

Minutes of the Casitas Municipal Water District  
Board Meeting Held  
October 26, 2016

A meeting of the Board of Directors was held October 26, 2016 at the Casitas Municipal Water District located at 1055 Ventura Ave. in Oak View, California. The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. Directors Kaiser, Baggerly, Hicks and Bergen were present. Director Word 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 thirteen members of the public in attendance. President Kaiser led the group in the flag salute.

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

Angelo Spandrio provided the board with a handout regarding State Water and the Ojai Valley and another handout showing how much water the Ojai Valley used from July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016. The Ojai Valley used 12,305 acre feet, that is the amount needed last year in the valley to survive. To continue to live as we have this past year we need to get more water. What are Casitas goals for the tie in and the goals for Ojai Valley share of this tie in water. There is a misconception that the allocation is a Casitas allocation. This year it is 3,000 acre feet and that is not much. If there is opportunity for supplemental water how will it be distributed? Ojai valley is concerned about the distribution. Calleguas offered to look at other sources. Mr. Spandrio suggested looking for a larger tie in for more available water, running at least a 30 inch line the whole way and bringing in the capacity to bring the water up the hill.

2. General Manager comments.

Mr. Wickstrum mentioned the State Water Project Inspection tour and it was an opportunity to learn about the Project and hear the risks, concerns and challenges.

Mr. Wickstrum then mentioned that Director Baggerly had raised a question regarding stage IV. Stage IV could possibly happen, depending on rain, perhaps in September 2017. That is a rough estimate given a lot of other circumstances. We will make the assessments in April or May.

Mr. Wickstrum informed the board that the district has received one quote for the audio system and hope to receive another one and will then move forward with the work. It will take a couple of weeks for delivery and installation. He then informed the board that the water security study is in process and we hope to have that for the November 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

3. Board of Director comments.

Director Hicks hopes the weather man is right on the rain for Thursday night. Director Baggerly requested an update on negotiations with the City of Ventura.

4. Board of Director Verbal Reports on Meetings Attended.

Director Hicks reported on his attendance at two meetings and informed the board that the Ojai valley has no subsidence and he passed out a chart on information on the Colorado River.

Director Baggerly attended the AWA Water Issues Meeting and he also discussed OBGMA alterative plan is almost ready to be sent to the Department of water Resources. He added that they have never been in overdraft in the history of the agency.

President Kaiser reported on the trip to the delta area. It was hosted by Calleguas and they coordinated a great tour of the Sacramento Delta area. There were about 40 civic leaders there to see it firsthand. One third of the water Ssouthern California receives comes from Northern California. Most of canals and rivers are above the ground. Rivers are as much as 20 – 30 feet above ground level. With one earthquake and you could see what could happen. It is a constant struggle for them. Some of it is below sea level. We learned about the tunnel projects. The guarantee of getting water through the delta is dependent on snow pack in the Sierras. Right now you can get about 60% of your allocation. It remains to be seen if you would get the same amount in future years. The trip ended at the pumping plant. President Kaiser suggested that if there is interest in attending this tour in the future or the Colorado River tour in April they should contact Calleguas.

Mr. Spandrio mentioned that Ojai Film Festival will be showing Beyond the Mirage on the water system in Arizona. Tickets are available.

Director Hicks mentioned the AWA bus tour on Nov. 10<sup>th</sup>. You can register online.

5. Consent Agenda

ADOPTED

- a. Minutes of the October 12, 2016 Board Meeting.
- b. Recommend approval of a purchase order to J & H General Contractors Inc. in the amount of \$25,200 for asphalt patching.
- c. Recommend approval of a purchase order to Great Western Installation of Ventura in the amount of \$31,848 for Campground G playground surface repairs.
- d. Recommend approval of purchase orders in the amount of \$21,489.40 to Vista Ford and \$21,982.72 to Galpin Ford for the purchase of 2017 F-150 trucks.

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

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

6. Review of District Accounts Payable Report for the Period of 10/06/16 – 10/19/16. APPROVED

On the motion of Director Hicks, seconded by Director Bergen, the Accounts Payable report was approved by the following roll call vote:

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

7. Lake Casitas Recreation Area Public Use Fees and Charges.

a. Public Hearing

President Kaiser stated now is the time and date set for a public hearing to consider input regarding the proposed changes to the Lake Casitas Recreation Area Public use Fees and Charges and the adoption of the Notice of Exemption. President Kaiser asked the Clerk of the board to read the names of the public who called or submitted communications regarding the proposed changes. Ms. Vieira stated there were none.

Mr. Wickstrum provided his report adding that the changes will adjust camping fees to be raised approximately 5% and vehicle day use fees will rise to \$20 on high use weekends.

President Kaiser opened the public hearing at 3:32p.m. and hearing no public comments, closed the public hearing at 3:33 p.m.

- b. Resolution approving the preliminary assessment for the restructuring and revision in fees and charges for the Lake Casitas Recreation Area and adopting the Notice of Exemption. ADOPTED

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

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

Resolution is numbered 16-28

8. Recommend approval of a purchase order to Hawksley Consulting in a not to exceed amount of \$73,774 to conduct a financial plan, rate design and cost-of-service study and public outreach. APPROVED

Mr. Wickstrum stated this was discussed in the Finance Committee and the RFP was sent to four firms and we received two responses. The proposals were evaluated in the Finance Committee and Hawksley Consulting was selected by the committee as the firm we would like to use. Director Hicks questioned if Raftellis responded. Mr. Wickstrum stated it was not sent to

Raftellis. Director Baggerly added they seem qualified but their concept of individual water rates is not something we would like to do as it is way too complicated for our accounting system and policies.

Mr. Spandrio mentioned Executive order B37 16 and suggested making a shift to water budget rates.

Michael Shapiro mentioned Tom Ash and his drought driven, conservation driven rate structure and questioned if that will be part of the marching orders they will have. Mr. Shapiro suggested having the rate design driven by conservation and the reality of the drought.

Renee Roth with the Green Coalition suggested that the new water rates factor in the cost of service and the cost of finding new water and send a strong conservation message with incentives for homeowners to know how and where to save. She suggested using the Tom Ash water budget model and making sure the person assigned to the project from Hawksley is familiar with water budget rate studies. Consider having a water budget rate expert such as Tom Ash and consider the creation of a rate study advisory committee for better transparency to get buy in from the community and your customers. Ms. Roth also spoke about perceived equity/inequity, revenue stability, water efficiency standards, water affordability and possible investments to the billing system.

William Weirick, Councilmember for the City of Ojai and holder of a PhD in Economics, offered that rate design follows overall policy goal decisions. It seems to me there is a need to enhance the public hearing and board direction process at the beginning of this study rather than then the workshop in February. He suggested having a public process in the beginning to debate the issues. It is important to not wait to the end to sell this to the public. You should hear from the public to hear the issues and the board would want to make some decisions along the line of what Director Baggerly discussed. The revenue model has to change.

Mr. Haney suggested that the board review your business model to make better determinations.

Director Baggerly moved to approve this vendor with a scoping meeting to be held some time in November. This was seconded by Director Bergen and approved by the following roll call vote:

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

9. Recommend approval of a purchase order to Aqua-Metric in the amount of \$22,540.95 for the purchase of a complete Sensus Vehicle Gateway Base Station and accessories. APPROVED

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

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

10. Ventura Local Agency Formation Commission Special District Alternate Member Runoff Election. Candidate Selected

Director Baggerly offered his support for Andy Waters and Director Hicks offered his support for Al Fox. President Kaiser seconded the motion to support Andy Waters. This was approved by the following roll call vote:

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

11. Discussion regarding meeting dates through the end of the year.

On the motion of Director Bergen, seconded by Director Hicks, the November Executive Committee is moved to November 10<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m. and the Board meeting on November 23<sup>rd</sup> will be held at 9:30 a.m. instead of 3:00 p.m. A decision on holding the December 28<sup>th</sup> meeting will be made at a later time. This was approved by the following roll call vote:

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

12. Information Items:

- a. Executive Committee Minutes.
- b. Finance Committee Minutes.
- c. Water Conservation Report.
- d. Rincon Main Condition Assessment Results.
- e. Letter from County of Ventura Registrar of Voters stating Directors in Divisions 2 and 3 are appointed for full terms commencing December 2, 2016 and ending December 4, 2020.
- f. Investment Report.

On the motion of Director Hicks, seconded by Director Baggerly, the information items were approved by the following roll call vote:

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

President Kaiser moved the meeting to closed session at 4:10 p.m.

13. Closed Session

- a. (Govt. Code Sec. 54957.6)  
Conference with Labor Negotiators:  
Agency Designated Representatives: Rebekah Vieira, Draza Mrvichin  
Employee Organization: Supervisory & Professional, General Unit and  
Recreation Unit.
- b. Conference with Legal Counsel -- Anticipated Litigation  
Government Code Section 54956.9 subparagraph c  
Based on existing facts and circumstances the district is deciding  
whether to initiate litigation (number of potential cases: one)

President Kaiser moved the meeting back to open session at 5:27 p.m. with Mr. Mathews reporting on the first item there were discussions with labor negotiators and there is no reportable action. On the second item, the board had discussions and there is no reportable action.

14. Adjournment

President Kaiser adjourned the meeting at 5:28 p.m.

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James W. Word, Secretary