



TUOLUMNE UTILITIES DISTRICT

18885 NUGGET BLVD • SONORA, CA 95370
(209) 532-5536 • Fax (209) 536-6485
www.tudwater.com

DIRECTORS
Barbara Balen
Robert M. Behee
Joseph Day, PhD
Ralph Retherford, MD
Delbert Rotelli

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Contact: Lisa Westbrook
Customer Services Supervisor, TUD
(209) 532-5536, x501

TUOLUMNE UTILITIES DISTRICT (TUD) HOSTS MOUNTAIN COUNTIES WATER LUNCHEON IN FOLSOM TO DISCUSS THE CALIFORNIA WATER BOND ON THE NOVEMBER BALLOT

SONORA, CA: Water leaders and agencies from all over Northern California came together on Friday, June 11th, for the Mountain Counties Water Resources Association (MCWRA) luncheon at the Lake Natoma Inn in Folsom, hosted by Tuolumne Utilities District (TUD).

“TUD is proud to be able to assemble this panel of water experts to discuss the pros and cons of the

11.2 billion water bond proposed for the November 2010 ballot,” stated Pete Kampa, TUD General Manager. The experts represent state agencies which manage grant funds to be provided under the proposed bonds, state associations which support the bond for its water storage, conveyance and huge financial investments for infrastructure development, and water attorneys, which will describe some of the unintentional consequences of adoption of such a large water bond.

“The discussion held on Friday is important for not only the agencies involved, but for the politicians in Sacramento to fully understand the importance of Sierra water and this water bond,” stated Barbara Balen, TUD’s representative on the MCWRA Board. “The Sierra provides over 65% of the state’s water supply and this water further serves many other vital purposes throughout the Sierra watersheds and ecosystems,” stated Balen.



Photo: Pete Kampa, TUD

The focus of the luncheon was to discuss, "The Pro's and Con's of the Water Bond, "The Safe, Clean and Reliable Drinking Water Supply Act of 2010" upcoming on the November 2, 2010 ballot. A presentation was held by a panel of water experts; Ron Davis, Association of California Water Agencies; Stuart Somach, representing Somach, Simmons and Dunn law firm; Joan Keegan, Sierra Nevada Conservancy who spoke before the crowd of 75 attendees.

The MCWRA is an organized group of Sierra Nevada water agencies and consulting firms, organized to provide legislative representation and education to Sierra Nevada water providers and Sacramento politicians. TUD has also taken an active role in assisting MCWRA to increase its awareness on legislative water issues. "Sacramento and Southern California is constantly looking to the Sierras to solve the state's water quality and supply problems," stated Kampa. MCWRA is the only association representing Sierra water interests exclusively. "It is paramount that MCWRA develop and maintain a trusted and solid legislative program to protect our water interests," Kampa said.

The Tuolumne Utilities District currently serves over 44,000 Tuolumne County residents. The District currently owns and operates 15 water treatment plants, 71 treated water storage tanks, two wastewater treatment plants, approximately 57 miles of open ditches and 330 miles of treated water pipeline.

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