



MINUTES
Board of Water Commissioners
Water Resources Conference Room
3rd floor, 619 Garden Street
Monday, July 13, 2015, at 3:00 p.m.

- COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Barry Keller, Mike Kielborn, Dave Davis, Michael Jordan
- COMMISSIONER ABSENT: Megan Birney
- COUNCIL LIAISON PRESENT: Harwood "Bendy" White
- STAFF PRESENT: Joshua Haggmark, Water Resources Manager; Chris Toth, Wastewater System Manager; Kelley Dyer, Water Resources Supervisor; Lisa Arroyo, Supervising Engineer; Madeline Ward, Acting Water Conservation Coordinator; Anne Van Belkom, Administrative Assistant
- PUBLIC: Deborah L. Schwartz, Planning Commission Liaison; Charles Hamilton, Carpinteria Valley Water District; Rodney Loehr, RDN; Michael Guzzardi; Edward Behrman; James Smith
1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 3:04 p.m.
 2. **ROLL CALL** New Water Commissioners Dave Davis and Michael Jordan were introduced
 3. **CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:** **APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS:** Mr. Haggmark gave a brief summary of the backgrounds of the two, new Water Commissioners. He also explained the annual requirement to appoint a new Water Commission Chair and Vice-Chair at the beginning of each fiscal year. Commissioner Keller was unanimously appointed as the new Chair (Davis/Jordan) while Commissioner Kielborn was unanimously appointed as the new Vice-Chair (Keller/Davis).
 4. **COMMENTS BY THE PUBLIC:** None.
 5. **MEETING MINUTES, JUNE 8, 2015:** MOTION (Kielborn/Keller 2-0-2): to approve the minutes as submitted.
 6. **SOLE SOURCE AGREEMENT FOR SANITARY SEWER CHEMICAL ROOT CONTROL SERVICES:** Ms. Arroyo explained the 2014 original pilot program that evaluated two different chemical products, one applied by Duke's Root Control (Duke), and the other by Pacific Sewer Maintenance, in various City locations. Duke's was selected due to the ease of scheduling (with no pre-cleaning requirement prior to treatment) and their product warranty. The chemical herbicide used by Duke will be applied to approximately 20 miles of predominately 6-inch and 8-inch sewer mains with a history of root intrusion throughout the City. There are no environmental hazards caused by the application of this chemical herbicide. MOTION (Davis/Kielborn 4-0-0): approve staff's recommendation.
 7. **CONTRACT FOR COST OF SERVICE WASTEWATER RATE STUDY:** Mr. Toth described the need to evaluate the City's current wastewater rate structure based upon the recent drought-related revenue losses and to develop an updated rate structure that will provide a more stable source of revenues to maintain the fiscal health of the wastewater utility. This contract with Raftelis will provide for the development of an updated rate structure, and assist the City in reviewing and updating its current cost allocation between user categories. In addition, Raftelis will recommend a revenue plan that will minimize impacts to rate payers while providing sufficient revenues to accomplish the required capital work. MOTION (Davis/Kielborn 4-0-0): approve staff's recommendation.
 8. **REQUISITION OF SANTA BARBARA COUNTY SUSPENDED TABLE A WATER:** This item will be presented at Council on Tuesday, July 14, 2015. Ms. Dyer explained what Table A water is, and why it is now available for a one-time purchase. Water Commissioners were shown how this water is moved from the reservoir at Lake Oroville, through the Delta, where it enters a 444 mile aqueduct that branches off and ends up in Lake Cachuma. The pros and cons of the one-time opportunity to purchase additional Table A water (as opposed to separate water purchases) were explained and discussed. City staff and Water Commissioners agreed that more benefit would be gained from regional water banking that could be used during drought periods. MOTION (Davis/Jordan 4-0-0): to approve staff's recommendation.

- 9. CACHUMA CONSERVATION RELEASE BOARD FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016 BUDGET RATIFICATION:** Ms. Dyer explained that the CCRB budget, approved by the CCRB Board on June 19, 2015, must be ratified by all three South Coast members of the Cachuma Project in order for it to take effect. The Administrative portion of the overall budget is \$21,000 lower than last year, and reflects savings from when the General Manager position transitioned into a contract General Manager Position in 2014. The Legal portion of the budget is \$200,000 higher to allow for possible litigation expenses in the Cal Trout vs. United States Bureau of Reclamation lawsuit, as well as legal activity for the State Water Board Rights and the Biological Opinion on the Cachuma Reservoir. The Consultant Activities budget is \$112,000 higher and includes public outreach, legislative and regulatory representation, hydrologic technical support and additional consulting support. To offset some of these increases, the City anticipates it will receive funds of \$190,228, which is the City's share of the unencumbered and unspent CCRB 2014-2015 funds being returned on a pro-rata basis to the member agencies. MOTION (Davis/Jordan 4-0-0): approve staff's recommendation.
- 10. CONTRACT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE CHARLES E. MEYER DESALINATION PLANT REACTIVATION:** Mr. Haggmark represented Ms. Sumansky, who unable to attend this meeting. In order to keep the reactivation of the desalination plant on schedule, Council authorized the professional services contract with IDE Americas, Inc. (IDE) on June 16, 2015, to begin the design phase of the project. Once the State Revolving Fund (SRF) loan is approved, staff will return to Council to receive final approval of the fully updated DBO contract with IDE and the SRF financing. On July 14, 2015, Council will be asked to approve an Ordinance authorizing the approval and execution of an installment sale agreement in connection with the DWSRF financing for the Desalination Project. As the SRF loan agreement is for a 20-year period, the acceptance of the loan was required to be done by Ordinance. Mr. Haggmark asked for Water Commission feedback on his presentation. Commissioners asked if the SRF loan included any restraints on how the desalination plant would need to be operated, how much water could be produced, and what type of changes to normal operation, such as "standby operation," would be allowed. Staff confirmed that no such restraints are part of the SRF loan, but would be part of the permitting process. MOTION (Jordan/Davis 4-0-0): approve staff's recommendation.
- 11. STAGE 3 DROUGHT UPDATE:** Mr. Haggmark discussed the successful water conservation levels reached by water users in Santa Barbara (40% reduction in June, and a 37% reduction in May). This brings the Fiscal Year cumulative average reduction to 26%. At the September Water Commission meeting, staff will discuss the revenue impacts brought about by the drought. Councilmember White requested that staff determine the number of Tier 3 water users, for Water Commission review and discussion at their September meeting. Planning Commission Liaison Schwartz asked staff when the results of the full inventory of all of the wells in the City would be available for Water Commission review and input regarding any effects on groundwater sustainability. Mr. Haggmark informed the Water Commission of the approval of the Water Supply Manager position. Ms. Ward described several conservation success stories in which specific individuals and businesses were spotlighted as Water Wise Citizens with their personal stories and related pictures included on the City's website and in water bills. Such personalization has proved very effective in spreading the conservation message to other water users.
- 12. WATER RESOURCES MANAGER'S REPORT:** Mr. Haggmark distributed and reviewed the Monthly Water Resources report on water production, rainfall, and wastewater influent. Groundwater production has been less than anticipated due to problems with several of the City wells. El Estero has significantly reduced their process water demands. Gibraltar Reservoir is considered to be empty, as the approximate 500 AF of remaining water is of very poor quality. El Estero's influent flow continues to drop. As of July 4th, there have been nine public sewer spills. Staff plans to purchase two more acoustical sounding devices to help determine the level of blockage in sewer mains in an effort to more effectively rank sewer pipes for cleaning purposes. Additional testing of sewer mains will be done by a City contractor using the acoustic sounding method, since staff has confirmed this method has shown to be both a more cost effective and much quicker method to rank sewer mains for cleaning. Staff is hiring a photographer and videographer to take aerial pictures and videos of Gibraltar Reservoir, Cater, El Estero, and the Desal Plant for future presentations and for updates to the City's website.
- 13. DATE OF NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:** It was confirmed that the next Water Commission meeting will be held on Monday, September 14, 2015, at 3:00 p.m., in the Water Resources Conference Room located at 619 Garden Street, 3rd Floor. (The August Water Commission meeting has been cancelled for lack of agenda items.)

The meeting was adjourned at 5:37 p.m.

Approved September 14, 2015