

Minutes of the Casitas Municipal Water District
Board Meeting Held
May 23, 2012

A meeting of the Board of Directors was held May 23, 2012 at Casitas' Office, Oak View, California. Directors Baggerly, Word, Hicks, Bergen and Kaiser were present. Also present were Steve Wickstrum, General Manager, Rebekah Vieira, Clerk of the Board, and Attorney, John Mathews. There were two staff members and four members of the public in attendance. President Baggerly led the group in the flag salute.

1. Public Comments

Dennis Leary – resident of Ojai addressed the board regarding Ojai Flow. Up until last night I supported Plan A but now I feel Plan A is not so good and am switching my support to Plan B. Plan A is a can of worms. I feel the only ones who will win are the lawyers. In Plan B the City of Ojai itself will attempt to own its own water system. It will deal with Golden State and as far as your concerned, however you vote, I will continue to do my thing. If I were you I would take the chance to get out. All of us will benefit better from Plan B. The City would take responsibility for its own water and it will still be in the spirit of FLOW; Friends of Locally Owned Water. You are still a local group but you can have problems. Rates could go up if the State gets its way. What's in it for us if we win? We get to have our own water. What's in it for you? Way I see it and I'm just guessing, if Plan A is successful, you have more customers, more money and more influence. If not successful you could end up with both sides angry at you. Current rate payers will blame you, new people they also will blame you if things don't go well. People quickly forget how bad Golden State is. We have to get out from the Golden State system. We would appreciate your help.

Pat McPherson, Chairman of Ojai FLOW group explained I am here today to convey some of the feelings we are getting from the people in Ojai. You have had our petitions for a year. When I go to the market I get stopped and asked what is happening. I can't answer them. Even Russ can not say what is happening. I realize you are not doing nothing. Think about it how this looks from the outside. A year passes, taxpayers ask for you to do something and we have not got a response one way or the other. We need something. When do you cut bait? When is it over? That is where we are at. Our original plan was correct. You have the best interest of the Ojai watershed. That is why the Defense Fund and Surfrider endorsed the plan. They see the benefit of it. The problem is Golden State is adding \$10,000 to the value every day. Every day there is a delay it will cost us rate payers more then it did yesterday. There will reach a point where we may not be able to afford it. We would appreciate it if you would just say what you will do. It is getting close to the end.

President Baggerly explained we are constricted and can't discuss them. In today's agenda is my report on the day spent at ACWA. One of the sessions was on conservation and commercial industrial institutional water users. Some

guy from Cal America spoke on what they had done to conserve water. I thought about all the money they spent and they take it and use it as a justification for a rate increase. I felt empathy for the people that live in Golden State area and am sorry we can't discuss things. I do understand.

2. General Manager comments.

Mr. Wickstrum reported on the negotiation session with the Bureau of Reclamation on the Safety of Dams and we are getting close to a final contract. We will have a lump sum number for the M & I and interest portion and will want to pay that quickly and then pay off the Ag portion over about 38 years. This has been a decade worth of discussions. We are close.

Mr. Wickstrum then discussed a leak on Grand Avenue which is on the Matilija Conduit. There is a series of different service laterals and some of them have been abandoned. Additionally there have been Edison outages here locally. Up at Avenue 2 pump plant we had the insulators blow off the transformers. We are moving to get a replacement in at the site.

3. Board of Director comments.

Director Kaiser mentioned the minor earthquakes Monday morning and asked if we check the dam. Mr. Wickstrum explained that we have sensors on the dam and Denver will give us a call. We check the face and tunnel for conditions immediately after. Director Kaiser then mentioned that the State is going through training exercises. Mr. Wickstrum informed him that Neil Cole was involved in an exercise a week or two ago and that we have a relationship with the Bureau and the local Sheriff.

Director Word stated we are making progress on the SOD. It will be nice to get over that frustration. Everybody is feeling the frustration on the FLOW issue, and the subject is part of every meeting. It is a complicated issue and tough to get information we want.

President Baggerly clarified that SOD is for Safety of Dams and is a repayment of our 15 percent of a 30 million dollar seismic retrofit of the dam that took place over ten years ago. The Bureau has been trying to figure out the costs so we can pay off our percentage. President Baggerly then informed the board of the appeal by the Stop the Truck coalition that has appealed the decision on the Ojai Quarry and he asked if the board would like him to attend to make sure the record is straight. We asked them to protect us from sediment and they said the 1995 EIR will do just fine. Director Hicks thought it would be good for him to attend.

4. Consent Agenda

ADOPTED

- a. Minutes of the May 7, 2012 Board Meeting.

- b. Resolution requesting that the General District Election to be held on November 6, 2012 be consolidated with other elections called to be held on the same day and in the same territory.

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

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

Resolution is numbered 12-22.

5. Bills APPROVED

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

6. Committee/Manager Reports APPROVED FOR FILING

- a. Recreation Committee Minutes

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

7. Presentation of the Hydrology Report

Todd Evans provided a brief presentation of the hydrology report which covered the water year from October 2010 to September 2011.

8. Recommend granting a temporary easement to the Ventura County Watershed Protection District for the purpose of treatment/removal of non-native plants within Casitas' property in the Ventura River. APPROVED

On the motion of Director Word, seconded by Director Bergen and passed, the above recommendation was approved.

9. Recommend authorization of Change Order No. 1 in the amount of \$29,993.55 for the Rincon 2(M) Pipeline Replacement, Station 65-76, Specification 11-346. APPROVED

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

10. Information Items:

- a. 2012 ACWA Spring Conference report from Director Word.
- b. 2012 ACWA Spring Conference report from Director Hicks.

- c. 2012 ACWA Spring Conference report from Director Baggerly.
- d. News Articles.

President Baggerly moved the meeting to closed session at 3:33 p.m.

11. Closed Session

- a. (Govt. Code Sec. 54956.9 (c))
Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation (One case).

President Baggerly moved the meeting out of closed session at 3:57 p.m. with Mr. Mathews reporting that staff met with the board regarding anticipated litigation and no action was taken except to set a special meeting closed session to discuss this item tentatively on June 6.

12. Adjournment

President Baggerly adjourned the meeting at 3:57 p.m.

Bill Hicks, Secretary