

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

1. Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by the Board President Mike Etchart at 6:00 pm at the District Office.

Present were: Board President Mike Etchart, Board Directors Jim Kentosh, Mike Krumpschmidt, Diana Engle and Larry Harrold. Staff Present: General Manager Mike Hollebrands and Board Secretary Summer Ward. Attorney Lindsay Nielson was also present.

Absent: None.

2. Approval of the minutes

Approval of the April 17, 2018, Regular Meeting minutes:

Mr. Krumpschmidt made the motion to approve the April 17, 2018, Regular Meeting minutes. Mr. Kentosh seconded the motion.

Krumpschmidt/Kentosh
All Ayes
M/S/C

3. Public Comments

Morgan – Requesting a copy of the work plans for the job planned for near his property, as well as clarification of the property lines and where the project location will be in relation to the property lines.

Ms. Von Gunten – Provided a statement of attendance and past participation on the MOWD Board. She appreciates the efforts to conserve paper.

4. Financial Matters

- Approval of Payroll and Payables from April 16th to May 15th, 2018 in the amount of:

Payables -	\$ 88,042.89
Payroll -	\$ 31,937.16
Total -	\$ 119,980.05

Ms. Engle inquired about the seemingly large amount paid to Merryman; it was clarified that multiple locations were completed at one time as a cost savings versus each separately. Secondly, a laptop repair for \$400; the laptop is 4 years old and the hard drive failed, the expense was to replace the hard drive.

Mr. Harrold made the motion to approve the Payroll and Payables from April 16th to May 15th, 2018. Mr. Krumpschmidt seconded the motion.

Harrold/Krumpschmidt
All Ayes
M/S/C

5. Board Discussion/Actions

- a) Approval for Ventura River Watershed Coordinator Position expenses of \$500.00 for the approved Watershed Coordinator work plan for July 2017-June 2018.

This is a shared position between Casitas and the Watershed.

Mr. Kentosh made the motion to approve the expenses of \$500.00 for the Watershed Coordinator Position work plan for July 2017 to June 2018. Ms. Engle seconded the motion.

Kentosh/Engle
All Ayes
M/S/C

- b) Op-Ed Time for State Water in the Ojai Valley
Mr. Krumpschmidt reviewed that Jim Kentosh, Bruce Kuebler, Mike Hollebrands and himself met to create a shared op-ed piece. The resulting document was then shared with Sr. Canyon and the City of Ojai; both are agreeable to the document and will be presented for review/approval at each respective upcoming board meetings.

Public Comment:

Ms. Von Gunten stated her reservations on pursuing state water and will provide her statement in writing.

Mr. Kentosh made the motion to approve moving forward with the op-ed Time for State Water in the Ojai Valley along with Ventura River Water District, Senior Canyon Mutual Water Company and the City of Ojai. Mr. Krumpschmidt seconded the motion.

Kentosh/Krumpschmidt
All Ayes
M/S/C

- c) Set date and time for the 2018-19 Budget Committee Meeting - Mr. Hollebrands will email the Committee members (Mike E. & Larry H.) to schedule the Budget Committee meeting.

6. General Manager's Report

- **Operations & Maintenance Report – Mr. Hollebrands presented the monthly manager's report. Ms. Engle requested clarification on page 2, regarding the "Water Production" table. AF is the total acre feet pumped from each respective well.**
- **Board Standing Committees – Table included – Mr. Hollebrands to update the members for each Committee.**
- **Well 4 Update – The project continues and the drilling reached a total depth of 265 feet. The geophysical logging data showed that the optimal water depth to be at 120 feet. This reduction in depth will result in a cost savings of approximately \$45,000 and reduce air issues. Mr. Hollebrands noted that the geophysical logging data is almost identical to the original well 4 geophysical logging. The pump will be set at 165 feet with a goal of 1,000 gallons per minute capacity. Bids for the motor control are currently out for bid and the district anticipates the well to be operational by the end of June 2018.**
- **Highway 33 Lateral Mainline Update – Mr. Hollebrands stated that Toro has completed 99% of the Highway 33 lateral mainline project.**
- **Thomas Fire Update – Mr. Hollebrands reported that the district has received \$150,173.64 to date from SDRMA, reimbursement for Thomas Fire related invoices. The claim is nearing completion. Mr. Hollebrands shared that the silt layers are 3-4 feet deep in some areas and 1-2 feet thick near the wells. These thick layers from silt resulting from the ash and debris are inhibiting rain saturation.**
- **Economic Study Meeting April 23, 2018 Update – Mr. Hollebrands stated that the group consisting of Ventura River Water District, Meiners Oaks Water District, Ojai Valley Inn and Ojai Valley Realtors met on April 23rd; led by Burt Rapp. The scoping meeting discussed the scope of the study, timelines and potential candidates to perform the study for example, Cal Lutheran, UCSB, Carnegie Mellon Group and United Water economist. The group is aiming to award the contract by November 2018 with the study completed by April 2019. The next meeting is scheduled for June 11th.**

Ms. Engle recommended that the group work on developing a MOU to outline share of cost for the project.

Public Comment –

Morgan recommended that the study be unbiased and then use the data provided to create a work plan. Additionally, Morgan asked the board when the project to do work by his property was approved by the board. Mr. Etchart explained that the bids were just sent out; when those are received back they will be reviewed at a future public board meeting and the project will then be awarded to a contractor and a timeline approved.

- **Payroll Direct Deposit –**
Mr. Hollebrands stated that the district is moving to a payroll direct deposit option for staff and Directors, anyone interested in this option is to contact Brandi Malone directly.
- **Casitas Water –** Mr. Hollebrands reported that MOWD had to purchase Casitas water on April 18 due to high turbidity levels, after a lot of work the Casitas connection was turned back off on May 15th. The board discussed real-time customer notification systems such as the website and sign in front of District office.

Public Comment –

Ms. Von Gunten would like to see the sign updated as well a large thermometer showing the lake level to make it more visible to the public.

7. Board Committee Reports

- **GSA (5/10/2018) –**
Ms. Engle reviewed the four topics discussed at the May 10th GSA meeting. Ms. Engle created a google drive spreadsheet tool to assist in capturing staff time for the DWR invoicing. She noted that retro time for August 2017 – April 2018 will be captured separately. Secondly, the County of Ventura has acknowledged a discrepancy in waivers for drilling private wells. The County will be developing a formal process and the GSA will be made aware of any waiver requests within their respective jurisdiction. Further investigation is needed regarding possession of water rights when a private well is being drilled. Third, she will be taking a special interest in the GSP Groundwater ecosystem aspect of the critical sustainability criteria that will affect how much pumping will be aloud within the basin. The MOWD will need to budget \$50,000 for the 2018-2019 GSA.

8. Old Business

- **State Water/MOWD public statement of support - see item 5b.**
- **Ojai Valley Water Group – No update.**

- **Matilija Dam Removal – No update.**
- **Casitas MOU – Mr. Hollebrands met with Steve and came to an agreement that the S. La Luna connection will change from a temporary connection to a permanent connection, allowing a single allocation instead of 3 separate allocations. The stage 1 baseline allocation will be set at 1,019 acre feet. The board discussed the need to have the wording in the MOU revised to state that the baseline allocation will not change from year to year. The board requested that Mr. Hollebrands follow up with Steve and get a timeline of when the changes to the MOU will be finalized.**
- **Cold Water Formation – No update.**
- **Generators – Mr. Harrold recommended removing this item from the agenda. After much board discussion and public comment it was decided to retain this agenda item in old business.**

Public Comment –

Ms. Von Gunten recommended not removing this agenda item until more time and information is reviewed and discussed.

9. Board of Directors' Reports

Mr. Hollebrands shared the communique from Steve Bennett's office as informational only.

Mr. Krumpschmidt – Mr. Krumpschmidt shared that Ventura River Water District is facing similar challenges with minimal groundwater recharge near the wells. Of note, Russ Baggerly has now publicly stated support for pursuing State Water. Lastly, Mr. Krumpschmidt stated relayed that the timeline for the Ventura interconnection is aimed at 2019.

Mr. Kentosh – Mr. Kentosh will be absent from the June Regular Board Meeting. Additionally, he attended the Casitas Water Resource Board meeting as a private citizen, not on behalf of the District. Mr. Kentosh met with Steve Wickstrum, not on behalf of MOWD, to discuss his statistical analysis on when the lake may go dry. He is nearly completion on his report and will gladly share it with anyone that would like to read it.

Mr. Harrold – He shared his observation of Layne Christensen's work on well 4, as compared to the private well being drilled on S. Alvarado.

Ms. Engle – Ms. Engle reported that she attended the AWA Water Issues meeting.

Mr. Etchart – None.

The Board closed the open session at 8:15 p.m.

10. Closed Session: The Board of Directors will hold a closed session to discuss personnel matters or litigation, pursuant to the attorney/client privilege, as authorized by Government Code Sections 54957 & 54956.8, 54956.9 and 54957.

- a. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL and POTENTIAL CO-COUNSEL – Anticipated/threatened Litigation Paragraphs (2,4) subdivision (d) Section 54956.9.

- b. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL 2017 – 2018 GRAND JURY REPORT ON SPECIAL DISTRICTS – Anticipated/threatened Litigation Paragraphs (2,4) subdivision (d) Section 54956.9.

11. Meeting Adjournment

At 9:05 p.m. the board closed the closed session and re-opened the open session.

Mr. Nielson reviewed that in closed session were discussions regarding current litigation matters related to the Santa Barbara Channel Keeper case, as well as a response to the confidential Grand Jury report.

There being no further business to conduct at this time, Board President Mike Etchart adjourned the meeting at 9:06 PM.

President

Secretary