

ALBERTA WATER COUNCIL

MEETING #46

October 26, 2017

Federal Building, Edmonton, Alberta

Executive Summary

As is customary for the fall meeting, board members attended a dinner the previous evening to recognize retiring directors and alternates. Honourable Shannon Phillips addressed the board at this event.

Two new directors and four new alternate directors were welcomed to the board, and Andre Corbould and Keith Murray were designated for two-year terms as the executive representatives for their sectors. Andre Corbould was ratified as the AWC's president. The board approved the 2017–2019 Communications Strategy as well as the 2018 core operating budget, which includes funds to undertake some preliminary outreach to Indigenous communities. The following meeting dates were approved for the coming year: March 29 and November 8 in Calgary, and June 13–14 in Edmonton, which includes an extra day (June 13) for a business planning session as required. Amalgamation of the AWC and CASA offices is proceeding smoothly and new staff will be hired shortly to bring the office up to its full staff complement. Cost savings are already being realized from the merger.

In addition to the usual update from the Government of Alberta, the board also heard two special presentations. First, Dr. Fred Wrona and Dr. Bill Donahue from the Environmental Monitoring and Science Division of Environment and Parks described their mandate and responsibilities with respect to reporting on the condition of Alberta's environment. They also shared an overview of the five-year monitoring, evaluation and reporting plan being prepared for Alberta's lotic waters. The second presentation was from Dr. Greg Goss and Dr. Monireh Faramarzi from the University of Alberta. They provided an overview of their modelling work on Alberta's future water supplies and potential for climate change to affect these supplies.

Three statements of opportunity were presented for the board's consideration as it decided what new work the AWC would take on: Source Water Protection, Drought Mitigation, and Water Reuse. The board agreed to establish working groups to begin scoping projects and drafting terms of reference for Source Water Protection and Multi-year Drought Mitigation, and to retain the Water Reuse project to be revisited.

Finally, the board approved modifications to the recommendation tracking system to make it easier for implementers to provide more meaningful progress updates.

Summary of Discussion

Jay White convened the board meeting at 9:08 a.m. He noted the successful recognition event held the previous evening, thanking the Minister for her comments and the Alberta Forest Products Association for sponsoring the reception. He reviewed safety procedures for the venue. Jay welcomed new directors and alternates to the meeting. Margo Jarvis Redelback is the director representing the Irrigation sector on behalf of the Alberta Irrigation Projects Association, and Stacey Schorr is the director representing Alberta Energy. Fiona Briody is the new alternate director representing the Cropping sector on behalf of the Crop Sector Working Group, Roxane Bretzlaf is the new alternate representing the WPACs, Brad Peter is the new alternate representing the Lake Environment Conservation sector on behalf of the Alberta Lake Management Society, and Vicki Lightbown is the new alternate for Alberta Innovates. Those present introduced themselves.

1 Administration

1.1 Welcome, Approve Agenda

The Chair reviewed the agenda, which was approved by consensus.

1.2 Action Item from March 16, 2017 Meeting

Andre Asselin directed the board to the briefing book for a report on the only action item from the last meeting, which pertained to Indigenous engagement. The proposed 2018 core budget contains funds to be used for this purpose on a pilot basis.

1.3 Summary Report from March 16, 2017 Meeting

Decision 46.1: The summary report for the March 16, 2017 meeting was adopted by consensus and will be posted to the website.

1.4 Appointment of Executive Officers

Keith Murray was named to another two-year term as the executive representative for the industry broad category. Andre Corbould was previously named as the representative for the Government of Alberta and Provincial Authorities broad category. At the October 2017 executive committee meeting, executive members selected Andre Corbould as AWC president.

Decision 46.2: The board ratified the executive committee's decision to appoint Andre Corbould as president of the AWC.

1.5 Executive Director's Report

Andre Asselin directed the board to his management report in the briefing book. He noted that amalgamation with CASA continues as the two IT systems and financial systems are being consolidated. Sunny Yeung will be handling financial matters for both organizations and Andre will provide a budget update early in 2018. The human resources policies are being amalgamated and efforts will begin shortly to get the organization fully staffed. The AWC released two key reports in the last month: the Lake Watershed Management report and the Evaluating Water Conservation, Efficiency and Productivity report. In response to a question from a board member, Andre noted that the amalgamation has presented an opportunity for the CASA and AWC boards to meet informally.

The executive commended Andre for his leadership in the amalgamation.

1.6 Proposed 2018 Core Operating Budget

Andre Asselin presented the proposed core budget for 2018. This is the first budget to reflect the cost-sharing with CASA. The budget was prepared conservatively with budgeted amounts likely being on the high side. Professional fees were higher this year due to the legal services required to advise on aspects of amalgamation. However, overall expenditures for 2017 are down due to a lighter workload as well the office not being fully staffed. A full project load is expected for 2018 and three board meetings are planned. He noted an error in the line item for employee benefits in that the amount does not reflect cost-sharing with CASA. He expects AWC costs for employee benefits to be closer to \$50,000. He also noted that printing costs may come out a little higher than expected due to the increased size of recent reports. At the same time, AWC will likely need to take on some modest capital costs as part of the amalgamation. The draft budget reflects a full staff complement, which will see the addition of an operations manager, a project manager, and an administrative support person, all of which will be shared with CASA. A new position is proposed for a program coordinator who will support both CASA and AWC to undertake more outreach to raise awareness as well as lead Indigenous liaison. A small salary increase is also proposed for non-management staff in 2018 as they are being asked to assume a larger and different workload. Funds have been allocated to pilot outreach to Indigenous representatives and this activity will be undertaken jointly with CASA. A number of efficiencies and fiscal benefits have been realized with the amalgamation and more savings are expected, mostly related to office administration and accounting.

Discussion

Board members provided comments and asked several questions of Andre:

- The Blood Reserve in southern Alberta holds an annual conference on water and AWC may want to investigate opportunities to attend this event.
- AWC needs to raise awareness with the public about our work with the public. We may want to consider spending a bit more on communications to raise our profile.
 - Andre Asselin (AA): Public education is not part of AWC's mandate and many groups focus on environmental education. However, we have been working to improve our outreach to the water community and have been making greater use of social media.
- AWC appears to be underspent for 2017 by about \$300,000. How are such funds normally handled? Would this surplus be sufficient to take on three new projects?
 - AA: AWC has typically carried over surpluses from year to year, but the intent is not to stockpile funds. We are working with GoA to make a decision about the surplus, since we now have a three-year grant agreement for \$750,000 per year. The executive will continue to talk about this.
- The funds (\$23,000) that will not be needed for benefits could be used elsewhere, such as adding a line item for future projects.

Decision 46.3: The board approved the proposed 2018 core operating budget with the following modifications:

- i. Reduce the allocation to employee benefits from \$73,000 to \$50,000***

- ii. *Add a new line item under Project Costs for a Project Fund, and shift \$23,000 from employee benefits to this new line item. The executive will consider how the AWC can work with this fund.*

1.7 Meeting Dates for 2018

Three meetings are proposed for 2018, alternating between Edmonton and Calgary, with a one-day business planning workshop to be held in conjunction with the June meeting.

Decision 46.4: The board approved the following meeting dates for 2018:

March 29 in Calgary, June 13-14 in Edmonton, and November 8 in Calgary, with the recognition dinner to be held on November 7.

1.8 2017–2019 Communications Strategy

Andre Asselin presented the 2017–2019 Communications Strategy. He reviewed the process to update the strategy every three years. In its review, the executive encouraged more use of social media and the targeting of a slightly broader group with AWC products. The updated strategy includes additional guidance on the use of social media, and a social media policy will be developed. AWC has been producing videos to promote its work and these are now on YouTube. Webinars will be done as new projects are selected; team members are encouraged to promote these and circulate the opportunity for others to participate.

Discussion

- Has AWC tracked usage or viewers for the videos to see how long people are staying on the site?
 - AA: We don't have data for the videos today, but we have been monitoring Twitter as that seems to be where we get the most response.
- How do the costs of using social media compare to traditional approaches?
 - AA: To date all the social media efforts have been done in-house so there have been no hard costs. We will be putting some funds into a good quality water CEP video to publicize that work. Generally, social media is much more cost-effective than newspaper ads, for example.

Decision 46.5: The board approved the 2017–2019 Communications Strategy.

2 Government of Alberta (GoA) Update

Rick Blackwood provided the GoA update with reference to a number of theme areas. Work is underway on a wide range of issues, including but not limited to implementation of the Climate Leadership Plan and the launch of Energy Efficiency Alberta, a collaborative response to the UNESCO review of Wood Buffalo National Park, ongoing implementation of the Wetland Policy, regional planning, community-based monitoring, whirling disease, and the aquatic invasive species watercraft inspection program which had a very successful year. A summary of Rick's comments will be provided separately to the board.

3 Environmental Monitoring and Science Division (AEP) Presentation

Dr. Fred Wrona presented information on the Environmental Monitoring and Science Division (EMSD) within AEP. He explained how the division has been set up and what its

mandate and responsibilities are with respect to reporting on the condition of Alberta's environment. Dr. Wrona serves both as chief scientist accountable to the minister and as ADM of the EMSD, accountable to AEP's Deputy Minister, and the EMSD also has a role with the Integrated Resource Management System. EMSD has both a science advisory panel and an Indigenous wisdom advisory panel. The intent is to develop an adaptive monitoring, evaluation and reporting program and provincial standards. A number of emerging issues need to be addressed, including climate change and its impacts on water, and the aim is to look at these issues holistically with other environmental media.

Dr. Bill Donahue presented an overview of the five-year monitoring, evaluation and reporting (MER) plan being prepared for Alberta's lotic waters (streams, rivers and tributaries). A key aspect is the shift from only generating data to interpreting it and providing a way that diverse audiences can use it. The need to inform management decisions is driving this approach. He reviewed the elements of a science-based MER program and key components of the five-year MER plan.

Discussion

Q: WPACs and others interested in water data have not received much monitoring information from the last few years. Now that you have more capacity and staff, will you be able to deal with this backlog and make the information available?

Bill Donahue: Yes, we know there is a backlog of hydrometric data. Management and presentation of data has been challenging. We are working with others in AEP as scientists go through the data to mine and interpret it. We understand that data itself is of use to a limited number of people but interpretation is much more widely useful and we want to create more accessible data and data products. This is a high priority, but we recognize there will still be some delays.

Fred Wrona: A key part of my legislated mandate is open access and availability of environmental information that is collected. We are developing and implementing procedures and processes to make this happen and we know delays in access have been a problem. We are still dealing with some antiquated data systems (e.g., paper copies) and some data still need to go through a QA/QC process. We started with the Lower Athabasca and will move to other watersheds as soon as we can. It takes time to get data into usable forms and we want to do it in a coordinated and systematic manner. When EMSD does publish a report, we are aiming to also have available the datasets that went into the analysis and conclusions.

4 Statements of Opportunity

The AWC has capacity to take on two new projects immediately. Three statements of opportunity (SOOs) came forward for consideration: Source Water Protection, Multi-year Drought Mitigation, and Water Reuse. The three SOOs were presented followed by questions for clarification, and projects were discussed and selected later in the meeting.

Source Water Protection

Kim McLeod presented this SOO on behalf of AEP, providing background on the topic and noting its key role in a multi-barrier approach to protecting drinking water sources. AWC previously worked on the topic, which led to this new SOO. It is envisioned that this project would develop a provincially common approach to guide source water protection for drinking water purposes, review existing practices in Alberta and other jurisdictions, determine

strengths and weaknesses in existing approaches and highlight opportunities for improvement. The AWC's multi-stakeholder forum is a way to draw on the expertise of water users across Alberta. The output is expected to be a guidance document to help identify key elements for protecting source water across the province.

Discussion for clarification

Q: The Mighty Peace watershed did some work following a federal template for First Nations to use and it was exhaustive. What would be a product that would compel individual entities providing drinking water to Albertans (e.g., municipalities, campgrounds) to show evidence of due diligence in their operations? What would be the time frame?

A: We have identified some challenges across the drinking water scope. The working group would ensure the scope is sound and the work is doable and will lead to an outcome that is useful for users. I can't say at this time how long it might take.

Q: You mention tapping the expertise of water users. What about those who are on the landscape and could be affected by this, such as the agriculture and forestry industries? Would these managers be engaged in this discussion?

A: The AWC has a process to solicit members for a working group. It makes sense for these sectors to participate and they were involved on the previous AWC team.

Multi-year Drought Mitigation

Susanna Bruneau from the Battle River Watershed Alliance presented the SOO on building resiliency to multi-year drought through mitigation activities on behalf of the BRWA and WPACs. She provided background on droughts and the pressure they put on water resources. AEP has several programs to deal with droughts, but Alberta's response has been largely reactionary with short-term solutions. The project is an opportunity to take a multi-year, watershed-based approach to prepare for droughts, and to build a drought mitigation and adaptation toolkit using a collaborative approach.

Discussion for clarification

Q: Can you give examples of how the toolkit could help address drought impacts?

A: There could be recommendations to farmers and ranchers on managing their crop plantings and cattle stocking rates in the event of a drought.

Q: Would discussions on how to handle allocations in times of drought be part of this work?

A: No, that is within the purview of the GoA. We want to focus on a potential role for WPACs in their communities. Allocations would relate more to voluntary actions that municipalities and others could take to share water during a drought.

Q: Is the toolkit intended to help citizens rather than licence-holders make decisions?

A: Yes. It will also provide guidance about how to approach these kinds of discussions, communicate the challenges of drought, and engage water users.

Q: Is there an option to also look at preparing for extremes?

A: Some groups have done this but addressing multi-year drought is very different from floods. Both need to be addressed but a multi-year drought is a 4-5 year challenge.

Comment: A toolkit was done in conjunction with a website called “Adapt-action.” It looks at both flood and drought responses for various users, but did not get into details for a prolonged (3-5 year) drought. This might serve as a starting point.

Water Reuse

Keith Murray presented the third SOO on behalf of the forestry sector, looking at identifying barriers to reusing industrial effluent and municipal wastewater in Alberta. The intent is to build on work done to date by various agencies including the AWC and to address some of the regulatory uncertainties and barriers that remain to enable more water reuse. Both the industry and municipal sectors have a strong interest in water reuse. The project would clarify the status of water reuse in Alberta, document implementation barriers to reusing industrial effluent and wastewater, and highlight key themes that could be considered in the water reuse policy. The GoA could be the recipient of the final product. The intent is not to slow down work already being done by the GoA but to complement and move efforts ahead in a timely manner.

Discussion for clarification

Q: How would this project consider different situations in different basins?

A: We are already dealing with moving effluent between basins. The terms of reference (TOR) could deal with this.

Q: Legislative changes are required to operationalize reuse. Would this be in scope?

A: We are not looking at legislative changes, but there are opportunities to reduce use of freshwater. We can't keep going through the same cycle of seeking individual AEP approvals every time someone wants to reuse water.

Q: Would there be a chance to look at greywater systems for homeowners?

A: The initial intent is to include municipal wastewater, but the question about specific home systems could be considered in the TOR.

Comment: AEP and AER recently did some work with a multi-stakeholder panel in the MD of Greenview that looked at barriers to water reuse, particularly related to oil and gas. There may be an opportunity to dovetail AWC work with the AER work if this project is chosen.

5 Predicting Alberta's Water Future and Adapting to a Changing Water Supply

Dr. Greg Goss and Dr. Monireh Faramarzi from the University of Alberta presented an overview of their work on Alberta's future water supplies and potential for climate change to affect these supplies. Both floods and droughts are familiar to Albertans, but what is likely to happen in their local area is of most interest to stakeholders. The research team has used many models in its work. Global models take short-term but not long-term variability into account, and thus do not perform well in representing natural variability. They presented modelling results for projected precipitation and temperature changes in Alberta. They also shared results of some of their modelling done to examine impacts on select river flows in Alberta as well as projected changes in yields, crop water use and water footprint for both irrigated and rainfed barley (2040-2064).

Discussion

Board members engaged in a short discussion with the presenters.

Q: Would the granularity in your work enable us to see impacts at the scale of a large city?

A: We have to decide at the beginning which scale to go to, so we usually end up in the middle. A smaller scale means too much computational detail, but a larger scale may not give users the detail they want to see. Working with a large city we could probably get down to the scale of some small watersheds, but it depends what stakeholders want.

Q: With the Pacific Decadal Oscillation (PDO) for example, we deal with perceptions and timing of reaction. People may not know where they are on the curve so education remains a struggle.

A: The graph is simplified. In addition to knowing where we are in the PDO, we have to know how to put in the algorithm. Dendrochronology work by Dr. Dave Sauchyn is largely from southern Alberta which is influenced by the PDO. We now know there is also an Atlantic oscillation and an Arctic one.

6 Project Selection

Al Kemmere took over the chairing duties for the afternoon. Anuja Ramgoolam briefly reviewed the project selection process and the AWC's capacity to take on new work. Two working groups (WGs) can be struck immediately with project teams to follow in 2018–19. Funds of \$25,000 remain from the previous source water protection (SWP) work and could be shifted to that project if it is selected. She provided a recap of the three SOOs noting the focus and overall proposed approach. Board members then discussed the three SOOs prior to making a selection.

Discussion

- What timelines are proposed for the projects?
 - Timelines are typically left to the WG to propose and bring back to the board for approval. After the WG has considered the project scope, it is in a better position to suggest a timeline.
- The SOOs all seem to lack focus. If they are too big and unfocused, they will take too long and we can miss an opportunity, as other solutions will be found.
- We could look at both short-term and long-term components of the work.
- With respect to drought mitigation, a guidebook is unlikely to be very useful for cities as they try to adapt.
 - WPACs see the toolkit as a way to engage landowners, farmers, smaller municipalities with limited capacity and others in the watershed and show what they can do to mitigate impacts of a multi-year drought. It is a bit related to water literacy work.
- I don't think we can talk about drought without talking about allocations. A toolkit may not have that much value.
- For SWP, what group in AEP has the greatest interest in this project? What do they see as the product and how will it be used?
 - The Water Policy Branch is interested. They acknowledge that various approaches have been taken but a common approach is lacking and AWC might be able to provide that.
- In the previous SOO on SWP, the parameters were looser. If this is about drinking water, that provides a focus. A lot of good work has been done at U of A and

elsewhere, we have good connections with stakeholders and scientists, and the boundaries are better defined this time. For the drought project, I would feel better supporting a toolkit that is developed in Alberta with resources showing things you can do if you are experiencing drought.

- The Mistakiis Institute has done some work on flood and drought in municipal sectors. It is a web-based tool and could be a starting point. We want to draw on other expertise too. A lot of tools have been produced but are of little value if they are not used.
- It is interesting that the word “policy” is missing from the SWP SOO. What would a provincial common approach be if it’s not a policy? This project has value but no clear deliverable.
 - Many groups in Alberta have undertaken SWP and generally take a slightly different approach. Part of this work is to take inventory and establish first steps to a consistent approach to SWP in the province.
- There is value in the SWP project as a lot of other work has been done to protect drinking water. How would this project align with that other work and would it have a significant impact on work others have done?
- The first step is to gather the information that’s already out there, then look at what could work in different parts of Alberta. But we first need a working definition and scope of the project.
- There is no provincial definition of SWP, however, definitions related to SWP are part of the Land-use Framework and land use plans.
- We could set up WGs to scope all three projects then pick two in March.
 - We could probably take that approach, but we want to retain some flexibility in case a new idea emerges from the business planning work. AEP has advised offline that their preference is for AWC to take on the SWP and drought projects, as work is already underway on water reuse.
- We know GoA is working on water reuse but it has been slow. We could say that if there is no substantial progress on this issue by the middle of 2018, AWC should revisit it.

Decision 46.6: The board agreed to establish working groups to begin scoping projects on Source Water Protection and Multi-year Drought Mitigation, and to retain the Water Reuse project to be revisited.

The next step is for staff to issue a call for members for these two groups over the next month with the aim of having one meeting before Christmas. Ideally, draft TOR will be ready for the board at the March 2018 meeting.

7 Recommendation Tracking System Improvements

Marie-Claire St. Jacques reviewed the current recommendation tracking system and the history of efforts to address concerns raised by board members. The intent was to streamline the current process and make it easier for implementers to provide meaningful updates to the board. New categories of recommendation status were proposed (Implemented, Partially implemented, Pending, and Closed) and Marie-Claire explained the correlation between the previous system and the proposed system. If this approach is approved, staff will begin working with implementers to update the status and report back at the March 2018 meeting.

Discussion

Board members discussed the proposed approach, providing the following comments:

- I'm not sure this approach addresses all of my concerns. For some projects, it's crucial to look at the suite of recommendations, so to take one away weakens the suite. It doesn't make clear if one or more recommendations have been rejected.
- A key should be included as a footnote in the status report to make the status sub-components clear (e.g., Implemented [1]).
- If AWC tells the GoA something they don't want to hear even though they were part of the discussion at the project team and board, that creates a dynamic that we need to manage better.
- Will a recommendation be retained even it's not implemented?
 - It won't disappear but we want a process so we can stop reporting on it. This new approach should be seen as a pilot and we can make further changes if warranted. In the charts in the briefing package, items with a "?" need to go back to the implementer for more clarification. This chart was a "best guess" by staff to illustrate how the new approach would work.
- Is there an opportunity to look at an audit function?
 - The original intent was to give implementers a platform to report their progress so the board could see it and respond.

Decision 46.7: The board approved the proposed improvements to the recommendation tracking system.

8 New or Other Business

There was no new or other business.

The board meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

Attachment 1: Meeting #46 Attendees

AWC Directors and Alternates

Rick Blackwood, GoA and Provincial Authorities (Alberta Environment and Parks)

Roxane Bretzlaff, NGO (WPACs)

Fiona Briody, Industry (Cropping)

Mark Brostrom, Government (Large Urban)

Bob Cameron, NGO (Environmental)

Deanna Cottrell, Industry (Oil and Gas)

Cheryl Fujikawa, NGO (WPACs)

James Guthrie, Industry (Mining)

Jim Hackett, Industry (Power Generation)

Rob Hoffman, Industry (Chemical and Petrochemical)

Ahmed Idriss, Industry (Power Generation)

Al Kemmere, Government (Rural)

Vicki Lightbown, GoA and Provincial Authorities (Alberta Innovates)

Keith Murray, Industry (Forestry)

Brad Peter, NGO (Lake Environment Conservation)

Brett Purdy, GoA and Provincial Authorities (Alberta Innovates)

Margo Jarvis Redelback, Industry (Irrigation)

Tracy Scott, NGO (Wetlands)

Stacey Schorr, GoA and Provincial Authorities (Alberta Energy)

Katherine Sinex, Industry (Oil and Gas)

Tanya Thorn, Government (Small Urban)

Jason Unger, NGO (Environmental)

Jay White, NGO (Lake Environment Conservation)

Jamie Wuite, GoA and Provincial Authorities (Alberta Agriculture and Forestry)

Presenters:

Andre Asselin, *Management Report* (Item 1.5), *2018 Core Budget* (Item 1.6), *2017–2019 Communications Strategy* (Item 1.8)

Rick Blackwood, *GoA Update* (Item 2)

Dr. Fred Wrona and Dr. Bill Donahue, *EMSD Presentation* (Item 3)

Kim McLeod, Susanna Bruneau, Keith Murray, *Statements of Opportunity* (Item 4)

Dr. Greg Goss and Dr. Monireh Faramarzi, *Predicting Alberta's Water Future and Adapting to a Changing Water Supply* (Item 5)

Anuja Ramgoolam, *Project Selection Process* (Item 6)

Marie-Claire St. Jacques, *Recommendation Tracking System Improvements* (Item 7)

Guests:

Jenna Curtis, Breanna Piercy, Sharon Willianen, Kim McLeod, Alberta Environment and Parks

Holly Johnson Rattlesnake, Samson Cree Nation

Paula Siwek, Environment and Climate Change Canada

AWC Staff and Contractors:

Andre Asselin, Cara McInnis, Anuja Ramgoolam, Marie-Claire St. Jacques, Kim Sanderson

Absent with Regrets:

Maureen Bell, NGO (Environmental)

Dave Burdek, GoA and Provincial Authorities (Alberta Agriculture and Forestry)

Darren Calliou, Government (Métis Settlements)

Carolyn Campbell, NGO (Environmental)

Andre Corbould, GoA and Provincial Authorities (Alberta Environment and Parks)

Silvia D'Amelio, NGO (Fisheries Habitat Conservation)

Attachment 2: Meeting #46 Action Item Log

There were no action items from this meeting

Attachment 3: Meeting #46 Decision Log

Decision 46.1: The summary report for the March 16, 2017 meeting was adopted by consensus and will be posted to the website.

Decision 46.2: The board ratified the executive committee's decision to appoint Andre Corbould as president of the AWC.

Decision 46.3: The board approved the proposed 2018 core operating budget with the following modifications:

- i. Reduce the allocation to employee benefits from \$73,000 to \$50,000*
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Decision 46.5: The board approved the 2017–2019 Communications Strategy.

Decision 46.6: The board agreed to establish working groups to begin scoping projects on Source Water Protection and Multi-year Drought Mitigation, and to retain the Water Reuse project to be revisited.

Decision 46.7: The board approved the proposed improvements to the recommendation tracking system.