



## MINUTES

### Board of Water Commissioners

Water Resources Conference Room

619 Garden Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor

Monday, October 13, 2014, at 3:00 p.m.

- COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Russell Ruiz, Megan Birney, Barry Keller, James Smith
- COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Mike Kielborn
- COUNCIL LIAISON PRESENT: Harwood "Bendy" White
- STAFF PRESENT: Joshua Haggmark, Acting Water Resources Manager; Cathy Taylor, Water System Manager; Chris Toth, Wastewater System Manager; Kelley Dyer, Water Resources Supervisor; Madeline Ward, Acting Water Conservation Coordinator; Bettie Weiss, Principal City Planner; Anne Van Belkom, Administrative Assistant
- PUBLIC: Deborah L. Schwartz, Planning Commission Liaison; Brianna Briggs, RDN; Taylor Knopf, Santa Barbara News-Press; Kira Redmond, Santa Barbara Channelkeeper; Michael Jordan, Planning Commission Liaison.
1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 3:04 p.m.
  2. **CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:** None
  3. **COMMENTS BY THE PUBLIC:** None.
  4. **MEETING MINUTES, SEPTEMBER 08, 2014: MOTION (Ruiz/Keller 4-0-0):** to approve the minutes as submitted.
  5. **WATER/WASTEWATER CIP PRESENTATION:** Mr. Toth gave an overview of the Wastewater Capital Improvement Projects, and discussed specific projects from Wastewater Collection and Wastewater Treatment. The discussion of each project included specific design and construction goals as well as annual maintenance costs. Future projects include rehabbing various aspects of the infrastructure of El Estero. Commissioner Keller requested staff to make sure to consider seismic retrofitting when scoping projects. Staff will bring the results of last year's structural analysis report of El Estero to the Water Commission for their review and comment. Ms. Taylor presented both the Water Capital Projects as well as the Drought Capital Projects. Water Capital Improvement projects include the Cater Water Treatment Plan Equipment Rehabilitation, the Hydroelectric Plant reactivation, the Water Main Replacement Project, the Recycled Water Program, the Pump Station Rehabilitation Program and the Distribution Reservoir Maintenance Program. Included in the Drought Capital Improvement Projects are the Desalination Plant, various groundwater projects, the Cachuma Lake Emergency Pumping Project, and the Water Conservation Program.
  6. **MANAGEMENT CONTRACT AT EL ESTERO WWTP WITH CAROLLO ENGINEERS, INC.:** Carollo Engineers, Inc. will be assisting staff in selecting updated CMMS software that is used for asset management at El Estero. The contract will include data transfer as well as staff training in the new software. MOTION (Ruiz/Keller 4-0-0): to approve staff's recommendation.
  7. **FOG CONSULTANT CONTRACT WITH WALLACE GROUP, INC.:** Mr. Toth informed the Water Commission that Wallace Group, Inc. will provide fats, oils, and grease (FOG) inspection services for the City's food services establishments for a period of one year. In addition to performing routine FOG inspections, the contractor is required to further develop the FOG Program, and to train the newly hired City Fog Inspection employee to be able to assume full duties for the FOG Management Program by January 2016. MOTION (Ruiz/Smith 4-0-0): to approve staff's recommendation.
  8. **SSO REDUCTION PLAN ACTIVITIES IN 2014:** Mr. Toth reviewed the history of sanitary sewer overflows since 2008 including causes of spills, total volume spilled, and events by pipe diameter. Analysis of these spills resulted in additional sewer system maintenance of small diameter pipes, additional contracted main cleaning, a pilot chemical root control contracted program, and an acoustic sounding device contract that will allow for quicker determination of the amount of blockage in pipes to facilitate cleaning needs.

- 9. DROUGHT UPDATE:** Mr. Haggmark gave an overview of the topics that would be discussed as part of the current drought update. He also noted that water demand was reduced by 20% to 26% over the last three months. Ms. Dyer explained the current water supply strategy chart as well as the chart analyzing the levels of water usage by customers/tiers. Ms. Weiss reported on drought restrictions for new development which will be presented at Council on October 14, 2014, as part of the joint Drought Update from Mr. Haggmark and Ms. Weiss. Ms. Ward gave a history of water conservation in Santa Barbara and discussed projects within the current conservation program. Commissioner Ruiz requested an agenda item for a future meeting on the planning for groundwater production.
- 10. CY15 CCWA WATER DELIVERY SCHEDULE AND SUPPLEMENTAL WATER PROGRAM UPDATE:** Ms. Dyer explained the City's strategy regarding the CCWA delivery schedule and water purchases. This item will continue to be discussed at future Water Commission meetings as new information becomes available about the CCWA delivery schedules and the availability and costs of water purchases. The Water Commission agreed with the allocation of 4,500 AF of unsecured water purchases that should be secured for the three-year period from 2015-2017.
- 11. INPUT ON WATER RATES TO SUPPORT REACTIVATION OF THE CITY'S DESALINATION PLANT:** Ms. Dyer requested input from the Water Commission on how much of the financial burden should be covered by monthly fixed charges, or whether it should be covered by top tier versus all tiers, and how customers should be advised of the rate impacts of desalination. After reviewing the financial plan and looking at options A-C, the Water Commission agreed to recover 100% of desalination costs in fixed meter charges, to reduce Tier 2 allotment by 4 HFC to make it 12 HFC instead of 16 HFC, and to only include an initial bill insert describing how the desalination component is included in the bill instead of having it included on all billings. Since the Water Commission leaned more toward Option B as the preferred option, staff will refine Option B further and present it to the Water Commission in November for their recommendation.
- 12. WATER RESOURCES MANAGER'S REPORT:** Mr. Haggmark distributed the Monthly Water Resources report on water production, rainfall, and wastewater influent. CCWA will have board meeting on October 23, 2014, and staff requested a Water Commissioner to attend. Keller and Birney are unavailable on that date but other Commissioners will check their availability. Council will be requested to approve the Asset Management Contract at the El Estero Wastewater Treatment Plan on October 28, 2014. Applications for Water Commissioners are due today and the Water Commission will be advised as to the final results. Staff plans to have Ms. Taylor give a status update at the County Water Agency meeting on Tuesday, October 14, 2014, on the City's current water supplies, if it does not conflict with the scheduled City Council meeting. Staff will obtain a map of the location of recycled water users in Santa Barbara as previously requested by Commissioner Kielborn.
- 13. CHANGE THE REGULAR MONTHLY WATER COMMISSION MEETING DAY AND TIME TO 3:00 PM ON THE THIRD THURSDAY OF THE MONTH EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 2014.** Planning Commission liaison staff has a conflict with the third Thursday as it would mean they could not longer attend the Water Commission meetings. Staff is considering the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in each month but needs to determine availability of meeting rooms. This item will be brought back to the Water Commission at the next meeting for final decision on both the dates and location of future meetings.
- 14. DATE OF NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:** It was confirmed that the next meeting was scheduled for Monday, November 10, 2014, at the PW Water Resources Conference Room. .

The meeting was adjourned at: 7:11 p.m.