL from 1986 to 2008 before entering politics, campaigned for his House seat on a platform of achieving North American energy independence. He sits on the House Natural Resources Committee as well as the Armed Services Committee.

Scott Pruitt - E.P.A. Administrator

Senate hearing took place: Jan. 18, 10 A.M.

Awaiting a final floor vote. Approved by the Environment and Public Works Committee over a Democratic boycott on February 2.

The Oklahoma Attorney General is a close ally of the fossil fuel industry and has taken on the E.P.A. directly in his current job. He would oversee an agency that the president has vowed to dismantle “in almost every form.”

During his hearing, Mr. Pruitt said he disagreed with President Trump’s statement that climate change was a “hoax.” He criticized federal environmental regulations, emphasizing a states-based approach.

Pruitt was quoted as saying: “The American people are tired of seeing billions of dollars drained from our economy due to unnecessary EPA regulations, and I intend to run this agency in a way that fosters both responsible protection of the environment and freedom for American businesses.”

Pruitt earned his Juris Doctor from the University of Tulsa, where he later passed the bar. He then went on to start his own private practice, become an Oklahoma Senator, and later become Oklahoma’s Attorney General.

Rick Perry - Energy Secretary

Senate hearing took place: Jan. 19, 10 A.M.

Awaiting a floor vote. Approved by the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

The former Texas governor, who in 2011 proposed scrapping the Energy Department while he was seeking the Republican nomination for president, would be responsible for the policies regarding energy and safety in handling nuclear material.

During his hearing, Mr. Perry said that he regretted suggesting that the Energy Department be abolished, and he reversed his previous comments denying human-caused climate change, saying, "I believe some of it is naturally occurring, but some of it is also caused by man-made activity."

Mr. Perry is the longest-serving governor of Texas, in office from 2000 to 2015, and before that was the Texas agriculture commissioner. He holds a bachelor’s degree in animal science from Texas A&M University.

Sonny Perdue - Agriculture Secretary

Senate Hearing: T.B.D.

The former governor of Georgia would run a department that oversees America's farming industry, inspects food quality and provides income-based food assistance. He would also have partial responsibility to carry out President Trump's positions on trade.

Perdue, a former Democrat who switched to the Republican Party before governing Georgia for two terms from 2003 to 2011, has a strong agricultural background, having grown up on a farm and earned a doctorate in veterinary medicine from the University of Georgia.

Perdue also worked as a veterinarian, served in the US Air Force, and was a Georgia State Senator before his time as governor of Georgia.