



MINUTES
Board of Water Commissioners
Public Works Conference Room
630 Garden Street
November 9, 2009 at 3:00 p.m.

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

STAFF PRESENT: Rebecca Bjork, Water Resources Manager; Cathy Taylor, Water System Manager; Bill Ferguson, Water Resources Supervisor; Manuel Romero, Wastewater Collection System Superintendent, Anne Van Belkom

PUBLIC: Steve Little, Tony Fischer, Nicole Krider

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:** Mr. Fischer informed the Water Commission about a water intrusion problem in the building being completed across the street from Public Works, which he felt needed to be checked out and addressed by City staff. He also asked that staff look into Workers Compensation reserve funds as they relate to the Enterprise Funds which he stated were over funded. He suggested that the overages could be better used to offset future water rate increases.
4. **MEETING MINUTES, OCTOBER 12, 2009:** (Neustadt arrived at 3:10 p.m.). Agenda Item #8 was corrected to show 5-0-0 instead of 5-5-0 approval of the motion. MOTION (Smith/Thomas 4-0-0): to approve the revised minutes as submitted.
5. **WATER DEMAND UPDATE:** Mr. Ferguson acknowledged the work of Theresa Lancy on this update and explained that a family emergency prevented Ms. Lancy from presenting this item. Mr. Ferguson reviewed the main components in the update and answered Commissioners' questions. Commissioner Ruiz encouraged staff to consider using the 1989 study values of 0.20 for the Multi-Family residential as it might be more reflective of future new development.
6. **STATE REVOLVING FUND LOAN FOR WILLIAM B. CATER WATER TREATMENT PLANT AND ORTEGA GROUNDWATER TREATMENT PLANT PROJECTS:** Ms. Taylor explained the requirement for Council to adopt a resolution authorizing a Notice of Application Acceptance for a Safe Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Loan in order to reserve the funds for the two projects. MOTION (Thomas, Neustadt 4-0-0): to support the staff recommendation.
7. **CONTRACT FOR DESIGN OF THE ORTEGA GROUNDWATER TREATMENT PLANT REHABILITATION PROJECT:** Ms. Taylor described the components of the project and explained the importance of having available groundwater with adequate pumping capacity during peak times and drought conditions. MOTION (Thomas/Smith 4-0-0): to approve the staff recommendation.
8. **WATER SUPPLY PLANNING STUDY MEMO:** Mr. Ferguson reviewed the handout and answered questions from Commissioners. Commissioner Neustadt stated his concerns that the State Water projections appeared to be too optimistic.
9. **COLLECTION SYSTEM PERFORMANCE:** Ms. Bjork gave a slide presentation on the Wastewater Collection System. She also introduced Mr. Romero, Wastewater Collection System Superintendent, who provided additional commentary. The history of stoppages and spills since 1984 were reviewed, and specific details were given regarding the number of spills versus the type and volume of spills between 2007 and 2009. Mr. Romero noted that his section reports all spills (including private spills, and spills as low as 2 gallons), which is not the case throughout California. He further listed the recent wet weather improvements in four significant flooding locations, and described the anticipated use of "smart covers" with level monitors that would directly communicate imminent overflows in specific locations.

10. **AGREEMENTS FOR CACHUMA OPERATIONS MAINTENANCE BOARD PROJECT FINANCING:** Ms. Bjork informed the Water Commission that the handout for this agenda item was out of date as Carpinteria had just voted to not participate in the bonding or funding of the Second Barrel Project. She reported that the other COMB members are assessing options for proceeding with this important opportunity to improve the South Coast Conduit and take advantage of a significant grant award.
11. **WATER RESOURCES MANAGER'S REPORT:** Ms. Bjork distributed and reviewed the Monthly Water Resources report. It is the first month of the new water year with 91% of targeted demand in October. A total of 5.81 inches of rainfall was recorded at Gibraltar. Next month's agenda will include a presentation regarding the water intrusion issues in the building on Garden Street; a presentation by Mr. Samario from Finance regarding General Funds, and a report on Metron Meters. The annual Water Supply Report will be presented to the Water Commission in December and will be presented for approval at Council on January 12, 2010. On November 10, 2009, Council will be requested to approve a Purchase Order for Dewatering Equipment at Cater.
12. **DATE OF NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:** It was confirmed that the next meeting was scheduled for Monday, December 14, 2009, at 3:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Approved: December 14, 2009

AVB