

Minutes of the Casitas Municipal Water District
Board Meeting Held
September 23, 2015

A meeting of the Board of Directors was held September 23, 2015 at the District office in Oak View, California. The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. Directors Bergen, Kaiser, Baggerly, Word and Hicks were present. Also present were Steve Wickstrum, General Manager, Rebekah Vieira, Clerk of the Board, and Attorney, John Mathews. There were nine staff members and two members 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).

Mohammed Hasan spoke about the drought crisis that is brewing in California and Ventura County. He informed the Board about his new book Drought is Not a Four-Letter Word and explained that if we do not come up with sustainable solutions we face dire consequences year after year, higher food prices, and less revenue for Casitas. He added that conservation is important as well as innovation stating that not innovating is a disaster waiting to happen. His book is available on Amazon.

William Slade House, resident of Ventura provided a timeline of his objection to being evicted from the lake for six months. He stated the Park Services Officers don't have authority to revoke my privileges. He added that the Martinelli study does not give enforcement authority and he has been given no due process and was not told what rule he broke. He went on to say that Steve has been great in this process and added that he was cited in May for trespassing and fishing without a license. He snuck in at Willow Creek and was convicted of interfering with a federal officer. He asked to be treated fairly and given due process. He again stated they don't have the right to evict me and they don't like me. He added that he would be working with his lawyer as this is a breach of contract and unlawful detainer and he will be going to court if this does not get resolved. He added that I want to be allowed back in the lake and I will be out of your hair. Director Baggerly addressed the Board and suggested that since we had been threatened by a lawsuit, no one should be speaking with him and he can talk to our attorney.

2. General Manager comments.

Mr. Wickstrum informed the board of the passing of Bob Music, a retiree of the District. Bob did a lot to set this district up in the right direction installing the distribution systems we have today. He did them with Irish Construction and then from 1959 – 1980 he was involved in all pipe that went in the ground during that period and then he became the O & M Superintendent. Bob was very interested in this district. During rain storms and he would be out there checking the canal. He was a respected individual. Director Baggerly suggested that we adjourn the meeting in his memory.

Mr. Wickstrum informed the board that memorial services for Jim Coultas are on Sunday at 2:00 pm at coyote ramp.

Mr. Wickstrum then passed around a photo from 1967 and explained that is almost exactly where we stand today. He then shared that Lake Cachuma was at 17% of supply. They may make it until Oct. 2016, when the desal gets operational.

Water quality is improving as we are putting a lot of oxygen in the lake. He added that we finally had delivery of the stainless steel ammonia tanks and we took delivery of the new distribution truck which Brian Taylor is getting it outfitted.

3. Board of Director comments.

Director Hicks commented on Metropolitan going to toilet to tap.

Director Baggerly suggested that since we are trending down to about half of the amount of water down to 40%, we should look proactively at educating the public as we come to the next level and stage for Lake Casitas.

Director Kaiser questioned if there were updates on a couple of fires that had been in the area. Mr. Wickstrum explained that there were no reports of cause.

4. Board of Director Verbal Reports on Meetings Attended.

Director Hicks reported on his attendance at the AWA event at the Reagan Library. It was an interesting talk and he learned that our biggest opportunity is to take up the species that suck up the water such as the arrundo,

Director Baggerly reported on his attendance at the Matilija Design Oversight Group. The meeting was almost a year from the last meeting. They were waiting for the technical committee review on the concepts that were developed for new scenarios for dam removal process. Option 1, Install a large coffer dam above the reservoir, drilling a tunnel through the mountain to put fresh water into the north fork of Matilija Creek. They would anticipate removal of the dam and flushing of sediments in a single season. Option 2 has two components: Drilling or boring of 12 foot tunnels at base of dam thru to the end and placing charges. When there is a storm anticipated they would blow out the back side of the tunnel and allow the storm to flush out the fine sediment. If there is not enough to clear it out then they would put gates over the upstream holes that were drilled to control the release of sediments so they don't get into Lake Casitas. Then, they would blast the dam, remove and recycle the concrete. This is probably the best idea they came up with. Option 3 is temporary upstream storage of fine sediments, this option is not liked. These reports need to be finalized and comments sent within 30 days of the meeting. Casitas should support 2 a and b and add in comments as needed. The General Manager received direction from the board on sending a letter.

Mr. Wickstrum explained that we can discuss this with Water Resources and perhaps at the first meeting in October. Mr. Wickstrum suggested the Board review the Matilija Dam website, matilijadam.org.

Director Kaiser added it is best to have full review, independent in nature as he is concerned for water quality and reduction in water diversions. We need to get a good idea on how it will affect the district. Director Word asked about the time frame and funding. Mr. Wickstrum explained they are trying to move the project along but the funding from Congress was approved using an option that may not be the one that is being considered now. Director Kaiser asked if the graduated notching off the table. Mr. Wickstrum replied it is off. Director Kaiser said that with graduated notching you can measure it better in a lot of ways. Mr. Wickstrum replied that was on the table for over a year. It may take 20 years and may not; there was a lot of downside to that item and downside to the water supply. We may have to duck diversions for 20 years. Perhaps it is better to pull the band aid off quick and get it done. Condit dam has been successfully performed. There are risks and unknowns with every project. Director Baggerly added it is uncontrolled, using force of nature to move water from point a to point b, the ocean.

5. Consent Agenda APPROVED

- a. Minutes of September 9, 2015 Meeting.

The Consent Agenda was offered by Director Baggerly, seconded by Director Hicks with Director Word abstaining as he was not at the meeting, it was adopted by the following roll call vote:

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

6. Bills APPROVED

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

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

7. Recognition and appreciation honoring employees for years of service to Casitas. ADOPTED

- a. Resolution of Appreciation Honoring Susan McMahon for 29 years of service to Casitas.
- b. Resolution of Appreciation Honoring Brian Taylor for 27 years of service to Casitas.

- c. Resolution of Appreciation Honoring Kevin Nguyen for 14 years of service to Casitas.
- d. Resolution of Appreciation Honoring Ron Merckling for 12 years of service to Casitas.

The Board offered their thanks and appreciation for the years of service provided to the district by these employees. The Resolutions were offered by Director Word, seconded by Director Baggerly and passed by the following roll call vote:

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

Resolutions are numbered 15-36 through 15-39.

Recess Casitas Board Meeting

President Bergen recessed the meeting and opened the Lake Casitas Improvement Foundation Meeting at 3:36 p.m.

8. Lake Casitas Improvement Foundation Meeting

- a. Recommend purchasing emergency boat launch ramp material due to historic drought conditions in the amount up to \$5,000.

APPROVED

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

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

Reconvene Casitas Board Meeting

President Bergen adjourned the LCIF meeting and moved the meeting back into the CMWD meeting at 3:37 p.m.

- 9. Resolution Approving a Grant in the amount of \$28,350 from The Division of Boating and Waterways for the Purchase of Miscellaneous Equipment to outfit the Rogue Patrol Boat at Lake Casitas Recreation Area.

ADOPTED

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

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

ABSENT: Directors: None

Resolution is numbered 15-40.

10. Recommend approval of Change Order No. 3 – Hypolimnetic Aeration System Specification 15-376 in the amount of \$58,197 to provide for liquid oxygen deliveries until the permanent tank and vaporizers are installed.
APPROVED

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

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

11. Recommend approval of a purchase order to California Conservation Corps in the not to exceed amount of \$22,260 for removal of non-native vegetation from the Robles area.
APPROVED

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

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

12. Recommend approval of a change order in the amount of \$14,503 for the purchase of additional rock to protect Casitas Gravity Main. APPROVED

President Bergen recused herself from the action as she was paid for the rock which had come from her property.

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

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

13. Verbal report on the Ojai Valley 4(M) Pump Plant Noise Abatement.

Neil Cole explained that we have not heard back from Accoustiblock.

14. Discussion regarding the possibility of forming an Ad Hoc Committee for the purpose of updating the General Manager's Performance Review format.
Committee Formed

On the motion of Director Hicks, seconded by Director Baggerly an Ad Hoc Committee was formed with Directors Word and Kaiser serving on the

committee with the purpose of developing a new Performance Appraisal format for the General Manager's evaluation. This was approved by the following roll call vote:

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

15. Recommend approval of the Specialty Liability Insurance Program renewal in the amount of \$60,983.50. APPROVED

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

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

16. Information Items:

- a. Finance Committee Minutes.
- b. Investment Report.

On the motion of Director Kaiser, seconded by Director Baggerly, the Information Items were approved for filing by the following roll call vote:

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

President Bergen moved the meeting to closed session at 3:51 p.m.

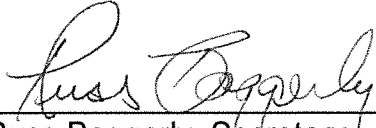
17. Closed Session

- a. Conference with Legal Counsel -- Anticipated Litigation
Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 54956.9, Government Code. (number of potential cases: two)

President Bergen moved the meeting back into open session at 4:04 p.m. with Mr. Mathews stating the board discussed two matters and received an update by counsel. There was a reportable action of a Five to Zero vote to authorize the Secretary and Counsel to prepare a Compromise & Release to be submitted to a claimant in the amount of \$3,000.

18. Adjournment

President Bergen adjourned the meeting at 4:05 p.m. in memory of Bob Music.


Russ Baggerly, Secretary