

Report on Attendance at Regional Meetings – June/July 2018

Report on Monterey One Water (M1W) Activities:

The M1W Board meeting was held on Monday, June 25th.

We reviewed and approved the filing of liens against customers who have not paid their bills this year. 90% of people do pay when billed, but some become late in payments. The majority (98%) pay everything owed within a five year period however.

The Agency applied for a \$20 million grant from the US Bureau of Reclamation to pay for future Pure Water Monterey system improvements.

We reviewed and approved the budget for the upcoming fiscal year. Because of all of the construction for the Pure Water Monterey project, the budget increased from \$40 million for all funds in FY 17/18 to \$110 million for FY 18/19.

I instructed the rest of the Board on the process on the annual review for the General Manager. I am working with the agency's HR Manager to get this done.

The Board also reviewed all projects for status, as follows.

Source Water Collection System – water from Salinas, storm water, wash water, and use of 200 acre storage ponds in Salinas (\$17 million project): Construction ongoing.

Advanced Water Purification Facility (\$51.5 million project):
Project is approximately 50% complete and on schedule.

MCWD Pipeline (\$31 million project – \$22 million of that from M1W):
Project is close to completion – about 75/80% - and may be completed in July/August.

Injection Wells (\$9.4 million project):
Injection Wells are complete and monitoring wells are being drilled and at about 10% of completion.

Also met with Cal Am executives to discuss how the Pure Water Monterey and Cal Am projects work together and affect each other.

Meetings:

Attended Monterey County Business Coalition meeting at which Supervisor Mary Adams spoke. She reported on the Board of Supervisors' struggles in bringing the budget into balance; as well as the need for progress on providing more housing. One point she also made comments that we still need to work on the county's water problems. After a short talk she also took questions and dealt with issues as disparate as the Eastside Parkway and the Pfeiffer Canyon Bridge.

Mayors and Council Forum

Attended the League of California Cities' Mayors and Council Forum at the Marriott Hotel. Topic session I participated in included:

Communicating with Constituents in a social and new media age.

Winning the War for Talent – the Role of Elected Officials

How to work effectively with your City Manager and Department Heads.

Gender Empowerment in the #MeToo World.

Addressing the Challenges of Affordable Housing.

And the General Session with Marcie Frost, the new CEO of CalPERS; on California's Pension and OPEB System Today.

I also attended the **Advanced Leadership Workshop on City Finances**, where we reviewed topics such as financial policies; budgets and the budgeting process; sources of City funds, auditing; PERS and PERS retiree costs; city finance and debt management; and cash management.

Monterey Bay Defense Alliance Meeting

Councilwoman Garfield and I both attended. This is an organization committed to protecting the Monterey area from the loss of our military facilities through a Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) action. Speakers were Admirals Oliver and White; as well as Congressman Panetta. The take-away message was that the organization needs to continue highlighting what the area is doing to ensure to improve overall infrastructure and power and water supply reliability. There is currently no discussion of an actual BRAC review, but this area need to be ready. The speaker also spoke about how ocean health in an important component of what we all need to work toward.

Also reported was that the National Defense appropriations budget of \$677 billion was passed with bipartisan support of 344 to 88 in the House and 89-8 in the Senate. The Office of Economic Adjustment was also funded again. This is the organization that helps areas affected by BRAC base closures.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rudy Fischer

Councilman Rudy Fischer