

# Salton Sea Authority Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, June 18, 2015  
10:00 a.m.

Coachella Valley Water District  
Steve Robbins Administration Building  
75515 Hovley Lane East  
Palm Desert, CA 92260  
(760) 398-2651



**AGENDA: BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**  
**DATE: Thursday, June 18, 2015**  
**10:00 a.m.**  
**LOCATION: Coachella Valley Water District**  
**Steve Robbins Administration Building**  
**75515 Hovley Lane East**  
**Palm Desert, CA 92260**  
**(760) 398-2651**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL**

**II. 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.*

**III. 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.*

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

- A. Minutes of May 21, 2015
- B. Warrant Register Ratification for: 05/01/2015 – 05/31/2015
- C. Internal Financial Report for: 07/01/2014 – 05/31/2015
- D. Reimbursement Arrangement for Loaned Staff
- E. Approved Budget FY 2015-2016

**V. REPORTS**

- A. General Manager's Report on Activities (Roger Shintaku)
- B. Update on Activities: Funding and Feasibility Action Plan Report (Roger Shintaku and Tetra Tech)
  - 1. NREL
- C. Legislative Update (Phil Rosentrater) (See attached)
- D. Salton Sea Action Committee (SSAC) (Juan DeLara)

**VI. CURRENT BUSINESS**

A. Change of date for September 24 meeting (*See attached*)

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

**NEXT MEETING TIME & LOCATION:**

Thursday, September 24, 2015

10:00 a.m.

Imperial Irrigation District

Bill Condit Auditorium

1285 Broadway Avenue

El Centro, CA 92243

(760) 482-9618

*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 Work Force Development center located at 44-199 Monroe Street, Indio, CA 92201.*



**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS**  
**SALTON SEA AUTHORITY**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**  
**May 21, 2015**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the Salton Sea Authority (“Authority”) Board of Directors (“Board”) was called to order by President John J. Benoit at 10:00 a.m., May 21, 2015, at the Imperial Irrigation District Bill Condit Auditorium, 1285 Broadway Avenue, El Centro, CA 92243, (760) 482-9618.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Director Hanks led the Pledge of Allegiance

**ROLL CALL:**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

John J. Benoit, President  
Ryan E. Kelley, Vice President \*  
Matt Dessert, Secretary  
G. Patrick O’Dowd, Treasurer  
Cástulo R. Estrada, Director  
James C. Hanks, Director  
John Renison, Director  
Thomas Torte, Director \*

**AGENCY**

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

*\* (arrived after roll call)*

*Following roll call, President Benoit declared a quorum present.*

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**

Marion Ashley, Director  
Frank Durgin, Director

**AGENCY**

Riverside County  
Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla

**BOARD MEMBERS PARTICIPATING  
VIA TELECONFERENCE**

None

**AGENCY**

**SALTON SEA AUTHORITY STAFF PRESENT**

Roger Shintaku, General Manager  
Phil Rosentrater, Deputy General Manager  
Bruce Wilcox, Deputy Executive Director  
Bob Hargreaves, Legal Counsel  
Gloria Sampson, Accountant Consultant  
Bill Brownlie, Tetra Tech, Consultant  
Linda Seroy, Administrative Assistant, Board Secretary

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE**

Sterling Mayes  
Paul Quill  
Hector Araujo  
Joanna Smith  
Pat Cooper  
Rebecca Terrazas-Baxter  
Vickie Doyle  
Juan M. De Lara  
Michael Flores  
Andy Horne  
Bianka Velez  
Trey Houtem

**AGENCY**

ICBCTC  
SSAC  
Senator Hueso  
Imperial Irrigation District  
Supervisor Benoit  
Cong. Juan Vargas  
Imperial Irrigation District  
SSAC, Federated Insurance  
CA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife  
County of Imperial  
Asm. Eduardo Garcia  
Callahan Assoc.

**CALL-IN PARTICIPANTS**

Christopher Harris

**AGENCY**

Colorado River Board, California

**II. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

- A. Juan Murrillo, resident archivist of the CSUSB Water Resources Institute (“WRI”) at the Palm Desert Campus, presented a statement of appreciation to the Salton Sea Authority on behalf of WRI, thanking the Authority for the opportunity to assist in organizing, preserving, and making available the research assets of the Authority.
- B. Hector Araujo, representing Senator Ben Hueso, reported on the May revision of the budget that created a position for the Salton Sea Task force, but no specific funds were designated for restoration.
- C. Paul Quill brought a National Geographic article on the Aral Sea, documented the devastating effects of the drying Aral Sea on the local populace, which he shared with the Board and urged them to read. He expressed an urgency that solutions to the Salton Sea’s deterioration be implemented before our local populace suffers similarly.

*\* President Benoit acknowledged Supervisor Kelley’s arrival. (10:16 a.m.)*

### III. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

- A. Matt Dessert asked IID General Manager Kevin Kelley to give a report on recent activity regarding the QSA JPA. Mr. Kelley reported that the QSA Joint Powers Authority met yesterday to pass a budget and failed to do so. Broader implications include impacts on the ground at the Salton Sea.

*\* President Benoit acknowledged Director Tortez's arrival. (10:20 a.m.)*

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

- A. Minutes of April 23, 2015
- B. Warrant Register Ratification for: 4/01/2015 – 4/30/2015
- C. Internal Financial Report for: 7/01/2014 – 4/30/2015
- D. Fiscal Year 2014/2015 Administrative Budget Transfers for Board's Approval

Salton Sea Authority Staff submitted Minutes, Warrant Register, Internal Financial Report, and Administrative Budget Transfers for the Board's information, review, and approval. No items were pulled for discussion.

*Director Kelley moved that the Consent Calendar be approved. Director Hanks seconded. Motion carried unanimously.*

### V. REPORTS

- A. General Manager's Report on Activities

General Manager Roger Shintaku reported on working with recent additions to staff – Phil Rosentrater and Bruce Wilcox – who were introduced at last meeting as being on loan to the Authority to provide administrative and technical services, and on progress on the projects.

- B. Update on Activities: Funding and Feasibility Action Plan Report

Bill Brownlie of Tetra Tech gave an update on the IFD Feasibility Study's RFD, that replies were received, and the next step. Directors Dessert and Kelley asked to see the current draft and replies before they go back to NREL; **Director Benoit authorized Directors Dessert and Kelley to review and comment on the Board's behalf.**

- C. Legislative Update

Phil Rosentrater presented the legislative update, a hardcopy of which was attached to the agenda. Mr. Rosentrater recommended that the Board adopt a "support" position for DeLeon SB 317.

*Director Dessert so moved; Director Renison seconded. Unanimously carried.*

- D. Legal Counsel Report, Comments, and,
- E. Little Hoover Commission Public Hearing Report

Counsel Bob Hargreaves reported on representing the Authority at the Little Hoover Commission hearing on behalf of General Manager Shintaku who was not able to attend.

The Little Hoover Commission (LHC) has scheduled their next hearing in Sacramento on June 25, 2015, the same date as the Authority's next Board meeting. Mr. Hargreaves recommended that the Board select an alternate date for the Authority's Board meeting, as the LHC had made it clear that they could not move their date, so key members of the Authority can participate in the proceedings. After some discussion, *Supervisor Benoit suggested **June 18 as the new date. The Board consented.***

- F. Infrastructure Finance District (IFD) Update

Brian Nestande reported on the Riverside County EIFD and clarified the difference between EIFD and IFD, as different laws apply to each.

- G. Salton Sea Action Committee (SSAC)

Juan De Lara reported on a new member agency to their Board and updates on their projects.

## VI. NEW BUSINESS

- A. A Resolution was presented to the Board to authorize Phil Rosentrater to sign checks drawn on the Salton Sea Authority bank account as required in the performance of his duties as Deputy General Manager.

*Director Renison **moved** to approve Phil Rosentrater as a signatory on the Salton Sea Authority bank account. **Seconded** by Thomas Tortez. Motion **unanimously carried.***

## VII. AD HOC BOARD COMMITTEES REPORTS

- A. Finance

Director O'Dowd, Chairman, presented the finance committee report, which included a recommendation to approve a budget for Fiscal Year 2015-16. New projects are expected during the next fiscal year, bringing with them additional costs to administrate the additional projects, but also additional funds for the projects. Director O'Dowd proposed that the Board approve last year's budget as revised on a pro-forma basis for the agencies to take back to their respective constituents to approve for funding purposes for next year's budget, and that over the next few months the proper committees and responsible parties within the agency should get together and reallocate the resources to make sure they're distributed properly.

*Director O'Dowd so **moved; second** by Director Benoit. **Unanimously carried.***

There were no Project or Personnel committee reports.

## IX. INFORMATION OF INTEREST

An article about the Little Hoover Commission Tour was attached to the agenda. No action required.

**X. ADJOURNMENT**

Board President John Benoit adjourned the meeting at 11:14 a.m.

**NEXT MEETING TIME & LOCATION:**

**(Please note that this date is revised from the original schedule.)**

**Thursday, June 18, 2015**

**10:00 a.m.**

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Steve Robbins Administration Building  
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(760) 398-2651**

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**Warrant Register**  
**May 1, 2015 through May 31, 2015**



<b>Warrant Date</b>	<b>Warrant Number</b>	<b>Vendor Name</b>	<b>Amount</b>
05/06/2015	15623	OfficeMax	165.00
05/06/2015	15624	Sampson, GJ Acct	13,926.61
05/06/2015	15625	Schlange, J Andrew	5,100.00
05/06/2015	15626	Tetra Tech	11,875.00
05/06/2015	15627	Sampson, GJ Acct - 214	697.50
05/06/2015	15628	Sampson, GJ Acct - 215	270.00
05/06/2015	EFT	Rabobank Credit Card	437.53
05/08/2015	EFT	Verizon California (inet)	113.49
05/20/2015	EFT	Rabobank Credit Card	3,068.31
05/20/2015	15629	Best, Best & Krieger	7,791.60
05/20/2015	15630	OfficeMax	112.45
05/20/2015	15631	Tetra Tech	8,075.00
05/21/2015	EFT	Verizon Wireless	194.21
<b>Total \$</b>			<b>51,826.70</b>

**Salton Sea Authority**  
**Balance Sheet by Fund**  
As of May 31, 2015

	101 General	214 Wetlands Grant	215 Funding Feasibility Review	702 Fish Clean Up Trust	TOTAL
<b>ASSETS</b>					
<b>Current Assets</b>					
Checking/Savings					
0001010 - Cash - Checking	89,627.31	-49,917.73	-31,222.82	0.00	8,486.76
0001011 - Cash - Money Market	142,853.56	47,569.19	0.00	20,991.43	211,414.18
0001012 - Cash - Rivco Fund	20,547.62	0.00	0.00	0.00	20,547.62
0001015 - Cash - Petty Cash	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	200.00
Total Checking/Savings	253,228.49	-2,348.54	-31,222.82	20,991.43	240,648.56
<b>Accounts Receivable</b>					
0001210 - Accounts Receivable	620,000.00	67,670.21	190,651.79	0.00	878,322.00
Total Accounts Receivable	620,000.00	67,670.21	190,651.79	0.00	878,322.00
Total Current Assets	873,228.49	65,321.67	159,428.97	20,991.43	1,118,970.56
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>873,228.49</b>	<b>65,321.67</b>	<b>159,428.97</b>	<b>20,991.43</b>	<b>1,118,970.56</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>					
<b>Liabilities</b>					
<b>Current Liabilities</b>					
Accounts Payable					
0002010 - Accounts Payable	28,999.66	104,332.24	179,133.65	0.00	312,465.55
Total Accounts Payable	28,999.66	104,332.24	179,133.65	0.00	312,465.55
Total Current Liabilities	28,999.66	104,332.24	179,133.65	0.00	312,465.55
<b>Equity</b>					
0003009 - Fund Balance	113,043.14	-74,163.67	0.00	20,991.43	59,870.90
Net Income	731,185.69	35,153.10	-19,704.68	0.00	746,634.11
Total Equity	844,228.83	-39,010.57	-19,704.68	20,991.43	806,505.01
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>873,228.49</b>	<b>65,321.67</b>	<b>159,428.97</b>	<b>20,991.43</b>	<b>1,118,970.56</b>

## Salton Sea Authority Revenue & Expenditure by Fund July 2014 through May 2015

	101 General	214 Wetlands Grant	215 Funding Feasibility Review	TOTAL
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>				
Income				
0004660 · State of California Grants			67,670.21	719,303.27
0004662 · Local Gov/Member Assessments	1,220,000.00		0.00	1,220,000.00
0004710 · Pooled Cash Allocated Interest	960.04		0.00	960.04
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>1,220,960.04</b>	<b>67,670.21</b>	<b>651,633.06</b>	<b>1,940,263.31</b>
<b>Expense</b>				
1020000 · SSA ADMINISTRATION				
1025010 · Salaries				
Salaries - GM	72,781.07		0.00	72,781.07
Salaries - RIVCO EDA	2,649.51		0.00	2,649.51
Salaries - Admin Support A	31,038.61		0.00	31,038.61
<b>Total 1025010 · Salaries</b>	<b>106,469.19</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>106,469.19</b>
1025500 · Employee Benefits				
Employee Benefits - RIVCO EDA	898.57		0.00	898.57
Employee Benefits - SSA	48,071.12		0.00	48,071.12
<b>Total 1025500 · Employee Benefits</b>	<b>48,969.69</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>48,969.69</b>
1026010 · Contract Svc/Attorney				
Contract Svc/Attorney - Genera	34,653.67		0.00	34,653.67
Contract Svc/Attorney - Legisl	4,613.00		0.00	4,613.00
<b>Total 1026010 · Contract Svc/Attorney</b>	<b>39,266.67</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>39,266.67</b>
1026050 · Contract Svc/Professional				
Contract Svc/Prof - Finance	53,107.50		0.00	53,107.50
Contract Svc/Prof - Adm Sup B	13,497.55		0.00	13,497.55
Contract Svc/Prof - Adm Sup C	13,387.50		0.00	13,387.50
Contract Svc/Prof - Adm Sup D	9,999.00		0.00	9,999.00
<b>Total 1026050 · Contract Svc/Professional</b>	<b>89,991.55</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>89,991.55</b>
1026060 · Contract Svc/WRI,Archive Mgmt				
Contract Svc/Technical	0.00		0.00	0.00
Contract Svc/Tech Support	60,350.00		0.00	60,350.00
<b>Total 1026060 · Contract Svc/WRI,Archive Mgmt</b>	<b>60,350.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>60,350.00</b>
1026090 · Contract Svc/Equipment Maint				
Contract Svc/Equipment Lease	19,950.00		0.00	19,950.00
<b>Total 1026090 · Contract Svc/Equipment Maint</b>	<b>19,950.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>19,950.00</b>
1026095 · Contract Svc/Equipment Maint				
Contract Svc/Equipment Lease	4,281.25		0.00	4,281.25
<b>Total 1026095 · Contract Svc/Equipment Maint</b>	<b>4,281.25</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>4,281.25</b>
1026096 · Contract Svc/Equipment Lease				
Insurance	262.47		0.00	262.47
Communications	9,621.22		0.00	9,621.22
Travel/Meetings	3,711.90		0.00	3,711.90
Mileage Reimbursement	36,559.85		0.00	36,559.85
Advertising	267.68		0.00	267.68
Publications, Subscrip, Dues	73.15		0.00	73.15
Postage, Mail	8,836.13		0.00	8,836.13
Printing Services	781.04		0.00	781.04
Office Exp/Operating Supplies	3,321.93		0.00	3,321.93
Office Exp/Online Services	4,418.63		0.00	4,418.63
Capital Equipment <\$5,000	1,393.06		0.00	1,393.06
<b>Total 1026096 · Contract Svc/Equipment Lease</b>	<b>65,666.04</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>65,666.04</b>
<b>Total 1020000 · SSA ADMINISTRATION</b>	<b>445,091.45</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>445,091.45</b>

**Salton Sea Authority**  
**Revenue & Expenditure by Fund**  
July 2014 through May 2015

	101 General	214 Wetlands Grant	215 Funding Feasibility Review	TOTAL
1030000 · COMMUNITY & PUBLIC OUTREACH	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6020000 · WETLANDS GRANT ADMINISTRATION				
6025010 · Salaries	17,016.60	0.00	0.00	17,016.60
6025500 · Employee Benefits	3,999.26	0.00	0.00	3,999.26
6026010 · Contract Svcs/Attorney	2,933.80	671.00	0.00	3,604.80
6026011 · Contract Svcs/J Schlange	656.25	-350.31	0.00	305.94
6026013 · Contract Svcs/Accountant	13,770.00	1,755.00	0.00	15,525.00
6026370 · Travel/Meetings	2,334.13	0.00	0.00	2,334.13
6026410 · Mileage Reimbursement	350.31	0.00	0.00	350.31
Total 6020000 · WETLANDS GRANT ADMINISTRATION	41,060.35	2,075.69	0.00	43,136.04
6040000 · WETLANDS GRANT TECHNICAL				
6046015 · Contract Svcs/AMEC - Permitting	0.00	971.50	0.00	971.50
6046040 · Contract Svcs/Design	966.59	29,829.68	0.00	30,796.27
6046060 · Contract Svcs/Amec - Environmen	359.76	-359.76	0.00	0.00
Total 6040000 · WETLANDS GRANT TECHNICAL	1,326.35	30,441.42	0.00	31,767.77
6050000 · FUNDING/FEASIBILITY ADMIN				
6055010 · Salaries	0.00	0.00	1,951.53	1,951.53
Salaries - Admin Support 215	0.00	0.00	25,337.13	25,337.13
Salaries - GM 215	0.00	0.00		
Total 6055010 · Salaries	0.00	0.00	27,288.66	27,288.66
6055500 · Employee Benefits	0.00	0.00	6,769.97	6,769.97
6056010 · Contract Svcs/Attorney	0.00	0.00	5,835.60	5,835.60
6056011 · Contract Svcs/J Schlange	0.00	0.00	6,456.25	6,456.25
6056013 · Contract Svcs/Accountant	0.00	0.00	5,400.00	5,400.00
Total 6050000 · FUNDING/FEASIBILITY ADMIN	0.00	0.00	51,750.48	51,750.48
6060000 · FUNDING/FEASIBILITY TECHNICAL				
6066016 · Contract Svcs/TetraTech \$1.7	0.00	0.00	619,587.26	619,587.26
Total 6060000 · FUNDING/FEASIBILITY TECHNICAL	0.00	0.00	619,587.26	619,587.26
6070000 · INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCE DISTRICT				
6076010 · Contract Services/Attorney	2,296.20	0.00	0.00	2,296.20
Total 6070000 · INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCE DISTRICT	2,296.20	0.00	0.00	2,296.20
Total Expense	489,774.35	32,517.11	671,337.74	1,193,629.20
Net Ordinary Income	731,185.69	35,153.10	-19,704.68	746,634.11
Other Income/Expense	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other Expense	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Net Other Income	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Net Income	731,185.69	35,153.10	-19,704.68	746,634.11

# Memorandum

**To:** Salton Sea Authority Board of Directors  
**From:** Roger Shintaku, General Manager  
**Date:** June 18, 2015  
**Subject:** Reimbursement Arrangement for Loaned Staff  
**CM No.** IV.D – 6-18-15

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## **GENERAL:**

The Salton Sea Authority Board of Directors at its meeting on April 23, 2015 appointed Mr. Phil Rosentrater as Interim Deputy Executive Director of the Salton Sea Authority in charge of administration effective May 1, 2015. Mr. Rosentrater will continue to be employed by Riverside County EDA at his current level of salary and benefits, but assigned full-time to the Salton Sea Authority as an Executive on Loan.

Salton Sea Authority and Riverside County EDA require guidance and documentation for reimbursing EDA for Mr. Rosentrater's compensation, benefits and any direct costs which are to be reimbursed.

### Compensation and Benefits

Salton Sea Authority proposes to reimburse Riverside County EDA for Mr. Rosentrater's compensation and benefits related to his activities with the Salton Sea Authority – not to exceed the level of Salton Sea Authority's adopted budget for managerial staff.

### Direct Costs

Salton Sea Authority proposes to reimburse Riverside County EDA for Mr. Rosentrater's use of a County vehicle related to his activities with the Salton Sea Authority. Salton Sea Authority proposes to reimburse Riverside County EDA for a reasonable share of cell phone usage from May 1, 2015 until June 9, 2015. On June 9 a cell phone was activated by Salton Sea Authority for Mr. Rosentrater's business use on SSA matters. These are consistent with budgeted benefits of mileage and cell phone use provided by Salton Sea Authority to other managerial staff. Salton Sea Authority proposes to reimburse Riverside County EDA, effective May 1, 2015, for reasonable travel costs directly related to Salton Sea Authority business.

### Payment

Riverside County EDA will submit monthly invoices to Salton Sea Authority. Invoices will be paid to Riverside County EDA promptly within the following month. Allocation for compensation, benefits and direct costs will be based on Mr. Rosentrater's time recorded for SSA matters as a percentage of his total time recorded for the invoice period.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

The Salton Sea Authority Staff recommends that the Salton Sea Authority Board approve the reimbursement agreement as outlined above.

Respectfully submitted,

Roger Shintaku  
General Manager

## Salton Sea Authority Approved FY 2015-2016 Continuing Resolution Budget

### FY 2014/2015 Final Budget

#### Approved Continuing

#### Resolution FY2015-2016

#### Revenue

Riverside County	\$150,000.00
Imperial County	\$150,000.00
Coachella valley Water District	\$150,000.00
Imperial Irrigation Water District	\$150,000.00
Torres Martinez	\$10,000.00
Finance & Funding Feasibility Review	\$100,000.00
Torres Martinez Wetlands (FAP)	\$45,000.00
Geo Tube	\$0.00
Carry over Funds - Prior Year Budget	\$60,000.00
Other	\$0.00
Reserve Contingencies Fund	\$0.00
Species Conservation Habitat	\$0.00
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$815,000.00</b>

#### Expense General Office Staff

General Manager	\$125,000.00
Administrative Support - A	\$40,000.00
Fringe Benefits	\$70,000.00
<b>Total Staff Support</b>	<b>\$235,000.00</b>

#### General Office Expenses

Computer Network Maintenance	\$13,000.00
Equipment Purchase	\$18,500.00
Equipment Lease	\$1,500.00
Insurance	\$15,000.00
Office Expense/Office Supplies	\$4,000.00
Office Expense/Online Services	\$3,000.00
Postage	\$1,000.00
Printing	\$7,000.00
Dues Subscriptions & Publications	\$5,000.00
Telephone & Internet	\$5,000.00
Travel/Mileage Reimbursement	\$15,000.00
Travel, Conference Fees - Other	\$50,000.00
Website Maintenance	\$10,000.00
Utilities	\$3,000.00
Misc. Reserve	\$1,000.00
<b>Total Office Expense</b>	<b>\$152,000.00</b>

#### Professional Services

Administrative Support - B	\$41,000.00
Administrative Support - C	\$18,000.00
Administrative Support - D	\$10,000.00
Audit	\$11,000.00
Financial Support	\$79,000.00
Legal	\$55,000.00
Tetra Tech Support	\$5,000.00
Tech Support J. Andrew Schlange	\$69,000.00
Tech Support Planning	\$0.00

## Salton Sea Authority Approved FY 2015-2016 Continuing Resolution Budget

### FY 2014/2015 Final Budget

#### Approved Continuing

#### Resolution FY2015-2016

Tech Support Other	\$22,000.00
Tech Support - Geotube Pre-award	\$25,500.00
Legislative Government Relations	\$5,500.00
<b>Total Professional Services</b>	<b>\$341,000.00</b>
<b><u>Other Commitments</u></b>	
Water Resource Institute	\$22,000.00
Office Space/Move	\$10,000.00
Infrastructure Finance District	\$0.00
Reserve a)	\$15,000.00
b)	
<b>Total Other Commitments</b>	<b>\$47,000.00</b>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$775,000.00</b>

Note: Board of Directors voted to continue the FY2014-2015 budget, as revised as of May 21, 2015, for FY2015-2016 with intent to review in 3-4 months. Certain projects and administrative changes are anticipated during this time frame which could impact ultimate requirements for FY2015-2016.

# Staff Report

**To:** Salton Sea Authority Board  
**From:** Phil Rosentrater, Deputy Director, Riverside County EDA  
**Date:** June 18, 2015  
**Re:** **Legislative Update**

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Staff from member 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:

## Assembly Bill Summaries

### **AB 197 (Garcia) - Renewable Portfolio Standard**

**SSA Position:** **WATCH**

**Status:** **Pass Assembly June 2. Ordered to Senate. Senate 1<sup>st</sup> reading, sent to Comm. on Rules.**

AB 197 would require the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to adopt a process that includes "best-fit" basis along with total cost for rank ordering renewable energy bids to comply with the Renewable Portfolio Standard. Best fit refers to the selection of electric generation resources that produce electricity in a manner that fits with current and projected electrical load.

The bill would also require the CPUC and the governing board of a local publicly owned electric utility to consider greenhouse gas emissions as well as the capacity and essential reliability services of the renewable energy resource when considering renewable energy bids to comply with the RPS.

The measures would not be mandated, only considered, if the bill passes. The SSA is advised to watch the bill because it is aligned with proposals (AB 645-Williams) to increase the RPS to 50%, a policy that is not supported by the current SSA board of directors.

**AB 300 (Alejo) - Safe Water & Wildlife Protection Act: Harmful Algal Blooms**

**SSA Position: WATCH**

**Status: Passed Assembly June 2<sup>nd</sup> –unopposed in every committee as well as on the floor. Ordered to Senate for 1<sup>st</sup> read with Comm. on Rules.**

This bill would create an Algal Bloom Task Force under auspices of the State Water Resources Control Board for the purpose of reviewing risks and impacts of toxic algal blooms in state waters, and making recommendations for control measures. The recommendations would also include funding strategies, possibly from \$1.495 B in Prop 1 Water Bond funds intended for protecting health & natural; wildlife habitat.

The proposed Task Force would be comprised of state agencies to include DWR, SWRCB and Dept of Public Health, and could potentially rely upon water quality standards involving TMDL's in order to enhance controls of toxic algal blooms.

**AB 1095 (Garcia) - Proposition 1 appropriation: Salton Sea**

**SSA Position: Support**

**Status: Passed Assembly unopposed on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Ordered to Senate, 1<sup>st</sup> read through with Comm. on Rules.**

AB 1095 is a bill set in place to secure an appropriation from Proposition 1 state water bond funding to fulfill state obligations related to the QSA. In response to request from the SSA, the bill was amended to include QSA Chapter 614 that the SSA successfully fought to insert into Prop 1 language last year. This bill has subsequently been amended to set forth the governing structure –established in AB 71 (Perez) through SSA efforts in 2013 –to guide the state/local cooperation on implementing projects around the sea. The bill now calls for the Natural Resources Agency to submit to the Legislature a list of shovel-ready Salton Sea restoration projects, including information regarding project costs and project completion timelines.

The SSA will continue to work with the author and Resources Agency staff to enact the intent of AB 1095 to spur appropriation of state funding required to avert disaster at the Salton Sea, and to serve as a down payment on state contractual obligations related to the regional water transfer (QSA) brokered by the state.

**SB 317 (De León) - The Safe Neighborhood Parks, Rivers and Coastal Protection Bonds Act of 2016**

**SSA Position: Support**

**Status:                    Ordered to Senate Appropriations Committee.**

SB 317 would require the state of California, in accordance with Section 5880 to Division 5 of the Public Resources Code, would require financing and funding of parks, rivers and coastal protection in California. The state would be obligated to fund these projects immediately.

This bill would have some potential benefits for the Salton Sea because this bill would allow for the Salton Sea Authority to receive funding from the state for protection and restoration efforts. Section 2, Article 5, subsection 5883 of SB 317 implies that funds shall be made available to agencies who provide “protection and restoration of rivers, lakes, streams, etc., protect the fish and wildlife resources of the state, and provide access to these resources to the people of California.” As mentioned, the SSA would be included in this bill and benefit because this bill applies to the mission of the SSA and the work it currently does.

Specifically, subsection 5883.8 provides authorization for \$50 million to be made available for the Salton Sea Restoration Fund.

The SSA supports this bill because funding for SSA projects coordinated with the state to benefit ecosystem and habitat protection, shoreline and sea stabilizations complies with the requirements of subsection 5883 and should thus be eligible for fifty million dollars from the fund.

## **S. 1407 (Heller) - Public Land Renewable Energy Development Act of 2015**

**SSA Position:        Recommend SUPPORT**

**Status:                Introduced to Senate. 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> read through, pass. Referred to Comm. on Energy and Natural Resources. Hearings to be held.**

S. 1407 intends to use available lands for renewable energy efforts in addition, for other purposes. The bill is separated into two parts –first, the logistics of development. This bill hopes to utilize available land for developing solar, wind, geothermal and wind energy projects. The bill includes an “environmental review” to assess specific public lands and determine which renewable energy project would be most viable, efficient and have the most impact in said specific area. The second portion of the bill deals with revenue and enforcement. Under this bill, the Secretary of the Treasury would be held responsible for allocating revenue and royalties to the cities and/or counties, where these projects are being developed. In addition, it would mean sharing renewable energy fees and royalties from Bureau of Land Management lands.

The SSA should support S. 1407 if amended for all the potential benefits it has, both environmentally and financially. Environmentally, this bill would benefit the SSA because the Salton Sea and neighboring areas are hotspots for untapped geothermal energy in many available public lands. S. 1407 mentions setting up “priority and variance areas” which are public lands that have untapped access to geothermal, wind and solar energy. Since the Salton Sea area has one of the largest geothermal fields, and year-round exposed to plenty of sunlight; this region is a large public land hotspot for renewable energy, which this bill favors.

Financially, this bill has benefits as well. Under Section 212, subsection 2, 25% of total revenue from these projects would be allocated to the counties where these projects are located. These renewable energy projects have the ability to generate funding with benefits to both Imperial and Riverside County.

In addition, the bill includes a “Renewable Energy Resource Conservation Fund.” This fund is for regions that are impacted by renewable energy development projects and provides additional funding for “protecting and restoring fish and wildlife habitat on Federal lands.” This conservation funds has potential benefits as well because money would be given to further revitalize and sustain ecosystems on public lands, which the SSA already works towards.

The SSA should support this bill. The monetary benefits would help both Riverside and Imperial County, and the SSA in carrying out additional revitalization and sustainability efforts.

## Commission Memorandum

**To:** Salton Sea Authority Board of Directors  
**From:** Roger Shintaku, General Manager  
**Date:** June 18, 2015  
**Subject:** Reschedule September 24, 2015 Board Meeting  
**CM No.** VIA – 6-18-15

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### **GENERAL:**

The next regularly-scheduled Board meeting is to be held September 24 at Imperial Irrigation District in El Centro.

Supervisor Ashley will be hosting his State of the County event on that day, and his staff has asked if the Board meeting could be rescheduled to a different date: they have suggested September 17.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Salton Sea Authority staff recommends that the Salton Sea Authority Board of Directors change the date of the next regularly-scheduled Board meeting to September 17, 2015.

Respectfully,

Roger Shintaku  
General Manager