



**AGENDA:** **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**DATE:** **MEETING**  
**Thursday, March 24, 2016**  
**LOCATION:** **10:00 a.m.**  
**Imperial Irrigation District**  
**Bill Condit Auditorium**  
**1285 Broadway Avenue**  
**El Centro, CA 92243**  
**(760) 482-9618**

**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**

- A. Minutes of February 18, 2016
- B. Warrant Register Ratification for February 2016
- C. Internal Financial Report for 7/01/2015 – 2/29/2016

**V. PRESENTATIONS**

- A. Water Resource Institute – overview of Salton Sea Authority archives

**VI. ACTION ITEMS**

- A. Draft FY 2016-17 Budget for Board consideration

## **VII. REPORTS**

- A. General Manager's Report on Activities (Phil Rosentrater)
- B. Update on Activities: Funding and Feasibility Action Plan Report (Bill Brownlie, Tetra Tech)
- C. Update from Contractor on FFAP Benchmark 5 - IFD
- D. Legislative Update (Phil Johnson)
- E. Standing Report
  - 1. FEDERAL: US Bureau of Reclamation Program Manager for Salton Sea (Val Simon)
  - 2. STATE: Assistant Secretary of Resources for Salton Sea (Bruce Wilcox)
- F. Salton Sea Action Committee (SSAC) (Juan DeLara)

## **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

### **NEXT MEETING TIME & LOCATION:**

Thursday, April 28, 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**  
**February 18, 2016**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Salton Sea Authority (“Authority”) Board of Directors (“Board”) was called to order by John J. Benoit, President, at 10:00 a.m., February 18, 2016, at Coachella Valley Water District, Steve Robbins Administration Building, 75515 Hovley Lane East, Palm Desert, CA 92260, (760) 398-2651.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Director Benoit led the Pledge of Allegiance

**ROLL CALL:**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS PRESENT**

John J. Benoit, President  
Ryan E. Kelley, Vice President  
G. Patrick O’Dowd, Treasurer  
Marion Ashley, Director  
Cástulo R. Estrada, Director  
James C. Hanks, Director  
Thomas Tortez, Director

**AGENCY**

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

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS ABSENT**

Matt Dessert, Secretary  
Frank Durgin, Director  
John Renison, Director

**AGENCY**

Imperial Irrigation District  
Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla  
Imperial County

**SALTON SEA AUTHORITY STAFF PRESENT**

Phil Rosentrater, Executive Director/General Manager  
Linda Seroy, Board Secretary/Administrative Assistant  
Gloria Sampson, Gloria J. Sampson Accounting Services, Consultant  
Esmeralda Soria  
Bob Hargreaves, Best Best & Krieger, Legal Counsel  
Bill Brownlie, Tetra Tech, Consultant

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT**

**AGENCY**

Vickie Doyle	IID
Darren Simon	SDCWA
Ed Schiller	ILC
Juan DeLara	Federated/SSAC
Andy Vossler	Landmark
Joanna Smith	IID
Stan Snyder	Lewis, Brisbois
Dan Farris	CVWD
Kelly Claar	Calif. State Parks
Pat Cooper	Supervisor Benoit
Michael Flores	CDFW
Melanie Cox	SSAC
Geoffrey Scheuerman	FPN-USA International
Bruce Wilcox	CNRA
Jim Minnick	Imperial County
Suzie Earp	WRI CSUSB
Jim Wood	IV Research Center
Val Simon	Bureau of Reclamation
Bill Brownlie	SSA/TetraTech
Juan Murillo	WRI CSUSB
Alexander Schriener, Jr.	Earth Systems
Felicia Sirchia	USFWS
Katie Barrows	CVAG/CVCC
Mike Sutton	Michael Baker International
Ted Frink (via teleconference)	DWR in Sacramento

**II. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS - None**

**III. PUBLIC COMMENTS - None**

**IV. CONSENT CALENDAR – Receive, Approve, and File**

- A. Minutes of January 28, 2016
- B. Warrant Register Ratification for January 2016
- C. Internal Financial Report for: 7/01/2015 – 1/31/2016

*Director Kelley moved that the consent calendar be approved. Seconded by Director Tortez. Unanimously carried.*

**V. PRESENTATION ITEMS**

**A. Renewable Energy Planning -- CEC Grant Progress**

SSA General Manager Phil Rosentrater introduced Jim Minnick, Planning Director with Imperial county, who is working on the special grant from the State. The California Energy Commission provided funding to both Imperial and Riverside counties to update their general plans so that they could accommodate the renewable energy component of their general plan to be consistent with the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (the big Federal overlay). That work has been going on and has a nexus with the activities that the Authority is doing at the Salton Sea.

Mr. Minnick gave an overview of the history of renewable energy in Imperial county, which, initially, was largely geothermal. When the solar projects started developing, the wording of the existing renewable energy plan left room for interpretation for the solar projects to take over prime agricultural land (for 30 to 40 years). Using the CEC grant, the County is updating the general plan to strike a balance between renewable energy development and other land uses and industries to better plan land use and avoid such conflicts of use in the future.

Director Benoit mentioned that, at the last Board meeting, Ms. Thielman-Braun of Riverside county had demonstrated some of the capabilities under the GIS system and expressed an interest in working with Imperial county to share resources to create a view of the entire Salton Sea area. Mr. Minnick said that he and Ms. Thielman-Braun had not had a discussion about it, but that he would be happy to meet with her, discuss, and share resources.

**B. Initiative Update: Backbone System (Graeme Donaldson, IID)**

Graeme Donaldson, Program Manager Salton Sea Initiative at IID, presented the Backbone Infrastructure Project that is being developed to collect, store, manage, and release IID drainage water – to accommodate not only IID’s core water delivery and drainage functions, but also use by the State of California to fulfill its obligations toward restoration of the Salton Sea, and uses by other projects consistent with restoration of the Salton Sea, and to promote habitat. This backbone system must go in first before the other projects. It will divert agricultural return water, treat water to reduce nutrients and sediment, distribute water to the playa, mitigate for pupfish, and allow for other infrastructures. As the Sea recedes, additional projects would fill in between the backbone project and the new shoreline. IID plans to have this backbone project plan ready to present to the State March 31.

## **VI. REPORTS**

- A. General Manager Phil Rosentrater had submitted a written progress report to the Directors. An update on the funding portion of the report: The Authority applied for a \$10 million grant through the Department of Agriculture, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, and was awarded \$7.5 million that will be coming in the current fiscal year for use on treatment wetlands projects on the river sources for the Sea. The Authority will work with its partners to the best, highest use of that money.

Mr. Rosentrater invited Katie Barrows, Director of Environmental Resources for Coachella Valley Association of Governments, to give an update on the Salton Sea license plate. Ms. Barrows reported that the license plate can now be ordered online (at [saltonseaplate.com](http://saltonseaplate.com)) with a credit card. Until now, one had to print and mail in the form with a check. A year's extension was granted for signups, so there remain 18 to 20 months to reach the goal of 7500 paid registrations. If that number is not reached, those payments will be refunded. The Greater Palm Springs Convention and Visitors Bureau has partnered with CVAG to distribute information and increase public awareness of the license plate.

- B. Update on Activities: Funding and Feasibility Report

Bill Brownlie of TetraTech reported that Benchmark 4.1 working draft – sources of water and export pipelines, etc. – was distributed to Mr. Rosentrater and the Authority member agencies in January. The next step: he will distribute Benchmark 4.1 to the Technical Coordination Team, whose conference call meetings have been reinstated, next week unless there are objections. Benchmark 4.2 report, on the perimeter lake, is scheduled to be released as a working draft on February 29.

- C. Update from Contractor on FFAP Benchmark 5 – IFD

Patrick Bourne Development Planning and Financing Group, the team lead put in charge of preparing Benchmark 5, the financial and feasibility analysis, apologized for any miscommunications that may have arisen from the previous status update. As presented in October, 2015, they are taking a phased approach. Last month, their report focused on phase one, which is the northern portion of the Sea. The study will encompass the entire Sea, focusing on developable areas in both Riverside and Imperial counties. He gave background on the direction they are heading with this study, including which previous studies they are using. He reminded of how the phased approach proceeds (excerpt): first, work that benefits all phases (e.g. tourism demand capture); then, North Lake; then, West Shore; then, South Lake - based on 2005 Opportunity Areas 1&2, 3, and 4&5 respectively, then a comprehensive work plan covering all phases.

Topics covered included opportunity areas, feasibility analysis study area, Imperial county population growth/demand, cost and total IFD tax increment, loan additions and interest, construction cost and funding sources (which pointed out that funds are needed for construction long before revenue starts coming in, so a long-term loan is needed), and scope of work overview and timeline.

#### D. Legislative Update

Mr. Rosentrater reported that the legislature had not introduced any new bills to be reviewed, so no additional report.

#### E. Standing Report

##### 1. FEDERAL:

Val Simon, US Bureau of Reclamation Program Manager for Salton Sea, reported that the Bureau has been working on a consolidated activities update for projects around the Salton Sea. There has been a big increase in requests for presentations on Salton Sea activities, to which she, Bruce Wilcox and Phil Rosentrater have been responding and participating in fairly regularly. She plans to roll more of that into the Outreach Committee as demand for information increases.

Ms. Simon reported that the Bureau was able to secure \$3 million in FY2016 funding for a shovel-ready project that she needs to get constructed this year. It will be put into the Holtville Alamo River wetlands project as construction funding.

##### 2. STATE:

Bruce Wilcox, Assistant Secretary of Resources for Salton Sea, reported on the State committees activities.

Long-range planning committee meetings are scheduled to look at water import scenarios, and there will be meetings over the next month or so to look at water quality treatment, among others. The Air Quality meeting will look at the draft plan IID and Imperial county have put together. The Project committee will meet with IID to look at the Infrastructure Backbone project. The “shovel ready” projects that are to be submitted March 31 have been defined as projects that must be concept level, have some kind of environmental work that has been started on them, and have some sort of concept design that’s been started on them.

#### F. Water Resources Institute

G. Suzie Earp, Director and Archivist of Water Resources Institute, reported that they now have 220 scanned documents (ranging from 2 to 500 pages long). She showed a scan of a 1913 blueprint of the Imperial Settlements showing developments that were planned and including a portion of the Salton Sea. She reported on the archive’s activities during the month. Ms. Earp invited those who are interested to call Juan, the archivist, for a tour. Mr. Rosentrater will review priorities with Ms. Earp.

#### H. Salton Sea Action Committee (SSAC)

Paul Quill reported that the SSAC has created a new 501c charitable non-profit called “Revive the Salton Sea,” that will help with outreach and education.

Mr. Quill reported on the North Shore Extreme event last weekend – a successful and positive event, which utilized the recently-dredged boat launch.

SSAC is making progress on the funding of their portion of Benchmark 5.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Board President Benoit adjourned the meeting at 11:48 a.m.

**NEXT MEETING TIME & LOCATION:**

March 24, 2016

10:00 a.m.

Imperial Irrigation District

Bill Condit Auditorium

1285 Broadway Avenue

El Centro, CA 92243

760-482-9618

**Warrant Register**  
**February 1, 2016 through February 29, 2016**



<b>Warrant Date</b>	<b>Warrant Number</b>	<b>Vendor Name</b>	<b>Amount</b>
02/02/2016	EFT	Rabobank Credit Card	865.00
02/03/2016	EFT	Rabobank Credit Card	476.90
02/04/2016	EFT	Rabobank Credit Card	546.46
02/09/2016	EFT	Rabobank Credit Card	1,680.00
02/10/2016	16058	Best, Best & Krieger	1,812.12
02/11/2016	16051	ACWA	625.00
02/11/2016	16052	OfficeTeam	1,571.70
02/11/2016	16053	RivCo EDA	12,373.90
02/11/2016	16054	Rosentrater, Phil	141.07
02/11/2016	16055	Sampson, GJ Acct	8,010.86
02/11/2016	16056	WESTCAS	125.00
02/11/2016	16057	WRI - CSUSB	9,833.00
02/17/2016	EFT	Rabobank Credit Card	1,000.00
02/19/2016	16059	Tetra Tech - 215	159,731.23
02/21/2016	EFT	FedEx	49.27
02/21/2016	EFT	Verizon Wireless	188.27
02/24/2016	EFT	Rabobank Credit Card	1,800.00
02/26/2016	EFT	Rabobank Credit Card	800.00
02/29/2016	EFT	Rabobank service charge	15.00
<b>Total \$</b>			<b>201,644.78</b>

**Salton Sea Authority**  
**Balance Sheet by Fund**  
As of February 29, 2016

	101 General	214 Wetlands Grant	215 Funding Feasibility Review	702 Fish Clean Up Trust	TOTAL
<b>ASSETS</b>					
<b>Current Assets</b>					
<b>Checking/Savings</b>					
0001010 - Cash - Checking	204,370.68	-115,019.68	-20,647.60	0.00	68,703.40
0001011 - Cash - Money Market	283,588.13	10,712.04	0.00	20,991.43	315,291.60
0001012 - Cash - RivCo Fund	20,560.49	0.00	0.00	0.00	20,560.49
0001015 - Cash - Petty Cash	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	200.00
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	<b>508,719.30</b>	<b>-104,307.64</b>	<b>-20,647.60</b>	<b>20,991.43</b>	<b>404,755.49</b>
<b>Accounts Receivable</b>					
0001210 - Accounts Receivable	0.00	67,670.21	0.00	0.00	67,670.21
<b>Total Accounts Receivable</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>67,670.21</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>67,670.21</b>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>508,719.30</b>	<b>-36,637.43</b>	<b>-20,647.60</b>	<b>20,991.43</b>	<b>472,425.70</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>508,719.30</b>	<b>-36,637.43</b>	<b>-20,647.60</b>	<b>20,991.43</b>	<b>472,425.70</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>					
<b>Liabilities</b>					
<b>Current Liabilities</b>					
<b>Accounts Payable</b>					
0002010 - Accounts Payable	18,181.12	107,838.49	7,130.70	0.00	133,150.31
<b>Total Accounts Payable</b>	<b>18,181.12</b>	<b>107,838.49</b>	<b>7,130.70</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>133,150.31</b>
<b>Credit Cards</b>					
0002015 - Credit Card Payable	2,140.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,140.16
<b>Total Credit Cards</b>	<b>2,140.16</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>2,140.16</b>
<b>Other Current Liabilities</b>					
0002820 - Deferred Revenue	0.00	67,670.21	0.00	0.00	67,670.21
<b>Total Other Current Liabilities</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>67,670.21</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>67,670.21</b>
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>20,321.28</b>	<b>175,508.70</b>	<b>7,130.70</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>202,960.68</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>20,321.28</b>	<b>175,508.70</b>	<b>7,130.70</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>202,960.68</b>
<b>Equity</b>					
0003009 - Fund Balance	170,121.79	-128,056.19	-219,932.28	20,991.43	-156,875.25
Net Income	318,276.23	-84,089.94	192,153.98	0.00	426,340.27
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>488,398.02</b>	<b>-212,146.13</b>	<b>-27,778.30</b>	<b>20,991.43</b>	<b>269,465.02</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>508,719.30</b>	<b>-36,637.43</b>	<b>-20,647.60</b>	<b>20,991.43</b>	<b>472,425.70</b>

**Salton Sea Authority**  
**Revenue & Expenditure by Fund**  
 July 2015 through February 2016

	101 General	214 Wetlands Grant	215 Funding Feasibility Review	TOTAL
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>				
<b>Income</b>				
0004662 - Local Gov/Member Assessments	610,000.00	0.00	0.00	610,000.00
0004660 - State of California Grants	0.00	0.00	430,380.31	430,380.31
0004710 - Pooled Cash Allocated Interest	495.31	0.00	0.00	495.31
<b>Total Income</b>	610,495.31	0.00	430,380.31	1,040,875.62
<b>Expense</b>				
<b>1020000 - SSA ADMINISTRATION</b>				
1025010 - Salaries				
Salaries - GM	34,261.04	0.00	0.00	34,261.04
Salaries - RivCo EDA	36,562.67	0.00	0.00	36,562.67
Salaries - Admin Support A	22,821.35	0.00	0.00	22,821.35
<b>Total 1025010 - Salaries</b>	93,645.06	0.00	0.00	93,645.06
1025500 - Employee Benefits				
Employee Benefits - RivCo EDA	10,306.69	0.00	0.00	10,306.69
Employee Benefits - SSA	17,151.67	0.00	0.00	17,151.67
<b>Total 1025500 - Employee Benefits</b>	27,458.36	0.00	0.00	27,458.36
1026050 - Contract Svc/Professional				
Contract Svc/Prof - Adm Sup C	27,900.00	0.00	0.00	27,900.00
Contract Svc/Prof - Adm Sup D	5,179.07	0.00	0.00	5,179.07
Contract Svc/Prof - Finance	31,851.50	0.00	0.00	31,851.50
<b>Total 1026050 - Contract Svc/Professional</b>	64,930.57	0.00	0.00	64,930.57
1026010 - Contract Svc/Attorney				
Contract Svcs/Attorney - Genera	12,953.60	0.00	0.00	12,953.60
Contract Svcs/Attorney - Legisl	104.40	0.00	0.00	104.40
<b>Total 1026010 - Contract Svc/Attorney</b>	13,058.00	0.00	0.00	13,058.00
1026090 - Contract Svc/Technical	3,000.00	0.00	0.00	3,000.00
1026095 - Contract Svc/Equipment Maint	5,031.78	0.00	0.00	5,031.78
1028551 - Capital Equipment <\$5,000	9,131.34	0.00	0.00	9,131.34
1026096 - Contract Svc/Equipment Lease	174.98	0.00	0.00	174.98
1026120 - Insurance	9,255.56	0.00	0.00	9,255.56
1027030 - Office Exp/Operating Supplies	3,715.51	0.00	0.00	3,715.51
1027035 - Office Exp/Online Services	416.63	0.00	0.00	416.63
1026450 - Postage, Mail	618.12	0.00	0.00	618.12
1026470 - Printing Services	152.47	0.00	0.00	152.47
1026439 - Dues, Subscriptions	3,643.53	0.00	0.00	3,643.53
1026350 - Communications	4,370.51	0.00	0.00	4,370.51
1026370 - Travel/Meetings	34,056.49	0.00	0.00	34,056.49
1026060 - Contract Svcs/WRI,Archive Mgmt	18,166.00	0.00	0.00	18,166.00
<b>Total 1020000 - SSA ADMINISTRATION</b>	290,824.91	0.00	0.00	290,824.91
<b>6020000 - WETLANDS GRANT ADMINISTRATION</b>				
6025010 - Salaries	1,117.37	0.00	0.00	1,117.37
6025500 - Employee Benefits	276.80	0.00	0.00	276.80
6026010 - Contract Svcs/Attorney	0.00	809.60	0.00	809.60
6026013 - Contract Svcs/Accountant	0.00	6,615.00	0.00	6,615.00

**Salton Sea Authority**  
**Revenue & Expenditure by Fund**  
 July 2015 through February 2016

	101 General	214 Wetlands Grant	215 Funding Feasibility Review	TOTAL
<b>Total 6020000 - WETLANDS GRANT ADMINISTRATION</b>	1,394.17	7,424.60	0.00	8,818.77
<b>6040000 - WETLANDS GRANT TECHNICAL</b>				
6046020 - Contract Svcs/AMEC - update	0.00	4,152.50	0.00	4,152.50
6046025 - Contract Svcs - AMEC/NSYC	0.00	2,870.00	0.00	2,870.00
6046040 - Contract Svcs/Design	0.00	69,642.84	0.00	69,642.84
<b>Total 6040000 - WETLANDS GRANT TECHNICAL</b>	0.00	76,665.34	0.00	76,665.34
<b>6050000 - FUNDING/FEASIBILITY ADMIN</b>				
6055010 - Salaries				
Salaries - GM 215	0.00	0.00	38,475.97	38,475.97
<b>Total 6055010 - Salaries</b>	0.00	0.00	38,475.97	38,475.97
6056010 - Contract Svcs/Attorney	0.00	0.00	19,026.90	19,026.90
6056011 - Contract Svcs/J Schlange	0.00	0.00	962.50	962.50
6056013 - Contract Svcs/Accountant	0.00	0.00	6,705.00	6,705.00
<b>Total 6050000 - FUNDING/FEASIBILITY ADMIN</b>	0.00	0.00	65,170.37	65,170.37
<b>6060000 - FUNDING/FEASIBILITY TECHNICAL</b>				
6066016 - Contract Svcs/TetraTech \$1.7	0.00	0.00	159,731.23	159,731.23
<b>Total 6060000 - FUNDING/FEASIBILITY TECHNICAL</b>	0.00	0.00	159,731.23	159,731.23
<b>Total Expense</b>	292,219.08	84,089.94	224,901.60	601,210.62
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	318,276.23	-84,089.94	205,478.71	439,665.00
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>318,276.23</b>	<b>-84,089.94</b>	<b>205,478.71</b>	<b>439,665.00</b>

## Memorandum

**To:** Salton Sea Authority Board of Directors  
**From:** Phil Rosentrater, General Manager  
**Date:** March 24, 2016  
**Re:** **Water Resources Institute Presentation**  
**CM No.** V.A – 3/24/16

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### **GENERAL:**

The Salton Sea Authority secured \$2 million from the state of California budget in 2013 to undertake a series of activities intended to ultimately deliver a credible plan for a smaller, sustainable Salton Sea, along with a realistic strategy to pay for it.

Among the tasks involved in this effort is a comprehensive review and update of all previous studies, plans and proposals in order to sort the useful, feasible ideas and concepts from those that are obsolete or perhaps were never feasible in the first place.

The SSA called upon the state's premiere water archive, the Water Resources Institute (WRI) for assistance, as the files and records for the sea were dispersed throughout multiple agencies at best. In fact, many primary documents were being stored in piles of boxes stacked inside a dusty roll-off storage bin unprotected from weather extremes.

Over the past year, under a small contract with the SSA, the WRI has sorted, organized, scanned and filed countless files that now constitute a useful record of activity that is up to date. WRI staff have consented to provide additional background on the activities undertaken and the results provided to the SSA at this board meeting, and they have offered to schedule tours of the archives with any board members wishing to visit.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

No action is required by the Salton Sea Authority at this time. This presentation is for information purposes only.

Respectfully submitted,

Phil Rosentrater  
GM / Executive Director

## Memorandum

**To:** Salton Sea Authority Board of Directors  
**From:** Phil Rosentrater, General Manager  
**Date:** March 24, 2016  
**Re:** Salton Sea Authority Draft Budget FY 2016-17  
**CM No.** VIA – 03-24-16

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### **GENERAL:**

The Salton Sea Authority is wrapping up a year during which finances have been managed in a stable and fully accountable manner. The Authority is heading into what is anticipated to be an extremely busy year and presents a draft budget for FY 2016-2017 that supports aggressive funding procurement and coordination.

The draft FY 2016-17 budget was presented for review and discussion at the SSA ad hoc Financial Committee meeting. It was noted that member agency contributions remain constant at \$150,000 each for Imperial and Riverside Counties, IID and CVWD and \$10,000 for the Torres Martinez.

There is no revenue budgeted from grant activities as all current grant revenues are expected to be fully invoiced in the current fiscal year. The SSA does anticipate receiving grant funding in the coming fiscal year, but even though at least one grant has already been awarded (\$7.5 M federal source), the negotiation of the timing and annual flow from this source is still being worked out. The draft proposed budget for FY 2016-17 remains conservative in counting only those funds known to be committed.

Budget for General Office Staff compensation (Executive Director and Administrative Assistant) acknowledges reduction in the General Manager line item from the management overlap in the FY 2015-2016 transition budget.

Budget for General Office Expenses increased \$1,500 from FY 2015-2016. Total costs are expected to be similar with most of FY 2015-2016 budget for equipment upgrades re-allocated in FY 2016-2017 to increase travel, printing, dues, and telephone budgets. These categories are expected to increase as staffing is increased to support additional activity and workflow.

Budget for Professional Services increased \$68,900 from FY 2015-2016. The increase will support a full-time administrative/accounting assistant (up from a half-time for half-year), additional outreach

and grant procurement activities, and a combination of grant administration/ technical support staff or consultant. The addition of new grant activity funding is expected to include an administrative budget that will help support increased staff costs as workload continues to ramp up.

Budget for Other Commitments decreased by \$16,400 from FY 2015-2016. A budget item of \$25,000 for WRI will continue SSA's support of the CSU archives project which provides a home for and increases access to the plethora of Salton Sea documents from all sources, as well as the new GIS mapping overlay which facilitates map requirements for Salton Sea management planning and other purposes.

The Contingency Reserve is \$22,900. While small, the reserve represents the available income remaining after all realistic costs were identified, without requesting additional member agency contributions. The overall budget reflects SSA staff's anticipation of increased projects and activity stemming from the management planning now in progress. New projects are expected to include recovery of management costs which will help to offset some of the increased operating costs.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

The Salton Sea Authority ad hoc Financial Committee has reviewed and approved the draft budget for FY 2016-17 and recommends adoption by the Salton Sea Authority Board at this time.

Respectfully submitted,

Phil Rosentrater  
GM / Executive Director

**Salton Sea Authority**  
**Proposed General Fund Budget**  
**For Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017**

**Revenue**

Riverside County	\$150,000
Imperial County	\$150,000
Coachella Valley Water District	\$150,000
Imperial Irrigation Water District	\$150,000
Torres Martinez	\$10,000
Carry over Funds - Prior Year Budget	\$222,000
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$832,000</b>

**Expenses**

**General Office Staff**

General Manager	\$125,000
Administrative Support - A	\$46,600
Fringe Benefits	\$74,000
<b>Total Staff Support</b>	<b>\$245,600</b>

**General Office Expenses**

Computer Network Maintenance	\$11,000
Equipment Purchase	\$5,000
Equipment Lease	\$1,500
Insurance	\$13,000
Office Expense/Office Supplies	\$7,000
Office Expense/Online Services	\$3,000
Postage	\$2,000
Printing	\$7,000
Dues, Subscriptions & Publications	\$13,000
Telephone & Internet	\$8,000
Travel, Mileage, Conference Fees	\$70,000
Website Maintenance	\$10,000
Utilities	\$3,000
<b>Total Office Expense</b>	<b>\$153,500</b>

**Professional Services**

Administrative Support - C	\$40,000
Administrative Support - D	\$30,000
Executive Services Support	\$40,000
Audit	\$9,500
Financial Support/Accounting	\$45,000
Financial Support/Grant Acct & Admin	\$30,000
Financial Support/Compliance & Regulatory	\$25,000
Legal	\$55,000
Tech Support - TT	\$5,000
Tech Support - Consultant	\$50,000
Tech Support - General	\$50,000
Legislative Government Relations	\$5,500
<b>Total Professional Services</b>	<b>\$385,000</b>

**Salton Sea Authority**  
**Proposed General Fund Budget**  
**For Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017**

<b>Other Commitments</b>	
Water Resource Institute	\$25,000
Contingency Reserve	\$22,900
<b>Total Other Commitments</b>	<b>\$47,900</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$832,000</b>

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