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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AUBURN - Directors of the Placer County Water Agency on Thursday (Apr. 15) awarded a contract for improvements and building renovations at the PCWA Foresthill Facilities Center in Foresthill.

The successful bidder on the project is SW Allen Construction, Inc. of Sacramento at \$920,000. Three other bids ranged to \$1.07 million.

PCWA purchased the industrial site last year with plans to relocate its Power Systems Division headquarters there. The division is now located in a smaller building near the Veteran's Memorial Hall and park.

Improvements at the new site include office, warehouse, vehicle and equipment storage space, fencing, and architectural upgrades. Work is expected to begin in coming weeks.

In other business, directors:

- approved an emergency repair project at the Foothill Water Treatment Plant near Newcastle where an underdrain problem was reported beneath one of the filters. Director of Technical Services Brian Martin said the problem has been isolated and a contractor is prepared to begin immediately. The underdrain replacement project was estimated at \$145,000.

- welcomed Placer County Treasurer-Tax Collector Jenine Windeshausen, who offered a presentation on the county's new mPOWER Program that provides financing for homeowner energy and water use efficiency improvements. The three-

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week-old program is one of the first in the state and is receiving about 20 applications per week. PCWA also offers water efficiency incentives through a rebate program. For information on the county program, see www.mpowerplacer.org. For PCWA water efficiency rebate information, see www.pcwa.net.

- heard a staff report on a draft pilot Water Connection Charge (WCC) payment program. At the request of the Building Industry Association, staff and the agency's finance committee have been working on a pilot WCC payment program for facilities agreements that provides for an initial WCC payment with the remainder paid upon the earlier of: (1) a request for initiation of water service or, (2) three to four years depending on the program option selected. The one-year pilot program is an effort to stimulate local development and would be limited to 500 service connections. The pilot program has eligibility requirements, a cost recovery charge and successor owner provisions. Directors voiced support for a pilot program that would allow home developers a payment program for WCC. Staff will finalize the measure for approval at the board's next meeting.

- heard an update from Director of Technical Services Brian Martin on system improvements being planned or in progress throughout the agency's service areas and Power System. Although private land development projects have slowed, Martin said Agency Engineers are very busy pursuing 46 active projects that consist of replacing or improving Agency facilities.

- approved a \$500 sponsorship for the 2010 Placer County Agricultural Tour. County Agricultural Commissioner Christine Turner and Mark White of the Placer County Resource Conservation District attended the meeting to encourage support and participation in the June 16 event, which this year carries the theme, "Growing...The Next Generation."

PCWA Board, page three

The PCWA Board of Directors will next meet in adjourned session at 2 p.m. on Monday, May 10, 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 or (800) 464-0030.