

SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

MINUTES OF THE LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING

January 16, 2003

1. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

Chairperson Aranda called the Legislative Affairs Committee meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Manuel Aranda Jr., Chair
Sterling Woodbury, President
Melody Henriques, Director

STAFF PRESENT:

D. Burnell Cavender, General Manager
Colleen Theuer, Administrative Services Manager

GUEST PRESENT:

None

2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

It was announced that this would be the time for any persons present, who so desire, to make an oral petition to the Legislative Affairs Committee. Hearing none, the meeting proceeded with the published agenda items.

3. CURRENT LEGISLATION

Chairperson Aranda discussed SB 34 (Soto), a bill that would form the "Inland Empire Water Quality Authority," the intent being "to protect public health and safety by planning and implementing measures to clean up industrial contaminants, particularly perchlorate, that now threaten the region's groundwater supplies." Chairperson Aranda said individuals without a complete comprehension of water issues constructed the bill. He said that while the intent of the bill is good, it needs further research and then should be re-written. Mr. Cavender said SAWPA is already charged with keeping water clean and has been for thirty years, and does not think there is a need for another agency. Chairperson Aranda suggested a letter be written to Senator Soto explaining the District's position and then invite her to the District for a visit. After further discussion, it was decided that a local advisory committee be formed, perhaps consisting of SBVWCD, SAWPA, Chino Basin Watermaster, San Gabriel Basin Watermaster, Cucamonga County Water District, West San Bernardino County Water District, Inland Empire Utilities Agency, and San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District. Then, after the advisory committee meets and discusses the bill, the Legislative Committee would take the information to the Board of Directors for further direction.

Chairperson Aranda briefly discussed SB 21 (Machado) and other upcoming bills.

5. ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.