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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Date: August 17, 2007
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AUBURN -- Directors of the Placer County Water Agency on Thursday (Aug. 16) moved toward adoption of a Western Placer County Groundwater Management Plan.

The proposed plan is a partnership including PCWA, the cities of Roseville and Lincoln and the California American Water Company. The plan has been adopted by the City of Roseville; the other agencies are expected to take similar action soon.

The plan is designed to sustain the quality and quantity of the western county's groundwater and to ensure clear public policy criteria over long-term availability as a resource to meet backup, emergency and peak demand usage when surface water and reclaimed water is not readily available.

Directors reviewed the plan, held a public hearing which attracted no public comment, and directed staff to formalize the document for final approval at their next board meeting on Sept. 6.

The plan drew praise and support in a letter from the North State Building Industry Association. The BIA's Darin E. Gale congratulated PCWA for leadership on the issue and that the plan represents good groundwater management planning for the future of Placer County.

The plan covers a wide portion of the county westerly of the foothills that is identified as the North American River Groundwater Sub-Basin.

Brian Martin, PCWA Director of Technical Services, said the groundwater basin is a stable and healthy resource. General Manager David Breninger said the new plan would help preserve groundwater for primary use by local agriculture.

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Breninger emphasized that once the plan is adopted by the four participating partners, an implementation agreement will be established to include a governance body with representatives appointed by each. The governing board will oversee and facilitate the implementation of management actions necessary to fund and meet the objectives of the Plan.

Detailed information on the plan is available at PCWA or at <http://www.wpcgmp.org>.

In other business, directors:

- welcomed Rick Lierman, General Manager of the Squaw Valley Public Service District in eastern Placer County, who presented a resolution from his Board of Directors honoring PCWA for 50 years of community service. PCWA is commemorating its Golden Anniversary this year. An agency open house and presentation recognizing PCWA's 50th Anniversary will be held September 13, 5:30 p.m., at PCWA's Auburn Business Center.

- heard a presentation from Director of Resource Development Mal Toy on the agency's current relicensing project for the Middle Fork American River Project. Toy updated the board on a number of technical studies that are in progress.

- accepted a Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for 2006 from Director of Financial Services Joseph H. Parker.

- held a budget review session and authorized staff to proceed with the 2008 budgeting process. To meet the cost to provide service in the agency's water utility next year, directors will hold a public hearing on proposed water rates and charges adjustments on November 15 at 2:00 p.m.

- adopted a resolution authorizing support, study and designation of the 100-mile Western States Trail from Squaw Valley to Auburn as a National Historic & Scenic Trail in support of the Western States Trail Foundation.

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The next regular meeting of the PCWA Board of Directors will be held at 2 p.m. on Sept. 6 at the PCWA Business Center, 144 Ferguson Road, in Auburn. PCWA board meetings are open to the public.

Information on PCWA board meetings may be obtained through the Clerk to the Board at (530) 823-4850.