



156 S. Broadway, Ste. 270, Turlock, CA 95380

(209) 668-4142 (phone) (209) 668-5695 (fax)

Special Board Meeting Agenda

March 7, 2022 at 4:00 p.m.

2701 4th Street, Ceres, CA, First Floor, Council Chambers

*Chair, Amy Bublak
Vice Chair, Javier Lopez
Director, Pam Franco
Director, Bret Silveira
Director (alternate), James Casey
Director (alternate), Nicole Larson*

*General Manager, Robert Granberg
Interim Legal Counsel, Richard P. Shanahan
Finance Director, Isaac Moreno
Board Secretary, Angelica Gonsalves*

THE CHAIR OF THE STANISLAUS REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY GOVERNING BOARD HAS CALLED A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD FOR THE DATE, TIME, LOCATION, AND BUSINESS AS SET FORTH IN THIS AGENDA.

THIS MEETING WILL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. SEATING CAPACITY WILL BE LIMITED TO THE FIRST 14 PEOPLE, ON A FIRST COME FIRST SERVE BASIS. COMPLIANCE WITH ALL HEALTH & SAFETY GUIDELINES INCLUDING COVID-19 SCREENING, TEMPERATURE CHECKS, FACE COVERINGS, AND PHYSICAL DISTANCING MEASURES WILL BE REQUIRED FOR IN-PERSON ATTENDANCE. PLEASE PLAN TO ARRIVE APPROXIMATELY 15 MINUTES PRIOR TO THE SCHEDULED MEETING START TIME TO ALLOW FOR SCREENING PROCESSES.

OR

JOIN BY CLICKING ON THE MEETING

**LINK: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/95105738084?pwd=RElpd0EyKzMxZiQ4VmVkRExIS1M0Zz09>
Passcode: 9510573808**

OR

JOIN BY ACCESSING THE ZOOM WEBSITE: <https://zoom.us/join>

WEBINAR ID: 951 0573 8084 Passcode: 9510573808

OR

JOIN BY TELEPHONE: 669-900-6833

WEBINAR ID: 951 0573 8084 Passcode: 9510573808

NOTICE REGARDING NON-ENGLISH SPEAKERS: The Stanislaus Regional Water Authority (SRWA) meetings are conducted in English and translation to other languages is not provided. Please make arrangements for an interpreter if necessary.

EQUAL ACCESS POLICY: If you have a disability which affects your access to public facilities or services, contact the Board Secretary at the phone number set forth above. The Board is committed to taking all reasonable measures to provide access to its facilities and services. Please allow sufficient time for the Board to process and respond to your request.

NOTICE: Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54954.3, any member of the public may directly address the Board on any item appearing on the agenda, including Consent Calendar and Scheduled Matters, before or during the Board's consideration of the item.

AGENDA PACKETS: Prior to the Stanislaus Regional Water Authority Board meeting, a complete Agenda Packet (excluding any closed session materials) is available for review on the SRWA's website at www.stanrwa.com and in the Board Secretary's Office at 156 S. Broadway, Suite 270, Turlock, during normal business hours. Materials related to an item on this Agenda submitted to the Board after distribution of the Agenda Packet are also available for public inspection in the Board Secretary's Office at the address set forth above. Such documents may be available on the SRWA's website subject to staff's ability to post the documents before the meeting.

1. A. **CALL TO ORDER**
- B. **SALUTE TO THE FLAG**
- C. **ROLL CALL**

2. **RECOGNITION, APPOINTMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS & PRESENTATIONS:** None

3. A. **SPECIAL BRIEFINGS:** None
- B. **STAFF UPDATES:** None
- C. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** This time is set aside for members of the public to address the Board concerning any item that has been described in the notice for the meeting, including Consent Calendar items, before or during consideration of that item. You will be allowed five (5) minutes for your comments. If you wish to speak regarding an item on the agenda, you may be asked to defer your remarks until the Board addresses the matter.

4. **DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST AND DISQUALIFICATIONS**

5. **CONSENT CALENDAR:** Information concerning the Consent items listed below has been forwarded to each Board member prior to this meeting for study. Unless the Chair, a Board member, or member of the audience has questions concerning the Consent Calendar, the items are approved at one time by the Board. The action taken by the Board in approving the Consent items is set forth in the explanation of the individual items.
 - A. *Motion:* Approving minutes of regular meeting of February 17, 2022

6. **PUBLIC HEARINGS:** None

7. **SCHEDULED MATTERS:**
 - A. *Motion:* Review and approve distributing the Letters of Expression of Interest for public potable water treatment operations and maintenance staffing for the Regional Surface Water Supply Project water treatment plant and distribution facilities (Granberg)

8. **MATTERS TOO LATE FOR THE AGENDA**

9. **BOARD ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION**

10. **BOARD COMMENTS:** Board members may provide a brief report on notable topics of interest. The Brown Act does not allow discussion or action by the legislative body.

11. **NEXT MEETING DATE:** March 17, 2022, Regular meeting

12. **CLOSED SESSION:** None

13. **ADJOURNMENT**



DRAFT Minutes
Regular Board Meeting
February 17, 2022

1. A. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Bublak called the meeting to order 3:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Chair Bublak, Vice Chair Lopez, Director Franco, Director Silveira (showed up at 3:33 pm)

ABSENT:

- B. **SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

- C. **ROLL CALL**

This item was heard out of order

2. **RECOGNITION, APPOINTMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS & PRESENTATIONS:** None

3. A. **SPECIAL BRIEFINGS:** None

- B. **STAFF UPDATES:**

1. General Manager Robert Granberg provided a presentation on design-build project activities, design-build contract status, environmental clearance/permitting, other activities, funding/financing update, public outreach, and shared project photos.

2. Finance Director Isaac Moreno provided an update through zoom on financial activity for year-to-date Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2021, and the summary of financial activity as of February 11, 2022. Revenue and expenses were reviewed.

- C. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

Chair Bublak opened public participation. None of the members of the public spoke. Chair Bublak closed public participation.

4. **DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST AND DISQUALIFICATIONS:** None

5. **CONSENT CALENDAR:**

Action: Motion by Director Franco, seconded by Vice Chair Lopez, approving the minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 26, 2022. Motion carried 4/0 by the following vote:

Director Franco	Director Silveira	Vice Chair Lopez	Chair Bublak
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

5. **PUBLIC HEARINGS:** None

7. **SCHEDULED MATTERS:**

A. General Manager Granberg recommended the board direct the General Manager to prepare a solicitation for Letters of Expression of Interest for public potable water treatment operations

and maintenance staffing for the Regional Surface Water Supply Project water treatment plant and distribution facilities

Chair Bublak opened public participation. No one spoke. Chair Bublak closed public participation.

The Board discussed on having more options than the two agencies provided, MID and SSJID, utilize all the resources that may be available in the central valley region or statewide to avoid any cost increases to the ratepayers. The board asked for the letter to be in an RFQ or RFI format that included specifics to operations and cost/resource sharing. The Board requested to make available the responses from the agencies. General Manager indicated a draft letter would be prepared for the Board to review before distributing on a special meeting on March 7th, 2022, at 4:00 PM.

Action: Motion directing the General Manager to prepare a solicitation for Letters of Expression of Interest for public potable water treatment operations and maintenance staffing for the Regional Surface Water Supply Project water treatment plant and distribution facilities. *(Motion failed due to lack of votes)*

Action: Motion by Chair Bublak, seconded by Vice Chair Lopez, Directing the General Manager to prepare a solicitation for Letters of Expression of Interest for public potable water treatment operations and maintenance staffing for the Regional Surface Water Supply Project water treatment plant and distribution facilities to be reviewed on March 7th, 2022, at 4:00 pm before distribution. Motion carried 4/0 by the following vote:

Director Franco	Director Silveira	Vice Chair Lopez	Chair Bublak
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

B. General Manager recommended the board approve SRWA staff positions and salary structure. General Manager Granberg presented an overview of the employee benefits, medical, dental, vision, life insurance, long and short-term disability, risk management, insurance plans offerings and cost between SDRMA and ACWA JPIA, StanCERA retirement, project activities and recruiting schedule. ACWA JPIA was suggested by General Manager Granberg as the preferred provider. Rick Santos, from Stancera, was available to answer questions through zoom.

The board discussed about using an annuitant as a temporary basis to fill in a vacant position or to fill in a position quickly. Rick Santos responded that it will not be a problem. Chair Bublak asked on how the probationary period be handled for employees. General Manager Granberg said that would be included in the employee handbook development.

Chair Bublak opened public participation. No one spoke. Chair Bublak closed public participation.

Action: **Resolution 2022-003** Motion by Director Silveira, seconded by Vice Chair Lopez, to approve and authorizing the General Manager to sign the Joint Powers Agreement creating the Association of California Water Agencies Joint Powers Insurance Authority and authorizing participation in related insurance and employee benefits programs. Motion carried 4/0 by the following vote:

Director Franco	Director Silveira	Vice Chair Lopez	Chair Bublak
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Action: **Resolution 2022-004** Motion by Director Silveira, seconded by Vice Chair Lopez, to approve SRWA participation as an employer in the Stanislaus County Employees' Retirement System pursuant to Government Code Section 31557(B). Motion carried 4/0 by the following vote:

Director Franco	Director Silveira	Vice Chair Lopez	Chair Bublak
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

- 8. **MATTERS TOO LATE FOR THE AGENDA:** None
- 9. **BOARD ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION:** None
- 10. **BOARD COMMENTS:** None
- 11. **NEXT MEETING DATE:** March 7, 2022, at 4:40 PM, Special meeting
- 12. **CLOSED SESSION:** None
- 13. **ADJOURNMENT:** Chair Bublak adjourned the meeting at 4:40 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

DRAFT

Angelica Gonsalves, Board Secretary



Stanislaus Regional Water Authority
156 S. Broadway, Ste. 270
Turlock, CA 95380
P: 209-668-4142 F:209-668-5695
www.stanrwa.com

March 8, 2022

Dear Interested Parties:

REQUEST FOR LETTERS OF EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST - STANISLAUS REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY - REGIONAL SURFACE WATER TREATMENT PLANT – MANAGEMENT SUPPORT

The Stanislaus Regional Water Authority (SRWA), a Joint Powers Authority formed in 2015 by the cities of Turlock and Ceres, California (Cities), is issuing this Request for Expression of Interest (EOI) to identify local governmental agencies having an interest in and the resources and experience to provide management support to operate and maintain the SRWA Regional Surface Water Supply Project (RSWSP).

The RSWSP is currently in the construction phase and when completed will deliver a new surface water supply to the Cities. The project is anticipated to complete acceptance testing and permitting through the State Division of Drinking Water (DDW) in the summer of 2023. Beginning in early 2023, SRWA’s Design-Build contractor will commence training of operations staff in advance of the acceptance testing phase and therefore it is imperative that SRWA has staff in-place to become familiar with the plant facilities that are the subject of this EOI. Depending on the response to this EOI, it is anticipated SRWA will either employ the required operations staff or procure and contract for all or part of management, operations, and maintenance personnel in late 2022 and early 2023.

SRWA issues this EOI solely for information and planning purposes. This is not a Request for Proposal (RFP), nor a commitment to issue an RFP in the future. This EOI does not commit SRWA to contract for services and all costs associated with preparing an EOI will be solely at the interested parties’ expense. Interested parties must respond to this EOI request to be considered for any future solicitations related to this EOI.

State law (Government Code sections 54980 – 54983) authorizes SRWA to enter into a service contract with a county, city, or special district for the performance of utility services. SRWA lacks the legal authority to approve an operations contract with a private company. Consequently, this EOI is limited to local government agencies that can provide water utility related services.

BACKGROUND

SRWA is developing a new surface water supply to enable the Cities to increase the reliability and sustainability of their domestic water supplies in response to future droughts. This multi-benefit project will enable the Cities to maximize water supply reliability over varying

hydrological conditions through conjunctive use of surface and groundwater, while increasing the volume of stored groundwater and improving water quality.

SRWA recognizes that one of the largest operating costs and ongoing, long-term obligation is the employment of labor. SRWA is exploring ways to partner with regional water treatment facility operations to find ways to become more efficient and productive in operating and maintaining its facilities. Assuming interested parties may also be seeking opportunities to more cost-effectively manage, operate and maintain their facilities, SRWA, through this EOI, is offering an opportunity to explore ways to partner and achieve common goals.

To better understand SRWA's facilities and how interested parties might align their resources, a description of the SRWA facilities is provided here. The SRWA website at <https://stanrwa.com/> provides additional background information.

The RSWSP facilities include the following:

- Raw Water Pump Station at the Tuolumne River infiltration gallery
- Raw Water Transmission Main (RWTM) facilities to convey raw water from the Raw Water Pump Station to the Water Treatment Plant (WTP) and the Ceres Main Canal
- 15 MGD Water Treatment Plant, expandable to 20 MGD with filter re-rating
- Finished Water Transmission Mains (FWTMs) to convey treated water from the WTP to the Cities.

These specific elements of the RSWSP are described as follows:

Raw Water Pump Station:

The Raw Water Pump Station will convey raw water to the WTP and the Ceres Main Canal. The Raw Water Pump Station will incorporate the Wet Well previously constructed by the SRWA, as well as the existing infiltration gallery that was constructed by the Turlock Irrigation District (TID) in the early 2000's.

Raw Water Flow Split Structure:

The Raw Water Flow Split Structure will be located along the RWTM within the WTP property. This structure will allow for the diversion of raw water to both the WTP and the Ceres Main Canal Outlet Structure independently and simultaneously at flow rates set by the SRWA and TID, respectively.

Water Treatment Plant:

The 15 mgd water treatment plant facilities include flash mixing followed by flocculation and sedimentation, ozone contactor, biological filtration, finished water storage and pumping to the Cities' terminal facilities. Treatment chemicals will be applied throughout the treatment process. Filter to waste and filter backwash will be equalized prior to solids treatment and recovery. Other facilities include a chemical building, maintenance building and administration building. The WTP is easily expandable to 20 mgd through a filter re-rating process approval from the DDW. Future phases are

anticipated to include 2-15 mgd increments as needed to meet the Cities' future demands.

Finished Water Transmission Mains:

Two (2) FWTMs will convey finished water to terminal facilities located within the City of Turlock and the City of Ceres. The finished water compliance point will be at the respective terminal facility. SRWA will operate and maintain the WTP pumping facility and the FWTMs to meet the Cities' demands for quality and quantity of finished surface water in conjunction with their existing potable water distribution system.

Acceptance Testing (to be performed by the SRWA Design-Builder):

During the Acceptance Test period, SRWA's contracted design-builder will demonstrate compliance with the Performance Standards at varying flow rates.

STAFFING APPROACH

The SRWA Board of Directors approved a staffing plan that establishes the anticipated administrative, operations and maintenance positions at its meeting of February 17, 2022. The positions are identified in Table 1.

Given this initial staffing level, the SRWA is soliciting this EOI for management and operations responsibility under contract with the SRWA, for all identified positions, or a hybrid of operational support, by position, to achieve SRWA's goals.

The term of engagement is not known at this time and will be considered when there is an established formal interest through a possible future RFP solicitation or negotiation with an interested party.

Table 1

Position (Min. DDW Certification)	Number of Positions
Water Treatment Plant Manager (T-5, D-4)	1
Water Treatment Ops Supervisor (T-4, D-4)	1
Administrative Assistant	1
Accountant	1
Human Resources Analyst	1
Senior Operator (T-3, D-3)	5
Operator (T-2, D-2)	2
Apprentice Operator (T-1, D-1)	2
Instrumentation Technician	1
Mechanic	2
General Manager	1
Total Staff	18

RESPONDING TO THE EOI

SRWA will accept and evaluate all reasonable interest that meets the intent and purpose as described in this request.

Submission

Interested local government agencies who consider themselves qualified to perform all or part of the services envisioned in this request are invited to submit a capability and interest statement to this EOI, or statement indicating no interest, to the SRWA by no later than 4:00 P.M. PDT on April 1, 2022.

At a minimum, EOI responses should contain the following:

1. Organization name, name of person responsible for EOI submission, address, email address, and telephone number.
2. Capability and interest statements addressing the following:
 - a. Organization and staff capability to provide all or some of the RSWSP operation, maintenance, or administration related services.
 - b. Description of the approach to meeting the requirements.
 - c. Identify any challenges or risks you deem pertinent to this EOI.
3. Description of the managing office in relation to the SRWA WTP, in terms of location and distance.
4. Organization structure alignment with the SRWA, i.e., plant operations description, DDW certifications, type of WTP currently operated, number of staffing in your organization.
5. If not interested in full SRWA operations and maintenance support, identify those positions in Table 1 that your organization would consider offering to serve the SRWA.
6. Mutual aid opportunities and how mutual aid could provide an important resource sharing opportunity for the SRWA and your organization.

Questions Regarding this EOI

SRWA does not intend to conduct a pre submittal meeting, however, questions regarding this solicitation are welcomed and should be directed to the SRWA General Manager at the email listed below. SRWA intends to evaluate the EOI responses and determine next steps (e.g., issue RFP, request additional information, negotiate with one or more respondents).

SRWA reserves the right to conduct contract negotiations with any party (whether or not it has submitted an EOI response), to verify the information in any EOI response, to waive any informality in the process, to alter the selection process in any way, to request additional information or clarifications, to allow corrections of errors or omissions, to extend the deadline for submission, to withdraw this EOI at any time without prior notice, and to decide whether or not to contract with any party. This EOI is not an offer to contract. All EOI responses shall

become the property of SRWA and SRWA may copy, publicly review and discuss, and retain response. All EOI responses received by SRWA will be considered public records subject to disclosure under the California Public Records Act.

Submittal Instructions

Submit Letters of Expression of Interest electronically to:

granbergassociates@gmail.com

SRWA looks forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Robert L. Granberg, P.E., DBIA
General Manager

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