



MINUTES
Board of Water Commissioners
David Gebhard Public Meeting Room
630 Garden Street (Parking lot Site Entrance)
Thursday, January 21, 2016, 8:00 a.m. – 10 a.m.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Barry Keller, Mike Kielborn, Dave Davis, Michael Jordan, Megan Birney

COUNCIL LIAISON ABSENT: Harwood "Bendy" White

STAFF PRESENT: Joshua Haggmark, Water Resources Manager; Kelley Dyer, Water Supply Manager; Lisa Arroyo, Wastewater System Manager; Amanda Flesse, Supervising Civil Engineer; Madeline Ward, Water Conservation Coordinator; Anne Van Belkom, Administrative Assistant

PUBLIC: Deborah L. Schwartz, Planning Commission Liaison; Mark Rincon-Ibarra, Principal, MSN Engineers; Pete Dal Bello, Founder/President, International Chiari Association.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 8 a.m.
2. **ROLL CALL** All present.
3. **CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:** None
4. **COMMENTS BY THE PUBLIC:** None
5. **CONSENT ITEMS:** Agenda was corrected to include the following: Approved minutes were for December 14, 2015 instead of December 21, and the date of the next scheduled meeting is on **Thursday** (not Monday) on February 18, 2016.

A. MEETING MINUTES FOR DECEMBER 14, 2015

B. AUTHORIZATION FOR A GROUNDWATER BASIN BOUNDARY MODIFICATION: Chair Keller pointed out that the map is missing one of the wells located in this area which should be included in the map.

C. CONTRACT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE GUTIERREZ AND CHAPALA SEWER IMPROVEMENTS:

MOTION (Davis/Birney 4-0-1, with Jordan abstaining): to approve the staff recommendations on the consent items.

6. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

a. CONTRACT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE EI ESTERO WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT SECONDARY PROCESS IMPROVEMENT PROJECT: Ms. Arroyo gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding the purpose and goals of the project, and reviewed an itemized list of the various estimated costs for the initial assessment, the preliminary design, the final design, and construction of the Secondary Process Improvement Project. The work consists of modifications to El Estero's secondary treatment process to a nitrification/denitrification system, with updates to the existing aeration and secondary clarifying sludge withdrawal systems, and implementation of nitrate return to address odor control issues and clarifier performance issues. Ms. Arroyo explained the work required for each step of the project and gave details on how that work would be accomplished. The completed project will produce a more stable secondary effluent, create higher-quality process water for subsequent production of recycled water, and will yield a higher quality of treated effluent discharge into the ocean. MOTION (Davis/Kielborn 5-0-0): to approve staff's recommendation.

b. COASTAL INFILTRATION AND INFLOW SEWER TRUNK MAIN REHABILITATION: This Coastal Infiltration Reduction Project on Cabrillo Boulevard is scheduled to begin construction in February 2016. The project will rehabilitate 22,000 feet of pipe and the work is anticipated to be complete in April 2016. A line will be rehabilitated using a cured in place liner that is activated by UV light. All work must be completed in April since the ongoing Cabrillo Bridge Construction Project requires traffic on Cabrillo Boulevard to be redirected to the

other side of the street which is where the pipes needing rehabilitation are located. The purpose of this project is to eliminate seawater infiltration thereby reducing the amount of total dissolved solids entering the treatment plant.

- c. **REQUEST TO NEGOTIATE A RECYCLED WATER SALES AGREEMENT WITH LA CUMBRE MUTUAL WATER COMPANY:** La Cumbre Mutual Water Company is outside the Santa Barbara jurisdiction but is interested in purchasing 150 AF of recycled water annually for use at the La Cumbre Country Club for landscape irrigation. Mr. Haggmark explained that this agreement will have an initial sunset date of ten years in order to retain the City's ability to use recycled water within the City if needed. Commissioners agreed that staff should negotiate for a full cost recovery charge for this recycled water. Mr. Haggmark described how this agreement could ultimately benefit Santa Barbara water users since increased recycled water sales would lower unit costs. MOTION (Birney/Davis 5-0-0): to approve staff's recommendation.
- d. **STAGE THREE DROUGHT UPDATE:** Weather forecasts for the next three months are for above average rainfall and temperatures. Rainfall totals for the Water Year as of 1/20/16 are still far below normal with Lake Cachuma and Santa Barbara both receiving 71% of normal precipitation and Gibraltar Lake receiving only 56%. City water users managed a 28% reduction for the month of December and still managed a 34% average monthly reduction since the initial Stage 3 Drought Declaration. FY17 water rates are in development and will be discussed at the Water Commission meeting in February. One of the major challenges for FY17 water rates is the need to recover reserves, which have been utilized to help offset revenue loss from conservation. Staff is working on the Wastewater Collection System Annual report which will be completed by the end of March 2016 and presented to Water Commission in April. Ms. Ward highlighted examples of three rain water demonstration gardens and explained how rain gardens slow, spread, and sink stormwater and reduce the need for supplemental irrigation. She also discussed upcoming hands-on workshops and classes targeted at helping residents reduce their landscape watering needs. .
7. **WATER RESOURCES MANAGER'S REPORT:** Annual demand for water is now approaching 10,179 AF, down from pre-drought usage of 14,000 AF. Overall City Water Use in averaging about 90 Gallons per capita per day (GPCD). Water and Wastewater rates will be discussed at the February 2016 Water Commission meeting.
8. **DATE OF NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:** Thursday, February 18, 2016, 8:00 AM -10:00 AM, David Gebhard Public Meeting Room, 630 Garden Street (Parking Lot Side Entrance).

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

Approved: February 18, 2016

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