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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

OLYMPIC VALLEY, Placer County -- Directors of the Placer County Water Agency considered water issues of the Truckee-Lake Tahoe area on Thursday (Sept. 15) in a meeting with eastern Placer County water purveyors.

Participants identified changing land uses as a focus of their long-term planning efforts and agreed that the concerns of water purveyors need to be better coordinated and reflected in county land use planning.

With countywide water resource responsibilities, PCWA administers a financial assistance program that helps local water companies and districts with planning and other needs. The water agency is headquartered in the county seat of Auburn.

Meeting Thursday at the Squaw Valley Public Service District administrative center, the PCWA board heard presentations from the Town of Truckee, Truckee Donner Public Utility District, Tahoe Truckee Sanitation Agency, North Tahoe Public Utility District and Alpine Springs County Water District.

- Truckee Town Manager Tony Lashbrook offered a presentation on development in the Truckee area, where several large projects are in planning and construction. He discussed issues in planning for public services in a community with a high and growing number of vacation homes and a permanent occupancy rate of about 50 percent.

- Peter Holzmeister, general manager of the Truckee Donner Public Utility District, described the water and power supply responsibilities of his agency, which serves 12,000 customers. He said the district's commodity-based water rates are

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affected by high variations in seasonal occupancy and usage and the need to pump water to service elevations ranging from 5,800 to 7,500 feet.

- Marcia Beals, assistant manager of the Truckee-Tahoe Sanitation Agency, provided an overview of her agency's current \$70 million water reclamation plant expansion project, which uses a state-of-the-art biological nitrogen removal process. The sanitation agency serves a 38-square-mile area in the Truckee-Tahoe region and is seeing about 500 new connections per year, she said.

- Steven R. Rogers, general manager of the North Tahoe Public Utility District, said his district supplies 3,300 water customers, 5,300 sewer customers and provides public recreational services around the north shore of Lake Tahoe. Rogers described the agency's emergency response to a sewer line rupture this summer at King's Beach.

- John M. Collins, who joined the Alpine Springs County Water District in July as its general manager, introduced himself and described the district's service to 700 customers in the Alpine Meadows area.

- PCWA Director of Financial Services Joseph Parker announced details of the agency's annual Financial Assistance Program for 2006. Local water purveyors seeking water resource planning grants should submit applications by Mar. 31, 2006. The PCWA Board is expected to consider the applications next May.

PCWA Director of Technical Services Brian Martin and Truckee architect Scott Ryan of Ryan Group Architects provided an update on the planned PCWA Zone 4 Business Center off Schaffer Mill Road. The agency now serves about 500 water customers in the Martis Valley and plans to build the facility over the next two to three years. Over the long range, PCWA anticipates about 2,000 water customers in the Martis Valley.

The next regular meeting of the PCWA Board of Directors will be held at 3 p.m. on Oct. 6 in the Placer County Board of Supervisors chambers, 175 Fulweiler Avenue, in Auburn. PCWA board meetings are open to the public.

PCWA directors usually meet twice annually in eastern Placer County, traveling to various locations around the area to meet with local officials.