

Minutes of the Casitas Municipal Water District
Special Board Meeting Held
May 19, 2010

A special meeting of the Board of Directors was held May 19, 2010 at Casitas' Office, Oak View, California. Directors Handley, Kaiser, Baggerly, and Hicks were present. Director Word was absent. Also present were Steve Wickstrum, General Manager, Rebekah Vieira, Clerk of the Board, and Attorney, Bob Krimmer. There was one staff member and three members of the public in attendance. President Handley led the group in the flag salute.

1. Public comments.

None

2. General Manager comments.

Mr. Wickstrum informed the Board that the State Water Contractors were holding their board meeting and considering our agreement with Luz Solar to transfer water to Luz rather than back to Pool A or B. Mr. Wickstrum then provided information to the Board regarding the recommendation of the Board for Moira Barrons to be nominated for LAFCO. The resolution for that nomination was sent but not sent certified and it was rejected. We took efforts to try to repair the situation but we found out about it after the ballots were put together and there is nothing we can do about it at this point. Unfortunately her name will not be on the LAFCO ballot.

Mr. Wickstrum also informed the board that he had answered the Bureau of Reclamations review conducted October, 2009 and offered to provide copies to the board. The soft opening for employees, board members and guests for the Casitas Water Adventure is this Friday, at 4:00. Next week we will hold our budget workshop.

3. Board of Director comments.

Director Hicks commented about an older couple he had seen at the gate trying to go the restaurant. They were told it would be \$15 to enter and then they would get a credit at the Café. They were not pleased because they only planned to spend eight dollars. He suggested reviewing this at the Recreation Committee. Park Services Manager Carol Belser explained that the rate of \$15 is the gate fee for Friday, Saturday & Sunday and the Marina Café pass is the same pass. On Monday it would be \$10. Mr. Wickstrum added that if you will recall we discussed this at the Recreation Committee and the issues with the way we handle the café passes. We are giving this a trial and will get feedback from staff and Carlos after the program has been in place. Director Hicks also mentioned a spike on the hiking trail and suggested removal.

Director Kaiser asked when the trial period would be over and expressed his concern that this decision was handled in the Recreation Committee and thought it would be best for the board to know about this in the future. Carol Belser replied that the trial period was not a pre-designated amount of time and it can be brought back to the Recreation Committee at any time.

4. Recommend approval of a letter to the Bureau of Reclamation regarding their Resource Management Plan for Lake Casitas Recreation Area.

APPROVED

The board reviewed the recommended letter. Director Kaiser was concerned that this was a NEPA review and there was no CEQA. Mr. Wickstrum explained that Federal agencies go through NEPA review and Director Baggerly added that in the meeting with the Bureau in 2006 they made it clear they were not doing a CEQA/NEPA document.

Director Kaiser brought up further concerns about equestrian use of the Teague watershed areas and homeland security issues and he disputed that these were considered minor or no impacts to the alternatives. Mr. Wickstrum explained that this is a recreation document. Emergency action plans and responses are outside of what the RMP is about. Mr. Wickstrum added that this does not provide the Teague for hiking tomorrow. They have to go through another process to evaluate the things like those that you have brought up. In my letter I wanted them to know that we are responsible for water quality and we will be the watch dogs on the watershed. Since we heard about the RMP in 1998 that has always been our stance and was when they purchased the Teague watershed.

Director Kaiser suggested that, based on the previous concerns regarding body contact and equestrian use, a couple of sentences could be inserted in the letter stating it is our understanding those activities are not covered.

Director Baggerly mentioned Federal Preemption and the statement in the RMP that they want us to be compliant with all laws and regulations. That would put us under Ventura County regulations. We need to state that the Federal Preemption has always been our understanding. County, city, state has no authority on Federal Lands. Mr. Wickstrum agreed it is worthwhile putting it in the letter and further explained that he thought they were leading to transportation's comments. When traffic increases there should be consideration of the county's general plan.

On the motion of Director Baggerly, seconded by Director Kaiser and passed, the letter was approved with the proposed changes.

5. Adjournment

President Handley adjourned the meeting at 5:02 p.m.

Secretary