



MINUTES
Board of Water Commissioners
Cater Water Treatment Plant
1150 San Roque Road
July 13, 2009 3:00 p.m.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: James Smith, Barry Keller, Landon Neustadt, Russell Ruiz, Bill Thomas

COUNCILMEMBER PRESENT: Iya Falcone

STAFF PRESENT: Rebecca Bjork, Water Resources Manager; Cathy Taylor, Water System Manager; Bill Ferguson, Water Resources Supervisor; Anne Van Belkom, Administrative Assistant; as well as numerous members of the Water Distribution and Water Treatment staff for Item #5

PUBLIC: Steve Little: Steve Cushman, Chamber of Commerce Chair

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 2:59 p.m.
2. **CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:** None. Ms. Bjork introduced Mr. Bill Thomas to the Water Commission as the newly appointed Water Commissioner.
3. **COMMENTS BY THE PUBLIC:** None.
4. **MEETING MINUTES, JUNE 8, 2009:** MOTION (Neustadt/Ruiz 5-0-0): to approve the minutes as submitted.
5. **JESUSITA FIRE – PLAQUE OF APPRECIATION TO WATER TREATMENT AND DISTRIBUTION STAFF:** Ms. Bjork introduced Steve Cushman, Chamber of Commerce Chair, who presented a plaque and expressed the Chamber's appreciation to the City's Water Distribution and Water Treatment staffs for their efforts to maintain water deliveries during the Jesusita fire. He noted that a second plaque would be prepared so both sections would have one.
6. **RESOLUTION HONORING JOHN C. SCHOOF:** To commemorate John Schoof's contribution to Public Works, Ms. Bjork read the resolution prepared in his honor that will be presented to his widow.
7. **TOUR OF CATER WATER TREATMENT PLANT:** Water Treatment Plant Operators Andrew Rhodes and Brett Wieser conducted a short tour of the Cater Water Treatment Plant and the treatment processes.
8. **CITY NEWSLETTER AND CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT:** Ms. Bjork informed the Water Commission that the City of Santa Barbara's Annual Water Quality Report had been mailed to all water customers and posted on the City's website, as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act.
9. **WATER SUPPLY PLANNING STUDIES UPDATE:** Mr. Ferguson gave an update on the status of the water supply planning efforts. He reported that Carollo Engineers was nearing the end of the Water Supply Planning Study and the final draft should be finished soon. This study will address State Water Project reliability, local climate change implications for water supply, opportunities for expanded recycled water use, and conservation and demand management opportunities. An updated analysis of selected water demand factors is being done in-house. He also reported that an analysis of current and projected demand will be a future agenda item.
10. **PASS THROUGH AGREEMENT:** Mr. Ferguson distributed a handout of background information to augment information contained in the packet. He discussed the Warren Act contract that will be a part of implementing "Pass Through" operations under the Pass Through Agreement (also known as the Upper Santa Ynez River Operations Agreement). Staff is investigating a service contract with Stetson Engineers to conduct Modeling to develop information for use in an Environmental Assessment on expected effects of the Warren Act contract.
11. **SOLE SOURCE CONTRACT FOR GENERATOR SERVICES – QUINN COMPANY:** Ms. Taylor informed the Water Commission that this item would be presented at Council on August 4, 2009. She explained why Quinn Corporation, as the only local certified dealer authorized to supply and maintain Caterpillar generators, was recommended as a sole source contract as part of the Water Resources Division's plan to standardize on emergency generators.

MOTION Keller/Thomas 5-0-0): to recommend that Council approve the sole source contract for generator services with Quinn Company.

12. **PURCHASE ORDER FOR POWDERED ACTIVATED CARBON:** Staff will request that City Council waive the formal bidding process to allow purchase and delivery of two loads of powdered activated carbon (PAC) for Cater Treatment Plant from Mead West Vaco Corporation. PAC manufactured by different companies varies greatly in its quality and ability to remove TOC. The City currently has identified two vendors of PAC that meet Cater's needs. In an attempt to identify other qualified suppliers of PAC, staff at Cater has bench-scale tested the PAC from various manufacturers. Staff believes that the Mead West Vaco PAC may meet Cater's needs. Staff would like to pilot test the PAC prior to adding Mead West Vaco to the pre-approved bidders list. The two loads will provide sufficient material for ample pilot testing. This item was to be presented to Council on July 14, 2009.
13. **HYDROELECTRIC FEASIBILITY STUDY:** Ms. Taylor reported the finding that it appears feasible to restart the hydroelectric plant as one of the options to provide additional renewable energy for City operations. She reported that, if the City is able to obtain the property on which the hydroelectric plant sits, the regulatory requirements should be less burdensome than they were historically, making the project cost effective
14. **WATER RESOURCES MANAGER'S REPORT:** Ms. Bjork distributed and reviewed the monthly Water Resources Manager's report on water production, rainfall, and wastewater influent. A graph representing the Cachuma storage during recent dry periods has been added to the report. This graph illustrates the typical pattern of decline in reservoir storage when periodic spills are followed by dry periods consisting of two or more years of below average rainfall. Following the manager's report, Commissioner Smith suggested possible cost-saving projects including reducing water meter reading costs, making reservoir sites available for cell towers, and putting up additional solar panels, as a way to alleviate some of the budget problems. Ms. Bjork indicated that a general discussion regarding the City budget would be an agenda item on an upcoming agenda.
15. **DATE OF NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:** It was confirmed that the next meeting was scheduled for Monday, August 10, 2009, at 3:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:19 p.m.

AVB