



**Agenda Item:** Election of a Commission Chair and Vice-Chair

**Background**

At the September 2010 meeting of the California Water Commission, members chose to postpone the election of a Chair until all nine positions on the Commission were seated. As of January 1, 2011, all nine Commission members have taken office.

The California Water Code provides for the election of a Commission Chair (WC §160). Although not provided for in statute, the Commission may also choose to elect a Vice-Chair. The previous Commission used the following guidelines with regard to the election of these officers. Although, the current Commission is not bound to these guidelines, the information may be useful.

**1. Commission Officers**

- a. Shall consist of a Chairperson and Vice Chairperson each of whom shall be elected by a majority of the members to serve a one-year term to begin the first Friday of January their year of their election.
- b. The Chairperson shall have all the usual and customary authority and prerogatives of a presiding officer in addition to such as are provided by statute.
- c. The Vice Chairperson shall act in the absence or unavailability of the Chairperson and, when so acting, shall have the same authority and prerogatives as the Chairperson.
- d. In the absence of both the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson from any meeting, the members present, if constituting a quorum, shall elect a temporary chairperson who shall preside at that meeting.
- e. Should a vacancy occur in either office prior to the expiration of a term, a successor will be selected by a majority vote to fill the unexpired term.

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