

Staff Report

for the Board of Directors' Meeting of January 13, 2016

TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Chip Close, Water Operations Manager
DATE: January 5, 2016
SUBJECT: Agricultural Water Management Plan Update

OPERATIONS

RECOMMENDATION:

Consider adopting Resolution No. 2016-02 (Adopting, Filing, and Implementing the Nevada Irrigation District Agricultural Water Management Plan Update).

BACKGROUND:

The Conservation Act of 2009 (SBX 7-7) requires the District to prepare and submit an Agricultural Water Management Plan (AWMP). The original AWMP was submitted to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) in December 2012. Current regulation mandates that the AWMP be updated in 2015 with future updates required every five years.

The 2015 update is similar to the previous version and provides water supply and demand updates through 2014. The Plan was written and formatted following the DWR Guidebook for the 2015 update.

As part of the AWMP development process, the District notified local cities, counties, and neighboring water agencies of the availability of the draft for review. A public hearing was held on December 9, 2015, and an extension for written public comment was requested by the Board. Notification of the extension for written comment was sent to all agencies and established January 13, 2016 as the deadline for receiving comments.

Pending any significant written comments, Staff is recommending the approval of the AWMP update.

BUDGETARY IMPACT:

No budgetary impact

AC

**ADOPTING FILING AND IMPLEMENTING THE
AGRICULTURAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE**

WHEREAS, the California Legislature enacted SBX 7-7, the Conservation Act of 2009 (Water Code Section 10820 et sequences), known as the Agricultural Water Management Planning Act which mandates that every agricultural water supplier providing water for more than 10,000 irrigated acres prepare an Agricultural Water Management Plan (Plan); and

WHEREAS, the Nevada Irrigation District (District) is supplying water to more than 10,000 irrigated acres; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of California implemented Executive Order B-29-15 (April 1, 2015) that requires suppliers to quantify water supplies and demands for 2013, 2014, and 2015 and prepare a Drought Management Plan and incorporate the information within the Plan; and

WHEREAS, the California Department of Water Resources requires the Plan be adopted on or before December 31, 2015, after public review and hearing, and filed with the California Department of Water Resources within 30 days of adoption; and

WHEREAS, the District properly noticed the public hearing regarding said Plan and was held by the District Board of Directors on December 9, 2015; and

WHEREAS, the District extended the public written comment period to January 13, 2016 and notified agencies of the extension; and

WHEREAS, the District did prepare and shall file said Plan with the California Department of Water Resources by January 31, 2016; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Nevada Irrigation District as follows:

- (1) The 2015 Agricultural Water Management Plan is hereby adopted and ordered filed with the District;
- (2) The Secretary of the Board of Directors is hereby authorized and directed to file the Plan with the California Department of Water Resources within 30 days after this date;
- (3) The General Manager is hereby authorized and directed to implement the Agricultural Water Management Plan which includes elements of water use efficiency;
- (4) The General Manager shall recommend to the Board of Directors additional procedures, rules and regulations to carry out effective and equitable allocation of water resources.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of Nevada Irrigation District at a meeting duly called and held within the District on the 13th day of January 2016 by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Directors:
NOES: Directors:
ABSENT: Directors:
ABSTAINS: Directors:

President of the Board of Directors

Attest:

Secretary to the Board of Directors