

Minutes of the Casitas Municipal Water District
Board Meeting Held
September 9, 2015

A meeting of the Board of Directors was held September 9, 2015 at the District office in Oak View, California. The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. Directors Bergen, Kaiser, Baggerly and Hicks 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 five staff members and six 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).

None

2. General Manager comments.

Mr. Wickstrum informed the board that the contractor found an issue with the condenser pump with the AC system and we hope that issue has been resolved. He then reminded the Board of the AWA reception at the Reagan Library on Thursday, September 17th.

Mr. Wickstrum discussed a water line break on Highway 150 in Upper Ojai. We will be hiring a contractor to jack and bore under the state highway for this three inch line. A temporary line was hooked up Friday night. Director Baggerly asked that employees be reminded to hydrate. Mr. Wickstrum replied that we have been doing that.

Mr. Wickstrum then informed the board that arrangements for a memorial service for Jim Coultas are continuing. Right now, it appears that a service may be held on September 27th at 2:00 p.m. at Coyote ramp. Jim was a board member for 19 years and his father served on the board prior to that. We would like to allow family and friends to attend the service without charging them the entrance fees associated with entering the recreation area.

Mr. Wickstrum explained that there have been significant improvements in the lake water since the hypolimnetic system has been operating. The manganese is gone and we are establishing an equilibrium mode right now. The taste and odor issues are starting to curtail. Our staff has worked diligently to provide the best water possible. It has been worthwhile in moving forward with the hypolimnetic system. We will have to purchase oxygen to put into that system.

Mr. Wickstrum informed the board of a fire at the Lake Casitas Recreation Area on Friday afternoon. It burned less than a ½ acre and was located at the cross country starting gate at Coyote ramp behind the dump station. Mr. Wickstrum expressed his appreciation to Lake Casitas staff, including Edgar Ramos, PSO Faddis, PSO Tull and Tim Lawson for extinguishing the fire. The Park Services Officers responded with the truck with the 125 gallon tank to put

out little fires and this came in handy. Tim Lawson brought the water truck. Director Kaiser asked if the cause has been determined. Mr. Wickstrum replied that it is suspicious and Russ Tuttle has been doing an investigation. The Board thanked staff.

Mr. Wickstrum introduced Jason Kirby and Mike with the Bureau of Reclamation. Mr. Kirby explained that he is glad to be here and that he works closely with Carol and the park officers. His job is to best support Casitas in the recreation area with financial assistance agreements and the open space lands. We are working on the agreement on our roles for the open space lands. I also work closely with Russ Tuttle and the Forest Service. I was out there today with the contractor for fencing the open space lands.

3. Board of Director comments.

President Bergen asked for an update on the status of the Park Services Officers. Mr. Wickstrum explained that the original decision that was made by the board is in place with its limited peace officer status and will be working on putting together the additional information that was requested by the board.

Director Baggerly asked for an update on the Quagga Mussel Control and Monitoring Plan and preparations for use of chemicals should an infestation be discovered and amendments of the Pesticide Management Plan. Park Services Manager Belser explained that the Control & Management Plan and the Vulnerability Assessment are with Fish & Wildlife for review. We hope to have everything back to bring to the board perhaps at the next meeting depending on Fish & Wildlife's staff comments. The rapid response is being worked on by staff in-house. Director Baggerly asked if there is a possibility of an amendment with the Pesticide Management Plan. PSM Belser explained that the next step when we get it back is to have Susan McMahon also be involved. Director Hicks questioned the \$26,000 spent on the quagga issue. PSM Belser explained that it is \$49,000 for the total project but with grants the net cost to the district is \$9,000. That cost is for both the Control and Management Plan and the Vulnerability Assessment. Director Baggerly added this is required by state law. Mr. Wickstrum added we want to be prepared. Piru is still not done with their plan.

4. Board of Director Verbal Reports on Meetings Attended.

None

5. Consent Agenda

ADOPTED

a. Minutes of August 19, 2015 Meeting.

On the motion of Director Kaiser, seconded by Director Hicks, the Consent Agenda was approved by the following roll call vote:

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

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

7. Discussion and resolution scheduling a public hearing for October 14, 2015 on the proposed recreation fees and charges. ADOPTED

Director Kaiser asked if there were any thoughts to raising the weekend rate. PSM Belser stated user fees are complicated and comparisons are difficult but we tried to get a pulse on what is happening. Many agencies were compared and it is not recommended to increase the day use fees. \$10 seems to be above what others are charging during the off season. Director Kaiser questioned the weekend rate not being recommended for an increase. PSM Belser stated that camping was being increased. Director Kaiser then asked for the survey or study that was conducted and used to base the decision not to increase the weekend rates in peak season to be included with the fee schedule for purposes of disclosure.

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

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

Resolution is numbered 15-33

8. Resolution awarding a contract to New Vision Construction in the amount of \$49,060 for the Restoration and Recoating of the Casitas Dam Intake Structure Track, Specification 15-382. ADOPTED

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

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

Resolution is numbered 15-34

9. Recommend approval of a purchase order to Bruce W. Hull & Associates Inc. in the not to exceed amount of \$55,000 to perform all tasks in

accordance with the Appraisal/Consultation Proposal for the acquisition of the Golden State Water Company's Ojai System. 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, Baggerly, Kaiser, Bergen
NOES:	Directors:	None
ABSENT:	Directors:	Word

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

Mr. Wickstrum explained that we are waiting for the representative from Accoustiblok to get back to us. Mr. Wickstrum explained that Neil is asking a question on lowering those mutes. He will try to reduce the sound on the lower section of the pump. There will be some experimentation over the next few days while we are waiting for the Accoustiblok engineer to get back to us.

11. Discussion regarding the possibility of forming an Ad Hoc Committee for the purpose of updating the General Manager's Performance Review format. Continued to Next Meeting

President Bergen explained that in compiling the evaluation they found the form to be out of date. It was discussed at the Executive Committee and while Pete would like to get going on it soon I would like to put it off for a couple of months. There is no need to do it immediately. Director Baggerly nominated Director Word since he was absent at the meeting. President Bergen suggested waiting for the next meeting to see if Director Word is interested in working on this.

12. Information Items:

- a. Recreation Committee Minutes.
- b. Executive Committee Minutes.
- c. Letter from Casitas Rowing regarding Potential Olympic Venue for 2024 Olympics.
- d. Lake Casitas Recreation Report for July, 2015.
- e. Water Consumption Report.
- f. CFD No. 2013-1 (Ojai) Monthly Cost Analysis.
- g. Investment Report.

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

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

President Bergen moved the meeting to closed session at 3:34 p.m. with Mr. Mathews stating the closed session items.

13. Closed Session

- a. Conference with Legal Counsel -- Existing Litigation (Subdivision (a) of Section 54956.9, Government Code). Name of Case: Golden State Water Company v. Casitas Municipal Water District. Case Number: 56-2013-00433986-CU-WM-VTA.
- b. 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 4:22 p.m. with Mr. Mathews stating the board met in closed session and no action was taken and direction was given to staff on one of the anticipated litigation issues.

14. Adjournment

President Bergen adjourned the meeting at 4:23 p.m.


Russ Baggerly, Secretary