



## COMMITTEE REPORT

**Committee:** Finance Committee

**Meeting Date:** March 24, 2021

**Present:** R. Bow (Chair), P. DiMaggio, B. Lewis, J. Macias, J. Martinez,  
D. Michalko, L. Noriega, J. Prior, J. Taylor and M. Zvirbulis

**Staff Present:** T. Zampiendo, L. Artis, K. Gardner and A. Jimenez

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### I. Presentation of FY 2021-2022 Draft Budget and Proposed Assessments

The meeting was held via Zoom Conference.

Mr. Zampiendo provided an overview of the proposed budget. He reviewed the revenue section, noting estimated production, administrative reimbursements for contract agencies and low interest earned. Additionally, under expenditures, he explained that staff has based the proposed budget on prior year expected actuals, as well as expected projects and programs for the coming year.

Mr. Zampiendo stated that staff has prepared two Draft Budgets for consideration, one holding the Administrative Assessment to \$17.00 per acre-foot from last year and a second with an increase to \$17.50 per acre-foot.

Mr. Zampiendo noted relative to expected expenditures, the two most significant budget increases are in Salaries/Benefits and for Basin-wide PFAS sampling in the Engineering Section, under Water Quality Monitoring. He explained that the increase in Salaries and Benefits includes a 1.6% cost of living increase for all staff as well as step increases for most employees. Regarding the Basin-wide PFAS sampling, Mr. Zampiendo stated that with the revisions to the sampling requirements changing and expanding, he felt it best to budget for sampling the balance of the wells within the Basin for complete data analysis.

The committee discussed the idea of staff preparing a two-year budget to help with projections. Mr. Zampiendo explained some concerns with this suggestion as it has the potential to impact fiscal budgets and rate setting processes for the different types of agencies.

After a lengthy discussion of the recommendations proposed, the Committee unanimously agreed to recommend \$17.00 per acre-foot Administrative Assessment to the Board.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:** That staff present the proposed budget to the Watermaster Board for consideration at its April meeting.

**II. Other**

None.