



**MINUTES**  
**Board of Water Commissioners**  
 Council Chambers  
 735 Anacapa Street  
**Monday, September 8, 2014, at 3:00 p.m.**

- COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Megan Birney, Barry Keller, James Smith, Mike Kielborn, Russell Ruiz
- COUNCIL LIAISON PRESENT: Harwood "Bendy" White
- STAFF PRESENT: Joshua Haggmark, Acting Water Resources Manager; Cathy Taylor, Water System Manager; Kelley Dyer, Water Resources Supervisor; Madeline Ward, Acting Water Conservation Coordinator; Bill Ferguson, Project Manager; Anne Van Belkom, Administrative Assistant.
- PUBLIC: Michael Jordan, Planning Commission Liaison; Deborah L. Schwartz, Planning Commission Liaison; Charles Hamilton, Carpinteria Valley Water District; Brianna Briggs, RDN; Sara Bush, Santa Barbara News-Press; Barbara Wishingrad and Brad Smith, Sweetwater Collaborative; Jeff Barry, GSI Water Solutions.
1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 3:02 p.m.
  2. **CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:** Agenda Item #8 was withdrawn.
  3. **COMMENTS BY THE PUBLIC:** Barbara Wishingrad and Brad Smith, Sweetwater Collaborative, encouraged Water Commissioners to attend the Drought Policy Forum on Monday, September 22, from 1-3 PM at the Franklin Neighborhood Center, 1136 Montecito Street, Santa Barbara. Mr. Smith elaborated on the purpose of the forum and described the various levels of stakeholders who will be attending.
  4. **MEETING MINUTES, AUGUST 11, 2014:** MOTION (Smith/Ruiz 4-0-0 with Keller not yet present): to approve the minutes as submitted.
  5. **DROUGHT:** The Stage 2 drought update presented by Mr. Haggmark, Ms. Dyer, and Ms. Ward covered current conservation levels, water supply outlook, current supply strategy, water use by customers/tiers, supplemental water, the CCWA delivery request process, drought response capital projects, recycled water projects, conservation outreach, tools for influencing water usage, Stage 3 Drought response plan, the Stage 3 Rate Study update, and Water Fund Reserve management options. Staff will be making a presentation to Council on September 23<sup>rd</sup> to discuss the Desal/Capital payback and Water Fund Reserve management scenarios. Also on that date, Council will be requested to approve and adopt a Resolution For Reactivating The Charles E. Meyer Desalination Facility (Desal Facility). Due to the high cost for contractors to submit proposals for the reactivation and operation of the Desal Facility, staff is considering suggesting offering a stipend for those proposals from contractors who are not selected. Commissioner Birney requested that the Water Commission be updated on this topic at the next meeting. In addition, October agenda items should include a discussion on the cost of operating the Desal Facility for one year, as well as the staffing requirements for the Water Conservation Program. Planning Commissioner Schwartz will check with Ms. Bettie Weiss to see if there is a need for Mr. Haggmark to attend the September 16th Joint Council and Planning Commission meeting. City-wide water conservation increased to 20% in July and 25% in August. To recognize these positive efforts, staff will release monthly press releases profiling success stories of residents and business who are effectively conserving water.
  6. **CONTRACT FOR SEVERN TRENT SERVICES FOR FILTER MEDIA FOR THE ORTEGA GROUNDWATER TREATMENT PLANT:** Commissioner Keller arrived at 3:32 P.M. On September 9<sup>th</sup>, Council will be requested to waive the formal bidding process and approve Severn Trent Services as a single source vendor due to the effectiveness and low cost of its iron media. MOTION (Ruiz/Keller 5-0-0): to approve staff's recommendation.
  7. **EMERGENCY PURCHASE ORDERS FOR GROUNDWATER WELLS:** Ms. Taylor described the two emergency purchase orders that were required to purchase equipment to repair the City Hall and Vera Cruz Wells. Council will be requested to approve the "after the fact" purchase orders on September 9, 2014. MOTION (Keller/Ruiz 5-0-0): to approve staff's recommendation.

8. **INVITATION FOR WATER COMMISSIONER PARTICIPATION WITH SELECTING QUALIFIED CONTRACTORS FOR REACTIVATION OF THE CHARLES MEYER DESALINATION FACILITY:** (Agenda item was withdrawn).
9. **WATER RESOURCES MANAGER'S REPORT:** Mr. Haggmark distributed and reviewed the monthly Water Resources report on water production, rainfall, and wastewater influent. City staff met with Channelkeeper last week to review the 16 SSO's and to discuss additional measures for reducing sewer spills, which are primarily caused by root intrusion. Three items under consideration are the application of chemical root foam to kill the roots, deployment of sound-wave technology to identify the percentage of blockage in pipes in order to prioritize pipe cleaning activities, and hiring a contractor to perform additional pipe cleaning. August water production was 25% less than planned; indicating water customers are increasing their water conservation efforts. Staff requested that they be informed before September 22, 2014, if there is anyone on the Water Commission who is planning to retire or resign from the Commission. Several agenda items were requested for October's Water Commission meeting. Agenda items include: a status report on how much Lake Cachuma entitlement water is remaining in Lake Cachuma as of October 1, 2014; (including losses due to evaporation, fish allocation, etc.); what level Lake Cachuma will be at in a year, if the drought persists; a detailed explanation of the CCWA process with regards to capacity opportunities, costs, current funding and the budget; and the desalination plant and its impact on the Water Fund Reserve Budget.
10. **DATE OF NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:** It was confirmed that the next meeting was scheduled for Monday, October 13, 2014, at 3:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:27 p.m.