# Minutes of the Casitas Municipal Water District Board Meeting Held July 27, 2016

A meeting of the Board of Directors was held July 27, 2016 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. Directors Kaiser, Baggerly, Word, and Hicks were present. Director Bergen was absent. Also present were Steve Wickstrum, General Manager, Rebekah Vieira, Clerk of the Board, and Attorney, John Mathews. There were five staff members and two members of the public in attendance. President Kaiser led the group in the flag salute.

# 1. Public Comments (items not on the agenda – three minute limit).

Bruce Kuebler, Director of Ventura River Water District expressed concern about drought and the lake going dry without access to water. He urged the board to connect to regional water access to supplemental supplies that might be available.

President Kaiser added we all need to work together on this to look at contingencies available and discuss the costs that come in to play. The public will fill in the gaps with reactions. No information begets concern. It is important we all work together to fully investigate in a post haste manner. Director Word added there is no easy answer and it will take an effort on all of our parts to come up with something that will work. President Kaiser added that we can hope for rain but hope is not a plan of action.

Randy Haney Ojai City Councilmember thanked the board for what they have done and the actions regarding Golden State. The City of Ojai is thankful. He explained that he is here to talk about water and relayed an analogy of the water shortage being a football game. When the lake is at 100% full it is the start of the game. All is good when have a full body of water. In the first quarter we lost a little water and life is good. At half time 50% of lake is down, we are not winning. As a coach we adjust at half time and make changes on what we can do better or differently. Now we are at 39%. In 14% we will be in third quarter and losing. Are we going to wait until the game is over to make another adjustment? Half of the game is over, we have to dig in and figure this out. He explained that he had contacted local and state representatives and suggested holding a summit to have all the players together and bring everyone together to solve problems. He concluded by thanking the board for all they do and what they will do.

# 2. <u>General Manager comments.</u>

Mr. Wickstrum informed the board of his discussion with the City of Ventura and the County to begin to coordinate efforts to bring in state water and ensure we have county assistance. Tully Clifford indicated the county would provide assistance in bringing the pipeline in. A meeting was also held bringing together water managers from Ventura River and Meiners Oaks and Ventura

Water. We had lunch at the lake and discussed new opportunities for state water connection. There are new opportunities and now we have the potential and try to move forward as quickly as possible. There is emphasis on the decline of the lake for the last 11 years. There was talk about coordination of efforts and financial aspects. It is a western Ventura county problem. All parties need to commit to securing water supply. It is not as easy a solution as a seven mile pipeline. Things are proceeding in that avenue.

#### 3. Board of Director comments.

Director Hicks mentioned a meeting with 13 individuals including seven engineers and two previous City managers where they discussion the drought and possibility of state water. In the past there have been 15 – 20 year droughts. Mr. Wickstrum explained there has been a game plan. Part of that was you don't play a sloppy game in the first half. Conservation is no longer involuntary. We hope we see the lake refill but we will not return back to sloppy play in the first half. There is a real effort by the public and state to retain these changes in California. The WEAP provides us with flexibility to make changes during continued drought.

Director Word added it is encouraging that we are seeing folks other than those of us that deal with it day to day be aware of the shortcomings and potential disaster. The public is starting to grasp that idea. We have to get the public involved. It is not an easy or inexpensive solution but we have to deal with it. Director Baggerly added the game is afoot. People are working on new water sources and new solutions. President Kaiser added no game is won if the team is in status quo. The Executive committee agenda has an item to look at a workshop coming up and to consider how we expand to other agencies locally to work together. We are endeavoring to move ahead on this expeditiously.

# 4. <u>Board of Director Verbal Reports on Meetings Attended.</u>

Director Hicks reported on his attendance at the AWA Water Issues meeting where United gave a presentation on their GSA. He added that Met is seeing a return on their investment with their turf removal program. During high heat in July last year they sold 7,000 acre feet/day and this year are now selling 5,000 acre feet/day.

## 5. Consent Agenda

**ADOPTED** 

a. Minutes of the July 13, 2016 Board Meeting.

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

AYES: Directors: Hicks, Word, Baggerly, Kaiser

NOES: Directors: None ABSENT: Directors: Bergen

6. Review of District Accounts Payable Report for the Period of 7/7/16 – 7/19/16. APPROVED

On the motion of Director Hicks, seconded by Director Baggerly, the Accounts Payables were approved by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Directors: Hicks, Word, Baggerly, Kaiser

NOES: Directors: None ABSENT: Directors: Bergen

7. Resolution Expressing Appreciation to Ronald Yost on his Retirement after 32 Years of Service. ADOPTED

The board read the resolution and thanked Mr. Yost for his dedication and service to Casitas.

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

AYES: Directors: Hicks, Word, Baggerly, Kaiser

NOES: Directors: None ABSENT: Directors: Bergen

Resolution is numbered 16-21

8. Recommend approval of a purchase order to H2O Solutions, LLC in the amount of \$26,200 for cleaning and inspection of 16 reservoirs and \$400 per hour plus material costs for directed repairs.

APPROVED

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

AYES: Directors: Hicks, Word, Baggerly, Kaiser

NOES: Directors: None ABSENT: Directors: Bergen

Recommend approval of a new agreement with County of Ventura Sheriff for support services.

APPROVED

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

AYES: Directors: Hicks, Word, Baggerly, Kaiser

NOES: Directors: None ABSENT: Directors: Bergen

10. Consider refund claim from Paul Lomely for \$234 in reservation fees, \$72 in parking fees, and \$430 in compensation for food and gear purchased for trip to Lake Casitas Recreation Area on the weekend of June 17, 2016

# during which Lomely party was evicted following numerous noise complaints. CLAIM DENIED

Park Services Manager Belser explained that when a party is evicted we don't refund their camping fees. The Water Adventure tickets were refunded in the amount of \$79. The recommendation is to deny the claim.

On the motion of Director Hicks, seconded by Director Baggerly, the claim listed above was denied by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Directors: Hicks, Word, Baggerly, Kaiser

NOES: Directors: None ABSENT: Directors: Bergen

#### 11. Information Items:

**APPROVED** 

- a. Lake Casitas Recreation Area Report for March, 2016.
- b. Lake Casitas Recreation Area Report for April, 2016.
- c. Lake Casitas Recreation Area Report for May, 2016.
- d. Finance Committee Minutes
- e. Investment Report.

On the motion of Director Hicks, seconded by Director Baggerly, the Information Items were approved by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Directors: Hicks, Word, Baggerly, Kaiser

NOES: Directors: None ABSENT: Directors: Bergen

Mr. Mathews reminded the Board of the hearing with Golden State on Wednesday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> at 8:30.

## 12. Adjournment

President Kaiser adjourned the meeting at 3:34 p.m.

James W. Word, Secretary