



MINUTES

Board of Water Commissioners
 Water Resources Conference Room
 619 Garden Street, 3rd. floor
Monday, September 10, 2012, at 3:00 p.m.

- COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: James Smith, Barry Keller, Russell Ruiz, Megan Birney
- COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Landon Neustadt
- COUNCILMEMBER PRESENT: Harwood "Bendy" White
- STAFF PRESENT: Rebecca Bjork, Water Resources Manager; Cathy Taylor, Water System Manager; Chris Toth, Wastewater System Manager, Bob Roebuck, Project Manager; Alison Jordan, Water Conservation Supervisor; Theresa Lancy, Water Resources Specialist; Anne Van Belkom, Administrative Assistant
- PUBLIC: Sheila Lodge, Planning Commission Liaison; Ichiko Kido, RDN; Rob Lane; and Steve Little
1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 3:04 p.m.
 2. **CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:** Agenda Item #7 will include an update of the construction status at the Ortega Groundwater Treatment Plant.
 3. **COMMENTS BY THE PUBLIC:** Mr. Little asserted that the fire prevention benefits of having avocado groves should justify a low agricultural water rate.
 4. **MEETING MINUTES, JULY 09, 2012:** MOTION (Ruiz/Keller 4-0-0): to approve the minutes as submitted.
 5. **WATER CONSERVATION PROGRAM WORK PLAN AND TRACKING GPCD:** This plan is on track of incorporating Best Management Practices for the Residential, Commercial, Landscaping, and Public Information elements. Ms. Jordan briefly described the programs under each element. Councilmember White requested staff to provide the Commission a listing of potential savings for each of the program in the plan. Also requested was the inclusion of average rainfall information in the graph.
 6. **HYDROELECTRIC PLANT RECOMMISSIONING:** Mr. Roebuck explained the reason for re-commissioning the plant and described the steps required to eliminate the FERC licensing requirement. Staff was requested to send Water Commissioners a copy of the Brown & Caldwell 2009 report.
 7. **CATER TREATMENT PLANT ADVANCED TREATMENT PROJECT:** The project is 64% completed. A change order will be presented at Council on September 11, 2012, for \$886,016 for the replacement of five chemical tanks for sodium hypochlorite to disinfect water, and for the installation of a dry polymer feed system to improve sludge quality to meet the criteria for local disposal. The Ortega Water Treatment Plant is only 50% completed due to the delays caused by the contaminated soil. The project is expected to be completed by June 2013.
 8. **EL ESTERO LONG RANGE CIP PLAN AND FUNDING STRATEGY:** Mr. Toth described the projects in each of the two, five-year, planning cycles in the long range CIP plan. Penfield & Smith will assist with a loan application to the State Water Resources Control Board to fund the aeration basin project. If loan funding cannot be secured, staff would pursue a bond-funding approach. Approximately \$50 Million will be required over the next decade to fund the planned projects.
 9. **CONSENT DECREE IMPLEMENTATION:** Mr. Toth provided an update of the current activities related to the implementation of the consent decree. There have been 14 SSO's this calendar year as of August 31st. The spill volume for all 14 spills is less than 650 gallons.
 10. **AGREEMENT FOR GROUNDWATER MONITORING AND SURFACE WATER GAUGING:** There are no proposed changes or increases to this annual agreement. Ruiz/Keller 4-0-0): to recommend that Council authorize the Public Works Director to execute the agreement with USGS.

- 11. MOU FOR INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN:** Ms. Lancy described the MOU and the plan. MOTION (Ruiz/Birney 4-0-0): to recommend that Council authorize the Public Works Director to execute the MOU with the Cooperating Partners to provide an update to the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan.
- 12. ANNUAL REVIEW OF WATER FUND ASSETS & PROPERTY:** Ms. Bjork provided a handout listing the Water Fund's assets & properties. Commissioner Smith volunteered to represent the Water Commission at the RDA Oversight Board Meeting on Thursday afternoon, September 20th, at Casa Las Palmas. Of concern is the property where the Ortega Groundwater Treatment Plant (OGTP) is located.
- 13. WATER RESOURCES MANAGER'S REPORT:** Ms. Bjork distributed and reviewed the monthly Water Resources report on water production, rainfall, and wastewater flows. To date, there have been 14 SSO's in 2012. Ms. Bjork distributed a notice about the City Council's hearing to consider adoption of the City Climate Action Plan on Tuesday, September 18, 2012. Ms. Bjork also distributed an editorial on the rising cost of water. Commissioner Keller will be unable to attend the October Water Commission meeting.
- 14. DATE OF NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:** It was confirmed that the next meeting was scheduled for Monday, October 8, 2012, at 3:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

- 11. EL ESTERO STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE DEVELOPMENT:** Mr. Toth explained the need for and purpose of new Standard Operating Procedures for the El Estero Treatment Plant. Commissioner Keller volunteered to be on the selection panel. **Commissioner Birney agreed to participate in the process as well**