



MINUTES
Board of Water Commissioners
Water Resources Conference Room
619 Garden Street, 3rd floor
Monday, September 12, 2011, at 3:00 p.m.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: James Smith, Barry Keller, Bill Thomas

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Russell Ruiz, Landon Neustadt

STAFF PRESENT: Rebecca Bjork, Water Resources Manager; Chris Toth, Wastewater System Manager; Bill Ferguson, Water Resources Supervisor; Bob Roebuck, Project Manager II; Theresa Lancy, Water Resources Specialist; Carole Rollins, Pretreatment Coordinator; Anne Van Belkom, Administrative Assistant

PUBLIC: Sheila Lodge, Planning Commissioner; Ichiko Kido, RDN, Inc.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m.
2. **CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:** Agenda item #6 will be presented by Mr. Ferguson instead of Ms. Jordan.
3. **COMMENTS BY THE PUBLIC:** None.
4. **MEETING MINUTES, JULY 11, 2011:** MOTION (Smith/Keller 3-0-0): to approve the minutes as submitted.
5. **USGS SURFACE WATER/GROUNDWATER ANNUAL AGREEMENT:** Ms. Lancy discussed the requirements for this agreement and answered Commissioners' questions. MOTION (Thomas/Smith 3-0-0): to recommend that Council executes the joint funding agreement with USGS for surface water and groundwater monitoring.
6. **UNITED STATES BUREAU OF RECLAMATION WATER PLAN:** Mr. Ferguson explained to Commissioners why this plan was required. Council will be asked to approve this plan on September 20th. MOTION (Smith/ Thomas 3-0-0): to recommend that Council approve the City of Santa Barbara, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Water Plan.
7. **SURGE TANK PROPERTY DISPOSAL:** Mr. Roebuck described the liability created by the easement road and the benefits of the removal and site restoration of the surge tank and easterly portion of the access road, and presented options regarding the disposal of the property.
8. **VIC TRACE RESERVOIR LOT LINE ADJUSTMENT:** Mr. Roebuck reviewed the history that led up to the development of City Ordinance, # 5562, which approves the disposition of an excess portion of the Vic Trace Reservoir property to the owners of adjacent properties.
9. **HYDROELECTRIC PLANT STATUS UPDATE:** Mr. Roebuck explained the benefits of bringing the plant back on line. He further discussed the need to have the City actually own the land beneath the power plant in order to allow for a conduit exemption and the need to comply with expensive governmental licensing requirements. Of interest to the City is a bill before the House of Representatives (H.R. 795: Small-Scale Hydropower Enhancement Act of 2011). If passed, this bill would exempt a hydroelectric project under 1.5 megawatts from FERC requirements. There was some discussion about how produced power would be used.
10. **SEWER SYSTEM POINT REPAIR PROJECT:** Mr. Toth summarized the work covered in this project that culminated in the restoration of a total of 4.4 miles of sewer main at a cost of \$42 per foot.
11. **CHANNELKEEPER LITIGATION:** Mr. Toth updated the Water Commission on the status of the Channelkeeper litigation.
12. **TITLE 14 SANTA BARBARA MUNICIPAL CODE:** Mr. Ferguson described the need to delete an older section of the Code in order to eliminate inconsistent language regarding the requirement of individual City metering of all new dwelling units. MOTION (Thomas/Smith 3-0-0): to recommend that Council approve the revision to SBMC Title 14 – Metering Requirements.

13. TITLE 16 SANTA BARBARA MUNICIPAL CODE CHANGES – PRETREATMENT PROGRAM: Ms. Rollins and Ms. Bjork discussed revisions that are needed to comply with current federal regulations as directed by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board during a 2009 inspection of the City's Industrial Waste Program. MOTION (Thomas/Smith 3-0-0): to recommend that the Ordinance Committee and Council approve the revisions to the Santa Barbara Municipal Code, Title 16, Liquid and Industrial Waste.

14. WATER RESOURCES MANAGER'S REPORT: Ms. Bjork distributed and reviewed the Monthly Water Resources report on water production, rainfall, and wastewater treatment. The current water year, ending on September 30th, is expected to have an annual rainfall total of about 150% above normal. The development of a website showing a summary of CIP work has been delayed but should be completed within the next couple of weeks. The Water and Wastewater Rate Study Request for Proposals (RFP) was recalled and substituted with a more streamlined RFP that will look only at Wastewater rates.

15. DATE OF NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING: It was confirmed that the next meeting was scheduled for Monday, October 10, 2011, at 3:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:16 p.m.

Approved: October 10, 2011