

Minutes of the Casitas Municipal Water District
Board Meeting Held
August 24, 2011

A meeting of the Board of Directors was held August 24, 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 six staff members and nine members of the public in attendance. President Kaiser led the group in the flag salute.

1. Public comments.

None

2. General Manager comments.

Mr. Wickstrum informed the board that the Recreation Committee will need to be rescheduled because of the Labor Day holiday. He then reported on his conversation with Dave Woolley and was informed that two additional signatures are needed on the recreation agreement.

3. Board of Director comments.

Director Word asked if we had heard anything regarding the safety of dams and Mr. Wickstrum replied no and said he would follow up on it. Director Word then mentioned a workshop on September 20th regarding Proposition 218 and rate setting in Sacramento. Director Bergen expressed interest in attending. Director Word then mentioned Matilija Dam and Mr. Wickstrum informed the board of another design oversight meeting that is scheduled for September 14th.

4. Consent Agenda APPROVED

- a. Minutes of the August 10, 2011 Board Meeting.

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

5. Bills APPROVED

Director Bergen questioned a number of refunds to work orders that were provided. Mr. Wickstrum explained that there had been some meter installations and change outs and we take a deposit prior to doing the work and provide a refund if the actual costs are less than estimated.

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

6. Committee/Manager Reports APPROVED

a. Finance Committee Minutes

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

7. Recommend approval of a purchase order to Aqua Metric in the amount of \$139,975.13 for the purchase of Sensus Technology's VGB AutoRead AMR system and accessories. APPROVED

Mr. Wickstrum explained this is a budgeted item as we have talked about installing automatic meter reading. This is the first phase and it will be an advantage in how we take care of our customers and staff.

On the motion of Director Word, seconded by Director Bergen and passed the above recommendation was approved.

8. Recommend approval of a purchase order to Consulting West in the amount of \$28,200 for electrical engineering services for the Fairview Pump Plant electrical system upgrades. APPROVED

On the motion of Director Bergen, seconded by Director Word and passed, the above recommendation was approved.

9. Recommend approval of a purchase order to Consulting West in the amount of \$26,000 for electrical engineering services for the Upper Ojai Pump Plant electrical system upgrades. APPROVED

On the motion of Director Baggerly, seconded by Director Hicks and passed, the above recommendation was approved.

10. Resolution awarding a contract to Prominent Systems, Inc. in the amount of \$158,888 for the Filter Vessel No. 1 Interior Repair and Coating. ADOPTED

Mr. Wickstrum reported that this is the last filter interior coating to be replaced.

The resolution was offered by Director Baggerly, seconded by Director Word and passed by the following roll call vote:

AYES:	Directors:	Bergen, Hicks, Word, Baggerly, Kaiser
NOES:	Directors:	None
ABSENT:	Directors:	None

Resolution is numbered 11-18.

11. Presentation and fisheries update by Scott Lewis.

Scott Lewis provided a PowerPoint presentation and update of the biological and facility monitoring results, research and river studies for 2009-2010. He also presented information on studies at Lake Casitas including shoreline habitat surveys and spawning surveys.

12. Discussion regarding the status of the sunken vessel.

Mr. Wickstrum reported that this is a type of event that is common but unfortunate and it has happened in Lake Casitas in the past. We work with the boat owners to get their boats retrieved and out of the lake. It is the responsibility of the boat owner to remove the boat. Staff is working with the individual to that end. Since the Monday after the event there has been a lot of cooperation with the individual who owns the boat to move forward in a good fashion. We have been doing water quality sampling and don't anticipate significant risk for water quality. It is the desire by boat owner to get the boat out of the lake. The retrieval company will comply with all out insurance and quagga prevention requirements. There is cooperation and staff are working in accordance with what they have been instructed to do in this type of event.

Park Services Manager Carol Belser added that since Monday evening the boat owner has been in contact with us several times a day. We are not certain where the vessel is. As of this morning I talked with the boat owner and he has a viable plan and we are talking with that firm to discuss our regulations and requirements.

Lukas Branham, the owner of the boat, explained that he has been coming to the lake since he was a kid. I don't know why it went down. I was in the middle of the lake and the boat shuddered, lost power, came to a stop and then within 45 seconds it was down. It is a low profile boat and had about 5 quarts of oil and was almost out of gas. We tied debris together to tow to shore. There is inconsistency in the reports. I was in shock at what happened, panicked and saw a staff member and thought they would tell the rangers. I have found a recovery group and they are ready to work with you.

Ted Keiper informed the board that he had sunk his boat at the marina. Adam at the dock called me up. Luke is a good man. He was in shock when he lost his boat. My boat went down at the dock and it cost \$2,100 to get it up. There is not a lot of oil and not a lot of fuel in there.

Bill, the individual who was also on the boat that sunk, said there was only 30 – 45 seconds before the boat sunk. We wanted to make sure we got the debris out and appreciate the help in getting the boat out. We had a lot of good times and appreciate you working with us to get it out.

John Hull added he was asked to come and be in support. Lukas lives on our property. In one week he moved, his boat sank and he started a new job. He has a little baby girl. The guy has been on it and doing everything he can.

President Kaiser added you have lots of friends here and it shows diligence in coming to this board to speak. Hopefully this can be taken care of in a relatively short period of time. Mr. Wickstrum added staff will continue to work to get this accomplished and I think Lukas is committed to getting this taken care of.

Lukas then added that every dive group is talking \$3,500 per day. If they can't do it in the first eight hours I am trapped. I would need some assistance and set up restitution as my funds would be tapped out.

Mr. Wickstrum replied we could bring this back to recreation committee to address it then. Director Hicks asked if there was insurance on the boat and Lukas replied there was not.

13. Information Items:

- a. Information on the City of San Buenaventura v. United Water Conservation District.
- b. News Articles.
- c. Investment Report.

14. Adjournment

President Kaiser adjourned the meeting at 4:31 p.m.

Secretary