



Salton Sea Authority Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, April 22, 2021
10:00 a.m.

Via Zoom Webinar



AGENDA:
DATE:
LOCATION:

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Thursday, April 22, 2021
10:00 a.m.
Via Zoom Webinar

In the interest of public health, and in cooperation with government COVID-19 meeting recommendations, this meeting will be conducted via Zoom Webinar. The public will be able to view the meeting live at 10:00 a.m. April 22. Please see the meeting login information at <https://saltonseas.com/meetings/>.

- I. **CALL TO ORDER**
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
ROLL CALL

A copy of the complete agenda packet is available for viewing or download at: <https://saltonseas.com/meetings/>.

II. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

This Public Comments time is reserved for matters not already on the agenda. The law prohibits members of the Board from taking action on matters not on the agenda.

Any member of the public may address the Board relating to any matter within the Authority's jurisdiction and are invited to speak to any specific action item listed in the agenda at the time it is called; all other agenda items should be addressed during this general public comment period.

Remarks shall be limited to a maximum of three (3) minutes.

*Public comment may be delivered verbally (use "raise hand" feature in Zoom or press *9 by phone to be acknowledged), **via email to info@saltonseas.com** (include in your subject line "Public Comment, 4/22/21 SSA Board meeting"), or hand-delivered to 82995 Highway 111, Suite 200, Indio, California. Please place hand delivered comments in an envelope addressed to "Board Secretary, Salton Sea Authority" and leave with the attending security officer.*

*All written comments should include your name, address (addresses will be redacted), and whether it is for general public comment or a specific agenda item (number and topic). Anonymous comments will not be read. Comments received in writing, either by email or written, will be distributed to the Board, posted on the Salton Sea Authority website for public review, and if received **before noon on Wednesday April 21**, receipt will be acknowledged during public comments. Written comments will not be read aloud into the public record.*

III. **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

This is a time set aside for members of the Board to share their thoughts and concerns regarding general Authority matters not on the agenda, ask questions of staff, and request that items be added to an agenda at a later date.

The Brown Act expressly prohibits lengthy Board Member discussion of matters not on the agenda. The Board may at its discretion (by 4/5 vote) add items deemed to be an emergency to the agenda in order to engage in public discourse.

IV. ACTION ITEMS

- A. CONSENT CALENDAR – Approve, Receive, and File
 - 1. Minutes of SSA Board Meeting March 25, 2021
 - 2. Warrant Register Ratification for March 2021
 - 3. Internal Financial Report for: 7/01/2020 – 2/28/2021
- B. BUDGET APPROVAL – Discussion. Staff Recommendation Approve or Continue

V. PRESENTATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS

- A. Earth Day 2021 – 51st Anniversary:
 - 1. Presentation on Audubon Bombay Beach Wetlands, Frank Ruiz, Audubon Society (invited)
 - 2. Other acknowledgements

VI. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. Prop 68 Funding Update: North Lake Demonstration Project (G. Patrick O’Dowd, Executive Director)
 - 1. Grant status
 - 2. Brief update on North Shore Beach and Yacht Club Dredging
- B. QSA JPA Budget General Discussion and Board direction

VII. REPORTS

- A. Federal
 - 1. Federal Activities – (Lisa Lehman, Partner, Cultivating Conservation; Lowry Crook, Best Best & Krieger)
 - 2. US Bureau of Reclamation – (Genevieve Johnson, Program Manager for the Salton Sea)
- B. State
 - 1. State Advocacy Report – (Oracio Gonzalez, Principal, Ollin Strategies)
 - 2. State of California – (Gail Sevrens, Salton Sea Program Manager, California Dept. of Fish & Wildlife)
 - 3. Salton Sea State Recreation Area Update on Activities – (Steve Quartieri, District Superintendent, California State Parks)
- C. Local
 - 1. Salton Sea Action Committee (SSAC) – (Juan M. DeLara, SSAC President)
- D. Executive Director/GM
 - 1. GM Report – (G. Patrick O’Dowd, Executive Director/GM, Salton Sea Authority)

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

NEXT MEETING TIME & LOCATION:

SSA Board meetings will be held via Zoom until further notice.

Thursday, May 27, 2021

10:00 a.m. via Zoom

Any public record, relating to an open session agenda item, that is distributed within 72 hours prior to the meeting is available for public inspection in the lobby at the front desk of the County Law Building located at 82995 Highway 111, Indio, CA 92201.



OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

SALTON SEA AUTHORITY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

March 25, 2021

I. CALL TO ORDER

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Salton Sea Authority (“Authority”) Board of Directors (“Board”) was called to order by Alex Cardenas, President, at 10:05 a.m., March 25, 2021, Via Zoom Webinar.

ROLL CALL:

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Alex Cárdenas, President
V. Manuel Perez, Vice-President
Altrena Santillanes, Treasurer
Luis A. Plancarte, Secretary
Ryan E. Kelley, Director
Thomas Tortez, Director
Cástulo R. Estrada, Director

AGENCY

Imperial Irrigation District
Riverside County
Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians
Imperial County
Imperial County
Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians
Coachella Valley Water District

DIRECTORS ABSENT

Jeff Hewitt, Director
Anthony Bianco, Director
Norma S. Galindo, Director
Arturo Delgado, Ex-Officio Member

AGENCY

Riverside County
Coachella Valley Water District
Imperial Irrigation District
California Natural Resources Agency

In keeping with the Salton Sea Authority Bylaws, there being at least three of the five member agencies represented, and a single Director carrying the vote of both Directors when the second Director of the same agency is absent, a Quorum was declared, and the meeting proceeded.

SALTON SEA AUTHORITY STAFF PRESENT

G. Patrick O’Dowd, Executive Director/GM
Bob Hargreaves, Best Best & Krieger, Legal Counsel

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT

There were 33 members of the public present via Zoom and 16 participants in addition to the board members.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Mr. Nikola Lakic, Geothermal Worldwide, Inc., read from his written comment (available on the meeting's web page), regarding his proposal.
- Mr. Ron Spears, President of Bahia del Mar Property Owners Association at Desert Shores, speaking on behalf of the Association, asked about the current status of the Desert Shores channel restoration project.

III. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

- A. Director Estrada said he was happy to see the QSA discussion in the agenda, and would like to hear, during Federal Reports, an update on congressional earmarks for projects.
- B. Director Perez thanked Jason Uhley of County of Riverside for his testimony before the Energy and Water Development hearing, shared highlights of the CNRA SSMP update he received, and thanked Alianza for inviting him to the March 10 meeting.
- C. Director Cardenas directed the public/attendees to the Executive Director's comprehensive report.

IV. ACTION ITEMS

A. CONSENT CALENDAR – Approve, Receive, and File

1. Minutes of the Salton Sea Authority Board Meeting February 28, 2021
2. Warrant Register Ratification for February 2021
3. Internal Financial Report for: 7/01/2020 – 1/31/2021

The Board Secretary noted a correction to be made in the minutes: Add CNRA Assistant Secretary, Salton Sea Policy, Arturo Delgado to the opening roll call as having been present.

*Director Kelley moved that the Consent Calendar be **approved** as amended. **Seconded** by Director Perez. **Unanimously carried** via roll call vote.*

Approved by the following vote:

***AYES:** Directors Cardenas*, Perez*, Santillanes, Tortez, Plancarte, Kelley, Estrada**

***NOES:** None*

***ABSENT:** Director Hewitt*, Director Bianco*, Director Galindo**

***ABSTAINED:** None*

***MOTION PASSED:** 10* - 0*

**In keeping with the Salton Sea Authority Bylaws, a single Director carries the vote of both Directors of that agency when the second Director of the same agency is absent.*

V. DISCUSSION ITEM(S)

A. Budget Review: Proposed 2021-2022 Budget

The Executive Director gave a detailed review of the budget. The Board discussed resuming the pre-COVID-19 dues level. Unanimous consent was given to seek organizational approvals to finalize the budget. Chairman Cardenas directed the Executive Director to send a memo to the agencies for review and approval of member dues.

B. Customs, Practices and the law regarding Public Comments

The Authority's General Counsel, Robert Hargreaves, Esq., of Best Best & Krieger, clarified public comment guidelines in response to directors request.

VI. REPORTS

A. Federal

1. Federal Activities

Lisa Moore Lehman, Partner, Cultivating Conservation, gave an update on the USDA Watershed plan discussion from last meeting and on federal appropriations ("earmarks").

Lowry Crook, Best Best & Krieger, reported that the Los Angeles District of the Army Corps of Engineers expressed interest in partnering with the Tribe on a project study as part of their tribal program.

B. State

1. State Advocacy Report

Oracio Gonzalez, Principal, Ollin Strategies, commented on AB 377 mentioned at last board meeting.

2. State of California

Gail Sevrens, Salton Sea Program Manager, California Dept. of Fish & Wildlife, gave an update on SSMP activities, including the Army Corps of Engineers' progress on the SSMP. She said links to the Corps' website and reports and notices she mentioned are on CNRA's saltonseaca.gov website.

3. Salton Sea State Recreation Area (no report)

C. Local

1. Salton Sea Action Committee (SSAC)

Juan M. DeLara, SSAC President, gave an update on the activities of the SSAC.

D. Executive Director/GM

1. GM Report

In the interest of time, Executive Director G. Patrick O'Dowd referred attendees to his written report that was included in the board packet.

VII. PRESENTATIONS

- A. Overview of QSA JPA – (postponed until next month)
- B. AB 617 and Air Quality monitoring, mitigation, and protection

Belen Leon, Project Manager of the Imperial County Air Pollution Control District (ICAPCD) introduced the progress report on AB 617 in the Imperial community corridor.

Thomas Brinkerhoff, ICAPCD Project Manager, reported on AB 617 projects implemented in Imperial County and upcoming projects.

Jo Kay Gosh, Ph.D., Director of Community Air Programs at South Coast Air Quality Management District, talked about some of their AB 617 efforts in the Eastern Coachella Valley.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Board President Cardenas adjourned the meeting at 12:03p.m.

NEXT MEETING TIME & LOCATION:

The regularly scheduled meeting will be held

Thursday, April 22, 2021

10:00 a.m.

Via Zoom Webinar

Checking Account Activity

March 1, 2021 through March 31, 2021



Warrant Date	Warrant Number	Vendor Name	Amount
		Beginning Cash	\$ 163,190.59
03/01/2021	1201	County of Riverside Facilities Management	(23,027.49)
03/02/2021	Deposit	Rabobank - overpayment refund	155.92
03/03/2021	EFT	Pitney Bowes	(10.00)
03/05/2021	Deposit	CVMC Grant Receipt -December	1,113.82
03/11/2021	EFT	Pacific Western Payment	(1,476.05)
03/16/2021	EFT	Pitney Bowes	(67.46)
03/22/2021	1202	Petty Cash	(155.35)
03/22/2021	1203	Best, Best & Krieger	(4,609.00)
03/22/2021	1204	Cultivating Conservation	(7,000.00)
03/22/2021	1205	Eide Bailly LLP	(2,256.65)
03/22/2021	1206	OfficeTeam	(5,192.32)
03/22/2021	1207	Ollin Strategies	(5,000.00)
03/22/2021	1208	SystemGo IT LLC	(691.00)
03/22/2021	1209	Riverside County	(75,000.00)
03/22/2021	VOID	Riverside County	75,000.00
03/22/2021	EFT	VISA Payment	(270.96)
03/22/2021	EFT	Stop Payment on County check	(15.00)
03/24/2021	EFT	Verizon Wireless	(259.95)
		Net Activity	(48,761.49)
		Ending Cash	\$ 114,429.10



Salton Sea Authority
Profit & Loss Budget to Actual
(Unaudited)

Year to Date through February 28, 2021

	General Fund	NSBYC Grant	TOTAL	FY 20-21 Budget	% of Budget	\$ Variance
1 INCOME						
2 Local Government/Member Assessments	\$ 549,000	\$ -	\$ 549,000	\$ 549,000	100%	\$ -
3 Grant Funding	-	94,034	94,034	79,600	118%	14,434
4 State of California Grants (Prop 68)	-	-	-	750,000	0%	(750,000)
5 Pooled Cash Allocated Interest	71	-	71	1,500	5%	(1,429)
6 Miscellaneous Revenue	84	-	84	700	12%	(616)
7 TOTAL INCOME	549,155	94,034	643,189	1,380,800	47%	(737,611)
8 EXPENSE						
9 SSA Administration						
10 Salaries						
11 GM / Executive Director	146,698	-	146,698	156,100	94%	(9,402)
12 Grant Support	56,279	3,123	59,402	95,500	62%	(36,098)
13 Executive Director Support	23,616	-	23,616	27,300	87%	(3,684)
14 Admin Support A	32,149	-	32,149	48,700	66%	(16,551)
15 Admin Support B	27,378	38	27,416	39,100	70%	(11,684)
16 Total Salaries	286,120	3,161	289,281	366,700	79%	(77,419)
17 Employee Benefits						
18 Employee Benefits - GM / Exec. Dir.	40,345	-	40,345	62,000	65%	(21,655)
19 Employee Benefits - Other SSA Staff	36,788	25	36,813	51,200	72%	(14,387)
20 Total Employee Benefits	77,133	25	77,158	113,200	68%	(36,042)
21 Audit/Accounting	37,394	3,239	40,632	96,700	42%	(56,068)
22 Contract Attorney	64,649	-	64,649	75,000	86%	(10,351)
23 Equipment Maintenance	7,819	-	7,819	8,400	93%	(581)
24 Capital Equipment	557	-	557	2,500	22%	(1,943)
25 Insurance	7,195	-	7,195	8,900	81%	(1,705)
26 Office Expense/Operating Supplies	2,809	-	2,809	3,000	94%	(191)
27 Office Expense/Online Services	2,631	-	2,631	1,400	188%	1,231
28 Postage, Mail	1,384	-	1,384	1,800	77%	(416)
29 Printing Services	74	-	74	4,000	2%	(3,926)
30 Dues, Subscriptions	7,292	-	7,292	10,000	73%	(2,708)
31 Communications	3,952	-	3,952	5,000	79%	(1,048)
32 Travel/Mileage	8,345	-	8,345	56,000	15%	(47,655)
33 Technical Support - Consultant	-	-	-	40,000	0%	(40,000)
34 Technical Support - Engineering	-	-	-	60,000	0%	(60,000)
35 Technical Support - General	-	-	-	40,000	0%	(40,000)
36 Contract Services / Website	-	-	-	5,000	0%	(5,000)
37 Technical Support - Enviromental	-	-	-	60,000	0%	(60,000)
38 Technical Support - Fiscal	-	-	-	50,000	0%	(50,000)
39 Communications & Outreach	4,625	-	4,625	40,000	12%	(35,375)
40 Utilities	-	-	-	3,000	0%	(3,000)
41 Grants & Advocacy	118,781	-	118,781	150,000	79%	(31,219)
42 Project Management	-	-	-	60,000	0%	(60,000)
43 Contingency	-	-	-	33,400	0%	(33,400)
45 Total SSA Administration	630,761	6,424	637,185	1,294,000	49%	(656,815)

*No assurance is provided on these financial statements. The financial statements do not include a statement of cash flows. Substantially all disclosures required by accounting principles generally accepted in the U.S. are not included.



Salton Sea Authority
Profit & Loss Budget to Actual
(Unaudited)

Year to Date through February 28, 2021

	General Fund	NSBYC Grant	TOTAL	FY 20-21 Budget	% of Budget	\$ Variance
46	North Shore Grant					
47	-	22,086	22,086	-	0%	22,086
48	-	65,527	65,527	-	0%	65,527
49	-	87,613	87,613	-	0%	87,613
50	630,761	94,037	724,798	1,294,000	56%	(569,202)
51	\$ (81,606)	\$ (3)	\$ (81,609)	\$ 86,800		\$ (168,409)

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Salton Sea Authority
Balance Sheets
(Unaudited)

As of February 28, 2021

	General Fund	702 Fish Clean Up Trust	NSBYC Grant	TOTAL
1 ASSETS				
2 Checking/Savings				
3 Cash - PW Checking	\$ 190,629	\$ 20,991	\$ 26,570	\$ 238,191
4 Cash - RivCo Fund	38,982	-	(4,830)	34,152
5 RivCo investment fund	5,126	-	-	5,126
6 Cash - Petty Cash	153	-	-	153
7 Total Checking/Savings	234,890	20,991	21,740	277,621
8 Other Current Assets				
9 Due from Grant Funds	2,678	-	-	2,678
10 Prepaid Items	10,778	-	-	10,778
11 Grant Receivable	-	-	22,528	22,528
12 Total Other Current Assets	13,455	-	22,528	35,983
13 TOTAL ASSETS	248,345	20,991	44,267	313,604
14 LIABILITIES & EQUITY				
15 Liabilities				
16 Current Liabilities				
17 Accounts Payable	75,000	-	-	75,000
18 Credit Cards				
19 Credit Card Payable (Visa)	112	-	-	112
20 Credit Card Payable (Pac West)	1,476	-	-	1,476
21 Total Credit Cards	1,588	-	-	1,588
22 Other Current Liabilities				
23 Due to Other Funds	-	-	2,678	2,678
24 Accrued Payroll	12,323	-	-	12,323
25 Due to EDA for NSBYC Grant	-	-	42,736	42,736
26 Accrued Vacation	15,725	-	-	15,725
27 Total Other Current Liabilities	28,049	-	45,413	73,462
28 Total Liabilities	104,637	-	45,413	150,050
29 Fund Balance	143,708	20,991	(1,146)	163,554
30 TOTAL LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCE	\$ 248,345	\$ 20,991	\$ 44,267	\$ 313,604

*No assurance is provided on these financial statements. The financial statements do not include a statement of cash flows. Substantially all disclosures required by accounting principles generally accepted in the U.S. are not included.



Salton Sea Authority

Executive Director's Report

To the Board of the Directors

April 22, 2021

Executive Summary

On April 7th, the State Water Resources Control Board Division of Water Rights held a public workshop on the status of Phase 1 of the Salton Sea Management Plan via the Zoom platform. At that hearing, which lasted over 7 hours in length, the Salton Sea Authority ("Authority") had an opportunity to share a panel of "Local entities" alongside representatives from Imperial Irrigation District, Imperial County. Six panels in all made presentations to the Water Board representing a wide range of interests and stakeholder groups. Of particular interest to many, Panel 1 included community members from around the Sea, sharing with the Board their long-lived experiences, fears, and frustrations. In response, the State committed to redouble its efforts to reach out to the communities and accelerate the pace of work in addressing the decline around the Sea; however, the general sentiment of the community members, though grateful for the good intentions expressed, was "we've heard it all before". Perhaps, not coincidentally, the Authority's presentation (which [can be viewed here](#)) focused in large part on the unmet needs of the communities.

This report will touch on the Authority's recent and prospective efforts to address challenges raised at the hearing and while highlighting our efforts at improved communications and collaboration with the State and project sponsors, as well as stakeholders generally. We will also briefly summarize some of the work the Authority has done and is doing to identify and secure a wide range of funding sources to facilitate financial certainty to the revitalization efforts moving forward. It must be noted however, that none of this can be accomplished by the Authority alone. Rather, our success requires the coordinated efforts of the Authority, its members and its partners including the State of California and the Federal family.

Community Engagement

It has been clear for some time and became glaringly obvious at the Water Board hearing that there is a chasm between the significant work being undertaken by the State to address habitat restoration and air quality impacts relating to the Sea's decline and the sense of progress felt by the people of the region. Breaking ground on the 4,000 plus acres SHC project was a pivotal milestone of the State's effort, but to the people in communities which continue to be negatively impacted by the declining Sea it means little. For some months, the Authority has been engaged both in Imperial and Riverside Counties, working with our members to address community-specific projects. In Riverside County, working with County executives and staff, we have forged an agreement with the State to fund a \$19.25 million "demonstration project" which when completed will inform the work of potential future perimeter lake project(s) and other similar investments in the region. This funding was made possible through Proposition 68 and the Authority's long, diligent advocacy in that regard. Once completed, the project will also

greatly enhance the aesthetic and recreational resources of the North Shore community, a Sea-adjacent village which has long waited for hope to return. Once the grant funding agreement is fully signed, extensive community outreach and engagement will begin to better inform the community of the broad project scope, and to further refine the project within its physical and financial limitations.

Desert Shores in Imperial County is another community-centric undertaking where the Authority is actively engaged. Originally focused principally on mitigating the impacts to the “finger lakes” resulting from it being cut off from the Sea, this effort is taking on an expanded scope to evaluate several opportunities to address a wide variety of relevant, cost effective and perhaps synergistic community-specific opportunities to address the receding shoreline and its attendant impacts. Several funding sources have been identified for this project and we are working to finalize the scale, cost and available funding before a more comprehensive public engagement process is undertaken to refine the scope and efforts. Engineering students from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo’s “Engineers with Borders” program have also expressed an interest in being involved in the project, and we will explore how their program could possibly contribute to future efforts around the Sea. Again, we are actively working with community representatives in developing the project scope.

In consultation with the State and our members, we are looking to better understand the impacts associated with the decline on all communities around the Sea, and assist in bringing the proper resources and attention to bear to ensure safe, livable communities for generations to come.

Air Quality

Impacts attributable to poor air quality have plagued the region for decades. The oft repeated stories of epic “burps” and fish kills have weighed heavily on the negative image of the Sea and region, and persistent reports of childhood asthma and nose bleeds have created a level of anxiety in the communities which is not sustainable. Over the past few months, the Authority has been in regular contact with the agencies most primarily responsible for air quality in the region, including Imperial County Air Pollution Control District and South Coast Air Quality Management District. Our efforts have focused principally on understanding how the collective efforts of each, as well as the responsibilities identified under the Salton Sea Air Quality Mitigation Program, and in conjunction with leveraging resources available under programs such as the Community Air Protection Program established by AB 617 can responsibly and timely mitigate the threats to human health and safety. Based on that effort, it appears much more can be done to synchronize the efforts of the State and regional authorities and others to provide surety to the people of the region that theirs is a safe place to live, and the pursuit of this is one of the Authority’s highest priorities.

Water Quality and Availability

From the onset of the first project, water quality and water availability have been at the forefront of every conversation. Yet as projects begin to develop, lingering issues continue to make it difficult to select the best available, most cost-effective source of supply for project development. Work initiated by our Federal partners is better informing the process, and in

conjunction with our members and the State, we are hopeful that a more programmatic understanding of water rights and uses can be developed for future projects. In addition, after a several year hiatus, the State has committed to reconvene the Science Committee to include continuing discussions on this issue. The Authority intends to remain fully informed in that effort. Hopefully this rejoinder to a long expressed need for informed decision making will take a form and function that allows for the development of informed, actionable recommendations that will expedite future project deliveries.

Land Use

As has been evidenced in recent months, lack of proper access and land use rights severely impact the ability to develop successful projects at and around the Sea. Recognizing this challenge, the Authority has undertaken an outreach effort to significant landowners – public, private, and tribal - in the vicinity of currently planned and proposed future projects to ascertain their sensitivities to working with the Authority and its partners in pursuit of projects that realize a better Salton Sea and region. Generally, our efforts have been well received, but we have confirmed our belief that putting together these assemblages will not be simple. Each landowners' rights must be respected, and the unique objectives and values of each – financial, cultural, and otherwise – must be inventoried and considered. Nonetheless, we have found and believe that by getting out front in a transparent manner and working in close cooperation and collaboration with the State, our affected members, and partners in the region that the prospects of assembling the necessary acreage for project purposes is imminently achievable. Specific detail in this regard will be addressed as each project moves forward.

Funding Sources

- **Federal**

In addition to the Authority's work on WRDA, the Watershed Act and otherwise which was previously reported, we have been focused on securing funding under pending federal infrastructure legislation, and are positioning the Sea and region to access any monies that might come available via a possible reintroduction of "earmarks". While large scale direct Federal appropriations has been elusive, we have been successful in and are grateful for securing grant funding through the United States Bureau of Reclamation. Those periodic funding opportunities have allowed us to direct resources to targeted opportunities, making real impacts in the communities and regions. We are working throughout the entire Federal family to identify funding sources for projects at the Sea and are appreciative of the attention and support of Congressmen Ruiz and Vargas, and the fair consideration from Senator Feinstein.

- **State**

Several bills are making their way through the Assembly, which if enacted, could provide significant additional bond funding to the Sea, ranging from \$185 million to \$240 million. In addition, several other legislative actions are considering how other State funds might be directed to the efforts and how State policy can improve the implementation of projects at the Sea.

We continue to aggressively explore a wide variety of mechanisms and resources at the State which might facilitate access funding for the Authority as contemplated by our draft 2021/2022 business plan. We are hopeful that one or several of those avenues will be realized.

- **Local/Special Districts**

From time-to-time funds become available through special districts and other local entities. We are aware of relatively small sums in a number of different baskets that might fit well with projects being developed in the region and are actively pursuing those opportunities.

- **JPA**

Over the past several months we have had considerable discussion about the QSA Joint Powers Authority (JPA) and funds under its administration. As mentioned, these funds are advanced by the transfer participants for very specific purposes and expensed per an annual plan. We have had extensive discussion with JPA members and leadership as to how the Authority can best understand the nature of the expenditures being made by the JPA and what opportunity, if any, the Authority might have in informing that spending plan. A strategy has been discussed which would allow a more fulsome evaluation of the JPA's spending plan, which would in turn better afford the Authority's expressed desire to understand how that plan integrates into efforts of the Authority and others in the whole to mitigate risks around the Sea. The JPA approves its annual budget in June, and the Authority expects to provide public comments to the JPA as appropriate to inform the JPA to the extent it might better align its spending plan with other regional investments.

- **Private/NGO**

We have initiated conversations with local nonprofits regarding funding some of the Authority's efforts in the region and have been well received. In addition, we have learned that there may be funds available to help defray the cost of hiring interns from a local university. As these sources materialize, however modest, it will go a long way to solidifying a diverse stream of funding sources for Authority operations going forward.