

Minutes of the Casitas Municipal Water District
Board Meeting Held
July 27, 2011

A meeting of the Board of Directors was held July 27, 2011 at Casitas' Office, Oak View, California. Directors Kaiser, Baggerly, Word, Hicks, and Bergen were present. Also present were Steve Wickstrum, General Manager, Rebekah Vieira, Clerk of the Board, and Attorney, John Mathews. There were no staff members and 41 members of the public in attendance. President Kaiser led the group in the flag salute.

1. Public comments.

President Kaiser expressed his appreciation for the attendance of the public and explained concerns regarding the fire code and the occupancy limitations of the room. If there are too many people then we will have to continue this item to a subsequent meeting.

There were no public comments for items that were not on the Agenda.

Mr. Mathews informed the board that there were about 20 people in the parking lot and it is hot out there. Considering that people are here during the day you may want to hold another meeting in the evening at a location that can handle the interested public. President Kaiser added that with those comments we should set aside a special time and date for a special meeting. Mr. Mathews added that he appreciates the fact that Golden State is here and we would want to make it convenient for you as well.

On the motion of Director Word, seconded by Director Hicks and passed, the board decided to remove the presentation from Golden State from the agenda and directed the General Manager to work out a meeting time and location with Golden State.

A brief recess was taken to allow Golden State to remove their presentation equipment.

Bob Daddi asked if the item is no longer agendaized would the public have an opportunity to speak on the item.

President Kaiser moved the meeting back into regular session at 3:07 p.m. and opened the meeting to public comment.

Bob Daddi addressed the board stating I am disappointed we had too big of a turnout. I want to talk about a couple of things that are happening. You are about \$4.1 million less to provide the same water we are getting from Golden State. Golden State is asking for \$16 million for new and replacement pipe. The request is inflated and the commission should reject it. Golden State Water has objected to considering drilling new wells. Ojai systems have interconnections to

other systems. The request to replace pipeline uses scare tactics. The reality is Golden State's replacement is like a car company telling you to change the oil every 3,000 miles. The question that needs to be answered is simple. Does the pipeline need to be replaced. It has been bantered around for years that the system is failing. If it is so dilapidated why didn't they get it done? They have had it since April 1967. Why out of six water purveyors in the valley they can be three times higher than the others. If there is any question if it will work financially take a look at the records. Let us know if you need any additional information.

Frank Finck residing in Ojai stated I thought I did some diligent work prior to moving here. One of the questions was what would it cost for water. I never got an answer. My first bill was approximately \$100 years ago, in Orange County I was paying \$19. I was shocked. I attended my first community meeting in which Golden State Water was going for a rate increase and I pointed out the contract of cost plus had been ruled out long ago. When I saw the cost of the pipe going up I went to the office and asked about the cost of the pipe. I was given double talk about the factors of the infrastructure etc. In the last request for increase most was for infrastructure. What happened to the money you were taking from me? I never got an answer. A few months ago I got a bill with a four fold increase. Checked line and meter no leaks. Went to the office and they sent an employee. Two months later I get a bill back to the old usage with no change on my part it is back to the old rates. A retired person on a fixed income will be priced out of the valley because of the cost of water.

Mr. Mathews informed the public that he never wants to cut off public comment but comments should be about things that this board has jurisdiction over. We don't have jurisdiction on the rates or pipes at Golden State. They were here to make a public presentation. This board can't do anything about the issues you have with Golden State.

Kathleen Richards, resident of Ojai stated she retired from the LA Department of Water and Power and was shocked when she moved here. I encourage you to look favorably on the request from the citizens of Ojai. It is really bleeding the citizens to pay the rates from that company.

2. General Manager comments.

Mr. Wickstrum reported that some of the committee meetings would need to be rescheduled in August.

Mr. Wickstrum reported that we have a grant application for \$105,000 from the Bureau of Reclamation that is being moved from San Justo to Lake Casitas this year for facility improvements and quagga controls.

3. Board of Director comments.

Director Hicks thanked Director Word for the work on the AWA Picnic.

4. Consent Agenda ADOPTED
- a. Minutes of the July 14, 2011 Board Meeting.
 - b. Recommend approval of the invoice to CSAC for Excess Workers Compensation coverage in the amount of \$59,448.
 - c. Recommend approval of leak relief in the amount of \$1,066.91 to Jane Tolmach.

On the motion of Director Word, seconded by Director Baggerly and passed, the Consent Agenda was adopted.

5. Bills APPROVED

On the motion of Director Baggerly, seconded by Director Word and passed, the bills were approved.

6. Committee/Manager Reports APPROVED FOR FILING

- a. Water Resources Committee Minutes
- b. Personnel Committee Minutes
- c. Finance Committee Minutes

On the motion of Director Bergen, seconded by Director Baggerly and passed, the Committee/Manager Reports were approved for filing.

7. Review and Discussion regarding water allocation clarification for Sherrill and Charlene Broudy. APPROVED

On the motion of Director Word, seconded by Director Baggerly and passed, the above clarification was approved.

8. Presentation and Discussion with Golden State Water Company regarding the Ojai Flow Analysis. ITEM PULLED FROM AGENDA

9. California Special Districts Association 2011 Board Elections APPROVED

On the motion of Director Baggerly, seconded by Director Word and passed, the board elected to vote for John Fox.

10. Association of California Water Agencies call for candidate nominations for the position of President and Vice President. NO ACTION TAKEN

11. Information Items:

- a. Lake Casitas Storage Volume Comparison
- b. News Articles.

c. Investment Report

12. Closed Session

NOT HELD

- a. (Govt. Code Sec. 54957.6)
Conference with Labor Negotiators:
Agency Designated Representatives: Rebekah Vieira, Draza
Mrvichin
Employee Organization: Supervisory & Professional, General Unit
and Recreation Unit.

There was no closed session.

13. Adjournment

President Kaiser adjourned the meeting at 3:38 p.m.

Secretary