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NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Mike Lee Will Lead PCWA Board in 2012

AUBURN - District 4 Director Mike Lee has been named by his fellow directors to serve as 2012 chairman of the Placer County Water Agency Board of Directors. The unanimous vote came at Monday's (Dec. 5) meeting of the PCWA board.

Lee, of Loomis, is a former longtime member of the Placer County Board of Supervisors who has served on the PCWA board since 2000. This will be his third term as board chairman.

He succeeds District 3 Director Lowell Jarvis, of Ophir, who served as 2011 board chairman.

District 5 Director Ben Mavy, of Meadow Vista, was elected as the board's vice chairman for 2012.

The other two members of the five-member PCWA governing board are District 1 Director Gray Allen of Roseville and District 5 Director Alex Ferreira of Lincoln.

In other business, PCWA directors:

- approved an interim contract with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation to renew and extend the supply of Central Valley Project (CVP) water the bureau supplies to PCWA. Legal adviser Janet Goldsmith said the interim contact was needed because the bureau is presently prohibited from entering into long term water supply contracts.

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- heard a report from Resource Planning Administrator Andy Fecko on the agency's ongoing effort to reduce increases in land use fees it pays to the federal government for the PCWA Middle Fork American River Project. Fecko said PCWA, working with other agencies, is now facing annual fees of \$800,000 to \$900,000, or less than half of the \$2 million originally sought. The fees have increased substantially from the \$280,000 the agency paid in 2008.

- heard an update from Field Services Director Mike Nichol on the annual canal maintenance outage being conducted this fall by the Pacific Gas and Electric Company. Nichol said water supply impacts to PCWA customers have been avoided during PG&E's work on the Bear River and South canals.

- approved \$4000 for the Placer Nature Center's watershed and water educational programs for young people. Directors said educational outreach is needed to emphasize the importance of the county's water resources at a time when downstream interests are looking to deprive our area of water for their benefit.

The next regular meeting of the PCWA Board of Directors will be held at 2 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 15, at the PCWA Business Center, 144 Ferguson Road, in Auburn.

Information on PCWA board meetings may be obtained through the Clerk to the Board at (530) 823-4850 or (800) 464-0030. PCWA information is also posted at www.pcwa.net.