

Minutes of the Casitas Municipal Water District  
Board Meeting Held  
March 25, 2009

A meeting of the Board of Directors was held March 25, 2009 at Casitas' Office, Oak View, California. Directors Hicks, Kaiser, Baggerly and Word were present. Director Handley was absent. Also present were Steve Wickstrum, General Manager, Rebekah Vieira, Clerk of the Board, and Attorney, John Mathews. There were three staff members and no members of the public in attendance. President Hicks led the group in the flag salute.

1. Public comments.

None

2. Board of Director comments.

Director Baggerly reported on his meeting of the Salmonid Restoration Federation and learned that y.o.y. stands for young of the year and that the larger smolts have a better chance of survival in the sea. The most interesting information was a report from Michael Furness on the consequences of climate change. Climate is what you expect, weather is what you get. The determining factor is the heating of the earth. Lessening of the snow pack will cause more flooding. Wet areas will be wetter, dry will be dryer. In addition, he reported that the hydrologic cycles are increasing. Everything we have relied upon in the past including the 20 year cycle for safe yield may not be the cycle in the future. This is a good opportunity to rethink our risk.

Director Word reported that the AWA meeting presented information on the Supply and Demand for the Santa Clara Valley. There is no State water for agriculture and they will have excess of million acres fallowed in the San Joaquin valley. Ag users will do their best to supply enough water to keep trees alive but not enough to produce crops. Closer to home the aquifer in the Oxnard plane is being drawn down to the point that sea water is coming in at the naval base. There is an increase in chlorides in the Pleasant Valley basin. Santa Clara valley is as least 25,000 acre feet short in supply and demand using today's crops. Future water will be more expensive. Also, there is a trend to much more water intensive crops. There is enough water to supply 1.4 acre feet per acre. Ag wants an excess of 2. Hydroponics is asking for 6-8.

Director Kaiser added the availability for drinking water in the future is a critical issue and the district should start to emphasize that with the public. He then reported on seeing Rotary club members working on the boat.

3. General Manager comments.

Mr. Wickstrum reported on a conversation with the City of Ventura regarding different use of our state water. The City of Ventura has been

approached by a solar firm in the Palmdale area interested in purchasing their state water for \$750,000 and will pay for all costs to route that. This is a lot more than pool a or pool b. We may begin to talk about how we utilize this in county. As areas are becoming water short we may keep it in the county where it is being paid for.

In a conversation with Tom Lagier, Mr. Wickstrum learned that they are holding off on the Matilija Conduit agreement pending evaluations that the Corp of Engineering is doing. It was expressed to Tom that we need to settle the conduit, our operation and the sale of water and not hold those items hostage for an agreement that they may or may not develop and leaving us at a greater risk in the future. Tom will evaluate the agreement and I will report back to you on the result.

Mr. Wickstrum spoke with Larry Catlett of Senior Canyon and relayed that we need to get a note or legal instrument on how Senior Canyon will retire their debt. They have implemented a .25 cents per cubic foot surcharge.

Mr. Wickstrum asked the board that if they are questioned by park concessionaires to direct them toward me for answers.

Scott Lewis reported the tagging of one smolt in Robles and has been tracking it downstream. Scott has noted many other smolts in the entrance pool area.

4. Consent Agenda ADOPTED

- a. Minutes of the March 11, 2009 Board Meeting.
- b. Resolution awarding a contract for slurry seal, striping and asphalt patch at Lake Casitas Recreation Area and slurry seal on main park road and Robles Canal access road to America Asphalt South, Inc. in the amount of \$111,321.25.
- c. Recommend approval of a purchase order in the amount of \$40,850.16 to Interface Systems for the replacement of the carpet in the District's main office upper floor and board room.

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

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

Resolution is numbered 09-05.

5. Bills APPROVED

Director Kaiser questioned #1769 for ET retrofit at Soule park. Ron Merckling reported that is for work to connect a modem to provide ET information

on the web site. Director Hicks questioned the \$152,000 for California Water Bond California Safe Drinking Act. Mr. Wickstrum answered this is for the payment on the treatment plant. We pay it every year.

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

6. Committee/Manager Reports APPROVED FOR FILING
- a. Executive Committee Minutes
  - b. Water Resources Committee Minutes
  - c. Finance Committee Minutes

Director Word mentioned that the Finance Committee has taken their first look at the draft budget and there are some small revisions and changes to be made. The Finance Committee will review it again and it is scheduled to be brought to the board in April. There are no plans for a rate increase at this time.

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

7. Recommend approval of funding assistance in the amount of \$2,000 to Castaic Lake Water Agency for efforts to address the proposal by the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board to implement a potable water system general permit.

APPROVED

Mr. Wickstrum provided information on the request for funding assistance from Castaic Lake Water Agency in response to the LA Regional Water Quality Control Board's desire to implement permits on potable water supplies on discharge of the water. Right now we are under a storm water permit under the County of Ventura. They want to treat us as a waste water discharge. Numerous agencies are trying to not allow the movement to this type of permitting process. If it was approved we would see a lot more expense and testing that is absurd for drinking water supply. He requested the directors to support the \$2,000 towards this and moving with this larger group to defend our existing permitting process.

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

8. Recommend approval of a purchase order to TASCOC Construction, Inc in the amount of \$43,499.40 for the installation of the boardroom emergency exit door. BID REJECTED

Mr. Wickstrum reported that the project bid was opened last week brought to Finance Committee who did not approve of going forward with this bid. The issue came from meetings in this room where there were more than 49

occupants in the room. We also exceed the occupancy if we hold employee meetings. When we get to that point of 49 the fire marshal says this area and the outside area is not adequate. That is where the door came about. We only received one bid and we budgeted \$40,000 for the project.

On the motion of Director Kaiser to reject the bid, seconded by Director Baggerly and passed the bid was rejected.

9. Information Items:

- a. Governor Schwarzenegger's proclamation of a state of emergency due to the drought.
- b. News Articles
- c. Investment Report

10. Adjournment

President Hicks adjourned the meeting at 5:19 p.m.

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Secretary