

May 31, 2017
Regular Meeting
6:03 p.m.

The Board of Directors of the San Benito County Water District convened in regular session on Wednesday, May 31, 2017 at 6:03 p.m. at the San Benito County Water District office at 30 Mansfield Road, Hollister, California. Members present were: President John Tobias, Vice President Joe Tonascia and Directors Frank Bettencourt, Sonny Flores and Bob Huenemann. Also present were District Manager/Engineer Jeff Cattaneo, District Counsel David E. Pipal, Assistant Manager Sara Singleton, Deputy District Engineer Garrett Haertel, Supervising Accountant Natalie and Board Clerk/Office Specialist III Barbara Mauro.

CALL TO ORDER

President Tobias called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

- a. **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**
President Tobias led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- b. **Speakers will be limited to 5 minutes to address the Board; rebuttal will be limited to 3 minutes; no new business agenda items will be heard after 9:00 p.m.**
- c. **Approval of Agenda**
With a motion by Director Flores and seconded by Director Huenemann; the agenda was unanimously approved.
- d. **Public Input: Members of the Public are Invited to Speak on any Matter not on the Agenda**
There were no public comments.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- 1. **Approval of Minutes for:**

April 26, 2017	Regular Meeting
May 10, 2017	Special Meeting
- 2. **Allowance of Claims**
With a motion by Vice President Tonascia and a second by Director Bettencourt, the Consent Agenda was unanimously approved.

REGULAR AGENDA:

- 3. **Consider CEQA Findings and the CEQA Certification of the Addendum to the West Hills Water Treatment Plant Project Environmental Impact Report for the San Benito County Water District City Well Number 4 Extension**
Mr. Cattaneo stated this is actually for the City of Hollister's, well number #4. Recently, the Board approved a \$2 million change order to Auburn Construction for the pipeline which will be to wells #4 and #5 of the City's. The item before the Board, per Mr. Cattaneo, is the addendum for the well #4 extension.

Director Huenemann asked about well #5. Mr. Cattaneo replied well #5 was previously approved.

Vice President Tonascia asked if Auburn will tap into the pipeline for well #4. Mr. Cattaneo replied it is included in the project, previously approved for \$2 million.

a. Certify the Addendum to San Benito County Water District West Hills Water Treatment Plant Project Final Environmental Impact Report (City Well No. 4 Extension)

With a motion by Vice President Tonascia and a second by Director Flores, the Board of Directors unanimously Certified the Addendum to San Benito County Water District West Hills Water Treatment Plant Project Final Environmental Impact Report (City Well No. 4 Extension).

b. Adopt Resolution Approving California Environmental Quality Act Findings of Fact

With a motion by Director Flores and seconded by Director Huenemann, Resolution #2017-08, *A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the San Benito County Water District Certifying the Addendum to the San Benito County Water District West Hills Water Treatment Plant Project Final Environmental Impact Report; Adopting California Environmental Quality Act Findings of Fact, and Approving the City of Hollister Well No. 4 Extension* was unanimously approved.

c. Approve the West Hills Water Treatment Plant Project Final Environmental Impact Report Addendum & Direct District Manager/Engineer to Sign Notice of Determination

With a motion by Vice President Tonascia and a second by Director Flores, the Board of Directors unanimously Approved the West Hills Water Treatment Plant Project Final Environmental Impact Report Addendum & Directed the District Manager/Engineer to Sign the Notice of Determination.

d. Direct District Staff to File Notice of Determination with San Benito County Recorder's Office

With a motion by Director Bettencourt and a second by Director Flores, the Board Directors unanimously Directed District Staff to File Notice of Determination with San Benito County Recorder's Office.

e. Approve of the West Hills Water Treatment Plant Well #4 Extension Project

With a motion by Vice President Tonascia and a second by Director Bettencourt, the Board of Directors unanimously Approved the West Hills Water Treatment Plant Well #4 Extension Project.

4. Discuss and Consider Cost Sharing Agreement between the San Benito County Water District, the Pacheco Pass Water District and the Santa Clara Valley Water District, for Consulting Services to Prepare a Proposition 1 Application for Expansion of the Pacheco Reservoir

Mr. Cattaneo stated the Principles of Agreement, associated with SBCWD, Santa Clara Valley Water District (SCVWD) and Pacheco Pass Water District (PPWD) regarding the expansion of the Pacheco Pass Reservoir had previously been approved by the Board. Mr. Cattaneo attended the last PPWD Board meeting and their board made some minor

modifications to the agreement. These modifications were sent to SCVWD and approved, however; their District Counsel has added some additional language. If the Board approves the agreement, with the changes presented tonight, it will go back to the PPWD Board and to SCVWD for signature. Mr. Cattaneo stated this item is time sensitive as the application deadline for Prop 1 grant funding is the 2nd week in August. Discussion ensued from both the Board and a member of the audience about some of the changes in the agreement.

With no further questions, a motion was made by Vice President Tonascia, noting the changes presented at the board meeting and a NTE amount of \$45,000. This motion was seconded by Director Flores; the Board of Directors approved the Cost Sharing Agreement between the San Benito County Water District, the Pacheco Pass Water District and the Santa Clara Valley Water District, for Consulting Services to Prepare a Proposition 1 Application for Expansion of the Pacheco Reservoir by 4 affirmative votes (Tobias, Tonascia, Bettencourt and Flores) and 1 no vote (Huenemann).

5. Discuss and Consider Letter to San Benito County regarding the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act

Mr. Cattaneo reported last month, San Benito County Counsel indicated the County intended to apply to be the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for the same area as SBCWD has applied for. If that were to happen, it would put both agencies into probation with the State due to the overlapping boundaries. Mr. Cattaneo met with several of the supervisors, with County Counsel and also attended a Board of Supervisors Meeting, to explain the issue. The County expressed concern that if they weren't the GSA, they would be giving up control of land use and growth. The Board of Supervisors agreed to suspend their pursuit of the GSA with a letter from our District, stating we would not be taking control of land use and growth, per Mr. Cattaneo.

Director Huenemann asked if SBCWD notified the County the District intended to apply for the GSA. Mr. Cattaneo stated the District publicly noticed our intention, but no, did not make a direct telephone call to the County.

With a motion by Vice President Tonascia and a second by Director Huenemann, the Board of Directors unanimously approved of a Letter to San Benito County regarding the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act.

6. Staff Report on the Hollister Urban Area Water and Wastewater Master Plan Update

Mr. Blohm is attending a City of Hollister meeting with citizens, regarding the start-up of the new plant, so Mr. Cattaneo will be reporting on this item.

The West Hills WTP is near completion, per Mr. Cattaneo. Tomorrow water will begin running through the plant and will be discharged to the City's Industrial Wastewater Plant. Mr. Cattaneo also reported a final release will be needed from the Department of Drinking Water. Following a 30 day performance test, the intent is to be putting water into the system by July 1st.

There is a concern, once the plant starts up, there could be some issues with the water.

Director Huenemann asked if it's because the pipes are new. Mr. Cattaneo replied its more about the water chemistry being different, as there are more minerals in groundwater and the minerals, due to the softer water, are removed from the pipes and could appear in the water. Mr. Cattaneo added this would be a short term issue and they will be introducing water slowly, likely blending at a 50/50 ratio.

Director Bettencourt asked if the customers will be notified. Mr. Cattaneo stated yes, the City's residents will be notified on what to expect and also a reminder about the benefits of the new plant.

President Tobias asked about scaling from the Park Hill water tanks. Mr. Cattaneo stated they are directly downstream but releases from a fire hydrant might be a possibility; this would be up to the City.

Director Huenemann asked what part of Hollister would be affected. Mr. Cattaneo stated the west side of Hollister, which would be Memorial Drive and to the west.

President Tobias asked when the crosstown pipeline would be completed and Mr. Cattaneo replied a few years.

Director Huenemann asked if the Cienega well was good and Mr. Cattaneo replied yes.

7. Committee/Agency Representative Reports:

a) San Luis Delta Mendota Water Authority (Tobias/Tonascia)

This will be covered under the Manager's Report.

b) Hollister Urban Area Water and Wastewater Master Plan Governance Committee (Tobias/Flores)

As per Director Tobias and Flores, this has already been covered.

c) Association of California Water Agencies—Joint Powers Insurance Authority (Bettencourt)

As per Director Bettencourt, he did not attend the meeting.

d) Personnel Committee (Tobias/Tonascia)

As per Directors Tobias and Tonascia, the 2 new employees hired were discussed and the remainder was in Closed Session.

8. District Manager/Engineer's Report:

a) Reach 1 Operations

Mr. Cattaneo reported the District is still on scheduled for the shutdown to begin on October 1st. District staff is working on the analysis on how to de-water and where to discharge the water. Staff estimates about 2 acre feet of water will need to be pumped out between Orchard Road and Bifurcation. Demand will determine how to refill, either from a well or wait for water from San Luis Reservoir.

b) Zone 3 Operations

Mr. Cattaneo reported the District is releasing about 150 AF of water per day from Hernandez Reservoir. Also, about 26 AF are going from the San Benito River into the Paicines Reservoir, on a daily basis. The District is receiving a lot of calls, regarding the releases from Hernandez. Any additional water at the end of the year in Hernandez, the District will move into Paicines. Mr. Cattaneo added, per our license for diversion, the District is to pass through any water that comes into the reservoir. Referencing an older Fish and Game Code, the District has received a public records request on Hernandez and Paicines in regards to releases.

Richard Bettencourt, a member of the audience asked about water crossing the road at Tres Pinos Creek. Mr. Cattaneo stated this is water coming from Hernandez.

c) Zone 6 Operations

Mr. Cattaneo reported the return well at San Justo Reservoir, which is used to dewater to prevent slides, is complete and in operation. He added it has doubled the operation of the previous well. The cost of installation was approximately \$140,000.

Director Bettencourt asked about the slide around near Pacific Scientific. Mr. Cattaneo stated there was a minor slide near San Justo Reservoir this year, due to the rain, but there weren't any issues. He added District staff is drawing down the elevation at San Justo Reservoir to approximately 482'. Mr. Haertel further added the safety staff from the Bureau also had no concerns with the conditions at the reservoir.

d) San Luis Delta Mendota Authority Activities

Mr. Cattaneo reported SLDMWA has lowered their O & M rate for cost of water and the Bureau has also reduced their cost of water.

e) Recycled Water

Mr. Cattaneo reported the storage pond is complete and staff has begun to fill it. With the addition of the pond, the District should be able to capture almost all of the water from the wastewater plant, now.

**9. CLOSED SESSION: Conference with Labor Negotiator
Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6**

Agency Negotiator: District Manager

Title: Office and Field Employees

**10. CLOSED SESSION: Conference with Labor Negotiator
Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6**

Agency Negotiator: District Manager

Unrepresented Employees: Management/Confidential/Professional Employees

The Board convened in Closed Session at 6:45 p.m.

11. OPEN SESSION: Report action if any

The Board reconvened in Open Session at 7:27 p.m.

President Tobias reported there was no action to report on agenda items 9 or 10.

12. Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

The minutes were approved at the June 28, 2017 Board meeting and signed by the presiding board member.

/s/John Tobias
John Tobias, President

/s/Barbara L. Mauro
Barbara L. Mauro, Board Clerk