

Minutes of the Casitas Municipal Water District Board Meeting Held September 12, 2018

A meeting of the Board of Directors was held September 12, 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 Mike Flood, Interim General Manager, Rebekah Vieira, Clerk of the Board, and Attorney John Mathews. There were five staff members and eight members of the public in attendance.

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

Robert Meyer asked if the storage volume listed on the website takes into account the discussion that was held some time ago regarding measuring the lake to determine if the storage volume is correct. President Word responded that was done and total capacity of the lake was changed to 239,000 AF. Interim General Manager Mike Flood added there is a report in the agenda package from September 13th of last year on that study. Mr. Meyer added there is good information on there and suggested adding well levels.

George Galgas spoke regarding a question from a few months ago regarding purchasing of generators and that he had said there was only one in the district adding that I can't accept that, we don't know when the next tragedy will come. He went on to say that at the last meeting we had three agencies that were addressing the board and they should have had a laser pointer that worked. Director Bergen responded that generators have been authorized and Mr. Flood added there is a sizable grant for four stationary generators to power three of our largest pump stations. We have many generators at different locations in the district. We don't have a lot of large portables.

General Manager comments.

Mr. Flood reported that the newsletter that goes out to all our customers is in the final draft stage. The email newsletter by our consultant Rincon Strategies will be focused on water security and will follow after the mailed newsletter.

Tours have been scheduled from 9:00 – noon on September 26 starting at Casitas Dam, with visits to Robles Diversion and San Antonio Well Yard. Invitations have gone out to elected officials. We are planning a public tour later in October that anyone can sign up for.

Mr. Flood then discussed the water security projects and informed the board that staff met with consultants on Friday to discuss the CEQA on the Verbo project. Regarding the interconnection, we had a good meeting with Met on the 30th. They are interested in a wheeling agreement with us and there are good signs that this could work out well. It is probably a two year process to get that completed through their 36 member board. The wheeling agreement may be in place before the project is in construction. On the Well Field optimization we are collecting data. Three wells have data loggers and we are working with Pueblo. We had a motor burn up on San Antonio 3 and we are looking at getting a new motor purchased and back in as soon as we can. We have video of the well. It was drilled in 1956. It is in rough condition and we will move forward to get a pump back in there and getting it pumping.

Mr. Flood then reminded the board of the special meeting on Thursday at 10:00 a.m. at the Ventura City Council Chambers.

4. Board of Director comments.

Director Baggerly commented that Stage 4 is around the corner. What will that mean for people on allocations and what the new 10% reduction will be. Many of our customers have already achieved the reduction of what would normally be stage 4. If they stay in that range they will be safe in stage 4. For those that haven't achieved stage 4 reduction they need to know what to do and how to do it. We need to give them help such as water audits for those over allocation to get them back into line for water use. There are a few things in the WEAP that need to be adjusted and that should be put on the Water Resources agenda. There are changes to be made to the main website. There is still a notice about Ron Merckling not being at a meeting. There are spaces that say what does stage 3 mean to you. We need to get educated on stage 4. The newsletter is about five months behind schedule. Steve and I talked about getting a newsletter out and I am glad to hear it is getting ready. Director Baggerly asked to have a discussion with Ms. Collin and Mr. Flood regarding our water bill to make sure it is up to date for stage 4, easy to read and find allocation to know where they are in their water use. It is critical to understand that. Director Hick added I have a bill here and it is easy to read but he suggested that we speak in gallons rather than units. I think Denise has done a good job on this. Director Bergen added maybe it could be bigger or a different color to stand out. The information is all there. President Word added there is a perception that it is a further 10% reduction. If they are already at 40% then they don't need to reduce another 10%.

Director Baggerly added we need to be contacting our federal legislators regarding critical drought protection measures that have been held up by NOAA fisheries and put pressure on the forest service for the permit on data loggers.

Director Kaiser informed the board that last week he had the opportunity to visit the East coast and it rained the whole time. That reminded me that in 2014, with concern about the lake level I felt we should make sure everyone was on board with planning. We need to educate our local state legislators too. We are now approaching the 30% threshold. I feel it is time we start bringing legislators up to steam, and get ahead of the curve. We can't wait until we hit 30%. The board should direct staff to start arranging for these meetings and I would be more than welcome to be a part of them. Think ahead and avoid waiting for last moment of 25/30% and be prepared ahead of time to help us out with planning and infrastructure.

Director Hicks suggested that we should reinstate our lawsuit with the federal government. We are getting ripe now. We have had little relief from the Federal government on our diversions. He then mentioned the dedication of a plaque to honor Pat Weinberger this Saturday at the Y. Pat was a big part of the Lake Casitas Improvement Foundation and a huge supporter of Lake Casitas. At the end of the meeting a member of the public corrected the day of the dedication stating it would be on Sunday.

5. Board of Director Verbal Reports on Meetings Attended.

Director Baggerly attended the Ventura River Watershed Council Thursday September 6th and they had a presentation on the Fox Canyon groundwater agency water market. This basin is severely over drafted. There was also a presentation by Resource Conservation District telling us what they do. I also went to the UVRGWSA meeting and reported on the current nature of the OBGMA.

Director Bergen reported her attendance at the watershed council meeting.

Director Hicks reported attending the Chamber meeting where they discussed Spanish history of culinary arts exhibit at the Museum in Ventura.

President Word mentioned that the full board did meet with the executive search firm that we hired to do our search for General Manager. It was a productive meeting and we will be moving forward quickly.

6. Consent Agenda.

ADOPTED

- a. Minutes of the August 22, 2018 Board Meeting.
- b. Minutes of the August 24, 2018 Special Board Meeting.

The consent agenda was offered by Director Kaiser, seconded by Director Baggerly and passed 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 8/16/18 - 9/05/18. APPROVED

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

AYES: Directors: Baggerly, Kaiser, Bergen, Hicks, Word

NOES: Directors: None ABSENT: Directors: None

8. Resolution awarding a contract to Travis Agricultural Construction, Inc. in the sum of \$186,520 for the construction of the La Conchita Valves and Appurtenances Replacement Project Specification 18-403 and adopting the Notice of Exemption.

ADOPTED

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

AYES: Directors: Baggerly, Kaiser, Bergen, Hicks, Word

NOES: Directors: None ABSENT: Directors: None

Resolution is numbered 18-21

 Recommend revision to the Rates and Regulations for Temporary Water Service.
 APPROVED as modified

Director Baggerly moved the recommendation but the board discussed increasing the volumetric rate to \$4.00. Director Baggerly withdrew his motion and upon the motion of Director Kaiser, seconded by Director Hicks, the above recommendation for the revision to the rates and regulations including the change to the \$4.00 volumetric rate was approved by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Directors: Baggerly, Kaiser, Bergen, Hicks, Word

NOES: Directors: None ABSENT: Directors: None

President Word moved the meeting to the LCIF meeting at 3:40 p.m.

10. Lake Casitas Improvement Foundation Meeting

- a. Review of the Treasurer's report.
- b. Discussion regarding the request for funds in the amount of \$10,228 for the purchase of trout to stock in Lake Casitas.

APPROVED as modified

Park Services Manager Carol Belser requested the use of the LCIF funds for the purchase of trout. She also asked that the amount be modified to \$10,128 from the original request as there needs to be about \$100 left in the fund to cover ongoing fees for the foundation.

On the motion of Director Kaiser, seconded by Director Bergen, the above recommendation with the change to the funding amount of \$10,128 was approved by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Directors: Baggerly, Kaiser, Bergen, Hicks, Word

NOES: Directors: None ABSENT: Directors: None

President Word adjourned the LCIF meeting and reconvened the Casitas Board Meeting at 3:46 p.m.

11. Information Items:

- a. Lake Casitas Recreation Area Report
- b. Lake Casitas Status report for August, 2018.
- c. Recreation Committee Minutes.
- d. Water Resources Committee Minutes.
- e. Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Certification Letter from Ventura Water.
- f. Water Consumption Report.
- g. CFD No. 2013-1 (Ojai) Monthly Cost Analysis.
- h. Investment Report.

Director Baggerly asked for item b is it possible for Jordan to include the groundwater wells? Mr. Flood replied yes.

On the motion of Director Baggerly, seconded by Director Kaiser and passed by the following roll call vote, the information items were approved for filing.

AYES: Directors: Baggerly, Kaiser, Bergen, Hicks, Word

NOES: Directors: None ABSENT: Directors: None

12. Adjournment.

President Word adjourned the meeting at 3:48 p.m.