



MINUTES

**Board of Water Commissioners
Water Resources Conference Room
3rd floor, 619 Garden Street
Monday, February 9, 2015, 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, Water Resources Manager;; Kelley Dyer, Water Resources Supervisor; Bill Ferguson, Project Manager; Madeline Ward, Acting Water Conservation Coordinator; ; Anne Van Belkom, Administrative Assistant

PUBLIC: Deborah L. Schwartz, Planning Commission Liaison; Sheila Lodge, Planning Commission Liaison (Alternate); Charles Hamilton, Carpinteria Valley Water District; Brianna Briggs, RDN; Mike Rincon; Karen Schapansky

Rate

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 3:02 p.m.
2. **CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:** None.
3. **COMMENTS BY THE PUBLIC:** Ms. Schapansky stated she represented the common person and spoke out against the rate increases and what she described as unfair allocations among the various rate categories. She also voiced her opposition to the desalination plant which she stated should have been decided by public vote. Staff informed Ms. Schapansky about the two upcoming public hearings on the rate increases and invited her to attend.
4. **MEETING MINUTES, JANUARY 12, 2015: MOTION (Keller/Ruiz 5-0-0):** to approve the minutes as submitted.
5. **STATUS UPDATE ON THE UPPER SANTA YNEZ RIVER OPERATION AGREEMENT:** Mr. Ferguson gave an update on the current status of implementing Pass Through operations. The Hydraulic Analysis (Modeling Technical Report) was completed in July 2013. The next step is to complete an Environmental Assessment. The draft document is due in February 2015 with the final document scheduled for completion in April 2015. In addition, the Warren Act Contract negotiations began in December 2014 and are scheduled for completion by June 2015 pending the completion of the Environmental Assessment. Commissioner Ruiz requested staff to apply pressure to make sure this process gets completed in time without further delays. Commissioner Birney requested an update next month to see if staff was still on track for the EPA.
6. **DISCUSSION OF STATUS OF STATE BOARD LEGISLATION FOR DIRECT POTABLE REUSE:** Chair Birney and Commissioner Ruiz presented this topic and requested staff to prepare a letter to the State Water Resource Control Board (SWRCB) to advocate for additional resources to expedite regulations that support direct potable reuse. Water Commissioners will work with staff to draft this letter which will be brought back to the Water Commission at their next meeting for final review. The final letter will then be forwarded to Mayor Helene Schneider for her signature and mailing to SWRCB. **MOTION (Ruiz/Keller 5-0-0):** to prepare and review the draft letter for the Mayor's signature that advocates for the SWRCB to take action to expedite the completion of guidelines for direct potable reuse.
7. **DROUGHT UPDATE:** Mr. Haggmark informed the Water Commission that the forecast continues to be for above average temperatures and above average rainfall. There are adequate supplies to meet demand this year as long as the City-wide 20% reduction continues to be met. Unless heavy rains are received by June 2015, staff will need to initiate plans to bring the desalination plant online in June 2016. Even with the addition of water from the desalination plant, there will still be a projected water shortage in WY 2017. The Valle Verde Well is in production and is producing 200 gallons per minute, which helps to offset the potable water demand for irrigation. Commissioner Ruiz commented on the RWQCB meeting that he attended. Madeline Ward informed the Water Commission on the status of the current outreach programs designed to help increase water conservation.

Minutes - Board of Water Commissioners
Monday, February 09, 2015

- 8. WATER RESOURCES MANAGER'S REPORT:** Mr. Haggmark distributed and reviewed the Monthly Water Resources report on water production, rainfall, and wastewater influent. He was pleased to announce that monthly water demand is currently below the future 20/20 water conservation requirement. With the above average temperature, water evaporation is higher than normal for this time of year. Commissioner Keller will be unable to attend the March meeting. Desalination proposals, without the associated cost proposals, will be discussed at the next meeting. In addition, the Water Commission also requested status updates on the following items at the March meeting: the Environmental Assessment, the final draft letter for the Mayor's signature, the Desalination Plant and Drought Rates Hearings, the Coastal Commission Hearing, and a report on the Consent Decree.

- 9. DATE OF NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:** It was confirmed that the next meeting was scheduled for Monday, March 09, 2015, at 3:00 p.m., in the Water Resources Conference Room located at 619 Garden Street, 3rd Floor.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:56 p.m.

Approved: March 9, 2015