



NEWS RELEASE

Placer County Water Agency

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Auburn - Directors of the Placer County Water Agency on Thursday (Oct. 20) agreed to work with the City of Roseville and several other agencies in investigating an innovative program to inject and store treated surface water in the aquifer under western Placer County.

PCWA Director of Strategic Affairs Einar Maisch said storage in the underground aquifer has the potential to be a significant tool for water purveyors in the region.

It could, he said, "enhance groundwater supplies in wet years for later use in dry years as part of an integrated conjunctive surface water and groundwater use program in order to increase the long term reliability of water service without depleting the groundwater basin."

The PCWA board agreed to pay 10 percent of up to \$110,000 in consulting costs estimated for securing approval of the project from the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board.

The City of Roseville is the lead agency in the effort. Other agencies that have agreed to participate include the City of Folsom, City of Tracy, Sacramento County Water Agency, Sacramento Suburban Water District, Cal-American Water Co., El Dorado Irrigation District, San Juan Water District and Carmichael Water District.

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In other business, directors:

- approved a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the City of Lincoln that outlines water issues and responsibilities shared by the two agencies. The agreement was developed through ongoing meetings of a joint water resources committee.

- reviewed a potential memorandum of understanding with the Georgetown Divide Public Utility District in El Dorado County on the district's desire for a future diversion to access surface water supplies from the Agency's American River Pump Station which is now under construction.

- heard a report from Director of Technical Services Brian Martin on the East Loomis Basin Canal Study. The agency will invite interested local citizens to participate in a task force that will look into how efficiency can be improved on the canal system.

- approved amendments to an existing agency and Nevada Irrigation District agreement that clarifies raw and treated water deliveries to certain customers in areas of common boundaries shared by the two water purveyors.

- held a public hearing on proposed increases on various water rates, fees and charges for Zones 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5. The board will take final action on the proposed increases at their November 3 meeting. The increases, once adopted, would be effective January 2006.

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