

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### *Information Summary*

December 17, 2009

#### **Subject**

AMWUA 2010 Resolutions and Issue Papers

#### **Policy Questions**

Does the AMWUA Board of Directors want to reaffirm its position on the importance of retaining the integrity of the 1980 Groundwater Code and the need for rural Arizona to adopt water management practices prior to receiving state funding for rural water resource development? Should a resolution regarding ADD Water be included in the 2010 Resolutions and Issue Papers?

#### **Background**

For the 2009 Legislative Session, the AMWUA Board of Directors adopted the following series of Resolutions and Issue Papers:

- Resolution and Issue Paper A relate to the 1980 Groundwater Management Act and the importance of achieving safe-yield and ending groundwater mining. The resolution essentially urges the Arizona State Legislature to resist any efforts to repeal, directly or indirectly, the safe-yield management goal.
- Resolution and Issue Paper B relate to the 1980 Groundwater Code and the value the Code may have for water management efforts in rural Arizona. The resolution essentially urges the Arizona State Legislature to provide rural Arizona with the water management tools that can help rural Arizona ensure its future prosperity by passing legislation to:
  - Require the demonstration of an adequate water supply to the Arizona Department of Water Resources before a lot or plot of land may be sold.
  - Require the demonstration of an adequate water supply to the Arizona Department of Water Resources before a private well to serve a new residential use may be drilled.
  - Authorize the Arizona Department of Water Resources to enforce water conservation requirements for all water users.

- Require all wells to be metered or to use an Arizona Department of Water Resources-approved measuring device with the amount of water withdrawn annually reported to the Arizona Department of Water Resources.
- Resolution and Issue Paper C urges that, before any funding for rural water development is considered by the Legislature, effective water management tools be established and that beneficiaries should pay the cost of future water development.

## **Summary**

AMWUA staff and the Water Resources Advisory Group (WRAG) reviewed the three resolutions and accompanying issue papers that were adopted for the 2009 Legislative Session to determine whether the resolutions and issue papers should be modified. Staff did not identify any modifications to the existing documents for the 2010 Legislative Session.

At the December 9, 2009, AMWUA Management Board meeting, the Board recommended revisions to Draft Resolution 2010.A in the “Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved” section of the document. Board members asked that the word “exacerbate” be deleted and “result in increased” be inserted. They also recommended that Item number 3 of that same section be deleted.

## **Consideration**

The adoption of resolutions helps to give AMWUA staff guidance regarding positions on legislative issues.

## **Prior Committee Action**

Legislative Resolutions and Issue Papers have been adopted annually by the AMWUA Board of Directors.

The AMWUA Management Board, at their December 2009 meeting, recommended revisions to Draft Resolution 2010.A, as described above. The AMWUA staff was also directed to work with the WRAG to draft a resolution pertaining to ADD Water.

## **Recommendation**

This is an informational item. The Board of Directors will be asked to adopt the 2010 Resolutions and Issue Papers at their January Board of Directors’ meeting.

## **Attachments**

- AMWUA Resolution A: “The 1980 Groundwater Management Act and Safe-Yield”
- AMWUA Issue Paper A: “The 1980 Groundwater Management Act and Safe-Yield”

- AMWUA Resolution B: “The 1980 Groundwater Management Act and Rural Arizona”
- AMWUA Issue Paper B: “The 1980 Groundwater Management Act and Rural Arizona”
- AMWUA Resolution C: “Funding Rural Water Resources Development: Conditions Antecedent and Funding Principles”
- AMWUA Issue Paper C: “Funding Rural Water Resources Development: Conditions Antecedent and Funding Principles”