

Minutes of the Casitas Municipal Water District
Board Meeting Held
May 27, 2015

A meeting of the Board of Directors was held May 27, 2015 at the District office in Oak View, California. The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. Directors Bergen, Kaiser, Baggerly, Word and Hicks were present. Also present were Steve Wickstrum, General Manager, Rebekah Vieira, Clerk of the Board, and Attorney, John Mathews. There were one staff member and four members of the public in attendance. President Bergen led the group in the flag salute.

1. Public Comments (items not on the agenda – three minute limit).

None

2. General Manager comments.

Mr. Wickstrum informed the board that he has applied for the in lieu conservation standard based on the water supply of Lake Casitas. Last week there was a leak on the upper rincon main and we may be looking at some pipe replacement and considering a relocation of a pressure regulator.

3. Board of Director comments.

Director Hicks commented on the nice article in the paper regarding the fisherman with cancer and tournaments.

4. Board of Director Verbal Reports on Meetings Attended.

Director Hicks reported his attendance at the water issues meeting where the county watershed protection district gave a presentation and mentioned that all their meters are connected and could be read at once. Director Hicks then mentioned the AWA meeting and that San Diego has invested \$2 billion dollars in toilet to tap.

5. Consent Agenda ADOPTED

- a. Minutes of May 12, 2015 Special Meeting.
- b. Minutes of May 13, 2015 Meeting.

The consent agenda was offered by Director Baggerly, seconded by Director Hicks and adopted by the following roll call vote:

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

6. Bills APPROVED

On the motion of Director Hicks, seconded by Director Kaiser, the bills were approved by the following roll call vote:

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

7. Initial review of the Draft 2015 Water Efficiency and Allocation Program.

Mr. Wickstrum presented the draft Water Efficiency and Allocation Program explaining that the program was created in 1992 but needed modification to bring it up to date. Additionally, many aspects of the 1992 plan were never implemented. We identified our demand stages by lake elevation or storage to be reflected in the revised plan. We have different methods of assigning allocations and consolidated them and took care of customers in an equitable fashion and use allocation as a tool for water use. There will be a conservation penalty charge for usage that exceeds allocation. With resale agencies we considered that for many of them their need for our water is temporary in nature. Water allocations have been established for individual customers and particularly for Ag. The target allocations were set to not exceed safe yield. The timing of events and determination of allocations and the stage we are at should be done annually in the month of April as we are finished with our wet season. We know what we can tell our customers and begin implementation on July 1st, so it is on a fiscal year.

Mr. Wickstrum thanked Bert Rapp for his suggestions and recommended changes. We want to develop an MOU with our resale agencies to include that we are sending the same messages to our customers.

Director Hicks questioned what is done if there is a granny unit. Mr. Wickstrum explained that we start with ten units as essential use for the residential property. If there is an additional need, they can request an adjustment. Director Baggerly added it has to be a legal second dwelling. Mr. Wickstrum explained that ten units at 55 gallons per capita day will take care of about five people.

Director Kaiser pointed out a typo on table 5. He also asked about having definitions for essential and non-essential use. Mr. Wickstrum explained that he decided not to have definitions. Director Kaiser added it could be defined in the section in which it is addressed.

President Bergen questioned the allocation letter stating it was from acreage in 1989 and this document says it is based on 1992. Mr. Wickstrum explained that everything was based on 80% of 1989 water usage. In 1992, there was a declaration of the board to not allow expansion after March of 1992. We hope we can look at it with folks to make sure we take care of those folks that had crop damage due to the freeze.

President Bergen suggested a need for clarification on page 12 for multi-units as it seemed unclear.

Bert Rapp with Ventura River requested a provision for board approval and setting a policy for MOU's with your resale agencies. He added we are dependent on rain and groundwater levels. Less rain, lower groundwater and the more Casitas water we need. This year we are going in territory we have never been before, and are not sure how much Casitas water we may need this year. With the MOU, we hope that in stages 2-4 our GM would negotiate an MOU based on groundwater levels of May 1st and balancing with the stages of the lake and start prior to the fiscal year with what is needed. If this year if we ended up with a 4 inch rain year we might be 90% reliant upon Casitas water, same with Meiners Oaks. We would be bankrupt paying penalties for going over our allocation. Hopeful with a negotiated MOU we would know that and you would have to allow customer to exceed allocation. If you were at Stage 3 and we had a rain year, we would not use the allocation. Negotiating the MOU by May 1st gives our board the ability to plan for the fiscal year with the objective that our customers would have the same emphasis on conservation as yours and same exposure to financial penalties if they exceed conservation goals. You would need the authority in your program to exceed the allocation. Director Baggerly asked if the numbers could be established annually rather than negotiate an MOU each year. Mr. Rapp thought that would be fine.

Director Baggerly added that when I was elected in 2004, this is one of the things that I sunk my teeth into. This General Manager has done a lot of work on this and so has his staff. It was not easy and was very time consuming. It is very satisfying to see it before us today. Thank you. President Bergen added it is a good document, structurally sound, sensible and well written. Mr. Wickstrum thanked the board for their input and explained that we have had to change course many times because of things that have occurred over the years.

On the motion of Director Baggerly, seconded by Director Kaiser, the Water Efficiency and Allocation Program will be modified as suggested and return to the next board meeting for adoption, this was approved by the following roll call vote:

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

8. Information Items: APPROVED

a. Investment Report.

Director Hicks questioned why we are keeping \$2 million dollars in COVI. Ms. Collin explained that we like to have cash available for emergency purposes.

On the motion of Director Word, seconded by Director Baggerly, the Information items were approved for filing by the following roll call vote:

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

ABSENT: Directors: None

President Bergen moved the meeting to closed session at 3:51 p.m.

9. Closed Session

- a. Conference with Legal Counsel -- Existing Litigation (Subdivision (a) of Section 54956.9, Government Code). Name of Case: Golden State Water Company v. Casitas Municipal Water District. Case Number: 56-2013-00433986-CU-WM-VTA.
- b. Conference with Legal Counsel -- Existing Litigation (Subdivision (a) of Section 54956.9, Government Code). Name of Case: Native Electrical Construction, Inc. v. Casitas Municipal Water District. Case Number: 56-2014-00457255-CU-BC-VTA.
- c. Conference with Legal Counsel -- Existing Litigation (Subdivision (a) of Section 54956.9, Government Code). Name of Case: Santa Barbara Channelkeeper v. State Water Resources Control Board, et al. Case Number: CPF-14-513875. Cross Complaint filed by City of San Buenaventura v. Casitas Municipal Water District, et al.
- d. Conference with Legal Counsel -- Anticipated Litigation
Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 54956.9, Government Code. (number of potential cases: one)

President Bergen moved the meeting back into open session at 4:50 p.m. with Mr. Mathews stating that for closed session item a, Golden State Water Company has filed with the state supreme court. The board was provided with an update on items b and c and no action was taken. On item d, no action was taken.

10. Adjournment

President Bergen adjourned the meeting at 4:51 p.m.



Russ Baggerly, Secretary