



**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA
TRABUCO CANYON WATER DISTRICT
ADMINISTRATIVE FACILITY
32003 DOVE CANYON DRIVE, TRABUCO CANYON, CA
JUNE 3, 2024 AT 5:00 PM**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Ed Mandich, Committee Chair
Stephen Dopudja, Committee Member

DISTRICT STAFF

Fernando Paludi, General Manager
Michael Perea, District Secretary

AGENDA NOTE:

Trabuco Canyon Water District (District) will make this meeting available by telephone audio as follows:

Telephone Audio: 1 (669) 900-6833

Access Code: 979 8688 5071

Persons desiring to monitor the Committee meeting agenda items may download the Executive Committee meeting agenda and documents on the internet at www.tcwd.ca.gov. You may submit public comments by email to the Committee at mperea@tcwd.ca.gov. In order to be part of the record, emailed comments on meeting agenda items must be received by the District, at the referenced e-mail address, not later than 10:00 a.m. (PDT) on the day of the meeting.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

VISITOR PARTICIPATION

Members of the public wishing to address the Committee regarding a particular item on the agenda are requested to complete a speaker card and submit it to staff. The Committee Chair will call on the visitor following the Committee's discussion about the matter. Committees do not constitute a quorum of the Board of Directors and Committee Members cannot make decisions on matters. The Committee makes recommendations only to the Board of Directors. Members of the public will be given the opportunity to speak to the Committee prior to making a recommendation on the matter. For persons desiring to make verbal comments and utilizing a translator to present their comments into English reasonable time accommodations, consistent with State law, shall be provided. Please limit comments to three minutes.

ORAL COMMUNICATION

Members of the public who wish to make comment on matters not appearing on the agenda are invited to identify themselves and encouraged to make comment at this time. The Committee Chair will call on the visitor following the Committee's discussion about the matter. Committees do not constitute a quorum of the Board of Directors and Committee Members cannot make decision on matters. The Committee makes recommendations only to the Board of Directors. Under the requirements of State Law, Committee Members cannot take action on items not identified on the agenda and will not make decisions on such matters. The Committee Chair may direct District Staff to follow up on issues as may be deemed appropriate. For persons desiring to make verbal comments and utilizing a translator to present their comments into English reasonable time accommodations, consistent with State law, shall be provided. Please limit comments to three minutes.

COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

REPORT FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

**TRABUCO CANYON WATER DISTRICT
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA | JUNE 3, 2024**

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

ITEM 1: APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING RECAP

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approve the following Executive Committee Meeting Recap and recommend that the Board receive and file the same (Consent Calendar):

1. May 6, 2024

DISCUSSION MATTERS

ITEM 2: BOARD AGENDA PLANNING CALENDAR

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Receive information at the time of the meeting and take action(s) as deemed appropriate.

OTHER MATTERS

ITEM 3: POTENTIAL CLIMATE RESILIENCY BOND

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

This item is presented as information and staff does not have a recommendation at this time.

ITEM 4: REPORTS OR COMMENTS FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER AND/OR STAFF

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Hear other matters from the General Manager and/or Staff.

ADJOURNMENT

AVAILABILITY OF AGENDA MATERIALS

Agenda exhibits and other writings that are disclosable public records distributed to all or a majority of the members of the Trabuco Canyon Water District Board of Directors in connection with a matter subject to discussion or consideration at an open meeting of the Board of Directors are available for public inspection at the District Administrative Facility, 32003 Dove Canyon Drive, Trabuco Canyon, California (District Facility). If such writings are distributed to members of the Board less than 72 hours prior to the meeting, they will be available in the lobby area of the District Facility at the same time as they are distributed, except that, if such writings are distributed immediately prior to or during the meeting, they will be available in the Boardroom at the District Facility.

COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54954.2

In compliance with California law and the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special disability-related modifications or accommodations, including auxiliary aids or services in order to participate in the meeting, or if you need the agenda provided in an alternative format, please contact the District Secretary at (949) 858-0277 at least 48 hours in advance of the scheduled meeting. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will assist the District in making reasonable arrangements to accommodate your request. The District office is wheelchair accessible.

www.tcwd.ca.gov



**TRABUCO CANYON WATER DISTRICT
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING | JUNE 3, 2024**

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

ITEM 1: APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING RECAP

Information will be presented at the time of the meeting.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approve the following Executive Committee Meeting Recap and recommend that the Board receive and file the same (Consent Calendar):

1. *May 6, 2024*

CONTACTS (staff responsible): PALUDI/PEREA



TRABUCO CANYON WATER DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING RECAP | MAY 6, 2024

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Vice President Ed Mandich, Committee Chair
President Stephen Dopudja, Committee Member

STAFF PRESENT

Fernando Paludi, General Manager
Michael Perea, Assistant General Manager
Roseann Lejsek, Administrative Assistant
Gary Kessler, Water Operations Superintendent
Jason Stroud, Maintenance Superintendent

CONSULTANTS PRESENT

None

PUBLIC PRESENT

None

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Vice President Mandich called the May 6, 2024 Executive Committee Meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

VISITOR PARTICIPATION

No visitor participation was received.

ORAL COMMUNICATION

No oral communication was received.

COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

None

REPORT FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

Mr. Paludi reported that the District was awarded a federal grant from the Bureau of Reclamation in the amount of \$577,586 for the Dove & Tick Creek project. Mr. Paludi added that the District was also awarded a grant from the State in the amount of \$379,000 and that with these two grants, the project will be approximately 100% funded with grant funds.

Mr. Perea gave a summary of the El Toro Road sanitary sewer overflow (SSO) and subsequent repair, and he highlighted the system configuration which contributed to the SSO. Mr. Stroud provided additional information on staff's response and noted that IRWD was very helpful in assisting staff with the site cleanup. Mr. Perea expressed his appreciation for both TCWD and IRWD staff response and efforts to mitigate this issue.

**TRABUCO CANYON WATER DISTRICT
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING RECAP | MAY 6, 2024**

DISCUSSION MATTERS

ITEM 1: APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING RECAP

Mr. Paludi presented the Executive Committee Meeting Recap(s) for Committee consideration in accordance with the agenda.

MOTION: Approve the Executive Committee Meeting Recap(s) and recommend the Board of Directors receive and file the same (Consent Calendar) – Director Dopudja

SECOND: Director Mandich

AYES: Directors Mandich & Dopudja

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION PASSED/FAILED: Passed 2 – 0

ITEM 2: SB 1072 (PADILLA) – PROPOSITION 218 REMEDIES: SUPPORT

Mr. Paludi presented this matter for Committee consideration, and he provided background information on SB 1072 (Padilla). Mr. Paludi reported that currently, water agencies throughout the state are facing legal challenges to their water and wastewater fee structures, specifically the cost of service and proportionality provision of Proposition 218. Mr. Paludi stated that Senator Padilla has proposed SB 1072 to clarify existing law that a refund is not available under Proposition 218 for alleged excess charges resulting from an agency's rate structure. Mr. Paludi added that this bill will allow agencies to protect and defend their rates.

MOTION: Adopt a SUPPORT position on SB 1072 (Padilla) and authorize the General Manager to sign the coalition letter in support of the legislation – Director Dopudja

SECOND: Director Mandich

AYES: Directors Mandich & Dopudja

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION PASSED/FAILED: Passed 2 – 0

ITEM 3: BOARD AGENDA PLANNING CALENDAR

Mr. Paludi provided a handout that included the following agenda planning items for Committee review and consideration:

May 2024

Regular Board Meeting – 5/16

- Award Recycled Water P.S. Improvements Design Contract (E/O) – the Committee recommended moving this item to July
- Award WWTP Blower Replacement Project (E/O) – Mr. Paludi reported that staff is value engineering this project.
- Settlement Offer with Rutter Development (Closed Session)

Trabuco Canyon Public Financing Authority – 5/16

- Approve lending bank and legal documents (F/A)

Special Board Meeting – (5/29 or 5/30)

- Budget Workshop
- Receive/Authorize implementation of salary survey results (F/A)

**TRABUCO CANYON WATER DISTRICT
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING RECAP | MAY 6, 2024**

June 2024

Regular Board Meeting – 6/20

- Award HR Support Services Contract (Exec and F/A)
- Set Public Hearing for Undeveloped Land Standby Charges (F/A)
- Adopt Resolution Establishing Appropriations Limit for FY 24/25 (F/A)
- Adopt FY 25 Operating and Capital Budgets
- Accept Saddle Crest Facilities

July 2024

Regular Board Meeting – 7/18

- Public Hearing/Adoption of Undeveloped Land Standby Charges (F/A)

Other Potential Future Board Items

- Will Serve Letter/Storage Fee Agreement with Cal Quartet for Saddleback Meadows

MOTION: None – Informational item only.

ITEM 4: DISCUSSION CONCERNING TOTAL COMPENSATION SURVEY

Mr. Paludi presented this matter for Committee consideration, and he provided a summary on the total compensation survey performed by Ralph Andersen & Associates (Anderson). Mr. Paludi reported that Anderson performed a review of (1) salary and benefits; (2) health benefits methodology; and (3) standby compensation of the same nine comparator agencies in the 2020 survey. Discussion occurred concerning a proposed methodology for establishing the District’s health insurance benefit and Mr. Perea provided a handout with the potential District and employee costs for FY 24/25. Discussion occurred regarding possible options in order to stay competitive on salary as well as benefits, such as a health benefit plan opt-out option, a deferred compensation matching program option, reviewing standby pay and a stipend pay for advanced certifications. Director Dopudja expressed concern with the scope of the total compensation review and requested that staff put together a comprehensive list of comparable compensation for the Committee’s review before the Board Budget Workshop.

MOTION: None – Informational item only.

ITEM 5: DISCUSSION CONCERNING ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING BOARD ROOM AUDIO/VISUAL SYSTEM UPGRADES TO IMPROVE PUBLIC MEETING ACCESS

Mr. Perea presented this matter for Committee consideration, and he provided background information on the current audio/visual (A/V) system in the District’s primary public meeting room. Mr. Perea reported that there have been unforeseen meeting challenges, namely hybrid meeting formats, that are not compatible with the current system. Mr. Perea reported that staff solicited proposals from two companies and received only one response. Mr. Perea provided the Committee with a handout of the company’s proposal and upgrade options. Discussion occurred regarding which option(s) may best suit the District’s needs. Mr. Paludi stated that he would like to get feedback from the Board on how they would like meetings to function. The Committee requested that staff bring this as a discussion item to a future Board Meeting.

MOTION: None – Informational item only.

**TRABUCO CANYON WATER DISTRICT
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING RECAP | MAY 6, 2024**

OTHER MATTERS

ITEM 6: REPORTS OR COMMENTS FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER AND/OR STAFF

2024 Water Awareness Day Event

Mr. Perea provided a brief update on the continued planning efforts for the annual event. Discussion occurred regarding what items to showcase for educational purposes.

Mr. Kessler asked if all District positions have been included in the total compensation survey. Mr. Perea responded that the consultant is finalizing the survey results for Board consideration.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice President Mandich adjourned the May 6, 2024 Executive Committee Meeting at 6:30 p.m.

DRAFT

**TRABUCO CANYON WATER DISTRICT
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING | JUNE 3, 2024**

DISCUSSION MATTERS

ITEM 2: BOARD AGENDA PLANNING CALENDAR

Information will be presented at the time of the meeting.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

Receive information at the time of the meeting and take action(s) as deemed appropriate.

CONTACTS (staff responsible): PALUDI/PEREA

**TRABUCO CANYON WATER DISTRICT
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING | JUNE 3, 2024**

OTHER MATTERS

ITEM 3: POTENTIAL CLIMATE RESILIENCY BOND

Trabuco Canyon Water District has been approached by the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) to join its coalition in support of a climate resiliency bond measure on the November 2024 ballot. ACWA is advocating for a bond “that will support California’s climate resilience, including infrastructure investments in water and drought preparedness, wildfire protection and forest resilience, coastal resilience, and other natural resources issues.” ACWA is proposing that \$5.75 billion from the bond be allocated to 10 water resources-related categories:

- Dam Safety
- Recycling and Desalination
- Safe Drinking Water/Clean Water
- Groundwater Management/Aquifer Recharge
- Flood Protection
- Regional Water Conveyance
- Regional Watershed Resilience
- Surface Water Storage
- State Water Project
- Water Conservation/Use Efficiency

Exhibits 1 and 2 describe the funding categories and allocations in more detail. TCWD could potentially benefit from funding made available in several of these categories, but the District’s eligibility and competitiveness in applying for funds from various grant programs depends on many factors.

The California Legislature must finalize a climate bond by the end of the June to qualify for the November ballot.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

This item is being presented as information and staff does not have a recommendation at this time.

EXHIBIT(S):

1. ACWA Climate Bond Priorities – May 2024
2. ACWA Climate Resilience Bond Priorities – May 2024

CONTACTS (staff responsible): PALUDI/PEREA



CLIMATE RESILIENCE BOND



BACKGROUND:

ACWA is advocating for a **\$5.75 billion** investment in water infrastructure that will help California adapt to and prepare for the effects of climate change. Adapting to climate change requires California to urgently and significantly rehabilitate and modify existing water facilities, improve operational flexibility, and make generational investments in new water infrastructure. Specifically, ACWA urges the inclusion of the following categories and updated funding amounts:

Categories	Funding (Based on \$8.5 Billion Bond)
Dam Safety/Forecast-Informed Reservoir Operations	\$623 million
Recycling and Desalination	\$990 million
Safe Drinking Water/Clean Water	\$440 million
Groundwater Management/Aquifer Recharge	\$733 million
Flood Protection	\$733 million
Regional Water Conveyance	\$586 million
Regional Watershed Resilience	\$366 million
Surface Water Storage	\$550 million
State Water Project	\$366 million
Water Conservation/Use Efficiency	\$366 million
TOTAL:	\$5.75 billion

WHY WE NEED A CLIMATE RESILIENCE BOND NOW:

- 1. Infrastructure** – Our water infrastructure was built for a climate that no longer exists. California faces increased risks of drought, floods, intense rain events, and sea level rise that are presenting unique challenges to public water agencies and their ability to reliably provide water to California’s cities, communities, farms, and businesses. Investments in water infrastructure are critically needed.
- 2. Timing** – The costs associated with water infrastructure projects are significant and will continue to rise. The longer we wait, the more expensive it will be to prepare our infrastructure for extreme swings between drought and flood.
- 3. Affordability** – Water infrastructure projects are typically funded in large part by the customers of one or more public water agencies at a local or regional level. State funding assistance is needed to help deliver the projects and help keep water bills affordable for customers.

ACWA thanks you for your attention to this issue. Please direct any questions to ACWA State Relations Advocate, Soren Nelson, at sorenn@acwa.com or (916) 669-2367.

Climate Resilience Bond - Water Infrastructure Priorities

UPDATED MAY 13, 2024



Adapting to climate change requires California to urgently and significantly rehabilitate and modify existing water facilities, improve operational flexibility, and make generational investments in new water infrastructure. The State is currently underprepared to manage a water system with a decreasing snowpack, less frequent precipitation, and weather extremes. Additional above- and below-ground storage capacity must be developed to capture precipitation. In addition, new and enhanced conveyance facilities are essential for moving collected and stored water, connecting suppliers with different supply sources, transferring water among water users, and recharging groundwater for multi-beneficial purposes. State investment in water infrastructure is crucial to providing the reliable delivery of water to California residents, businesses, and agriculture. In addition, climate resilience projects have also been shown to stimulate local economies and create jobs.

Dam Safety/Reservoir Operations: (\$623 million)

In California, the average age of the 1,246 dams that fall under the jurisdiction of the state's Division of Safety of Dams is more than 70 years. In 2022, the state rated 112 of those dams as "less than satisfactory" and applied capacity restrictions to many reservoirs, resulting in significantly reduced water storage. Dam safety projects protect public safety, regain lost storage capacity, and fortify facilities for intensified storms due to climate change. In addition, dam enhancements to support Forecast-Informed Reservoir Operations (FIRO) further increase the climate resilience of dams using data from watershed monitoring and weather forecasting, which in turn allows for optimization of water releases from reservoirs to better respond to droughts and floods.

Recycling and Desalination: (\$990 million)

The State has set a target of 1.8 million acre-feet of new recycled water by the year 2040. In order to meet this goal, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) estimates that the cost to State, local, and federal agencies will total approximately \$27 billion. In addition, the State has set a target of expanding brackish groundwater desalination by 84,000 acre-feet per year by 2040. Both ocean and brackish groundwater and surface water desalination play an important role in local communities' water supply planning process to enhance California's drought resilience.



Eastern Municipal Water District:
French Valley Recycled Water Expansion



Fresno Irrigation District:
Savory Groundwater Recharge Basin



**Western Municipal Water District:
Recycled Water & Groundwater Recharge**



Los Vaqueros Reservoir

Safe Drinking Water/Water Quality: (\$440 million)

ACWA strongly supported the creation of California's Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund and recognizes the need to continue to direct resources to disadvantaged communities dealing with water quality issues. In addition, there are a number of communities throughout California dealing with water quality issues, including those caused by perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and other contamination that will result in hundreds of millions of dollars in treatment costs to ratepayers.

Groundwater: (\$733 million)

Historic droughts over the last several decades have placed extreme strain on California's groundwater basins. In response to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), local agencies have proposed more than 340 new recharge projects that, if built, could result in as much as 2.2 million acre-feet of additional stored water in a single wet year by 2030.

Flood Protection: (\$733 million)

Levees, weirs, bypasses, and other flood protection facilities reduce the risk of major flooding. Projects that repair, expand, or replace these facilities are essential to flood management and public safety. As recent atmospheric rivers have shown, California must invest significant resources in coastal and inland flood protection including new infrastructure to capture flood flows and divert them to groundwater recharge facilities.

Regional Water Conveyance: (\$586 million)

New regional water conveyance systems and repairs of existing facilities will be essential to create a more resilient water infrastructure system. The Bureau of Reclamation estimates that repairing arterial canals in the central valley that have been damaged due to subsidence will cost over \$500 million. Many local and regional conveyance upgrades and repairs are needed throughout the State to create access to new water sources or provide emergency backup conveyance.

Regional Watershed Resilience: (\$366 million)

Regional and inter-regional scale watershed resilience projects are essential to maximize investments that increase water infrastructure resilience to climate change. These projects include Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) projects and other regional collaborations that focus on managing the region's water resources, setting regional priorities for water infrastructure, improving regional water self-reliance, or reducing reliance on the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

Surface Water Storage: (\$550 million)

As climate change continues to reduce California's snowpack, which serves as a natural storage reservoir, the State must invest in additional water storage infrastructure to capture and store rainfall for utilization during dry periods. The Governor's Water Supply Strategy identifies the need to develop over 4-million-acre feet of new storage facilities with other estimates placing the need much higher.

State Water Project Climate Change Resilience: (\$366 million)

The California State Water Project (SWP) is a multi-purpose water storage and delivery system that delivers water to 27 million Californians and many farms and businesses throughout the state. In order to continue to provide safe and reliable drinking water and to meet the renewable energy goals established for the SWP, California should provide funding to enhance the SWP delivery of water and increase its energy resilience.

Water Conservation: (\$366 million)

From 2013 to 2016, statewide per capita residential water use declined 21 percent and has remained 16 percent below (on average) 2013 levels. Public water agencies continue to invest in water conservation projects and programs that increase conservation efforts, such as turf replacement programs, water loss projects, and other water-use efficiency upgrades. Similarly, there are significant infrastructure projects at agricultural irrigation districts that would yield water savings.



**Mesa Water:
Drought-Resilient Supply Project**



**Contra Costa Water District:
Contra Costa Canal**

**TRABUCO CANYON WATER DISTRICT
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING | JUNE 3, 2024**

OTHER MATTERS

ITEM 4: REPORTS OR COMMENTS FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER AND/OR STAFF

Other matters may have arisen after the posting of the agenda and will be brought forward for discussion and/or information at the time of the Executive Committee.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Hear other matters from the General Manager and/or Staff.

CONTACTS (staff responsible): PALUDI/PEREA