

Minutes of the Casitas Municipal Water District
Board Meeting Held
March 11, 2015

A meeting of the Board of Directors was held March 11, 2015 at the District office in Oak View, California. The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. Directors Bergen, Kaiser, Baggerly, and Word were present. Director Hicks was absent. Also present were Steve Wickstrum, General Manager, Rebekah Vieira, Clerk of the Board, and Attorney, John Mathews. There were two staff members and one member of the public in attendance. President Bergen led the group in the flag salute.

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

None

Mr. Mathews announced that we would be moving the closed session item to the beginning of the agenda and it is expected to take about fifteen minutes.

President Bergen moved the meeting to closed session item #13 at 3:01 p.m.

13. Closed Session

- a. Conference with Legal Counsel -- Existing Litigation (Subdivision (a) of Section 54956.9, Government Code). Name of Case: Golden State Water Company v. Casitas Municipal Water District. Case Number: 56-2013-00433986-CU-WM-VTA.

President Bergen moved the meeting back to open session at 3:12 p.m. with Mr. Mathews reported that the board met with special counsel regarding the case listed in the closed session item and received a status of the case. There was no action taken.

2. General Manager comments.

Mr. Wickstrum reported that the lake level is at 50.9% and we are looking at implementation materials and talking about the ordinance as we get closer to 50% mark. We are working on the budgets and the ten year capital budget and will be discussing the effects of the continued drought on some projects such as the Ojai east reservoir. The drought would probably put this off temporarily. Mr. Wickstrum then informed the board that the front gate at recreation is moving along well. The contractor is off site now and awaiting delivery of the kiosks and roof which is expected in four to six weeks.

3. Board of Director comments.

Director Word mentioned the March 18th educational program on the Santa Barbara desal facility. Mr. Wickstrum explained that many of our staff will be attending.

Director Kaiser added it is understandable why they are looking at desal. Driving by Lake Cachuma it looks to be in worse shape than ours. Director Word added they are at 28%. Mr. Wickstrum added the pumps in the lake have been tested and the cost of the pumps is \$100,000 a month and the Edison charge to run them is about \$40,000.

4. Board of Director Verbal Reports on Meetings Attended.

Director Word reported that he attended the Ventura City Council meeting on Monday evening where they provided an update on their waters shortage contingency plans. It was a frustrating meeting. The shortage plan will trigger some automatic moratoriums on connections as of April this year to January of 2016. They talked about water bonds but were not clear when and how much but will be to address their infrastructure. Water bonds will be 50% paid by rate payers and 50% by developers. Development that is already signed off will go forward. They quote they have 8,000 acre foot allocation from Casitas and that they are supposed to buy 6,000 but they only purchase 5,000. The Council asked why they don't buy more water. They said there are legal issues and Casitas can't sell us more. In these documents they say they are renting water from Casitas to blend on east end. They are acknowledging there is a problem but they are planning to continue what they are doing. They will implement an incentive program for landscaping but exempted replacing turf with artificial turf. They are at least three years away from going to monthly billing and they are expecting water rates to increase about \$11 per month. East Bay MUD is proposing a 35% increase due to water sales loss. This is why it is important to keep a healthy reserve.

Director Baggerly reported he attended the Ventura River Watershed Council meeting and the Watershed Management plan is complete and adopted.

5. Consent Agenda ADOPTED

- a. Minutes of February 25, 2015 Meeting.

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

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

6. Bills APPROVED

On the motion of Director Kaiser, seconded by Director Baggerly, the bills were approved by the following roll call vote:

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

7. Public Hearing regarding the proposed Ordinance to Increase the Compensation of the Board of Directors from \$171.06 to \$179.61 per meeting. ADOPTED

President Bergen announced this is the time and place for a public hearing on the proposed ordinance to increase compensation of the board of Directors. She asked the Clerk of the Board to provide the names of individuals who provided comments. The Clerk stated there were none. The Public hearing was opened at 3:27 p.m. with Robert Hanford of Golden State Water Company stating that his is nominal for the work you do. President Bergen closed the public hearing at 3:28. Director Word commented that in 2001 we were close to the highest with our compensation but now we are toward the bottom.

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

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

Ordinance is numbered 15-01.

8. Resolution awarding a contract to Advanced Industrial Services, Inc. in the amount of \$295,000 for 3M Reservoir Coating, Specification 14-374. ADOPTED

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

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

Resolution is numbered 15-06

9. Recommend approval of a Memorandum of Understanding for funding participation in the formation of a Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the Upper Ventura River sub-basin. APPROVED

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

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

10. Resolution concurring the nomination of Jerry Gladbach to the Executive Committee of the Association of California Water Agencies Joint Powers Insurance Authority. APPROVED

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

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

Resolution is numbered 15-07

11. Discussion regarding the State Water Multi Year Pool.

Mr. Wickstrum discussed the State Water Multi Year Pool where we can obtain a more favorable price for state water that is not used by the district. This is a two year program and the revenue amount is used to reduce the tax liability of the constituents of the district. We have already asked United if they need our water. In the turn back pool that we may get \$20,000 but in the Multi-year pool it could be \$278,000. This helps our tax base, it does not go to the general fund, it reduces the tax rate. This has to be filed by March 16th.

12. Information Items:

- a. Water Resources Committee Minutes.
- b. Executive Committee Minutes.
- c. CSDA Call for Nominations for Board of Directors.
- d. Water Consumption Report.
- e. CFD No. 2013-1 (Ojai) Monthly Cost Analysis.
- f. Investment Report.

On the motion of Director Kaiser, seconded by Director Word the information items were approved for filing by the following roll call vote:

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

14. Adjournment

President Bergen adjourned the meeting at 3:45 p.m.


Russ Baggerly, Secretary