



**MINUTES**  
**Board of Water Commissioners**  
**Public Works Conference Room**  
**630 Garden Street**  
**January 12, 2009, 3:00 p.m.**

- COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: James Smith, Landon Neustadt, Russell Ruiz
- COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Barry Keller, Kate Rees
- STAFF PRESENT: Rebecca Bjork, Water Resources Manager; John Schoof, Wastewater System Manager; Cathy Taylor, Water System Manager; Bill Ferguson, Water Resources Supervisor; Manuel Romero, Wastewater Collection System Superintendent; Louis Gutierrez, Wastewater System Lead Operator; Alison Jordan, Water Conservation Coordinator; Anne Van Belkom, Administrative Assistant
- PUBLIC: Jim Meyerhofer, Carollo Engineers; Inge Wiersma, Carollo Engineers; Karen Johnson, Carollo Engineers; Steve Little
1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m.
  2. **CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:** None
  3. **COMMENTS BY THE PUBLIC:** Steve Little handed out post-Tea Fire pictures of the top side of Sycamore Canyon showing the extent of burning in the vicinity of an avocado orchard. He asked for further discussion on this issue with the Water Commission at a future date.
  4. **MEETING MINUTES, DECEMBER 08, 2008:** MOTION (Ruiz/Neustadt 3-0-0): to approve the minutes as submitted.
  5. **TOUR OF NEW HYDRO-VECTOR SEWER CLEANING VEHICLE:** Water Commissioners took a quick tour of the new Hydro-Vector vehicle parked in the Garden Street parking lot. Mr. Romero and Mr. Gutierrez from the Wastewater Collection section were on hand to describe the special configuration specified to meet the City's requirements.
  6. **ZACA – WATER QUALITY:** Ms. Taylor informed the Water Commission that the City has received \$1.75 Million from the submitted Cater DSR to pay for the additional chemical treatment at Cater, with an allowance of 10% for the cost of administrative fees. A second DSR is being planned for reimbursement for the loss of storage capacity at Gibraltar Reservoir.
  7. **PASS THROUGH AGREEMENT UPDATE:** With a PowerPoint presentation, Mr. Ferguson explained how the Pass Through Agreement came about, and described how the amount of available pass-through water will be determined. He reported that staff is working with Reclamation to develop a Warren Act contract to implement pass-through storage at Lake Cachuma.
  8. **WATER CONSERVATION GRANTS:** Ms. Jordan stated that City Council will be asked to approve increases to two Bureau of Reclamation grants on January 27, 2008. The first grant covers the "Garden Wise" shown City TV, the City [sbwater.org](http://sbwater.org) website, and the City Firescape Garden. The second grant covers the Rain Sensor program which is to be expanded into the Smart Landscape Rebate program. Gray water standards are also being revised and updated. Staff has proposed that the Water Fund be used to offset a portion of the permitting fee for the installation of gray water systems, to reduce it from \$360 to \$50.
  9. **LONG TERM WATER SUPPLY UPDATE:** Ms. Bjork reviewed the items being analyzed to support the General Plan process and the LTWSP update. She also noted that the Water Commission packet included an email from Mr. Ruiz to the Mayor and Councilmembers discussing his views regarding the numbers used in planning for critical shortages. Ms. Wiersma and Ms. Johnson from Carollo Engineers gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Draft Water Supply Planning Study.

10. **GENERAL PLAN SANTA BARBARA EIR NOP, WATER COMMISSION COMMENTS:** The EIR's NOP was completed on January 14 and is open for public comment until February 12, 2009. Significant discussion occurred regarding the existing water supply baseline numbers. This agenda item is to be continued at the next meeting to allow the Water Commissioners to further discuss Water Commission comments on the General Plan Update EIR NOP. MOTION (Ruiz/Neustadt 3-0-0): to continue Agenda Item 10 to the next Water Commission meeting.
11. **WATER RESOURCES MANAGER'S REPORT:** Ms. Bjork distributed and reviewed the monthly Water Resources Manager's report on water production, rainfall, and wastewater influent. At this time, the anticipated water demand is 92% of projected. The 12 month moving average also shows a reduction in demand.
12. **ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS:** Ms. Bjork stated that the main topic of the next meeting will be on rate resolutions, in addition to the continued discussion on the General Plan Santa Barbara EIR NOP.
13. **DATE OF NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:** It was confirmed that the next meeting was scheduled for Monday, February 9, 2009, at 3:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

AVB