

ITEM 1

Agenda of April 17, 2014

**TO: Board of Directors
Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency**

**FROM: Richard M. Johnson, Executive Director
(916) 874-7606**

SUBJECT: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT FOR APRIL 17, 2014

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers South Pacific Division Collaboration Summit 2014

On Monday, April 7th Brigadier General Turner, Commander of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) South Pacific Division (SPD) hosted the SPD 2014 Collaboration Summit. The Summit consisted of two panels. The goal of the first panel was to discuss the “who, what, when, where and why” of collaboration. The goal of the second panel was a facilitated discussion with panelists and other guests in the audience to:

- Hear stakeholder's perspectives on Corps Collaboration;
- Summarize the salient points and recommendations;
- Identify potential future actions; and
- Formulate a way ahead

The speakers for the first panel were:

- Rita Sudman, former Executive Director of the Water Education Foundation;
- Susan Sherry, Executive Director, Center for Collaborative Policy; and
- Dr. Peter Goodwin, California Delta Science Program

The speakers for the second panel were:

- Gary Bardini, California Department of Water Resources Deputy Director for Integrated Water Management;
- Rick Johnson, SAFCA Executive Director;
- Greg Woodside, Orange County Water District Executive Director of Planning and Natural Resources; and
- Mark Kramer, The Nature Conservancy Director of Federal Government Relations, California Chapter

SAFCA Washington D.C. Trip Report

Every year SAFCA representatives travel to Washington D.C. to work with the various Congressional Committees, Representatives, and Agencies in seeking support for SAFCA projects. This year SAFCA Board of Directors' Chair Angelique Ashby, Vice-Chair Don Nottoli and SAFCA Executive Director Rick Johnson went to Washington D.C. March 31 through April 4. The following summary of the trip was prepared by SAFCA Washington representative Mike Strachn.

Summary of SAFCA Meetings - Washington, DC - April 1-3, 2014

- Introduction - During the period March 31st-April 4th, SAFCA leadership met with Congressional and Agency officials in Washington, D.C. on SAFCA's Federal initiatives. Meetings occurred on April 1st-3rd, with March 31st and April 4th being travel days.
- Participants: -
 - Honorable Angelique Ashby, Mayor *Pro Tem* (City of Sacramento), Sacramento City Council Member and Chairperson of the SAFCA Board of Directors;
 - Honorable Don Nottoli, Sacramento County Supervisor and Vice-Chair of the SAFCA Board of Directors;
 - Mr. Rick Johnson, Executive Director of SAFCA;
 - Mike Strachn, Senior Advisor, Dawson & Associates (SAFCA's Washington representative);
 - Rich Worthington, Steinberg & Associates (SAFCA technical consultant);
 - Honorable Robert Dawson, President & Founder, Dawson & Associates;
 - Brigadier General (Ret) Rick Capka, Chief Operating Officer, Dawson & Associates;
 - Major General (Ret) Don Riley, Senior Vice President, Dawson & Associates;
 - and
 - Steve Dawson, Counsel, Dawson & Associates
- Objectives:
 - Thank Federal officials for longstanding support of SAFCA flood control initiatives;
 - Seek timely enactment of Federal water resources legislation (Water Resources Reform and Development Act/Water Resources Development Act [WRRDA/WRDA]) by Congress. Our particular focus was to urge congressional authorization of the Natomas Levee Improvement Program; and
 - Seek continued support for Federal funding in agency budget requests and in annual Congressional appropriations activities

- Discuss other project-specific matters with Agency and Congressional officials, including:
 - Fiscal Year 2014 funding "work plan" and inclusion of funds for completion of the South Sacramento Stream Group Project and the '96/'99 WRDA sites of the American River "Common Features" Project; and continuation of design of the Natomas Project;
 - Support for the President's Fiscal Year 2015 Budget request for SAFCA projects;
 - Support for funds to expedite Corps construction of the Natomas Project once it is authorized by Congress;
 - Support for additional provisions in pending WRRDA/WRDA legislation, including those on levee vegetation, "408 Permission Request", non-Federal credits and reservoir operations;
 - Development of the Folsom Dam Water Control Manual;
 - Designation of SAFCA projects as "Mega Projects"; and
 - Implementation of WRRDA/WRDA by the Administration.

- Meetings - We met with the following elected officials/staff and agency officials:
 - Office of Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-CA)
 - Office of Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA)
 - Representative Doris Matsui (D-CA)
 - Representative John Garamendi (D-CA)
 - Representative Ami Bera (D-CA)
 - Representative Bill Shuster (R-PA) (Chairman of House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee)
 - Senate Appropriations Committee staff
 - House Appropriations Committee staff
 - House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee staff
 - Office of Management & Budget staff
 - Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works) staff
 - Headquarters, Army Corps of Engineers, Director of Civil Works
 - Headquarters, Bureau of Reclamation, Acting Commissioner
 - Sacramento District, Army Corps of Engineers, Commander & staff (also in Washington during this time).

- Conclusions
 - The meetings served as timely reminders by Sacramento flood control leaders of the importance of securing timely authorization of key SAFCA initiatives and the continuation of adequate Federal funding for our suite of activities.
 - The meetings also demonstrated SAFCA's continuing commitment to collaboration with our Federal partners, its continuing major role in Corps matters

and policies generally and its dedication to sustaining a strong presence in Washington.

RJlr/Exec Dir April 2014.doc
Attachment(s)