



**MINUTES**  
**Board of Water Commissioners**  
Council Chambers  
735 Anacapa Street  
**Monday, November 10, 2014, at 3:00 p.m.**

- COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Russell Ruiz, Megan Birney, Barry Keller, James Smith, 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; Bill Ferguson, Project Manager; Linda Sumansky, Principal Civil Engineer;; Madeline Ward, Acting Water Conservation Coordinator; Anne Van Belkom, Administrative Assistant
- PUBLIC: Deborah L. Schwartz, Planning Commission Liaison; Mark Rincon, MNS Engineers; and Shuang Wu
1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 3:01 p.m.
  2. **CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:** None
  3. **COMMENTS BY THE PUBLIC:** None.
  4. **MEETING MINUTES, OCTOBER 13, 2014:** MOTION (Ruiz/Keller 5-0-0): to approve the revised minutes as submitted. The November meeting date should have been 11/10/14 instead of 11/11/14.
  5. **AMENDMENT OF MUNICIPAL CODE TITLE 16, LIQUID AND INDUSTRIAL WASTE DISPOSAL:** Mr. Toth explained why the SB Municipal Code, Title 16, needed to be updated and what the benefits would be from the update. One of the proposed changes for 2015 (that will require Regulatory Agency review and approval) is the recommendation to increase the minimum flow discharge requirements for the Significant Industrial User classification from the current 10,000 to 25,000 gallons per day. On Tuesday, November 11, 2014, this Amendment will be reviewed by the Ordinance Committee. It will then be introduced at Council on November 18, 2014, with adoption scheduled for November 24, 2014.
  6. **APPROVAL OF FINDINGS PURSUANT TO CITY CHARTER SECTION 520 FOR GROUNDWATER WELL SITING:** Ms. Sumansky described the groundwater well's relocation at Alameda Park and discussed the agreement with Parks and Recreation regarding compensation for the use of the site. Councilmember White suggested that if compensation was to be agreed upon, it should be done with finances instead of free water. Commissioner Ruiz questioned why this project was not considered an emergency that could have been expedited under an emergency permit process. MOTION (Smith/Keller 5-0-0): to approve staff's recommendation on the November 25, 2014, Council Agenda Report. The Water Commission asked staff to return for further Water Commission input if the terms of the negotiations differ significantly from what is currently proposed. Commissioners also requested staff to reconsider the compensation process between two City departments. Commissioners asked staff to develop an expedited emergency permit process for inland locations that could be modeled after the Coastal Commission's Emergency Permit Procedures.
  7. **AGREEMENT FOR SURFACE WATER AND GROUNDWATER MONITORING:** Ms. Dyer reviewed the Joint Funding Agreement with USGS with a cost share of \$146,900 out of the total program cost of \$195,400. While sampling will be done by USGS, City staff is still able to do its own sampling. MOTION (Keller/Kielborn 5-0-0): to approve staff's recommendation.
  8. **APPROPRIATION OF WATER FUND RESERVES TO THE WATER MAIN PROGRAM:** Ms. Taylor explained how the creation of the Drought Fund significantly reduced or postponed a number of Capital Improvements, including the Water Main Program. The Water Main Program will have insufficient funding to cover ongoing and planned Program needs for Fiscal Year 2015. As there are sufficient funds in Water Reserves, staff will ask Council on November 25, 2014, to approve the \$1.5 M transfer from Water Reserves to the Water Main Program. MOTION (Ruiz/Smith 5-0-0): to approve staff's recommendation.

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- 9. DROUGHT UPDATE:** The water conservation target was met for October. The water supply outlook remains the same from last month's presentation. The forecast is for a weak El Niño with equal chances of above, below, or normal rainfall for Santa Barbara. On behalf of California Trout, the Environmental Defense Center filed a lawsuit against the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation for "mismanagement" of the steelhead trout population in the Santa Ynez River Watershed. Staff is preparing a report to help explain the need for preserving whatever water is remaining at Lake Cachuma.
- 10. UPDATE TO MULTI-FAMILY WATER & SEWER BUY-IN FEE CALCULATION:** Mr. Ferguson discussed the reason for updating the multi-family water and sewer buy-in fees, and gave examples of how the current fees would change for a variety of project types. Under Public Comment, Mr. Fell disagreed with proposed fee calculation updates as it would negatively impact his Sandman Inn Redevelopment Project. Mr. Fell is of the opinion that the Sandman Inn is an existing customer and should not have to pay new buy-in fees for the redevelopment project, especially as there will be less water demand than was required by the previous entity. Commissioner Ruiz left the meeting at 5:04 p.m.
- 11. WATER RESOURCES MANAGER'S REPORT:** Mr. Haggmark distributed and reviewed the Monthly Water Resources report on water production, rainfall, and wastewater influent. At the December meeting, staff will be asking for Water Commission input regarding the draft drought regulations for Phase III. Commissioner Smith's term will expire on December 31, 2014. Currently, there are two possible candidates (including Commissioner Smith) for the upcoming vacant seat.
- 12. DATE OF NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:** It was confirmed that the next meeting was scheduled for Monday, December 8, 2014, at 3:00 p.m., in the Water Resources Conference Room located at 619 Garden Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor. The meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Approved: December 08, 2014