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# The Weekly Wrap



**October 12, 2012**

**No. 2012-41**

TO: CWA Member Companies  
FROM: Jack Hawks, Executive Director  
SUBJECT: Highlights for the Week Ending October 12, 2012

**Public Service, Private Enterprise Guides NAWC Water Summit**—Working off the theme, “Public Service & Private Enterprise: Bold Discussions, Real Solutions,” the National Association of Water Companies (NAWC) held its 2012 Water Summit Oct. 7-10 in south Florida. The conference got off to a great start with a compelling keynote presentation by the co-authors of the best-selling and Emmy-winning book, *Game Change* – Mark Halperin and John Heilemann. Halperin writes for Time magazine, while Heilemann is a writer with New York Magazine. Both appear regularly on MSNBC. They engaged in a provocative discussion on the current state of the economy, politics and next month’s Presidential election. As you can imagine, they spent a fair amount of time on the Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup> Presidential debate, lauding Gov. Romney’s performance, and spelling out what both candidates needed to do in the next debate.

The two major panels on Oct. 8<sup>th</sup> were equally compelling. The first panel, a view of the water utility industry from the capital markets, comprised representatives from Janney Montgomery Scott (Ryan Connors), Robert W. Baird & Co. (Heike Doerr) and Pictet Asset Management (Philippe Rohner). Ryan reviewed the latest on the Janney Regulatory Climate Index (RCI), which rates state public utility commissions on key policy elements such as awarded returns on equity (ROEs), historical vs. future test year, existence of an infrastructure surcharge mechanism, time to process a rate case and whether statewide or regionwide water utilities have a single tariff for all of their districts. Based on these criteria, the California PUC has the third worst RCI of the 16 states measured, according to Ryan.

Heike had a different view, though, about California -- she noted that Baird considered the California regulatory climate to be “generally constructive.” Philippe took a global view, comparing U.S. water infrastructure needs with those of the rest of the world. He also compared U.S. risk-adjusted rates of return, explaining how the element of politics in water was a defining variable outside the United States.

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The second panel was a dialogue on the regulatory compact (regulated rates in exchange for franchised service territories and the opportunity to earn a fair rate of return), moderated by Lila Jaber, former Florida PSC commissioner and now an attorney in Tallahassee. The panel consisted of three commissioners from New Jersey, North Carolina and Pennsylvania, three utility executives (none from California, unfortunately) and the Pennsylvania Consumer Advocate's office. The main discussion item involved authorized ROEs vs. realized ROEs and the gap between the two that exists in other parts of the country. I am always concerned about discussions like this with regulators because of the danger of the conversation drifting from structural reasons (e.g., regulatory lag) to management reasons. While the consumer advocate brought up the latter in the dialogue, most of the emphasis was on the degree to which particular states embraced NAWC's best regulatory practices.

Other panels covered collaborative efforts to assist municipalities in financial distress, public-private partnerships (including some excellent case histories from Georgia and Arkansas), the state of municipal finances and the impact on the water industry and the ever-present water-energy nexus. Former California PUC Commissioner John Bohn was one of the panelists in the municipal finances panel, and he reiterated one of his favorite themes to the audience: the public utility commission and its regulated utilities should present themselves partners when reaching out to the municipal community, and they should be received as such when proposing solutions.

At the closing Annual Member Meeting, Golden State Water President and CEO Bob Sprowls was installed as the NAWC President for 2013. In his remarks, Bob spoke of continuing the good work begun by outgoing President Lisa Sparrow, President and CEO of Utilities, Inc., on the regulatory best practices and reaching out to the commissioner and financial analyst constituencies, as well as the expanded work of NAWC's Government Relations and Public Information Committees. Bob and Lisa also presided over NAWC's 2012 Management Innovation Awards, where California Water Service Company won first place out of 15 total entries for its Emergency Notification program. The entries were judged on five criteria: degree of innovation; short and long-term benefits to the company; value to water utility industry; ability to be duplicated at other companies; and presentation quality.

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Cal Water Director of Corporate Communications Shannon Dean also addressed the conference, exhorting the attendees to participate in NAWC's new Facebook-driven "Living Water Awards." This is a new program designed to recognize outstanding water utility employees who "live water through their extraordinary commitment to quality, service and community. October 30<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for nominations, and the way to do it is access [www.nawc.org/livingwater](http://www.nawc.org/livingwater), and then nominate a co-worker or colleague. Every two months, two finalists will be selected and announced on NAWC's Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/movingH2OForward](http://www.facebook.com/movingH2OForward). The winner will then be the one who gets the most Facebook "likes" before the voting period ends. Winners will get a \$100 American Express gift card. Needless to say, nominate your worthy colleagues and then vote early and often.

A special treat at the Water Summit was the special recognition of recently retired Cal Water Board Chairman Bob Foy as NAWC's 2012 Honorary Member. Current Cal Water Chairman and CEO Pete Nelson did the honors, leading the audience through Bob's many professional, civic and humanitarian accomplishments and contributions to California Water Service Co., San Jose State University, the City of Stockton, Bob's own Pacific Storage Company and of course, NAWC. It was a well-deserved honor, and the California contingent at the conference was pleased to see one of their own so honored. Congratulations to Bob and his wife, Barbara.

As always, the NAWC Water Summit was expertly conceived, produced and executed. The south Florida location, Turnberry Isle, was an ideal setting, and the attendees were treated to a meaty program that touched on all the important and timely issues. Congratulations to NAWC Executive Director Michael Deane, Deputy Executive Director Sharon Gascon, Mike Horner (administration and membership), Petra Smeltzer (government relations), Matt McCaffree (state regulatory relations), Carlos Villanueva (IT and member services) and Jean Smith (executive assistant). A special note of thanks goes to Sharon Gascon, who like our own Sharun Carlson, is retiring at the end of the year. Not only will Sharon be missed for her work on the NAWC front, but also for all her support and leadership of NAWC's interface with the NARUC Committee on Water and NAWC's traditional dinners at the NARUC Summer, Winter and Annual Meetings. Best wishes to Sharon and her husband, Abe.

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**Michael Roomberg Highlights CWA Chapter Luncheon with Upbeat View**—Per our tradition at the NAWC annual conference, CWA hosts a California Chapter Luncheon on Monday each year. Normally, we have a California PUC Commissioner or staff executive as our guest speaker, but that option was precluded this year because no CPUC staff were permitted to travel to Florida for the conference. However, we were very pleased to have Michael Roomberg, Vice President of Equity Research for the financial services firm, Ladenburg Thalman & Co., Inc., give us a “Wall Street Perspective” on the California water utility segment.

First, Michael “gently” put our market segment into context, comparing California’s publicly traded water companies to the market as a whole: California water utilities are “a niche of a niche (all water utilities) of a niche (all utilities).” Further, he noted, even though all utilities (electric, gas, water) have a market capitalization of \$750 billion that is still only 4.6% of the total U.S. equities market, which currently stands at \$16 trillion. His main message, though, was that the California water utilities have a great product and that investment in that product, while minimizing regulatory lag, will provide a “growth runway” for the utility that should result in increased earnings, higher realized ROEs and a greater “pipe to earnings” ratio, as Michael pegged it.

He ticked off a litany of attributes that make water utility service a “great product.” Specifically, investor-owned water companies (IOWCs), besides their protected franchised service territories:

- Offer Reasonable Returns
- Offer Below-Average Volatility of Earnings
- Offer Above-Average Visibility of Earnings
- Have Regulators that Support A Healthy Regulatory Environment

Yes, Michael disputed the notion that California’s regulatory climate for water utilities has declined in the past two years, and pointed out these factors in California’s favor as something on which he, as an analyst, places significant reliance:

- Stability/Predictability

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- Transparency
- Timeliness/Accountability
- Simplicity
- Commissioner Sandoval's Interest in Water
- Decoupling (done right)

Michael's presentation was a nice complement to the capital markets overview in the main NAWC session, and it gave the California attendees a nice snapshot of Wall Street's view of the current California IOWC situation.

**BDCP Project Director Rounds Out CWA's Annual Conference Program**—Time is running out to register for CWA's 71<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference Tuesday-Thursday, Oct. 30-Nov. 1, in Monterey at the Monterey Plaza Hotel. If you haven't registered yet, please do so as soon as possible by going to [www.calwaterassn.com](http://www.calwaterassn.com) and clicking on the annual conference link on the home page. I'm keeping my fingers crossed that the settlement discussions in the current cost-of-capital proceeding reach fruition before the scheduled evidentiary hearings that week, and that the parties in that proceeding will be able to join their colleagues in Monterey.

We rounded out the program this week by confirming Karla Nemeth, Natural Resources Agency Deputy Director and Project Director of the Bay-Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP), as our luncheon speaker. I was very interested in getting a Brown Administration official to update us on the Governor's endorsement of the BDCP and the plans for the environmental review process and the financing. Needless to say, Karla is the perfect choice for this assignment. Conference Program Chair R.W. Nicholson, President of San Gabriel Valley Water has organized a great program (see below), so if you've been wavering about attending, don't hesitate any longer. The conference will be an excellent investment of your time. The subject matter and the speakers below will demonstrate how and why:

"California's Changing Regulatory Environment" – California PUC Commissioner  
**Catherine J.K. Sandoval**

"Make Yourself Indispensable: The Power of Personal Accountability" – Author and Founder/CEO of IMPAQ **Mark Samuel**



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“Let’s Be Obsessed with Safe Drinking Water!” – Author, Environmental Engineer, and President, Michael J. McGuire, Inc., **Mike McGuire**

“Governor Brown’s Plan for the Delta” – California Natural Resources Agency/BDCP Project Director **Karla Nemeth**

“Using Technology for Emergency Response and Customer Notification” – PSOMAS Vice President of Spatial Technology Solutions, **Craig Gooch**

“Water Utilities’ Role in a Changing World” – Parsons Corp. Vice President **Ane Deister**

“How A Community Came Together To Remove A Dam” – California American Water President Rob MacLean; Monterey County Supervisor Dave Potter; National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration Central Coast Supervisor **Joyce Ambrosius**; and the **Honorable Sam Farr** (invited), Member of Congress (D–17th District)

Between this great line-up, the Water Quality, Regulatory and Small Company seminars on Oct. 30<sup>th</sup>, the CWA Annual Directors Meeting on Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>, and Sharun Carlson’s special Halloween costume party/dinner on Oct. 31<sup>st</sup>, the CWA Annual Conference has something for everyone. I look forward to seeing you in Monterey.

**California PUC Rejects CFC Application for Rehearing**—In August 2008, the California PUC issued Decision 08-08-030 in Phase 1B of the Conservation Policies OII (I.07-01-022). This decision adopted two settlement agreements for Golden State Water on conservation rates, a WRAM and a modified cost balancing account, customer education and outreach, and data collection and reporting. D.08-08-030 further approved a settlement expanding a conservation memorandum account for California Water Service, and two settlement agreements for San Jose Water on conservation rates and a Monterey-style WRAM, customer education and outreach and data collection and reporting.

Shortly thereafter, the Consumer Federation of California (CFC) filed an application for rehearing of the decision alleging legal error relating to GS Water’s conservation rates and WRAM, and SJ Water’s conservation rates and a pricing adjustment mechanism. For Golden State, CFC asserted that the Commission committed legal error:

1. in determining that no cost allocation study was required;
2. in determining that settlement rates would encourage increasing conservation;

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3. in permitting the settling parties to change their rate; and
4. by failing to make a conclusion of law on the burden of proof and to apply the correct rule of law on burden of proof to this case.

With respect to San Jose, CFC alleges that the Commission erred:

1. by failing to enter findings on contested issues;
2. in approving the settlement rate design;
3. by failing to make a conclusion of law on the burden of proof and to apply the correct rule of law on burden of proof to this case; and
4. in basing its decision on a record made without an evidentiary hearing and relying on legally flawed determinations made by presiding officer.

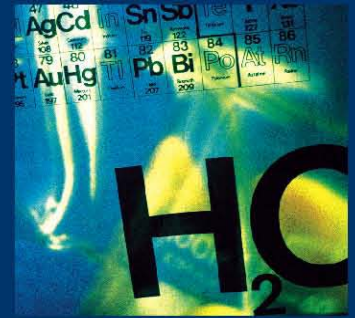
At its Oct. 11<sup>th</sup> Open Meeting, the Commission issued a 30-page decision (**D.12-10-019**) detailing its responses to each of CFC's contentions. The Decision states: "We have carefully considered the arguments raised in the applications for rehearing, and are of the opinion that good cause has not been established to grant rehearing. As such, we deny the applications for rehearing of D.08-08-030 because no legal error has been shown."

Congratulations to Golden State Water and San Jose Water on this decision.

The only other action taken by the Commission at its meeting with respect to water was approval of **Resolution W-4931**, which granted Sea Ranch Water Company's general rate increase of \$697,677 (57.08%) for Test Year 2012, \$577,647 (30.09%) for escalation year 2013, and a decrease of \$63,415 (-2.54%) for escalation year 2014. Additionally, the Commission approved \$6.58 million in capital improvements for inclusion into utility's rate base, once they have been completed and are used and useful.

**CPUC Distributes Draft Recycling Guidelines, Criteria, AL Template**—In advance of the final recycled water workshop on Oct. 23-24 at the California PUC, the Division of Water & Audits (DWA) has distributed the agenda and these three draft items:

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- Proposed Recycled Water Policy Guidelines;
- Minimum Criteria Requirements for a Proposed Recycled Water Project; and
- A Tier 3 Advice Letter Template for Recycled Water Projects (to expedite projects that will add no more than \$5 million to a utility's rate base)

The agenda calls for three panels on Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup> (beginning at 10:00 a.m.) dealing with: (1) Customer education/ outreach and market potential and incentives; (2) Ratemaking and cost allocation issues associated with recycled water projects; and (3) Integrated Water Resources Management Planning. CWA President and California Water Service Corporate Counsel John Tootle is a panelist on the first panel, which will run from 10:15a-11:45a. The Oct. 24<sup>th</sup> agenda is devoted exclusively to review of the three draft documents, and the workshop will conclude at 4:45p with remarks from Administrative Law Judge Gary Weatherford.

CWA Regulatory Attorney Mari Lane of Nossaman LLP is going to review the documents and present her comments and suggestions during the Oct. 18<sup>th</sup> conference call of the CWA Regulatory Committee (2:00-3:00p; 1.800.599.3570; 1084451#). Having briefly reviewed the drafts myself, I can say that they raise more questions than answers at this point. We'll have plenty to say to the workshop on Oct. 23-24.

### **IOWC School Outreach Featured at WaterSmart Innovations Conference—**

Three CWA member companies recently shared their educational outreach programs with fellow water industry professionals at the 2012 Water Smart Innovations (WSI) Conference in Las Vegas. It was gratifying to see investor-owned water companies (IOWCs) showcase their activities at such a large industry conference.

Suburban Water Systems' Darlene Phares outlined her company's partnership with San Gabriel Valley Water Company (SGVWC) and the National Theater for Children to bring fun and interactive theater performances about water conservation to elementary schools in their service areas.



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Park Water Company's Tammie Myers discussed how Park, SGV Water and Suburban recruited a local football team to help with a special "old toilet recycling" event during which customers turned in their water-wasting toilets for new, high efficiency models. By helping the utilities with customer outreach and providing much-needed muscle during the event, players earned uniforms for their team.

Tiffany Tran of SGV Water showed how a partnership between Fontana Water Company, Inland Empire Utilities District and the Fontana Unified School District to retrofit schools with low-water use toilets, urinals and irrigation controllers resulted in substantial water savings.

Also presenting at WSI were CWA media consultant Christine Kohn of IN Communications and Linda Yager of Placer County Water Agency, representing the Regional Water Authority (RWA) in Sacramento. The two outlined RWA's successful Blue Thumb Neighbors (BTN) program, which teaches residents how to create beautiful landscapes that also use water efficiently. California American Water's Evan Jacobs helped RWA develop BTN and hosted the program in CAW's Rosemont service area in 2011. Now in its third year, BTN has consistently been shown to motivate participants to adopt water-efficient behaviors and has resulted in five full-scale makeovers from thirsty yards to beautiful, low-water use landscapes with more makeovers expected. (Thanks to Christine who prepared this article for the *Weekly Wrap*)

**Wall Street Journal Features Public vs. Private Water Debate**—On Oct. 8<sup>th</sup>, the *Wall Street Journal* published a side-by-side debate titled "Are We Better Off Privatizing Water?" In its preface to the debate, the Journal was reasonably objective, introducing the reader to the subject by saying "More and more communities have shifted control of public water utilities to private companies in recent decades. A combination of forces is at work: shrinking public revenue, looming costs for long-overdue capital improvements, and a widening perception that private operators run systems more efficiently. Most Americans still get their household water from a public-owned-and-operated service. But nearly 73 million people now are served with help from a private company, according to a 2011 report by the National Association of Water Companies."

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The *Journal* then set up the opposing view with this: “From the consumer's perspective, privatization's results have been mixed. In some cases, cities have retaken control of their water services. And not every private provider has delivered on promises of reduced rates. But to governments strapped for cash, the option is seen as increasingly attractive.” I doubt, of course, whether any private provider that has contracted to purchase or operate a public system has promised lower rates, knowing the investment needed to rehabilitate a system, but this is what the reader was told.

For the “Pro” side, the *Journal* featured a true third-party expert who had neither a financial nor ideological axe to grind in the debate – Richard G. Little, a senior fellow at the Sol Price School of Public Policy at the University of Southern California. His major point was “yes, we need the investment,” because:

- Our nation's aging drinking-water systems will require staggering amounts of investment in the coming decades—as much as \$1 trillion over the next 25 years; and
- Government-owned water utilities don't have the money to make these needed investments. Indeed, Little said, “Many of them already have put off necessary improvements for years due to insufficient public funding. And there is little chance of meaningful federal aid, given the national focus on debt reduction.”

Little went on to note that the root problem is the “artificially low rates the public utilities have charged for years. These rates, kept low for political purposes, don't come close to supporting the long-range capital investment we would expect of any well-run business. Indeed, given the enormous backlog of investment needed, perhaps a little ‘gold-plating,’ as my opponent calls it, is long overdue.”

A privatized utility, he said, “can be expected to charge rates that not only cover costs but also encourage investment, innovation and technological advancement. With privatized water, there is a new emphasis on fiscal responsibility—and measurable efficiency gains. This has been documented repeatedly in credible studies by objective academic researchers using real-world data.”

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Little also displayed an appropriate degree of objectivity, asking “Is privatization the solution in every case? Of course not.” He then made the sensible point that civic and corporate leaders “must strive to find what works best for the customers in a specific situation. Mismanagement is not a problem limited to private operators, just as good management is not intrinsic to public systems.”

He concluded by stating that “Ultimately, the best water provider is the one that is best able to deliver safe, reliable and accessible service. If the provider can also make a profit, that should be of less concern than its ability to deliver safe and affordable drinking water.” All good stuff from Mr. Little ...

It would have been nice if the Journal had selected an equally objective party for the opposing view, but unfortunately, it chose Wenonah Hauter, Executive Director of Food and Water Watch (F&WW), the anti-private sector advocacy group whose ideological and financial interests are served by polemics against investor-owned water companies (IOWCs) and propaganda favoring government takeovers of private water systems.

Ms. Hunter got right to her bottom line in her opening remarks, which of course was to attack the IOWCs’ bottom lines. “Private water providers are businesses,” she said. “They are motivated mainly by their bottom line. The pressure to deliver high rates of return for shareholders drives them to cut corners when they are operating under contracts, and to drive up costs when they are operating as regulated utilities.”

In the next sentence, she immediately contradicted herself by saying that under rate-of-return regulation, “investor-owned water utilities make more money when they invest in infrastructure, giving them an incentive to “gold plate” systems. Yes, they are investing in improvements. But they may build an unnecessarily large treatment plant or choose a more capital-intensive treatment process, such as desalination.”

So, on the one hand, private companies are cutting corners to drive up profits and on the other hand, private companies are gold-plating their investments to drive up profits. When you’re in propaganda mode, I guess you can have it both ways.

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Hunter then stated that private companies operating water systems “have appalling track records of rate increases, poor system maintenance, faulty billing practices and other failures, sometimes even jeopardizing the health and safety of local residents.” I’d like to see proof of this statement, especially proof that government-owned water systems have a better track record on any of these factors.

Underscoring her lack of understanding of basic business operations, Hunter said “Water service isn’t a business enterprise ...” (I suspect that even many general managers of government-owned water utilities would dispute this assertion and agree that even without the responsibility of managing operations to earn a rate of return, all other aspects of utility management are indeed a business endeavor.

Hunter directly addressed the political element that hamstring public agencies. “[Water service is] a basic human right,” she said, “and what privatization proponents refer to as ‘political pressure’ is actually our democratic processes at work. Our elected leaders should absolutely respond to public concern about the affordability of their water service ... How government-run utilities decide to allocate costs among different users is a local decision that should be made in an open and democratic manner.”

Hunter argued forcefully against full-cost pricing in water rates, saying that “while customers can and should provide some portion of the funding for water systems, it isn’t possible for them to fully fund large capital-intensive infrastructure projects. Full cost pricing would disproportionately burden low-income households, possibly making water service unaffordable for many families.”

Not realizing that (in California at least) the most IOWC customers are residential and small commercial, with relative little large commercial and industrial load, Hunter further argued for the latter to subsidize the former: “Rather than privatizing water systems or asking household users to pay more, why not ask commercial and industrial water users to pay more for the services they profit from?,” she said.

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She concluded with the usual plea for federal support, urging the federal government to “establish a dedicated source of federal funding in the form of a clean-water trust fund, similar to the program that provides funding for highways. This would provide a guaranteed source of funding for replacing and maintaining public infrastructure systems, thereby alleviating communities of the burden of having to finance improvement projects on their own. When it comes to efficiently and affordably providing water to our communities, public control trumps private profits.”

It's a shame that the *Wall Street Journal* felt compelled to accord F&WW the status of third-party expert in this debate, but at least a reasonably informed person who read this article certainly realized how unrealistic and impractical the F&WW approach is. I think the IOWC community was fortunate to have a real third-party expert in the form of an academic scholar who was able to effectively espouse the much more practical private-sector option.

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### Upcoming Industry Meetings/Conferences/Events:

- October 15, 2012 – California Public Utilities Commission – Low-Income Oversight Board Water Subcommittee Meeting (1:00p – 4:00p; Hearing Room 3; 505 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco 94102); J. Hawks will attend.
- October 15-16, 2012 – Conference of California Public Utility Counsel (CCPUC) Annual Meeting (The Silverado, Atlas Peak Road, Napa, CA; D. Stephenson representing CWA on panel at 8:30a on 10/16); J. Hawks will attend 2<sup>nd</sup> day.
- October 17, 2012 – California Urban Water Conservation Council Finance Committee Meeting (10:00a – 3:00p; 716 10th Street, Ste. 200; Sacramento, CA 95814); J. Hawks will attend.
- October 23-24, 2012 – California Public Utilities Commission Recycled Water OIR Workshop (10:00a – 4:00p; CPUC Auditorium, 505 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco, 94102)



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- October 24, 2012 – Dept. of Water Resources – California Water Plan Update 2013 – Advisory Committee Meeting (9:00a – 4:30p; Cal EPA Building; 1001 I St., Sacramento, CA 95814); J. Hawks will attend
- October 25, 2012 – California PUC Open Meeting (9:00a–12:00p; **Irvine City Hall, Council Chambers, 1 Civic Center Plaza, Irvine, CA 92606**)
- October 25, 2012 – Water Education Foundation 35th Anniversary Reception and Dinner (5:00p – 9:00p; Vizcaya Pavilion & Mansion; 2019 21st St., Sacramento, CA 95814); J. Hawks will attend.
- October 29, 2012 – CPUC Low-Income Oversight Board Meeting (10:00a – 4:00p; Sacramento New City Hall; Council Chambers; 915 I Street-First Floor; Sacramento, CA 95814); Water utility presentation on customer information data-sharing program with energy utilities will begin at 10:00 a.m.)
- October 30-31, 2012 – CWA 71<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference (8:45a-4:45p; Monterey Plaza Hotel - 400 Cannery Row, Monterey, CA 93940); J. Hawks will attend.
- November 1, 2012 – CWA Annual Directors Meeting (8:00a – 11:00a; Monterey Plaza Hotel - 400 Cannery Row, Monterey, CA 93940); J. Hawks will attend.
- November 8, 2012 – California PUC Open Meeting (9:00a–12:00p; 505 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco 94102)
- November 9, 2012 – California Utility Diversity Council Meeting (CWA is hosting; 10:30a – 2:00p; Los Angeles location TBD);
- November 11-14, 2012 – National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners Annual Meeting (Hilton Hotel; 401 West Pratt St., Baltimore, MD 21201); J. Hawks will attend.
- November 14-15, 2012 – California Urban Water Conservation Council Board of Directors Meeting and Workshop (9:00a – 3:30p both days; San Diego County Water Authority; 4677 Overland Avenue, San Diego, CA 92123); J. Hawks will attend the second day.
- November 29, 2012 – California PUC Open Meeting (9:00a–12:00p; 505 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco 94102)
- December 4-7, 2012 – Association of California Water Agencies Fall Conference (Manchester Grand Hyatt; One Market Place San Diego, California 92101); J. Hawks plans to attend.

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- December 11, 2012 – CWA Executive Committee Meeting (10:00a – 2:00p; Golden State Water Company; 2143 Convention Center Way, Suite 110, Ontario, CA 91764); J. Hawks will attend.
- December 12, 2012 – California Urban Water Conservation Council Plenary Meeting (9:30a – 3:00p; Metropolitan Water District of Southern California; 700 North Alameda St., Los Angeles, CA 90012); J. Hawks will attend.
- December 13, 2012 – California Dept. of Water Resources – California Water Plan Update 2013 Advisory Committee Meeting (9:00a – 4:30p; Cal EPA, 1001 I St., Sacramento, CA 95814); J. Hawks will attend.
- December 20, 2012 – California PUC Open Meeting (9:00a–12:00p; 505 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco 94102)
- January 11, 2013 – CWA Directors and Executive Committee Meeting (9:30a – 2:30p; Park Water Company - 9750 Washburn Road; Downey, CA 90241-7002); J. Hawks will attend.

—CWA—