



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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WEST BASIN DESIGNATES CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER AS NEW WEST BASIN TREASURER

CARSON, Calif. – At a Special Board meeting today (August 5, 2014), the West Basin Municipal Water District (West Basin) Board of Directors discussed board assignments and an audit of the Directors’ outreach and sponsorship programs. The Board of Directors unanimously voted to remove Director Ronald C. Smith as West Basin Board Treasurer and assign the Treasurer responsibilities and position to West Basin’s Chief Financial Officer Margaret Moggia.

During the Special Board meeting, and in light of the alleged charges against Director Ronald C. Smith, the Board also directed staff to implement a combined forensic and financial audit of the outreach and sponsorship funds and any other relevant programs. The audit will be conducted by an external, independent auditing firm. The Board also directed staff to report all findings and any associated recommendations upon completion of the audit.

“I fully support the immediacy of the Board’s actions today to address the serious nature of the alleged charges against Ronald C. Smith. The Board and staff remain fully committed to continuing to meet the mission of the District,” said West Basin Board President Donald L. Dear.

Ms. Moggia, who has served as West Basin Treasurer in the past, joined West Basin as Assistant Manager of Finance in 1995 and has served as Chief Financial Officer since 2004. Prior to her employment at West Basin, Ms. Moggia was a Senior Associate at Coopers and Lybrand, focusing on the government and not-for-profit sector. Ms. Moggia, a Certified Public Accountant, is currently a Board member of the California Society of Municipal Finance Officers organization and a committee member of Government Finance Officers Association.

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West Basin Municipal Water District is a wholesale water district that serves nearly a million people in 17 cities and unincorporated areas throughout its 185-square mile service area. West Basin is reducing its dependence on imported water through its Water Reliability 2020 program that will double conservation, double recycled water production and add desalted ocean water to its portfolio by the year 2020. Visit www.westbasin.org to learn more.