WRCA Board Activities and Leg/Reg Update

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NorCal Chapter Trustee on the WRCA Board
WRCA Board Activities (March 2015)

- Special Workshop Proposal
  - Potable Reuse Communication (Sept 2015)
  - Showcase the model communications plans
  - Introduce WRRF website with Global Map of Potable Reuse Sites, including interviews, FAQs, and project details

- Co-Hosting CWEA-WateReuse-DWR-ReNUWIt
  - California Drought Summit - Re-Inventing Urban Water, Potable Reuse
  - May 11, 2015 in Sacramento
WRCA Conference = SUCCESS

- Highest Attended (500+)
- Greatest Sponsorship ($>127,000)
- First-ever Student Poster Contest
- Impressive # of Abstracts (108 Abstracts)
  - Papers will not be required for the 2016 conference
- Requesting input on Awards Ceremony
  - Mon. Lunch vs Tues. Morning
- 2016 Conference Location
  - Vineyard Hotel in Santa Rosa March 13-15
  - Co-Chairs = Jennifer Burke (Santa Rosa), Barry Dugan (SCWA), Sanjay Reddy (B&V)
WRCA Board Activities (May 2015)

- Potable Reuse Outreach Efforts
  - Media Activity (LA Times, CBS, NY Times, NPR, Scientific America Magazine, others)
  - WRCA interested in setting up a committee of Public Information Officers (PIO) to develop materials with common principals and messaging points for WRCA
  - On-going outreach meetings with CA Legislators, SWRCB members, other interest groups (CBIA others)
WRCA Board Activities (May 2015)

- WRCA- CUWA Operator Certification White Paper Update
  - Multiple organizations involved (WRF, AWWA, CUWA, CWEA, NWRI, others)
  - Potential to work together on a white paper.
  - OCWD operators interviewed at WRF conference

- WRF Conference (May 4-5 – Huntington Beach)
  - Highest attended (255)
  - Most Abstracts (99)
Budget Proposition 1 Update

- Proposition 1 Chapter 9 guidelines
- WRCA Comment letter to the SWRCB
- Appropriation Currently @ $131 million for RW projects
- Governor’s May Revise proposes $475 million in additional funding with flexibility to use over the next 3 years
- Budget Conference Committee to decide on funding levels. Committee decision as early as Friday.
- Guidelines set for June 16 adoption by SWRCB – July funding contracts signing with agencies.
- Start your applications now to get in line for grant and loan funding (1% loan rate ends in 2015)
CEQA Budget Trailer Bill

- Governor calls for Streamlining CEQA for water projects
  - Trailer Bill (in progress) CEQA Drought Emergency Exemption
    - Proposal would exempt from CEQA the construction of RW facilities and RW pipelines in the rights of ways.
    - WRCA in support: working group proposed revisions to language.
  - OPR also considering other administrative actions to expedite the recycled water process
Other Leg/Reg Updates

- Other Bills
  - AB 1463 (Gatto) Onsite recycled water
  - SB 471 (Pavley) Water-energy GHG

- WRCA Agricultural Working Group Effort
  - Proposed Project: State of irrigated agriculture water reuse, impediments and incentives
THANK YOU

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