

Minutes of the Casitas Municipal Water District
Board Meeting Held
May 13, 2009

A meeting of the Board of Directors was held May 13, 2009 at Casitas' Office, Oak View, California. Directors Hicks, Handley, Kaiser, Baggerly were present. Director Word was absent. Also present were Steve Wickstrum, General Manager, Rebekah Vieira, Clerk of the Board, and Attorney, Bob Krimmer. There were three staff members and two members of the public in attendance. President Hicks led the group in the flag salute.

1. Public comments.

Dick Barnett explained to the board that it was 50 years ago this Saturday when he went to work for Casitas. Think about the things that have happened throughout the history of this project, a unique project. I came to the Bureau of Reclamation headquarters to get a polio shot. You could buy a house for \$11,500 and I told my wife I liked the area. I called the Assistant Chief Engineer and told him I was interested in being a hydrographer for the district. I earned \$410 a month. Early on I asked for the job description. I didn't have one. I was told my job description is to know more about the hydrology, groundwater and water supply issues than any one ever knew. I always kept that in mind. The office was down by Vons on the avenue. I was given a truck, key and map and was told to find all reservoirs and pump plants in the district. It took about three days. It was a really exciting career. We dealt with water quality issues after the fire in 1985, and big flood in 1986. Steve and I in Engineering were out on a Sunday afternoon to get chemicals in. There have been so many things over the history of this district. It is so important. People moving here don't know how important this project is to the area. A big new thing is the boat going to the Rotary club. I went out yesterday morning. And we need to do a good job of educating the public of what this project is all about. President Hicks added that he always said you should get a medal for treating water before we had a treatment plant. Dick added that we looked at treatment plant studies and it would cost was \$30 million dollars, Steve had the idea of the filtration plant and got us a plant for \$10 million bucks. President Hicks thanked Dick for coming and sharing with us and added that the Rotary should recruit you as a docent. Director Baggerly added that Dick knows more about the hydrology of this area than anybody else.

2. Board of Director comments.

Director Kaiser said the docents were training with the Rotary club and kids from Matilija Junior High were on a tour. Director Baggerly added he would like to see the lake level information again.

3. General Manager comments.

Mr. Wickstrum provided an update on the earthquake. We have gone through training. Everything is in good shape. We went through the dam and tunnel inspection on Friday. Nothing is leaking.

Mr. Wickstrum then informed the board of the Bureau of Reclamation Table Top exercise that we would be participating in on June 10th. We will work with emergency response personnel going through two scenarios. We have 4 staff participate in it. They will be realistic scenarios to see how communication and EAP's work, what our actions are or are not. We will provide a post event update on what occurred. Director Baggerly asked if we are a member of the warn group. Mr. Wickstrum will look into it.

The tour boat has been very positive. The message does need to be out there correctly. We will continue to educate docents to do an appropriate job with this project. I would love to see Dick on the boat.

The Matilija Dam agreement was delivered to Tom Lagier at the County on Friday. It will get on to the Board of Supervisor's meeting in mid June.

Larry Catlett of Senior Canyon letter put a date in the letter to pay debt off by July 31st. Denise checked with the auditor and we are happy with that letter.

We received notification today from Ventura County Watershed Protection District for a grant through Fish & Game for \$4.3 million dollar grant to assist in paying for the high flow bypass and fish ladder. It will be forwarded to the Bureau to write a letter of support. I don't like the direction of the agreement, and am requesting more of a letter of support for the grant. Director Baggerly added that we may need to form an ad hoc committee for the high flow sediment bypass to track it closely.

President Hicks asked about the fish that were being moved. Director Baggerly reported that 13 were moved upstream

4. Consent Agenda

ADOPTED

- a. Minutes of the April 22, 2009 Board Meeting.
- b. Resolution authorizing Casitas membership in the State Water Contractors, Inc. and payment of the Bay Delta Dues in the amount of \$42,948.
- c. Resolution authorizing execution of a Memorandum of Understanding with CSAC Excess Insurance Authority approving amendments to the Excess Workers Compensation Program MOU.

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

AYES:	Directors:	Baggerly, Kaiser, Handley, Hicks
NOES:	Directors:	None

ABSENT: Directors: Word

Resolution is numbered 09-11 and 09-12.

5. Bills APPROVED

President Hicks commented on the \$4,187 supporting a web site. Mr. Merckling reported that the original check was held for longer than six months so a new check had to be written. Director Kaiser questioned the payment for Gold Coast Security. Mr. Wickstrum reported that should have been the last check.

On the motion of Director Handley, seconded by Director Kaiser and passed, the bills were approved.

6. Committee/Manager Reports APPROVED FOR FILING

- a. Water Resources Committee Minutes
- b. Personnel Committee Minutes
- c. Recreation Committee Minutes

On the motion of Director Baggerly, seconded by Director Kaiser and passed, the Committee/Manager Reports were approved for filing.

7. Recommend execution of a Water Service Agreement with Manfred and Elaine Krankl including the conversion of a planted acre allocation to a water volume allocation. APPROVED

Mr. Wickstrum reported that we had a request from a customer who purchased the Katherine Haley Ranch. She had irrigated 6 acres of land. With the purchase of land they desire to create a winery and grow grapes on site. They propose to irrigate up to 18 acres of vineyard which would use less water. We are looking to apply an allocation of acre foot of water applied rather than an acre of allocation. A part of the agreement prohibits them from changing 18 acres of crop land to another use. Normally the agreements would be signed by me but with the change I thought it worthwhile for the board to approve. Director Baggerly added that this is a new way of thinking about the water service agreement and he wanted to point out for the record that the water service agreement is not a water right. The Board retains the right to change allocation at any time.

On the motion of Director Kaiser, seconded by Director Baggerly and passed, the above recommendation was approved.

8. Recommend authorizing the General Manager to sign the Non-Objection Letter enabling the City of Ventura to sell its 2009 Table A State Water Project water to Mojave Water Agency. APPROVED

Susan Rungren from City of Ventura requested the Board to sign the Non-Objection Letter as the City has a 10,000 allocation for the state water project but has not been able to use it and looked to see it this year. They have an agreement with a solar company and the non-objection letter is required.

On the motion of Director Baggerly, seconded by Director Handley and passed, the above recommendation was approved.

9. Information Items:

- a. Monthly Cost Analysis for operation of Robles, fisheries and fish passage.
- b. Recreation Area Report for April.
- c. Pacific Agribusiness Alliance Spring Ag Tour, May 29, 2009.
- d. News Articles
- e. Investment Report

10. Closed Session

Not Held

Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation
(Subdivision (a) of Government Code Section 54956.9)
Name of Case: Casitas Municipal Water District v. United States

11. Adjournment

President Hicks adjourned the meeting at 5:07 p.m.

Secretary