



**CENTRAL ARIZONA WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
Public Policy Committee
March 7, 2019**

A meeting of the Public Policy Committee ("Committee") of the Central Arizona Water Conservation District's ("CAP" or "CAWCD") Board of Directors was called to order by Chair Cesare on March 7, 2019 at 9:04 a.m. The meeting was held at Central Arizona Project Headquarters, located at 23636 North Seventh Street, Phoenix, Arizona, in the Board Room.

Board members present were Chair Karen Cesare, Pima County; Jennifer Brown, Maricopa County; Benjamin W. Graff, Maricopa County; and Heather Macre, Maricopa County.

Board member not present was Jim Hartdegen, Pinal County.

Staff members present were Ted Cooke, General Manager; Jay Johnson, General Counsel; Bridget Schwartz-Manock, Director of Public Affairs; Jeff Gray, Legislative Affairs Manager; Megan Casey, Public Affairs Management Analyst; Jennifer Miller, Board Support Specialist; and, Jessika Rodriguez, Executive Secretary.

1. CONSIDERATION OF ACTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 7, 2019 PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE - CESARE

On a motion (Board Member Macre) and second (Board Member Brown), approved the minutes of the February 7, 2019 Committee Meeting. Motion passed.

Voting yes: Karen Cesare, Jennifer Brown, Heather A. Macre

Not voting: Benjamin W. Graff

2. REPORT ON STATE ISSUES THAT COULD AFFECT CAP AND POSSIBLE CONSIDERATION OF A RECOMMENDATION THAT THE BOARD TAKE ACTION ON STATE ISSUES THAT COULD IMPACT CAP INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO HB 2586 - GRAY

Jeff Gray, Legislative Affairs Manager, reported 1289 bills were introduced to date, noting that number may increase due to budget bills introduced later in the legislative session. Mr. Gray provided an overview of the status of HB2013, introduced by Representative Griffin and supported by CAP, appropriating \$1M to the Arizona Water Protection Fund.

Mr. Gray reported on the status of HB2590 (groundwater irrigation efficiency fund; appropriation), noting that the bill failed to pass the House Appropriations Committee and is not moving forward in its current form, but staff will continue to monitor the issue as it may become part of the overall budget discussion.

Mr. Gray also reviewed the strike-everything amendment adopted to HB2586, reporting that Legislative Affairs staff worked closely with the sponsor and proponents of the bill to remove

most of the provisions impacting CAGRD. Mr. Gray is requesting a formal position of "monitor" from the Committee.

Mr. Gray gave an update on the following bills that were not heard in committee by the respective deadline:

- HB2434 (Colorado river transfer; limitation)
- HB2468 (Colorado river transfer; emergency rulemaking)
- SB1541 (irrigation districts; qualified electors; definitions)

Mr. Gray also reported on the following bills, noting that staff is not recommending CAP take an official position:

- HB2111 (S/E: water adequacy provision; rescission)
- HB2467 (S/E: committees; west basin water users)
- HB2475 (water use; criminal penalty; wells)
- HB2476 (surface water forfeiture; repeal)
- HB2477 (adjudication statutes; unconstitutional provisions; repeal)
- HB2609 (Harquahala non-expansion area; groundwater transfer)
- HCM2004 (reserved water rights; exclusion)
- HCR2001 (S/E: Navajo generating station)
- HCR2019 (S/E: support; water management policies)

Chair Cesare reviewed the Public Policy Committee process for reviewing proposed legislation and taking an official position for the new members of the Committee.

On a motion (Board Member Macre) and a second (Board Member Brown), the Committee recommend that the Board adopt a position on the following pending state legislation of interest to CAP: HB 2586 water supplies; groundwater replenishment credits (MONITOR). Motion passed.

Voting yes: Karen Cesare, Jennifer Brown, Benjamin W. Graff, Heather A. Macre

3. REPORT ON FEDERAL ISSUES THAT COULD AFFECT CAP AND POSSIBLE CONSIDERATION OF A RECOMMENDATION THAT THE BOARD TAKE ACTION ON FEDERAL ISSUES THAT COULD IMPACT CAP - GRAY

Mr. Gray reported on federal affairs impacting the budget for both Department of Interior and the Environmental Protection Agency. He reported that the US Senate has confirmed Andrew Wheeler as Administrator of the EPA and President Trump has nominated Dan Jorjani for Solicitor of Interior, which requires confirmation by the US Senate. Mr. Gray provided an update on S.47 Natural Resources Management Act. He said this is one of the largest lands bills passed in many years.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

5. **ADJOURN**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:32 a.m.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Karen M. Cesare", written over a horizontal line.

Karen Cesare
Chair