



MINUTES

Board of Water Commissioners
Water Resources Conference Room
619 Garden Street, 3rd. floor
Monday, July 14, 2014, at 3:00 p.m.

- COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Russell Ruiz, Megan Birney, Barry Keller, James Smith, Mike Kielborn
- COUNCILMEMBER PRESENT: Gregg Hart
- COUNCIL LIAISON PRESENT: Harwood "Bendy" White
- STAFF PRESENT: Cathy Taylor, Water System Manager; Nancy Rapp, Parks & Recreation Director; Santos Escobar, Parks Manager; Simon Herrera, Golf Superintendent; Rich Hanna, Senior Recreation Supervisor; Mark Sewell, Administrative Analyst; Chris Toth, Wastewater System Manager; Kelley Dyer, Water Resources Supervisor; Madeline Ward, Acting Water Conservation Coordinator; Bill Ferguson, Project Manager; Anne Van Belkom, Administrative Assistant
- PUBLIC: Deborah L. Schwartz, Planning Commission Liaison; Ichiko Kido, RDN; Margaret Carswell, Earth First Construction; Gordon Girvan, Clean Water Recycling, Sarah Bush, Santa Barbara News-Press
- 1. CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 3:02 p.m.
 - 2. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:** None. Ms. Taylor is substituting for Mr. Haggmark at this meeting.
 - 3. COMMENTS BY THE PUBLIC:** Ms. Schwartz informed the Water Commission about a possible illegal action involving a water truck that routinely fills up its tank directly from a City fire hydrant on the Mesa. Ms. Taylor explained that water theft is always a concern, but especially during a drought. She added that staff was preparing a Media Release to inform the public that the theft of City water is a misdemeanor violation and water theft will be enforced by the Police Department.
 - 4. MEETING MINUTES, JUNE 9, 2014:** MOTION (Keller/Birney 4-0-0, with Kielborn not yet present): to approve the minutes as submitted. (Council Liaison White arrived at 3:07 p.m. and Commissioner Kielborn arrived at 3:11 p.m.)
 - 5. APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS:** Commissioner Birney was appointed Chair and Commissioner Keller was appointed Vice-Chair.
 - 6. PARKS AND RECREATION WATER USE UPDATE:** Ms. Rapp presented the 2014-2015 Strategic Drought Response Plan that was developed as a working document to guide the Parks & Recreation Department's response to the Stage Two Drought condition. Specific irrigation priorities for parks, sports fields, and landscaped areas were reviewed. This item will be presented to Council on June 15, 2014. Commissioner Ruiz requested that irrigation be turned off (instead of being reduced to 20-30%) at De La Guerra Plaza, as shutting off the water at this highly visible location would send a clear message to the public that the City is strongly advocating water conservation.
 - 7. CONTRACT FOR SERVICES TO UPDATE SANITARY SEWER MANAGEMENT PLAN:** Mr. Toth explained that four phases of this project have already been completed. The current request is for updates to the Sewer System Management Plan, review of the pipe selection for the Capital Improvement CCTV work, continuing support for mobile data unit implementation activities, and additional assessment related work. MOTION (Keller/Ruiz 5-0-0): to approve staff's recommendation.
 - 8. DROUGHT UPDATE:** Ms. Taylor, Ms. Dyer, and Ms. Ward presented an overview of current water supplies and strategies, reviewed the statuses of Drought Response Capital Projects, Recycled Water System Projects, Downtown Basin and Foothill Basin wells, and the Desalination Plant, along with the City's efforts on Water Conservation and Public Education. Commissioner Ruiz requested a future presentation on the CCWA water ordering process to assist the Commission in understanding how this process works in terms of timing, procedures, and ramifications. Ms. Schwartz shared that she has scheduled Joshua Haggmark to speak at the Planning Commission on August 7, 2014,

Minutes - Board of Water Commissioners
Monday, July 14, 2014

about the City's current water supply in relation to proposed development projects. Ms. Schwartz invited the Water Commissioners to attend the meeting.

- 9. INCREASE IN CONTRACT SERVICES FOR THE REACTIVATION OF THE CHARLES MEYER DESALINATION FACILITY:** The increase in contract services is primarily to address the need for more information related to permits for reactivation. The additional work includes modeling for brine and wastewater mixing in compliance with the City's NPDES permit, ocean water Quality Modeling for CDPH, and Biological Assessment work required for the Army Corps of Engineers and Coastal Development Permits. The increase in services also includes funding for legal support services for compliance with the Coastal Development Permit. A copy of the Coastal Commission letter to the City will be emailed to Water Commissioners as requested. MOTION (Keller/Ruiz 5-0-0): to approve staff's recommendation.
- 10. CONTRACT FOR DROUGHT RELATED WATER RATE MODELING SERVICES:** The drought-related water rate modeling services will build off of previous rate models, and will include the costs for reactivation and operation of the desalination facility . Commissioner Birney suggested that it would be better if a single larger rate study be done that includes more variables (including intake options) to avoid the need for a new water rate model, should the Coastal Commission not permit the open ocean intake. Due to the current drought and future weather forecast, staff anticipates the open ocean intake will be permitted at this time, at least on a temporary basis during the State-wide drought emergency. MOTION (Keller/Smith 5-0-0): to approve staff's recommendation.
- 11. WATER RESOURCES MANAGER'S REPORT:** Ms. Taylor distributed and reviewed the Monthly Water Resources report on water production, rainfall, and wastewater influent. Ms Taylor also reviewed the many drought-related Capital projects that will soon be going to Council for approval, including a contract increase to cover landscape design services for the proposed new Alameda Well. Ms Taylor informed the Commission that the State DWR is attempting to recapture approximately \$9.4 Million from CCWA related to Water Transportation costs related to an accounting oversight. The City's portion of these costs could be approximately \$700,000, half of which is anticipated to be due for payment by January 1, 2015.
- 12. DATE OF NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:** It was confirmed that the next meeting was scheduled for Monday, August 11, 2014, at 3:00 p.m. Commissioner Birney requested that the August meeting focus on Water Conservation and what customers and businesses can do to conserve water. Commissioner Ruiz asked staff for a future presentation regarding the water use categories of other recycled water customers besides Parks & Recreation. He also requested that the presentation include a map showing the location of these customers as well as the location of the pipelines that can service recycled water customers. The meeting was adjourned at 5:56 p.m.

Approved: August 11, 2014