

Minutes of the Casitas Municipal Water District  
Board Meeting Held  
September 28, 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 and Brennan are present. Also present are GM Flood, AGM Dyer, EA Vieira and Counsel Mathews.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Brennan led the Pledge.

4. AGENDA CONFIRMATION

Agenda is confirmed as presented.

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

None

6. CONSENT AGENDA

6.a. Accounts Payable Report  
Accounts Payable.pdf

6.b. Minutes of the September 14, 2022 Board Meeting.  
9 14 2022 Min.pdf

The consent agenda 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

7. ACTION ITEMS

7.a. Approve and file the Notice of Exemption for Camp Chaffee Temporary  
Booster Pump Station.  
Camp Chaffee\_Board  
Memo\_NOE\_20220928.pdf Camp Chaffee

GM Flood explained this is for filing the Notice of Exemption on the temporary booster station that is under construction. The Board approved a budget on Aug 10<sup>th</sup>. We are preparing for a lake level that won't provide proper pressure for that part of the system.

Robin Neuman of 8062 Camp Chafee addressed the board stating this is adjacent to our house and we are concerned about the chosen design and the location. No information on the project was made available to us and I became aware of it when the trees were being cut. The noise and appearance are of grave concern to us. Any type of concern and mitigation to the noise of design of the station is appreciated. Maybe a vault might work to mitigate the sound and appearance. We live on a one lane road and this detracts from value of property and the quiet we enjoy.

Karen Richardson of 8102 Camp Chafee expressed concerns for the noise. I understand the necessity of the plan but hope something will be done to mitigate the noise.

Norm Neuman expressed there was a lack of consideration when the board knew months ahead of time this would happen. If we could have had some consideration early on we could have had a different design or location. We are without any recourse and without any consideration. There is no reason it is not in a vault. Why was a vault not considered? It is a visual blight. A pool motor makes considerable noise and is usually mandatorily in an enclosure to mitigate sound. You were not made aware of any sound issues that might occur. There are and if you go and listen to a 3 hp pool motor that is what we will be listening too and it will be going on and off without any consideration of the time and if we are sleeping. We sleep with the windows open ten months of the year. The existing pump location was abandoned in early 60's and its purpose was to fill a water tank maybe once a month, not a continually running pump.

Mr. Flood responded that we are in the midst of doing the installs. The ½ hp motor will run a lot of the time and 3 hp will pick up in peak time. When we get the system installed we can get some sound measurements and see what we can do to mitigate the noise. We won't be able to get it to zero.

Director Cole added that the pumps in my 3 person Jacuzzi are bigger than this. It doesn't take too much to deaden the sound on those. Director Bergen added that we should try to reduce the noise. Director Hajas suggested it be in an above ground block enclosure.

Director Kaiser appreciated the public coming in and providing perspective. He asked if there is any data on the type of decibels. Gm Flood responded it is important to put it in the environment and take measurements. Director Kaiser agreed that we should take every effort possible to mitigate the sound effects in a neighborhood the public isn't used too. It is important to do a walk through to give a background on why we need to entertain this type of project.

President Brennan thanked the public for reaching out and speaking to neighbors. This is not a long term solution but an emergency situation. He asked about any additional emergency measure that may be taken. What measures could be put in place and add this to capital improvement plans. With these type of facilities next to residents we will need to do our best to mitigate it now and reduce the sound.

GM Flood responded that as the lake declines there will be other things to be done and staff will bring forward plans. Director Cole added those have been looked at in the past. There is one big project if the lake gets too low and we have to get water into the treatment plant.

Director Kaiser added as the lake continues to go down the indirect effects on the district and operations need to be closely looked at so the board is aware of the things taking place and certain staff considerations you are entertaining.

Director Hajas added we be in and out of the need for this temporary pump. Let's make it look as nice as possible with a low profile.

President Brennan asked about the NOE and noise concerns not anticipated. FM Flood responded the exemption is an emergency project, not a full CEQA analysis. Director Hajas questioned when it is needed with Mr. Flood responding at the end of October, beginning of November.

On the motion of Director Cole, seconded by Director Bergen 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.b. Discussion and possible action on the Calleguas MWD-City of Ventura Interconnection Project.  
Board Memo\_Caleguas Ventura Interconnection  
09.28.2022.pdf ATTA. Supply Options White  
Paper\_DRAFT\_09.28.2022 v2.pdf

AGM Dyer provided a presentation on supply options and the City of Ventura - Calleguas Interconnection. The City of Ventura is requesting a response from Casitas on participation in the Calleguas-Ventura Interconnection. The draft exchange agreement and interagency agreement are in development.

Current demands and additional supply options were discussed. The board requested further information on the VRBO project to come back to the board and to determine if an additional feasibility study is needed. The district is trying to obtain grant funding for this project.

The regional interconnection projects were discussed including the Ventura Santa Barbara Counties Interconnection project and the Calleguas-Ventura Intertie. The staff recommendation is to participate in design cost of Calleguas Ventura pipeline, provide input on design and continue to look for funding options for participation up to \$10 million and then decide on full construction costs when more information is available.

The board expressed various concerns regarding the Calleguas Ventura project and

Burt Handy expressed concerns about this project and provided some information on wheeling fees from Calleguas and Met.

Nova Clite, member of Ventura Water Commission spoke in favor of the project and having a pipeline connection with Lake Casitas and considers Casitas a critical partner with the intertie being helpful for both.

Bert Rapp, GM Ventura River WD commented that their Board of Directors provided several letters over the years supporting this project and the support continues.

Gina Dorrington, GM Ventura Water, offered support as this is a mutually beneficial partnership. We had an agreement ready to discuss for a while and are ready to move forward.

The board expressed concern on authorizing a half million dollars with no written agreement. GM Flood suggested that we could have a letter agreement regarding the contribution to the design of the project.

Direction was provided to staff and this item will come back to the October 12<sup>th</sup> meeting.

- 7.c. Approve Change Order No. 5 To Travis Agricultural Construction, Inc. for the Mutual Well #7 Well Equipment and Site Work, Specification No. 20-438 in the amount of \$4,217.85.

Board Memo for Mutual Wel 7 Wel Equipment and Slte Work Change Order 5.pdf

GM Flood reported that the electrical was to be installed earlier this week but were just noticed that it will four months until it is received. President Brennen mentioned that he had calls from saying they are starting real early prior to dawn. Mr. Flood responded that we do have staff out there all times of day and night.

On the motion of Director Cole, seconded by Director Kaiser, 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. Determine all bidders on pipeline construction and trenchless pipeline construction undertaken by the District in 2023 must be pre-qualified before submitting bids.

- 7.d.i. Approve Request for Qualifications and determine all bidders be pre-qualified prior to submitting bids for pipeline projects undertaken by the District in 2023.

- 7.d.ii. Approve Request for Qualifications and determine all bidders by pre-qualified prior to submitting bids for trenchless pipeline construction on the Ventura-Santa Barbara Counties Intertie project.

BoardMemo\_ContractorPreQualification\_20220928 (4).pdf  
Pre-Qualification-of-Contractors-2023.pdf

Prequalification of Trenchless Pipeline Contractors 2023.pdf

On the motion of Director Kaiser, seconded by Director Bergen both of the above items, 7.d.i and 7.d.ii were approved by the following roll call vote:

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

- 7.e. Declaration of Surplus Casitas MWD Assets.  
Board Memo on Surplus District Assets 092822.pdf

On the motion of Director Kaiser, 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.f. Discussion and possible action by resolution regarding the LAFCo Call for Nominations Special District Regular Member and Special District Alternate Member.  
LAFCo Cal for Nominations.pdf

The board did not express any interest in a nomination to LAFCo.

8. INFORMATION ITEMS

- 8.a. Hydrology Report.  
Hydrology August 2022.pdf
- 8.b. Recreation Committee Minutes.  
Rec Minutes 091322.pdf
- 8.c. Finance Committee Minutes.  
Finance Minutes 091622.pdf

The Information Items were received.

9. GENERAL MANAGER COMMENTS

GM Flood informed the board that the district would be having one booth at Ojai day on October 15<sup>th</sup> and that he would be at the booth in the morning.

The Ag town hall meeting is Thursday, October 20<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 at the Park & Resource Center on Mahoney for our Ag customers. We will talk about what stage 4 would mean.

Tours will be held at the end of October and November and are pretty much full. We have a waiting list and have reserved space if the directors have a stakeholder. If so we need to know

that ASAP.

Lead times are crazy with electrical at 360 working days on the SB project. The supply chain is dried up and we may be required to pre purchase stuff.

Ojai Avenue had an important tie in yesterday and we are looking to have the first section complete in about a week or so and then will take that pipeline out of service that destroyed the theatre. After that they will be moving off to the east and are scheduled to be done by the end of November.

President Brennan spoke regarding Ojai day and felt the more open booth was more appealing.

10. BOARD OF DIRECTOR REPORTS ON MEETINGS ATTENDED

Director Kaiser attended the AWA meeting with elected officials with a presentation from Eric Boltd. President Brennan also attended the AWA conference.

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

President Brennan asked about the ability for a director to attend the Ag workshop and should that be noticed as a meeting. Mr. Mathews responded that a quorum notice can be posted stating that a quorum of the board may be present and there will be no business discussed or action taken by board members in attendance. Director Bergen is planning to attend the meeting.

Director Kaiser suggested a further look on the VRBO project as it would be good for the board to know if it is not feasible. GM Flood added that we can look at the assessment we received from Pueblo and will continue to pursue grant funding. An issue is that the pilot well does not produce permanent water supply.

President Brennan moved the meeting to closed session at 6:44 p.m.

12. CLOSED SESSION

- 12.a. 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 7:11 p.m. with Mr. Mathews reporting that the board met in closed session with special counsel and no reportable action was taken

13. ADJOURNMENT

President Brennan adjourned the meeting at 7:11p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Neil Cole", written in a cursive style. The signature is positioned above a horizontal line.

Neil Cole, Secretary