



MINUTES
Board of Water Commissioners
El Estero Conference Room
520 E. Yanonali Street
Monday, March 14, 2011 at 3:00 p.m.

- COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: James Smith, Landon Neustadt, Russell Ruiz, Bill Thomas
- COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Barry Keller
- COUNCILMEMBER PRESENT: Bendy White
- STAFF PRESENT: Rebecca Bjork, Water Resources Manager; Cathy Taylor, Water System Manager; Chris Toth, Wastewater System Manager, Bill Ferguson, Water Resources Supervisor; Anne Van Belkom, Administrative Assistant
- PUBLIC: Steve Little; Marvin Shaw; Kristie Shubin; Ichiko Kido (RDN, Inc.); Sheila Lodge (Planning Commission Liaison); Kira Redmond (Channelkeeper)
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, FEBRUARY 14, 2011:** MOTION (Ruiz/Smith 4-0-0): to approve the minutes as submitted.
 5. **DRAFT FISCAL YEAR 2012 AND 2013 BUDGETS AND FINANCIAL PLANS:** Ms. Bjork reviewed the highlights of the draft FY12 and FY13 budgets and financial plans for Water and for Wastewater. MOTION (Ruiz/Thomas 4-0-0) to concur with the staff recommendation regarding the draft fiscal year 2012 and 2013 budgets and financial plans.
 6. **WATER AND WASTEWATER RATE INCREASES FOR 2013:** Ms. Bjork described the continuing need for rate increases to fund required capital projects. Commissioner Neustadt expressed concern that the planned rate increases for Wastewater are not adequate to meet policy reserves within the ten year planning period. MOTION (Thomas/Ruiz 4-0-0): to approve the staff recommendation.
 7. **FREQUENCY OF ADJUSTMENT TO WATER AND WASTEWATER BUY-IN FEES:** Ms Bjork asked Water Commissioners to recommend the frequency of re-evaluation and adjustment to water and wastewater buy-in fees. MOTION (Thomas/Ruiz) 4-0-0): to recommend that staff re-evaluate water and wastewater buy-in fees every three years.
 8. **AERATION BASIN STUDY AND NEXT STEPS:** Mr. Toth updated the Water Commission on the background and the status of the Air & Activated Sludge Assessment project. He described the four alternatives studied by the consultant and the reason for choosing the fourth alternative that will provide for Nitrification/Denitrification.
 9. **CHANNELKEEPER NOTICE OF INTENT TO SUE:** Mr. Toth informed the Commission about Channelkeeper's notification of their intent to file suit. Commissioners addressed their questions and concerns directly to Kira Redmond, Executive Director of Channelkeeper who was present at the meeting.
 10. **LONG TERM WATER SUPPLY PLAN:** The draft plan was reviewed and Water Commissioners were asked for input. The draft plan will be reviewed again at the Joint City Council/Water Commission meeting on April 7th. Commissioners and staff strategized on how best to present technical information in the draft plan to Council to help them better understand the underlying issues that drive the long term water supply plan.
 11. **WATER RESOURCES MANAGER'S REPORT:** Ms. Bjork distributed and reviewed the Monthly Water Resources report on water production, rainfall, and wastewater influent. There is substantial carryover in Cachuma. USBR has confirmed that spill at Cachuma's will not be declared until the reservoir reaches 753 feet. It does not appear that Cachuma will spill this year without substantial additional rain. Gibraltar is still full and spilling. The COMB 2nd pipeline project will not go forward; however, vital repair work on the South Portal pipe is being planned with prop 50

grant money and the four COMB member agencies funding these repairs. The Water Commission requested to receive updates of any further developments with Channelkeeper.

- 12. DATE OF NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:** It was confirmed that the next meeting will be a joint Council/Water Commission Workshop held on Thursday, April 7, 2011, in the conference room at 619 Garden Street. This venue may be changed if a larger meeting location is needed. The next regular Water Commission meeting has been tentatively scheduled for April 11, 2011.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:40 p.m.