



MINUTES

Board of Water Commissioners

Water Resources Conference Room

619 Garden Street, 3rd. floor

Monday, January 14, 2013, at 3:00 p.m.

- COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: James Smith, Barry Keller, Landon Neustadt, Russell Ruiz, Megan Birney
- COUNCILMEMBER PRESENT: Harwood (Bendy) White
- STAFF PRESENT: Michele DeCant, Public Works Business Manager; Rebecca Bjork, Water Resources Manager; Cathy Taylor, Water System Manager; Chris Toth, Wastewater System Manager, Alison Jordan, Water Conservation Supervisor; Kelley Dyer, Water Supply Analyst; James Winslow, Project Engineer; Anne Van Belkom, Administrative Assistant
- PUBLIC: Sudhir Pardiwala, RFC; Sheila Lodge, Planning Commission Liaison; Jeff Savard, Kennedy/Jenks; Charles Hamilton, Carpinteria Valley Water District; Ichiko Kido and Robert D. Niehaus, RDN; Jeff Barry, GSI Water Solutions; Steve Little
1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m.
 2. **CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:** Ms. Bjork asked the Commissioners for feedback on the new seating arrangement. Commissioners were satisfied with the new format.
 3. **COMMENTS BY THE PUBLIC:** None.
 4. **MEETING MINUTES, NOVEMBER 12, 2012:** MOTION (Neustadt/Ruiz 4-0-1, with Keller abstaining): to approve the minutes as submitted.
 5. **UPDATE ON THE CATER WATER TREATMENT PLANT ADVANCED SOLUTIONS PROJECT AND THE ORTEGA GROUNDWATER TREATMENT PLANT PROJECT.** The first planned shutdown of the Cater Plant was so successful in allowing for the completion of all of the required work that it eliminated the need for a second shutdown. This project is now scheduled to be completed in mid April. Work at the Ortega Groundwater Treatment Plant has been delayed due to contaminated soil and weather conditions but the project is moving forward and efforts are being made to catch up with some of the delays.
 6. **APPROVAL OF EMERGENCY PURCHASE ORDER FOR CATER WATER TREATMENT PLANT REPLACEMENT FLOCCULATION VARIABLE FREQUENCY DRIVE:** This item is being presented at Council on January 15, 2013, for their retroactive approval of an emergency purchase order. The plan is to have the equipment shipped mid February in order to have it installed by the end of February 2013.
 7. **RATE STUDY & RATE PLAN:** Via a teleconference Mr. Pardiwala presented a basic overview of the Water Financial Plan, the water and wastewater rate structures and cost allocations, as well as connection fees. He then presented the final recommendations resulting from the study. One recommendation included the addition of a commercial water rate class for State institutions that would exempt the Earl Warren Showgrounds from the out-of-city surcharge. Mr. Little objected to the proposed elimination of carryover for agricultural water rates, and asked to keep the status quo of the carryover provision. Commissioner Neustadt originally recommended approval of the staff recommendations but Commissioner Keller suggested an expansion to the original recommendation by adding the proviso that Mr. Little be contacted for additional discussion regarding the proposed revisions to agricultural water rates. The proposal for wastewater rates is a 4% across the board rate increase and further study of the wastewater rate structure to allow more time to understand why there is such a shift in revenue generation from the domestic sector to the commercial/industrial sector, and to allow adequate time for public outreach. Motion: (Keller/Ruiz 5-0-0): to approve staff recommendations and further recommend that Mr. Little be contacted for further discussions regarding the effects of the proposed changes on agricultural water rates.

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- 8. RATTLESNAKE CREEK SEWER MAIN EMERGENCY REPAIR PROJECT:** Mr. Toth described the emergency repair work required at Rattlesnake Creek which is scheduled to begin construction this week. Approval the emergency work will be presented to Council for approval in late February or March 2013.
- 9. ANNUAL WATER SUPPLY REPORT:** Ms. Bjork presented the highlights of the annual water supply report and asked the Water Commission for their recommendation to Council for approval and adoption of the report. Motion: (Neustadt/Birney 5-0-0): to recommend that Council approve and adopt the City of Santa Barbara Water Supply Management Report for the 2012 water year.
- 10. WATER RESOURCES MANAGER'S REPORT:** Ms. Bjork distributed and reviewed the monthly Water Resources Manager's Report on water production, rainfall, and wastewater influent. She also described several projects currently in process including ongoing main replacement as well as maintenance planning of distribution equipment. Commissioner Ruiz requested to have the following topics included on future agendas: Water Bond and State Water; Pass Through process; Opportunities for additional recycled water use at Montecito Country Club's golf course; and Cachuma downstream releases.
- 11. DATE OF NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:** the next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 11, 2013, at 3:00 p.m. The meeting was adjourned at 5:22 p.m.