

Minutes of the Casitas Municipal Water District
Board Meeting Held
June 8, 2011

A meeting of the Board of Directors was held June 8, 2011 at Casitas' Office, Oak View, California. Directors Kaiser, Baggerly, Word, Hicks, and Bergen were present. Also present were Steve Wickstrum, General Manager, Rebekah Vieira, Clerk of the Board, and Attorney, Bob Krimmer. There were one staff member and three members of the public in attendance. President Kaiser led the group in the flag salute.

1. Public comments.

None

2. General Manager comments.

Mr. Wickstrum reported that a leak was discovered on the Matilija Conduit on Monday morning towards the Matilija Dam. Our employees worked diligently through the night to get the water back online. This brings up discussions regarding replacement of the conduit and flushing and maintaining service to the resort. I will discuss that with Norma Camacho to determine if there is a need to continue water service or provide some options to lessen the size. It is a 30 inch main in that area with only one or two people living up there.

We have removed a water meter in the watershed area and are looking to abandon to a valve towards Santa Ana creek and then in November will eliminate the pipeline. We will be getting rid of the water system in the Teague Memorial Watershed and no longer serve that area. We have discontinued flushing in that area.

There has been a change of date for the final presentation to Judge Weiss. It will now be on July 12th. I am flying in on July 11th and returning on the 13th. Director Kaiser asked for the Board's concurrence to accompany Steve for the final arguments. Director Hicks said it sounded good. Direction was provided to staff.

Director Baggerly asked if there was any news on the Voyce house. Mr. Wickstrum said there was not. Director Baggerly asked about the Webster house. Mr. Wickstrum explained that no one is living in the house. Someone is living in a fifth wheel and getting water out of the water well.

3. Board of Director comments.

Director Bergen reported that she had received an email from a constituent on the out of state travel for our Fisheries Biologist. She agreed that with the monitoring program and five year review, this is not something we should abruptly change what we are doing but she does have some questions on expenditures and felt there might be qualified individuals in the area. There was

discussion which committee that this should go to and it was determined that it could be reviewed at the Personnel Committee. Director Hicks commented that it is an unusual situation. We have not had an employee with those perks. In many ways it is worth the extra effort, he knows more about the river than anyone and Director Hicks does not want to change horses midstream. Director Hicks added it could be reviewed at a later date after the review period and added that the Fisheries Biologist has done a good job for us.

Director Baggerly mentioned the Watershed Coordinator for the Ventura River opening. This position is utilizing a three year grant from Prop 84 money and it is going to be coordinating all the work that needs to be done for the watershed management plan.

4. Consent Agenda

- a. Minutes of the May 25, 2011 Board Meeting.

On the motion of Director Word, seconded by Director Baggerly and passed, the Consent Agenda was adopted.

5. Bills

On the motion of Director Word, seconded by Director Baggerly and passed, the bills were approved.

6. Recommend approval of a letter to Congressman Elton Gallegly in support of the proposed Wilderness Designation in Los Padres National Forest of the White Ledge Peak Area – Ventura County. APPROVED

Mr. Wickstrum explained that this item is regarding the protection of the watershed and the environment. In speaking with Brian Miller from Congressman Elton Gallegly's office, they are interested in our perspective on this. We fought the uranium mining in the past and this may stop that potential for mining leases being granted which could have negative impacts to our water quality.

Mike Summers, a representative from Las Padres Forest Watch, made a presentation regarding the lands to be included and the reason for participation and support of the action.

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

7. Discussion regarding any additional changes to the proposed Fiscal Year 2011-2012 budget.

Director Word commented that we are balancing the budget by utilization of some of our reserves. Water sales will be less than average. He added that he is uneasy with increased expenses and not having an increase in rates. This is a tight budget. We have to be mindful of what we are spending and be mindful of what we do. If we have two years like this one you will be looking at cut backs someplace.

Mr. Wickstrum added one unknown is the repayment on the Safety of Dams which we have been waiting for information on for the past ten years.

Director Word added staff has done a terrific job in pulling it together and making it tight. Director Bergen added that she reviewed the budget with a fine tooth comb. It is honest and tight. We have some conditions that could make it tighter than we want it to be. She is comfortable with it. A mid-year review was suggested. Director Word stated that he doesn't want to go back into the cycle of deferred maintenance.

8. Information Items:

- a. Monthly Cost Analysis for operation of Robles, fisheries and fish passage.
- b. News Articles
- c. Investment Report

On the motion of Director Word, seconded by Director Bergen and passed, the information items were approved for filing.

President Kaiser moved the meeting to closed session at 3:31 p.m. with Attorney Bob Krimmer notifying the public of the closed session items.

9. Closed Session

- a. Conference with Legal Counsel -- Existing Litigation (Subdivision (a) of Section 54956.9, Government Code). Name of Case: Ortiz v. Casitas Municipal Water District.
- b. (Govt. Code Sec. 54957.6)
Conference with Labor Negotiators:
Agency Designated Representatives: Rebekah Vieira, Draza Mrvichin
Employee Organization: Supervisory & Professional, General Unit and Recreation Unit.

President Kaiser moved the meeting back into open session at 4:32 p.m. stating no action was taken on either closed session items.

10. Adjournment

President Kaiser adjourned the meeting at 4:33 p.m.

Secretary