

Minutes of the Casitas Municipal Water District
Board Meeting Held
September 14, 2022

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Brennan called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Directors Bergen, Kaiser, Cole, Hajas, Brennan are present. Also present are GM Flood, AGM Dyer, EA Vieira and Counsel Mathews.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Brennan led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. AGENDA CONFIRMATION

The agenda was confirmed as presented.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS - Presentation on District related items that are not on the agenda - three minute limit.

Burt Handy requested that the consumption report be put on the board agenda once a month since the Finance committee had not had meetings since May and there were no updates since then.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

6.a. Accounts Payable Report.
Accounts Payable Report.pdf

6.b. Minutes of the August 10, 2022 Board Meeting.
8 10 2022 Min.pdf

6.c. Resolution proclaiming a local emergency persists, re-ratifying the proclamation of a State of Emergency by Executive Order, and re-authorizing remote teleconference meetings of the legislative bodies of Casitas Municipal Water District for the period of September 14, 2022 to October 14, 2022 pursuant to Brown Act Provisions.
Resolution Subsequent AB 361.pdf

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

AYES:	Directors:	Bergen, Kaiser, Cole, Hajas, Brennan
NOES:	Directors:	None
ABSENT:	Directors:	None

Resolution is numbered 2022-29

7. ACTION ITEMS

7.a. Discussion and possible action regarding Casitas MWD water supply status and a Stage 4 declaration.

Board Memo_Water Supply Status & Stage 4 Discussion 09-14-2022.pdf

GM Flood reminded the board that at the water supply assessment in May we promised to come back in the fall to talk about water supply and stage 4. Water use has been lower this summer than last year. State conversations have prompted that.

AGM Dyer provided a presentation on water supply status reminding the board that we have been in a drought for almost ten years with Ventura County currently in an extreme drought. We have equal chance of above and below normal precipitation. Storage levels at Lake Casitas have declined due to lack of rainfall over the years and is currently at 31% of capacity.

Casitas is working on interconnection projects, groundwater well rehab and replacement projects, improvements to Robles diversion facility, and critical drought protection measures. According to our WEAP we would consider going to stage 4 once the lake drops below 30%. We are approaching stage 4 in the next few months and stage five in the next year if there was no inflow into the lake.

Casitas is currently in a stage 3 declaration and our actual water use is below the stage 5 target.

The board discussed waiting until February to decide if a move to stage 4 needs to be made. The board also suggested that continued communication and information be provided to our customers on our water supply status and conservation efforts.

Bert Rapp, GM of Ventura River Water District offered support of moving to stage 4 now.

Gina Dorrington with Ventura Water did not advocate one way or another but offered that they are prepared. Usage is down 28% in the city of Ventura and we are down to stage 4 on Lake Casitas deliveries.

Direction was provided to staff to watch this closely and come back to the board.

7.b. Adopt a resolution regarding the State of California's ban on irrigation of Non-Functional Turf at commercial, industrial, and institutional properties.

Board Memo CII Non-Functional Turf Irrig. Ban 091422 v3.pdf

ATT1_SWRCB Emergency Regulation 2022_0018.pdf

ATT2_Casitas Reso CII Non-Functional Turf Irrig. Ban 091422 v3.pdf

ATT3_Casitas Ordinance 2022-01 Water Waste Prohibitions.pdf

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

AYES: Directors: Bergen, Kaiser, Cole, Hajas, Brennan
NOES: Directors: None
ABSENT: Directors: None

Resolution is numbered 2022-30

7.c. Approve a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Casitas MWD and Calleguas MWD for water resources development collaboration.

Board Memo for Caleguas-Casitas MOU 091422.pdf

Regional Water Resource Collaboration Draft MOU 091422 ATT1.pdf

GM Flood explained that we have talked with Calleguas on working together on water projects and this MOU is good way to open lines of communication and if the need is there we can do some projects down the road. Tony Goff, GM of Calleguas spoke in support of this MOU adding he has been working with Mike, Kelley and Julia for a few years now. We met over Zoom and continue to meet quarterly and developed this relationship and are looking for further collaboration. He added that he is also in support of speaking on stage 4 because we need the rain. I support what you are doing and commit to work together.

Bert Rapp spoke in support of this item.

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

AYES: Directors: Bergen, Kaiser, Cole, Hajas, Brennan
NOES: Directors: None
ABSENT: Directors: None

7.d. Adopt a resolution regarding enrollment of represented employees in the State of California's Disability Insurance program (SDI).

Board Memo SDI Application 091422.pdf

Resolution for SDI Application 091422

ATT1.pdf SDI Example Application 091422

ATT2.pdf

SEIU Letter Re SDI Casitas Water vote results 091422 ATT3.pdf

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

AYES: Directors: Bergen, Kaiser, Cole, Hajas, Brennan
NOES: Directors: None
ABSENT: Directors: None

Resolution is numbered 2022-31

7.e. Resolution adopting the update to Casitas MWD's Conflict of Interest code.
Board Memo Conflict of Interest.pdf

Resolution COI with attachment.pdf

GM Flood mentioned another title modification that was brought to our attention which is that we typically call Julia our Engineering Manager so we will add that to the existing title of Principal Civil Engineer.

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

AYES:	Directors:	Bergen, Kaiser, Cole, Hajas, Brennan
NOES:	Directors:	None
ABSENT:	Directors:	None

Resolution is numbered 2022-32

8. DISCUSSION ITEMS/PRESENTATIONS

- 8.a. Discussion of reduced entry fees related to the Casitas Rowing Club members.
Board Memo for Reduced Fee Discussion 091422.pdf

Gm Flood explained that he received a request for a reduction in fees for a member of the Casitas Rowing Club. We do not offer that to any group. We do offer a discounted frequent visitor pass for \$150 per year. We have no other program for discounts. We are fee driven out there and the Frequent Visitor Pass gives the discount they need to operate their clubs.

Director Bergen suggested this should be something that the Recreation Committee looks at. Director Kaiser asked if the request was from the Rowing Club and Mr. Flood responded it was from a member. The item will be reviewed by the Recreation Committee.

9. INFORMATION ITEMS

- 9.a. Letter to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife regarding listing of the southern California steelhead under the California Endangered Species Act.
Draft Casitas MWD Letter regarding SC Steelhead Status Review 9-14-2022.pdf
- 9.b. Casitas MWD Hydrology Report for July 2022.
Hydrology Report July 2022 091422.pdf
- 9.c. State Water Project Intertie Project Cost Report.
SWP Intertie Project Cost 8-31-22.pdf
- 9.d. Adjudication Charges Report.
Adjudication Charges YTD 8.31.22.pdf
- 9.e. CFD 2013 Report.
CFD 2013-1 Project Cost 8-31-2022.pdf

- 9.f. Investment Report.
Investment Report 8.31.22.pdf

The information items were received.

10. GENERAL MANAGER COMMENTS

GM Flood explained that there is a MWD tour in October and to let him know if you are interested.

On the Ojai Avenue project the contractor has had an interesting time in that section of the street finding conduits where no one knows what they are. They are very old. The contractor is going around those areas rather than cutting through it and it has dragged it out a bit. They have a good relationship with the businesses and we hope to be out of that portion of the street in a few weeks.

Conservation Penalty Appeals are a week from tonight at 5:00 with about 17 appeals to go over. Mr. Flood ended by informing the board he would be on vacation on September 22-23.

11. BOARD OF DIRECTOR REPORTS ON MEETINGS ATTENDED

President Brennan attended the water forum and sat in on the evaluation of grants. Director Bergen listened to the presentations on grant funding and the UVRGA meeting. Director Kaiser attended the UVRGA meeting and the AWA board meeting.

12. BOARD OF DIRECTOR COMMENTS PER GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54954.2(a).

Mr. Mathews reminded the board that this section is for any comments the board may want to make on anything that relates to the district or might be of interest to the public or the board.

Director Kaiser commented on the bridge over the diversion canal that was completed by staff adding it is a significant structure and impeccable done and probably saved the district close to \$50,000 by doing it internally. This is the type of stuff staff is doing for cost savings so the budget remains whole and it is not a burden on rate payers.

President Brennan added the usage of LCRA has been tremendous and I am excited about the installation of the new water structure and word will spread. It will be a challenge to get folks to be lifeguards but that is happening everywhere.

President Brennan moved the meeting to closed session at 6:12 p.m. and stated that when we come back we will adjourn in memory and honor of Carmen Ramirez.

13. CLOSED SESSION

- 13.a. Conference with Real Property Negotiations (§ 54956.8)
Property: APN 31-012-014
Agency Negotiator: Michael Flood

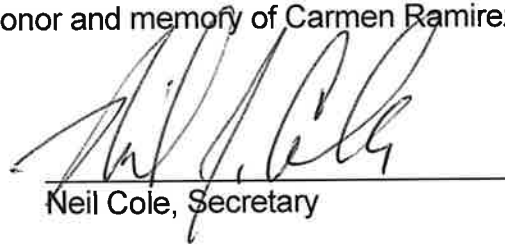
Negotiating Parties: Casitas MWD and Zak Kharazi
Under Negotiation: Price and Terms

- 13.b. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION (Government Code Section 54956.9(a) Santa Barbara Channelkeeper v. State Water Resources Control Board, City of San Buenaventura, et al.; and City of San Buenaventura v Duncan Abbott, et al., Cross Complaint; Superior Court of the State of California, County of Los Angeles, Case No. 19STCP01176.

President Brennan moved the meeting back to open session at 7:05 p.m. with Mr. Mathews stating the board met in closed session and there was no reportable action taken.

14. ADJOURNMENT

President Brennan adjourned the meeting in honor and memory of Carmen Ramirez at 7:06 p.m.



Neil Cole, Secretary