

Minutes of the Casitas Municipal Water District
Board Meeting Held
April 9, 2008

A meeting of the Board of Directors was held April 9, 2008 at Casitas' Office, Oak View, California. Directors Word, Hicks, Handley, Kaiser and Baggerly 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 16 members of the public in attendance. President Word led the group in the flag salute.

1. Public comments.

None

2. Board of Director comments.

Director Handley mentioned the workshops being held through the Sea Grant program. Mr. Wickstrum explained that we have been participating in the detection programs.

President Word announced that some of the Directors would not be in attendance at the April 23rd board meeting. Directors Handley, Hicks and Word will be in attendance.

3. General Manager comments.

Mr. Wickstrum relayed information he received from Roger Marzulla regarding verbal testimony being held on May 7th by each party. The presentations are limited to one hour and will be heard by three judges of the appellate court. Those judges will review the case and provide their decision about 120 days later.

Mr. Wickstrum mentioned the recent additions to staff that were discussed in the Personnel Committee and suggested having the new staff attend a board meeting in the future to be introduced to the Board.

4. Consent Agenda

ADOPTED

- a. Minutes of the March 26, 2008 Board Meeting.

The consent agenda was offered by Director Baggerly, seconded by Director Hicks and passed with President Word abstaining as he was not in attendance at the meeting.

5. Bills

APPROVED

Director Hicks questioned #26682 for the dam tender residence permit. Mr. Wickstrum explained that we have to pay permit fees to the Bureau for them to consider what we are planning on doing for the removal and rebuilding of the dam tenders house. Director Hicks then questioned spending \$25,000 for tree trimming at Recreation. Mr. Wickstrum explained that this was a large contract to remove dead trees and branches.

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

6. Committee/Manager Reports APPROVED FOR FILING
- a. Finance Committee Minutes
 - b. Recreation Committee Minutes

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

7. Resolution adopting the Vessel Restriction Programs and direction to staff to implement Vessel Quarantine, Re-entry, Temporary Storage and Tamper-proof Tag Programs. ADOPTED WITH CHANGES

Mr. Wickstrum reported that a month ago the Board took action to protect Lake Casitas. There has been serious consideration and work with a variety of individuals to consider entrance into the lake where we can determine that boats are not carrying the Quagga mussel and for those boats that use Lake Casitas as their only destination. Programs include a tamper proof tag, cabling, lock down and temporary storage at the Lake and provide for a boat that is locked to a trailer to be stored at home. If they want to launch at another lake they would destroy the tag and then go through inspection and ten day quarantine process. There are a lot of logistic issues and we can't have 300 boats showing up at one time. Staff will work through a waiting list that has already been developed and will issue out letters to the people on the list. This will allow staff to go through this process. We will be implementing this in a staged factor much like we did with water meters.

The kits that include the cables, locks and tags were shown to the board. Casitas will retain custody of the security tags, the customer will keep the keys, lock and cable which are reusable.

President Word explained the program. A customer brings in their boat, goes through a clean and dry inspection. The customer buys the packet and the cable and locks are secured and we put on the sealed tag. After a ten day quarantine the boat can be launched if the boat is brought back with this in tact. Before the customer leaves he has to have the cable and lock secured and we will attach the security tag. Mr. Wickstrum explained that we are getting the

materials for this program and will be renumbering the parking spaces at the launch ramps.

Rob Weinerth explained that the officers will be doing the initial inspections. And the CF numbers of the boats will be cross referenced with the security tag numbers. Every aspect of the tamper proof tag system has been analyzed. This tamper proof tag system mandates that the boat will not be on other waters. If you go to another lake and come back you will go through inspection and be on a quarantine program. We analyzed the tag programs. It is set up to not be tampered with. Mr. Wickstrum added if there is any suspicion of tampering staff will ask another officer for a second opinion and if there is any doubt then reject the vessel.

Director Baggerly suggested a provision for penalties to ban the vessel from the lake for a one year period and he suggested modifying the ordinance to include this program and the penalty.

Director Handley questioned how we would be handling kayaks. Rob explained that we are looking for a way to quarantine them. Now we can put them in the impound area. There is a concern about locking them up.

Lara McWhirter explained that she kayaks at the lake three times a week in the summer. She has secured a slip at the Marina and is ready to go through the quarantine policy. She asked to be allowed to proceed. She asked for a way to expedite the red tape to allow local residents to come more freely. Mr. Wickstrum added that it is difficult to take care of those folks that want to take their kayaks home.

Director Baggerly asked for items to be included in the reentry procedures and he asked for the rules and regulations for the public use of Lake Casitas Recreation Area be updated to reflect these changes. He asked if we were still exempt from CEQA. Mr. Mathews explained that Resolution 08-08 had certain instructions allowing the development of these policies and staying within CEQA. Director Baggerly added that he is supportive of the plan but he wanted to ensure that we pay more attention to the initial inspection. What we actually have to do is assume that every boat that enters is contaminated and be inspected at highest level possible. He was concerned about water that may be left in the plumbing systems of the boats and suggested cleaning the engine cooling system. There was a lot of discussion amongst the public regarding the engine temperatures and when they open up and if the veligers would be killed. Director Baggerly drafted a number of things for staff and the board to review and issues for the General Manager to look at for research. He suggested a penalty for non compliance so boaters will not fool around with the tamper proof tag. He continued that the initial inspection has to be perfect. Members of the public said the boat has to be clean and dry and we vacuum it out that was we don't need to introduce Chlorine into the system. We enter clean and dry and then go through ten day quarantine. There was a suggestion to have a wet vac there to determine if all the water had been removed from the boat.

Director Baggerly suggested running the boat motor prior to launch until the thermostat opens up to flush the engine out.

Lara McWhirter spoke representing the kayakers and felt this was a community that worked together to have the lake. We all want to be partners and come up with ideas to get back on the lake. I scrubbed my kayak for four hours. I have a slip already rented. I am asking to go through the procedure and hoping you can allow us some sort of recourse. Can I leave it there? President Word added that is the reason for the quarantine.

Dustin Draper, a Buena High School student asked about launching their solar boat into the lake for testing. The boat has never been launched in any water and will be launched by hand. They need to get their boat into the lake on Saturday to be tested. Mr. Wickstrum explained this is a new vessel that has never been in water. The boat is to be destroyed after the run at Lake Skinner. Scott Manen, the advisor for the project added that Casitas is the only local lake to test the boat on. President Word said it would be treated as a new boat.

George Boston a resident of Ojai stated that I understand your concern and the action taken to date by the board. It is warranted. He said this action has affected his quality of life. He felt this was a viable solution to allow boats on that lake and strongly encouraged the Board to adopt the recommendation of the Recreation Committee.

Director Kaiser added he agreed with the insertion of information into the ordinance and the penalties. Director Hicks agreed with a one year suspension for tampering. Director Baggerly asked for the three systems to be included. Director Hicks thought the broad language covers that. Mr. Wickstrum said we will follow the clean and dry procedure.

There was further discussion about the clean and dry inspection and using a wet vac to blow any residual water out and Mr. Wickstrum stated if we blew water out then the boat becomes suspect and would not pass the clean and dry inspection. At this time if a boat fails inspection then it is placed on a 28 day quarantine. There was also discussion about the use of vinegar in the live wells.

Director Hicks offered the resolution with the addition of a one year suspension if tags or cables are tampered with. The resolution was seconded by Director Hicks and approved by the following roll call vote:

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

Resolution is numbered 08-10.

Director Baggerly asked if the motion includes looking at the three systems. Director Hicks said it includes staff judgment on clean and dry when they come into the lake. John Mathews suggested making reference in the resolution to the procedures as staff has presented them. As of April 9th, 2008. An amendment to the ordinance would come back to the board for adoption.

Scott asked about getting an answer for the solar cup boat. Mr. Wickstrum asked him to contact Brent Doan to arrange a time for the inspection.

Lara asked about kayaks getting on the lake. Mr. Wickstrum explained this is written for vessels and there is a clean and dry inspection. The question is regarding the quarantine. He suggested she contact Brent to get on the list.

Pat Baggerly stated that she thought this was just for the local people. She asked if they can go to infected lakes and come back in. Mr. Wickstrum explained that this program provides the locking system and provides that if you decide you are going to an infected lake, when you come back you will be subject to Clean and Dry and Quarantine. Brent explained that if you have been to an infected lake it is a 28 day quarantine.

Boaters will be notified by letters that will be sent to them in the order in which they are on the list. They can contact the lake at 649-2233 ext. 7 to be put on the list. The inspections will be by appointment and we will be working out the details. It was suggested that May 3rd would be the first date for inspections Rob Weinerth asked the public to be patient with us. The cost of the lock and cable is \$50 and it will be taxed. Mr. Wickstrum explained that we plan to start this program on May 3rd. We have limited staff and resources and this will take time to do this process. Director Hicks suggested asking DFG to send some people in to help with inspections.

Director Baggerly made a motion to direct staff to put these procedures into the ordinance and bring the ordinance back to the board for adoption. This was seconded by Director Kaiser and passed.

8. Information Items:

- a. Recreation Area Report for March, 2008.
- b. News Articles of interest
- c. Investment Report

President Word adjourned the meeting at 5:59 p.m.

Secretary