



Minutes of the Casitas Municipal Water District
Board Meeting Held
July 25, 2018

A meeting of the Board of Directors was held July 25, 2018 at the Casitas Municipal Water District located at 1055 Ventura Ave. in Oak View, California. The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. President Word led the group in the flag salute.

1. Roll Call

Directors Baggerly, Kaiser, Bergen, Hicks and Word were present. Also present were Steve Wickstrum, General Manager, Rebekah Vieira, Clerk of the Board, and Attorney, Robert Kwong. There were four staff members and nine members of the public in attendance.

2. Public comments (Items not on the agenda – three minute limit).

Gary Girod, retired Battalion Chief for Ventura County Fire Department spoke about water waste. I know water. My concern now is waste. I have been working with Mike Flood and he has been somewhat cooperative. A month ago I started calling about water waste and got no return call. I came into the office and spoke with Mike. Things started to happen. I have contacted him in the office once and by phone at least four times. He assures me something is going on. Water is flowing down a block into the culvert every other morning. I am getting upset about it. I don't know your protocols for contacting these people. Can people continue to let it flow? It is probably out of a broken sprinkler and I shouldn't have to contact you. It should have been taken care of a long time ago.

Mr. Wickstrum responded that Mike Flood has identified one of the leaks and the people have complied. Mr. Flood desires to work with Mr. Girod to identify additional areas and determine the address. It is a dry situation right now. It is a matter of when people irrigate, does it escape off the lawn into curb and gutter. It may be a better idea to approach the entire area. A lot of parcels still have turf in parkways and front yard. It is hard to keep water within those areas and we can ask them to check their systems. We will follow up with that. Mr. Girod added there are hundred of gallons flowing there and no one is doing anything about this? Director Hicks asked what department does this go to? Mr. Wickstrum responded Conservation. Mike and Cinnamon McIntosh have been addressing those. Director Kaiser added the public feels the sense of urgency. They see the sign and understand that but when they see the wasting and the

flow going down the gutter it is like gold. The urgency they see is we are not making it out there in a timely fashion. By the afternoon it has dried out. Perhaps we need to have volunteers in water conservation to have the public help us out. We could provide pamphlets and maybe the resident is unaware of what is happening. Director Bergen added we should be calling people back within a day. There should not be a situation where a report is not responded to.

Andrew Gillman mentioned that the Kevin Brown video is a good addition to the website. The more we can hear the agencies talking about it the better. Keep it up and I suggest the email newsletters to write about what is happening. He added that we are on for Sunday, September 30th and Steve has agreed to be on the panel. The Ojai Valley Inn and Chamber of Commerce are sponsoring it. Once we are closer to that date we will ask all of the agencies for a summary to include in the packet.

3. General Manager comments.

Mr. Wickstrum mentioned there are some things we can do to help the awareness. We all live in this community and we are trying to be responsive to get that accomplished. Water is lost and often people don't know that is occurring. We do have one leak on Ventura and Aliso in Ojai. It is a 1932 pipeline. We think it might be a packing in a valve. We may have to go to a valve replacement which may be a shutdown of a larger area. Staff are looking at this. It is a weep but is apparent in the gutter line of the street. Director Baggerly asked about the protocol for informing residents of the shutdown. Mr. Wickstrum replied we put out a phone call to the area and tags are hung in advance of the shutdown noting the date, time and duration. Director Baggerly suggested needing a bit of redundancy. Mr. Wickstrum added this area has a lot of 1932 pipe and the valves are not the best in that area. We will get on it with our valve machine to see if we can get successful shutdowns of the valves.

4. Board of Director comments.

Director Hicks suggested we make sure our trees are trimmed after an article in the Ventura County Star.

President Word mentioned that we have had requests from different people regarding access to the dam. We closed off access to the dam since 9/11. The Bureau wants it closed and secure. If there is interest, we might hold a one day tour for those that are interested in seeing the dam. We would not tour the treatment plant but we could open it to see what the lake looks like from the other side. We will try to work something out and get it announced.

Director Baggerly reported that the OBGMA meeting is tomorrow at 5:00 pm and we will present the final Groundwater Management Plan of 2018 and seek approval. It is now on the web site and it has a ton of information in it.

5. Board of Director Verbal Reports on Meetings Attended.

Director Baggerly reported that he attended the Ventura River Watershed Council and Julia Aranda, Po Chi Fung and Susan McMahon were also there.

President Word reported on his attendance at the AWA Special Issues meeting where John Lindquist, Sr. Hydrologist for United Water Conservation District spoke on most of Ventura County water basins with the exception of the Ojai basin. Most of the basins are in fair condition with the exception of Pleasant Valley and Oxnard plain. They are 140 – 180 feet below seawater and there is intrusion and are in critical overdraft condition. They are pumping 100,000 AF per year and the safe yield for those aquifers is 60,000. Drastic action will need to be taken in the near future. It will affect the Ag industry in the Oxnard Plain. There was also a full explanation on legislative reports for district to analyze and report back.

6. Consent Agenda.

ADOPTED

- a. Minutes of the June 27, 2018 Board Meeting.
- b. Recommend approval of a purchase order in the amount of \$42,425.01 to Cart-A-Way Systems for the purchase of a Concrete Batch Plant and Delivery Trailer. This is an unbudgeted expenditure.
- c. Recommend approval of a purchase order to Cortech Engineering in the amount of \$24,750 for Avenue 1 pump modification.
- d. Recommend approval of a purchase order to Spinitar in the amount of \$26,368.93 for Boardroom upgrades to record and broadcast meetings.
- e. Recommend approval of a purchase order in the amount of \$36,650 to Sedaru for professional GIS services.

Director Baggerly requested to discuss the timeline for item d. Mr. Wickstrum said we hope the timeline is in September.

The Consent Agenda was offered by Director Baggerly, Seconded by Director Kaiser and adopted by the following roll call vote:

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

7. Review of District Accounts Payable Report for the Period of 6/21/18 - 7/18/18 and the Reimbursement Disclosure Report for Fiscal Year 2017/2018.

APPROVED

Director Hicks questioned the \$400,000 payment to CalPERS. Mr. Wickstrum said he will research that and get back to him.

On the motion of Director Baggerly, seconded by Director Hicks, the Accounts Payables were approved by the following roll call vote:

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

8. General Manager's verbal report on Water Security Project status.

Mr. Wickstrum informed the board that proposals have been received and are being reviewed for the Matilija formation vertical exploratory well. We are not getting much assistance from the US Forest Service on the permits. Last week they sent an intern out to hike up to the locations and he found it too difficult to get into those areas. If we received no response by the end of next week we will move to the top.

On the State water intertie, I am uncertain when the CEQA documents are coming out. My understanding is around the 1st of September and the public will be able to comment. We will meet several times in August on the topic of state water. There is a meeting with Met on wheeling state water and financing for the California Water Fix. There is a potential for JPA formation for the CA Water fix. President Word added that my last conversation with the city was they thought they would have the documentation done by now. They underestimated the time and they hope to be digging by next summer.

Mr. Wickstrum informed the board that we are working very hard on the Ojai well field and reviewing that. We did some repairs on Well #6 that was good. We are close to balancing pumping out of that field with what is being used in the Ojai area. We are looking at what can we do to improve performance of the well fields that are part of the Ojai Water System.

9. Presentation and discussion on the Comprehensive Water Plan Request for Proposals/Qualifications.

Engineering Manager Julia Aranda introduced Virgil Clary as a newly hired Engineer to help implement projects.

Ms. Aranda then presented the draft Request for Proposals/Qualifications for a Comprehensive Water Plan. The plan is to look sources of water, dependency on lake and groundwater, and supply and demand evaluations. The outcome will be a tech memo to summarize the information and it will be prepared in a graphical format or matrix or a map. We will use that tech memo as a basis to look at water supply alternatives. Everything is on the table and feasibility, reliability, constraints will be looked at with the list of projects then being scored and ranked to determine which projects rise to the top as being realistic. Director Baggerly added a cost benefit analysis should also be included. The report we had in November of 2016 will be reviewed along with

plans prepared by others to obtain a complete picture of the water demand and use in the entire valley. We are also seeking stakeholder involvement from other agencies. Director Baggerly also suggested that we look at it in a water budget format. Ms. Aranda added that all of these projects will cost money and we will review alternative funding sources such as grants, loans, bonds, rates and other alternative funding sources. The timeline was also discussed. Director Hicks suggested a study of a small desalination plant in the Rincon area also be considered.

Bruce Kuebler spoke regarding the Urban Water Management Plan update that was supposed to be done in May and it did not meet the deadline. He suggested there be some statement in the document that explains how it relates to the Urban Water Management Plan. Director Baggerly added this was discussed yesterday at the Water Resources Committee. A one year extension was requested and it is currently being worked on. Mr. Aranda added the focus on the UWMP is to show how to reach 20% reduction by 2020. It is not meant to be a master planning roadmap to implement projects.

Richard Hajas commended the board on taking this step, it is important for the future. One suggestion is I hope you spend effort on reevaluating supply. Your assumptions about demand are dated. We use less water than we thought we needed 20 years ago and we may have less water than we think we had 20 years ago. You need a supply and demand analysis to get an idea of the scope of the problem. Suggest when you see supply and demand and you decide what level of risk you are willing to take. It is critical to determining how much water we have later on. Director Hicks responded that it is tough when you don't know what the federal government will do with the fish issue. They may be knocking on our door to let more water out. Mr. Hajas responded that you have to anticipate your risks and figure out a way to plan. You don't have a lot of control over those issues; you should assume some bad things will happen.

On the motion of Director Baggerly, seconded by Director Bergen, the Comprehensive Water Plan RFP/Q was approved by the following roll call vote:

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

10. Update by Rincon Strategies on the Public Relations Action Plan.

Chris Collier with Rincon Strategies provided an update on the progress of the Casitas Water Security campaign. The Campaign components include a water security web site, fact sheets and a slide deck for community presentations. Digital outreach will include a social media program and e-newsletter. There will also be community outreach and engagement. There was discussion of the possibility of stakeholder tours or a tour of the dam. The

timeline is to have the fact sheet draft by August 1st and the slide deck by August 3rd. The board directed staff and the consultant to continue moving forward.

11. Resolution adopting the 2015 Ventura County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan. ADOPTED

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

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

12. Discussion regarding the hiring of temporary Human Resource Department Staff.

Direction was provided to staff to hire temporary assistance.

13. Recommend approval of the 2018-2019 Fiscal Year Annual Patchwork Contract, Specification 18-400 to BSN Construction Inc. in the amount of \$126,041.30. APPROVED

On the motion of Director Baggerly, seconded by Director Kaiser, the above recommendation was approved by the following roll call vote:

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

14. Information Items:

- a. Recreation Area Report for May, 2018.
- b. Recreation Committee Minutes.
- c. Executive Committee Minutes.
- d. Quagga Committee Minutes.
- e. Finance Committee Minutes.
- f. Water Consumption Report.
- g. CFD No. 2013-1 (Ojai) Monthly Cost Analysis.
- h. Investment Report.

On the motion of Director Kaiser, seconded by Director Bergen, the information items were approved by the following roll call vote:

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

15. Adjournment.

President Word adjourned the meeting at 4:36 p.m.

Mary Bergen, Secretary