



## MINUTES

**Board of Water Commissioners**  
Water Resources Conference Room  
619 Garden Street, 3rd. floor  
**Monday, May 12, 2014, at 3:00 p.m.**

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Russell Ruiz, Megan Birney, Barry Keller, James Smith, (Mike Kielborn arrived 3:08 p.m.)

STAFF PRESENT: Rebecca Bjork, Public Works Director; Joshua Haggmark, Acting Water Resources Manager; Cathy Taylor, Water System Manager; Chris Toth, Wastewater System Manager; Bill Ferguson, Project Manager; Anne Van Belkom, Administrative Assistant

PUBLIC: Deborah L. Schwartz, Planning Commission Liaison; Ichiko Kido, RDN; Simon Clark; Mark Rincon (MNS Engineers); Melinda Burns (MissionandState.com); Sara Bush (S.B. News-Press); Arve and Eva Sjovold; Jeff Franc

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m.
2. **CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:** None
3. **COMMENTS BY THE PUBLIC:** None.
4. **MEETING MINUTES, APRIL 14, 2014:** MOTION (Smith/Keller 3-0-1, with Birney abstaining and with Kielborn not yet present): to approve the minutes as submitted.
5. **CONTRACT FOR INDUSTRIAL WASTE PRETREATMENT PROGRAM SERVICES:** Mr. Toth explained the need for this contract which will develop a local limits sampling plan for Santa Barbara and prepare a local limits report to be added to the NPDES permit. The goal of this contract would be to have City staff be able to manage this program independently in about a year. This item will be presented to Council on June 3, 2014. MOTION (Keller/Smith 5-0-0): to approve staff's recommendation.
6. **DROUGHT UPDATE:** Mr. Haggmark summarized the history of the current drought and discussed the current available water supplies. He also reviewed the updated bar graph of the utilization of the various water supplies for the next few years should there not be any state water available and should the weather remain dry with no significant rainfall. Since water usage in April was only 5% below normal instead of the anticipated 20%, the need for additional conservation will be a high priority objective. The City was allocated 5% of state water and has also been successful in being able to purchase additional water supplies. The Recycled Water Plant will go offline in June or July for needed construction and is planned to be once again operational in summer 2015. The Alameda well will be replaced with a new well that is expected to be operational in fall 2015. The desalination plan was awarded last week and staff is anticipating a possible Award of Contract in April 2015.
7. **STATE TWO DROUGHT DECLARATION:** Council will consider adopting a Resolution declaring a Stage Two Drought on May 20, 2014. This Resolution includes drought-based water rates that have significantly higher rates for heavy water users, and Drought Two regulations regarding specific water usage. MOTION (Birney/Smith 5-0-0): to approve staff's recommendation. Commissioner Ruiz asked for a report to the Water Commission if a formal program regarding water conservation is initiated at the Santa Barbara School System. He also requested staff to work closely with the Montecito Country Club regarding developing further water conservation strategies as part of their remodel.
8. **CACHUMA CONSERVATION RELEASE BOARD FISCAL YEAR 2014—2015 BUDGET RATIFICATION:** This item will be presented to Council on June 3, 2014. Mr. Haggmark gave a brief description of the annual budget and discussed the issues regarding the biological assessment and the search to allow for the sustainability of Steelhead Trout in the Santa Ynez River. MOTION (Keller/Birney 5-0-0): to approve staff's recommendation.
9. **RATIFICATION OF CACHUMA OPERATIONS AND MANAGEMENT BOARD EMERGENCY PUMP PROJECT AGREEMENT:** Mr. Haggmark explained the need for all members to ratify this agreement with COMB in order to move forward with this emergency project. This project is expected to allow pumping to begin on September 1, 2014. The construction will be permanent in order to allow for its use during future droughts. MOTION (Keller/Kielborn 5-0-0): to approve staff's recommendation.

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- 10. COLD SPRINGS TUNNEL WATER RIGHTS:** Mr. Ferguson described the complexity of determining the actual ownership history and agreements that were made many years ago. Mr. Sjovold spoke as a member of the public and presented additional information regarding the history of these water rights. He also suggested that the City begin metering the tunnel location to determine when the allocation amount has been reached in order to then divert the rest of the water to the creek to assist the fish.
- 11. WATER RESOURCES MANAGER'S REPORT:** Mr. Haggmark distributed and reviewed the Monthly Water Resources report on water production, rainfall, and wastewater influent. There is a need for additional conservation as the average water usage is still above the Gallons Per Capita per Day (GPCD) targets set up to meet 2020 guidelines. The City Council Stage Two Drought hearing will occur on May 20, 2014.
- 12. DATE OF NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:** It was confirmed that the next meeting was scheduled for Monday, June 9, 2014, at 3:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:01 p.m.

Approved: June 9, 2014