

Minutes of the Casitas Municipal Water District
Board Meeting Held
January 12, 2011

A meeting of the Board of Directors was held January 12, 2011 at Casitas' Office, Oak View, California. Directors Kaiser, Word, Baggerly, Hicks and Bergen were present. Also present were Steve Wickstrum, General Manager, Rebekah Vieira, Clerk of the Board, and Attorney, John Mathews. There were three staff members and one member 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 over the holiday season with the rain that fell our staff performed well diverting water at Robles and we are still moving water at a very low rate. Yesterday, the Sheriff's department did some practice rescues at Lake Casitas. Their vessels went through the quagga prevention program. Director Baggerly asked if there was an opportunity for engineers to check the screens. Mr. Wickstrum answered that the consultants spent some long days taking measurements and the results are not on hand yet.

3. Board of Director comments.

Director Word asked about the status of the Ojai 4(m) pump plant electrical upgrades. Mr. Wickstrum explained most of the work has occurred and should be completed today and operational.

Director Hicks commented that he loved the picture of the big fish in the Star.

Director Baggerly congratulated and thanked staff in particularly Ron Merckling for the appearance and functionality of our website. He then asked if it was possible to have a presentation on issues for the upcoming budget year and the design for repairing the huge valve in Oak View. Director Word added it would be helpful to have a presentation or update on the major projects.

President Kaiser gave appreciation for staff that were involved in making sure we got water down the canal during the holiday season.

4. Board, Committee and Meeting Approvals

a. Election of Board Officers

NEW BOARD OFFICERS FOR 2011:

PRESIDENT Pete Kaiser

VICE PRESIDENT Russ Baggerly

SECRETARY Jim Word

ASST. SECRETARY Bill Hicks

On a motion by Director Word, seconded by Director Baggerly and passed, the Election of Officers was approved.

b. Discussion and possible resolution to modify the meeting time of the Board Meetings.

The resolution to change the Board meeting time to 3:00 p.m. was offered by Director Baggerly, seconded by Director Hicks and passed by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Directors: Bergen, Hicks, Baggerly, Word, Kaiser
NOES: Directors: None
ABSENT: Directors: None

Resolution is numbered 11-01.

c. Discussion and approval of meetings that will be considered authorized meetings for the Board.

Outside Affiliations Approvals for 2011 – These affiliations and meetings are considered approved for the attendance of any Board Member for any meeting without additional Board Action. These meetings are considered paid meetings for Board attendance:

Ventura County Special District Association – Kaiser
California Special District Association – All
Association of Water Agencies – all can attend. Word/Hicks as alternate
Association of California Water Agencies – Region 8 Hicks / Wickstrum, all can attend.

ACWA Legislative Committee Liaison – Ron Merckling
American Water Works Association – Steve Wickstrum
California Park & Recreation Society – Carol Belser
National Notary Association – Rebekah Vieira
Society of Human Resource Management – Rebekah Vieira
CALPELRA – Rebekah Vieira
Greater Ventura Chamber of Commerce – Hicks / Word as alternate

Ojai Chamber of Commerce – Kaiser / Bergen as alternate
 State Water Contractors – Steve Wickstrum
 American Fisheries – Scott Lewis and Mike Gibson
 Salmonid Restoration Foundation – Scott Lewis/ Russ Baggerly
 OBGMA – Baggerly / Bergen as alternate
 LAFCO – as needed
 Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance – Word / Kaiser as alternate

Board Attendance approved when dealing with Casitas Business:

Matilija Dam Removal Meetings – Baggerly/ Hicks and Wickstrum
 Bureau of Reclamation – Word / Baggerly
 State/Federal Legislative Committee meetings – Ron Merckling/others as needed
 Agenda Meetings – President
 Watershed Coalition of Ventura County – Baggerly / Merckling
 Ventura River Watershed Council – Baggerly / Merckling.
 Tri County Fish Team – Bergen / Scott Lewis
 Ventura River HCP - Word

On the motion of Director Baggerly, seconded by Director Hicks and passed, the above outside affiliations and meetings were approved.

d. Selection of Board Committee assignments and dates of meetings.

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:

	<u>Members</u>	<u>Alternate</u>
Executive	Kaiser/Baggerly	Word
Personnel	Word/Bergen	Hicks
Water Resources	Baggerly/Hicks	Bergen
Recreation	Hicks/Kaiser	Baggerly
Finance	Bergen/Word	Kaiser

COMMITTEE DATES AND TIME:

	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>
Executive	First Tuesday	9:00 a.m.
Personnel	Third Wednesday	4:30 p.m.
Water Resource	Third Monday	3:00 p.m.
Recreation	First Monday	9:00 a.m.

Finance

Third Friday

9:30 a.m.

Committee meeting dates and times may change as necessary

On the motion of Director Baggerly, seconded by Director Word and passed the Committee assignments and meeting times were approved.

5. Consent Agenda

ADOPTED

- a. Minutes of the November 10, 2010 Board Meeting.
- b. Minutes of the December 15, 2010 Board Meeting.
- c. Resolution approving memberships for 2011.

The Consent Agenda was offered by Director Word, seconded by Director Bergen and adopted by the following roll call vote:

AYES:	Directors:	Bergen, Hicks, Baggerly, Word, Kaiser
NOES:	Directors:	None
ABSENT:	Directors:	None

Resolution is numbered 11-02.

6. Bills

APPROVED

Director Hicks questioned the refund on state water to United. Denise Collin explained that previously United was paying for transportation costs and this refund is for a previous year where they paid 100%. Director Word questioned the removal of the floor at Recreation. Mr. Wickstrum explained this was for the removal of asbestos tiles.

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

7. Request from the City of Ventura regarding late fees.

Tabled for further review

Denise Collin informed the board that for some time we would allow resale customers to be late with payment but after we had a water company that became extremely delinquent the board told staff not to forgive late payments. The City of Ventura has had staff changes and there was a late payment applied to a couple of water bills with late payment charges.

Susan Rungren from the City of Ventura addressed the board and stated it is the City's fault for paying late. We have had staff changes and the issues have been resolved. When the next bill came in we paid it the next day. I am pleading with you and in the past have tried to work with you. \$45,000 is a lot of money for being a couple of days late. I am asking you to waive it or reduce it by a substantial amount.

Director Hicks added it is a tough situation the City is our largest customer and he suggested splitting the bill this one time. Director Word asked how you reconcile that with the others that we don't split the bill with. Mr. Wickstrum added that we have a lot of coordination and we are talking about a large purchaser of water. The 10% late fee is very large for the City of Ventura versus a residential customer. Denise Collin added that in her usual day to day functions she has the ability to grant a refund or reduce an amount of a fee depending on how they have worked with her but her authority is only to \$500. Mr. Mathews suggested looking at this more closely.

On the motion of Director Hicks, seconded by Director Bergen and passed the item was tables and referred back to the Finance Committee for further review.

8. Recommend declining the Consent Agreement to permit the Area Housing Authority to retain funds paid in lieu of taxes for local program.

APPROVED

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

9. Resolution awarding a contract to Toro Enterprises Inc. in the amount of \$54,215 for the construction of the Rincon Pipeline Replacement Station 450 to 451.

ADOPTED

Director Baggerly questioned the Cal OSHA issues. Mr. Wickstrum explained that we have analyzed those and feel comfortable with this recommendation.

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

AYES:	Directors:	Bergen, Hicks, Baggerly, Word, Kaiser
NOES:	Directors:	None
ABSENT:	Directors:	None

Resolution is numbered 11-03.

10. Information Items:

- a. Monthly Cost Analysis for operation of Robles, fisheries and fish passage.
- b. Recreation Area Report for November.
- c. Status Report on the First Quarter Water Year 2010-2011
- d. Lake Casitas Storage Volume Comparison
- e. News Articles
- f. Investment Report

Director Hicks questioned the numbers in the recreation report. Park Services Manager Carol Belser will review the report.

Mr. Mathews mentioned the Santa Clara watershed and United are embarking on their HCP. The kickoff meeting is January 27th at 1:00 p.m.

11. Closed session

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

President Kaiser moved the meeting to closed session at 5:42 p.m. regarding the above noted case. President Kaiser moved the meeting back to open session at 6:01 p.m. stating the board received an update on the case from our attorney and no action was taken.

12. Adjournment

President Kaiser adjourned the meeting at 6:02 p.m.

Secretary