

DRAFT



**MINUTES**  
**Board of Water Commissioners**  
**Public Works Conference Room**  
**630 Garden Street**  
**December 8, 2008 3:00 p.m.**

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: James Smith, Landon Neustadt, Kate Rees, Russell Ruiz

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Barry Keller

STAFF PRESENT: Rebecca Bjork, Water Resources Manager; John Schoof, Wastewater System Manager; Cathy Taylor, Water System Manager; Bill Ferguson, Water Resources Supervisor; John Peebles, Water Distribution Superintendent; John Ledbetter, Principal Planner; Barbara Shelton, Project Planner; Anne Van Belkom, Administrative Assistant

PUBLIC: Charles Hamilton, Carpinteria Valley Water District; Tom Mosby, Montecito Water District; Steve Little

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 3:02 p.m.
2. **CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:** None
3. **COMMENTS BY THE PUBLIC:** None.
4. **MEETING MINUTES, NOVEMBER 10, 2008:** MOTION (Neustadt/Ruiz 4-0-0): to approve the minutes as submitted.
5. **AUTOMATED METER READINGS:** Mr. Peebles presented an informational report regarding automated meter reading and advanced metering infrastructure. He described the three different meter reading technologies currently available, summarized the financial component attached to each technology, and discussed the potential for further integration with the use of the Advanced Meter Infrastructure.
6. **ZACA FIRE UPDATE:** Ms. Taylor informed the Water Commission that she has been successful in obtaining approval for a \$1.5 Million reimbursement from the State's Office of Emergency Services (OES) for the work done at Cater to address water quality impacts associated with the Zaca Fire. In addition, she also obtained OES approval to continue submitting DSR's for the next fiscal year which could include addressing the loss of storage capacity at Gibraltar Reservoir, and defining strategies for addressing the filled debris basins.
7. **TEA FIRE:** Ms. Bjork described the work done by staff and emergency crews during and after the Tea Fire, which included turning off the water meters in the burn area. As a result of the Tea fire, City crews will need to CCTV all of the sewer mains in the burned area, cap off any sewer laterals on burned out properties, and replace approximately 80 water meters and 25 hydrants. The Tea Fire has been declared both a State and Federal emergency which will make expenses related to the fire eligible for reimbursements of a little over 95%. Property owners of burned out properties will have their wastewater charges suspended for one year. Water bills will also be adjusted.
8. **STATE REVOLVING FUND LOAN RESOLUTION:** This item will be presented at Council on January 13, 2009. MOTION (Rees/Ruiz 4-0-0): to recommend that Council approve the authorization of the City Administrator to execute the DWSRF Loan application, with the identification of the Water Fund as the dedicated source of funding for the repayment of the loan, as recommended in the Draft Council Agenda Report.
9. **PLAN SANTA BARBARA AND LONG TERM WATER SUPPLY PROGRAM UPDATE PROCESS AND GENERAL PLAN UPDATE:** Ms. Sheldon distributed and discussed a handout giving an overview of Plan Santa Barbara and its related water supply issues through Phase 1 and 2 of the plan. She further discussed the preparation of an EIR which will include the evaluation of water demand of the various growth scenarios. Commissioner Ruiz inquired if the Water Commission would be able to review the water supply section in the Draft EIR prior to its being published, as he has specific input that he would like to see included. Ms. Shelton responded that such comments from the various City Boards and Commissions would be appropriate at the Draft EIR phase of the EIR development. She also noted that Board and Commissions can comment on the Notice of Preparation. Commissioner Rees suggested that this topic be further discussed either in a future meeting or in a subcommittee.

10. **ANNUAL WATER SUPPLY MANAGEMENT REPORT:** Ms. Bjork reviewed the report which looks back over the recent water year (October 1, 2007 – September 30, 2008). The following changes will be made to the report per request from the Water Commission: In Figure 2 – the change of population over time will be added to this graph, and in Table A2, the last column (LTWSP Estimated Average) will be deleted. This report will be presented to Council on January 13, 2009. MOTION (Neustadt/Rees 4-0-0): to recommend that Council approve the revised Annual Water Supply Management Report with the changes recommended by the Water Commission.
11. **GIBRALTAR RESERVOIR – LONG TERM PLANNING:** This agenda item will be deferred for six months.
12. **DESALINATION REPORT UPDATE:** This agenda item will be deferred until further information becomes available.
13. **WATER RESOURCES MANAGER'S REPORT:** Ms. Bjork distributed and reviewed the monthly Water Resources Manager's report on water production, rainfall, and wastewater influent. The recent storms resulted in about two inches of rainfall at Gibraltar. Six bids were received for the annual Water Main Replacement Project and eight for the Phase 2 work at the San Roque Well, with bids coming in under the Engineering estimate. Commissioner Rees asked for a special Water Commission meeting (to be scheduled to include Commissioner Keller) in order to discuss the long term water supply and the Plan Santa Barbara EIR.
14. **DATE OF NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:** It was confirmed that the next regular meeting was scheduled for January 12, 2009, at 3:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:24 p.m.

AVB