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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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AUBURN -- Directors of the Placer County Water Agency on Monday (May 10) approved a pilot program for paying Water Connection Charges (WCC) for new housing developments at the time of building permit for up to 48-months.

In the past, PCWA has collected subdivision connection charges at the time of the acceptance of the water distribution system. It is anticipated that this program will reduce borrowing costs for new housing and put people back to work in local construction.

In response to requests by the Building Industry Association and a customer, the water agency has been studying alternative payment programs. Director of Financial Services, Joseph Parker said agency officials are hopeful the pilot program will provide an added stimulus for the local economy.

This is a one-year pilot program which PCWA officials can evaluate to determine whether or not to continue.

The pilot program covers residential development only and is limited to the first 500 residential units. Retail and commercial developments are not included.

In other business, directors:

- signaled their opposition to Proposition 16 on the June primary election ballot, which is funded by the Pacific Gas and Electric Company and would require two-thirds

-more-

voter approval before a public agency could establish or expand electrical delivery service. Directors instructed legal counsel to prepare a resolution stating the board's position for consideration at their next meeting.

- voted to protest the water right application of a land developer who has filed for a “temporary” right to take water above the Agency’s American River Pumping Plant. The protest would also support the Foresthill Public Utility District, which is also protesting the application because it seeks to store water in the utility district’s Sugar Pine Reservoir. PCWA legal counsel Janet Goldsmith said the “temporary” right is apparently intended to permanently serve a 2200-unit development.

- recognized employees Mark Warren and Bob D’Elia who rescued a snowbound fisherman on Ralston Ridge near Hell Hole Reservoir. Warren and D’Elia work in the PCWA Power System and are station attendants at Hell Hole. In response to a Mar. 31 missing persons report from the Placer County Sheriff’s Office, they located the man, who was unharmed, and used a Snow Cat to tow his truck about three miles down to the snow line where he could drive away.

The next regular meeting of the PCWA Board of Directors will be held at 2 p.m. on Thursday, May 20, 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.

