



**MINUTES FOR THE
SPECIAL JOINT WORKSHOP OF THE
INLAND EMPIRE UTILITIES AGENCY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
AND THE REGIONAL POLICY COMMITTEE**

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5, 2015
10:00 A.M.**

IEUA DIRECTORS PRESENT

Terry Catlin, President
Michael Camacho, Vice President
Steven J. Elie, Secretary/Treasurer
Jasmin A. Hall, Director

IEUA DIRECTORS ABSENT

Gene Koopman, Director

REGIONAL POLICY COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Jim Bowman, City of Ontario
Earl Elrod, City of Chino
Trisha Martinez, City of Montclair
Debbie Stone, City of Upland
Jim Curatalo, Cucamonga Valley Water District
Jesse Sandoval, City of Fontana

REGIONAL POLICY COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Peter Rogers, City of Chino Hills
Paul Eaton, City of Montclair
Kathy Tieg, Cucamonga Valley Water District

MONTE VISTA WATER DISTRICT DIRECTOR PRESENT

Sandra Rose, Monte Vista Water District

STAFF PRESENT

Mark Kinsey, Monte Vista Water District
Josh Swift, Fontana Water Company
Cris Fealy, Fontana Water Company
Mark Wiley, City of Chino Hills
Steve Nix, City of Chino Hills
Braden Yu, Cucamonga Valley Water District

John Bosler, Cucamonga Valley Water District
Nicole deMoet, Monte Vista Water District
Harrison Nguyen, City of Upland
Tony Mata, City of Fontana
Ryan Shaw, City of Ontario
Christina Valencia, IEUA
Chris Berch, IEUA
P. Joseph Grindstaff, IEUA
Martha Davis, IEUA
Sylvie Lee, IEUA
Jean Cihigoyenette, IEUA
April Woodruff, IEUA
Jill Kiefer, IEUA

CALL TO ORDER

A Special Joint Workshop was held on Thursday, August 5, 2015, at the Inland Empire Utilities Agency located at 6075 Kimball Avenue, Chino, California. Policy Committee Chairman, Jim Bowman, called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Committee Member Earl Elrod/City of Chino led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES PLAN (IRP)- Overview

Martha Davis, Executive Manager of Policy Development/Assistant General Manager of IEUA, gave an overview of the development of the Integrated Water Resources Plan (IRP). She began by reviewing the regional water planning within the Chino Basin over the last few decades. Compared with other regions in the state, our region has been better prepared than most for the current drought. Since 2000, our region has invested over 0.5 billion dollars in water infrastructure, with around 40% from outside funding (state and federal grants). Our region has increased the amount of water available by 80,000 acre-feet and reduced dependence on imported water.

Ms. Davis continued with a discussion addressing challenges to our region. This is the most serious drought in California since we became a state. She stated that we have to rethink water supply planning for the future, i.e. population growth, water supply, and resiliency. California also has the Executive Order from the Governor for a 25% mandatory conservation standard, an allocation from MWD, and new conservation requirements are transitioning into permanent requirements. In May of this year, there was zero snow pack which directly impacts imported water supplies. California has had two droughts and two MWD allocations within the first 15 years of this century. El Nino may or may not bring relief depending on the jet stream.

Ms. Davis addressed the following key topics:

Key Regional Water Management Challenges

Regionally, our challenges include maintaining or enhancing safe yield in the groundwater basin, due to loss of natural filtration. The State Water Project has increased in salinity level from 341 to 500 mg per liter. July storms provided some recharge for the groundwater basin, but not as much as anticipated due to dry ground absorbing rain rather than it flowing into the basin. There is also the potential for catastrophic interruption (earthquakes).

The IRP looks at planning both in terms of how much water the region needs, and what it means to manage our local water supplies in the context of day-to-day challenges.

How Much Water Will We Need in 2040

Indoor usage is shrinking due to the efficiency of appliances, and outdoor use is shrinking due to more efficient landscaping, dense urban design, and smaller lawns. All of this results in reduced flow to wastewater treatment plants.

Econometric Model/Projections

The econometric model shows the biggest influence on demand is the type of urban development and outdoor landscaping.

Future Demands/Supplies

Our region has a wealth of resources; we're looking into groundwater conjunctive use projects along Santa Ana River, and expansion of our recycled water program. We are also looking at different ways to bring more water from other sources. Interties are important for sharing water. More conservation is required to meet future demands. Change in rate structures may be helpful.

Projection for Regional Baseline

This is a conservative projection/draft using averages from last five years. Our region is in good shape, but we need to understand the variables coming at us and optimize our resources so that we're able to go through extended periods of drought/challenges and make sure we have reliable water supplies. The IRP will be looking at worst case scenarios and stress testing both demands and supplies. Ms. Davis then turned over the podium to Ms. Sylvie Lee.

INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES PLAN (IRP) GOALS

Sylvie Lee, Manager of Planning and Environmental Resources at IEUA, addressed the Board and Committee with an in-depth look at the IRP. She stated that the purpose of this IRP is to have a resilient plan for the next 25 years, which can adapt to unforeseen changing conditions and resources. The "Deliverable" would be to have a portfolio of water management projects to be implemented in five-year increments.

Ms. Lee stated that the purpose of this workshop is to present the plan and receive feedback from the Board and Committee.

Continuing with the presentation, Ms. Lee addressed the following four goals of the IRP:

1. Resilience – adaptability to multiple changing conditions.

2. Water Efficiency – Meet or exceed regulations. Based on projections, there could be a potential 60,000 acre-foot buffer of supply vs. demand.
3. Sustainability – How we use our water now should not adversely affect future generations’ water supply.
4. Cost Effectiveness – We have been successful with grants, and a regional plan would place us in a good position to maximize funding opportunities, such as through Proposition 1.

IRP PROCESS

Ms. Lee provided an overview of the IRP process, stating that we are at the halfway point in this process. The next step is to work with member agencies to develop regional portfolios which will be a combination of projects including groundwater, recycled water, water storage, and stormwater plans in order to meet projected water demands for the year 2040.

Ms. Lee stated that, following the regional portfolio development, Rand Corporation will conduct resiliency testing to determine points of failure against unforeseen conditions. We will reconvene with the Board and Policy Committee in October or November to present the results and evaluate how well our goals have been met.

Following Ms. Lee’s presentation, Chairman Jim Bowman opened the floor for comments, beginning by expressing his appreciation for the partnership between the agencies.

Ms. Sandra Rose, Board President of Monte Vista Water District, asked about the Rand study, and how the needs of each individual agency will be addressed. She also asked what information Rand will be gathering and how they will gather it. Ms. Lee responded that the IRP is structured on a regional basis, and planning is done at the highest level for that region. Ms. Davis stated that the issue of whether or not to build a plan from the bottom up has been addressed by staff, and the agency has invested in the regional approach, although the plan can include agency review in the next steps.

Policy Committee Member Earl Elrod, Council Member with the City of Chino, inquired about future rates and what cutting back 25% will do to IEUA’s bottom line. Mr. P. Joseph Grindstaff, General Manager of IEUA, responded that most of the Agency’s revenues associated with water are fixed and not variable. Those who sell the water will feel a much larger impact.

Ms. Rose asked about the timeline and the fact that we are already in August. She asked if it’s realistic to stick to this timeline. Ms. Lee responded that there is time to include additional project in the plan.

Mr. Mark Kinsey, General Manager of Monte Vista Water District, addressed the committee from the audience, stating that each agency has different needs. Not every agency may feel the need to participate if they are in good shape, particularly in regard to water reduction. Mr. Grindstaff stated that the plan can be looked at individually, but some of it is going to have to happen on a project-by-project basis. He referenced the Memorandum of Understanding with Monte Vista and the City of Pomona and its focus on one specific project that benefits Monte Vista Water District, Pomona, and the region.

Chairman Bowman addressed the issue of each member agency have specific needs, but there must be a collective buy-in. The components can be refined, but the key elements have to be made as part of the global view.

Another joint workshop will be held in November to present and discuss results of the regional portfolios.

Chairman Bowman expressed his appreciation for the staff.

ADJOURNMENT – The Special Workshop meeting was adjourned at 10:56 a.m.



Steven J. Elie, Secretary/Treasurer

APPROVED: SEPTEMBER 16, 2015