

July 27, 2016  
Regular Meeting  
6:02 p.m.

The Board of Directors of the San Benito County Water District convened in regular session on Wednesday, July 27, 2016 at 6:02 p.m. at the San Benito County Water District office at 30 Mansfield Road, Hollister, California. Members present were: President Sonny Flores, Vice President John Tobias and Directors Frank Bettencourt and Bob Huenemann; Director Joe Tonascia arrived late. Also present were District Manager/Engineer Jeff Cattaneo, District Counsel David E. Pival, Assistant Manager Sara Singleton, Supervising Accountant Natalie Sullivan and Board Clerk/Office Specialist III Barbara Mauro.

### **CALL TO ORDER**

President Flores called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

- a. **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**  
President Flores 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 Vice President Tobias and a second by Director Bettencourt, the Agenda was unanimously approved.
- d. **Public Input: Members of the Public are Invited to Speak on any Matter not on the Agenda**  
Mary and Pat Hagins, of 1670 Orchard Road, asked to address the Board. Mrs. Hagins stated the District has a pump at Foothill and Orchard Roads. From this pump, Mrs. Hagins states water leaks and causes sink holes. They want to find out who is responsible for this.

*(Director Tonascia arrived at 6:03 p.m.)*

She had a very large sink hole and wants not only resolution on the sink hole but who plans to take care of this in the future. Mr. Hagins added the hole has been plugged but they lost a calf that fell into the sink hole and drowned. Mr. Hagins thinks the Board should press on management to work on this issue. Also, Mr. Hagins stated the County used to take care of it. Mrs. Hagins added she has also submitted this information to San Benito County Counsel for their review.

### **CONSENT AGENDA:**

1. **Approval of Minutes for: June 29, 2016 Regular Meeting**
2. **Allowance of Claims**
3. **Acknowledgement of Paid Claims prior to the July Board Meeting**
4. **Acceptance of Quarterly Investment Report, Ending June 30, 2016**  
With no questions from the Board, a motion was made by Director Bettencourt and seconded by Director Huenemann; the Consent Agenda was unanimously approved.

## **REGULAR AGENDA:**

### **5. Recognizing David E. Pipal for his 40 Years of Service**

Mr. Cattaneo thanked Mr. Pipal for his years of service and presented him with engraved sculpture as a thank you.

### **6. San Benito River Sediment Study Presentation by Justin Gragg, Environmental Science Associates**

Lidia Gutierrez, of Gutierrez Consultants, began with a brief introduction. Ms. Gutierrez reported many agencies are part of the Pajaro River Watershed Flood Prevention Authority (PRWFPA). A study of whether the sediment in the Pajaro River originated from the San Benito River was conducted. The results of this study, done by Environmental Science Associates (ESA), will be presented by Justin Gragg.

Utilizing a PowerPoint Presentation, Mr. Gragg reviewed the study and the results of the study. 300,000 yards of sediment have been removed from the Pajaro River, at a cost of \$8 million. The two topics addressed in this study were: 1) How much sediment (sand/gravel) are from the San Benito River and from the Pajaro River and 2) How can the agencies control and prevent erosion upstream versus removing the sediment downstream. He gave a history of how the San Benito River bed is lowering and what affect that has had on the sediment movement. The conclusion of the study was that 2/3 of the sediment came from the San Benito River and 1/3 came from the Upper Pajaro River and deposited into the Lower Pajaro River and it naturally occurs. Also, there is no blame to San Benito County Water District due to the San Benito River. This study used a modeling simulation to obtain these results over a period of 22 years.

Ms. Gutierrez added the agencies can now focus on the maintenance of sediment in the Pajaro River and removal of sediment is likely to be done on-going, over the course of time.

Director Huenemann asked if it is related to the high water table in the San Juan Valley and Mr. Cattaneo stated it is not.

### **7. Discuss and Consider the Assignment and Amendment for a 3 Year Lease Renewal for 10 Mansfield Road and Authorize the District Manager to sign on behalf of the District**

Mrs. Singleton stated there are two items for the Board's consideration; one is the assignment of the lease and the other is a 3 year lease renewal. The assignment is necessary as there has been a change in the principal of Meadowlark Daycare from Joy Urtnowski to Heidi Nelson. Mrs. Singleton stated staff worked with District Counsel for the correct wording. Additionally, Mrs. Singleton reported there is also a 3 year lease renewal which includes increases to the monthly rent of: \$1925 in year one, \$2025 in year two and \$2125 in year three. She also reported a rate to rent the modular building on an incidental basis and the modifying of one of the bathrooms to add 1 sink and 1 toilet were also negotiated.

Mrs. Singleton reported working with our insurance ACWA/JPIA regarding their playground equipment. It was suggested the coverage, which is currently at \$1 million, be raised to \$2 million. Also, the daycare was granted permission for their employees to

park just off the street near the District's shop. Mrs. Singleton stated the assignment and amendment to the lease as well as the other negotiated items, come to the Board with the recommendation of the Administration Committee.

With no questions from the Board, a motion was made by Vice President Tobias and seconded by Director Tonascia; the Board of Directors unanimously approved of the Assignment and 3 Year Lease Renewal for 10 Mansfield Road and Authorized the District Manager to sign on behalf of the District.

**8. Consider Approval of a 1% salary increase for the Management/Confidential/Professional Employees (effective August 1, 2016)**

Mr. Cattaneo stated he will discuss both Agenda items 8, 9 & 10 together and but the Board must vote on them separately. These agendas items were on last month's agenda in Closed Session. Mr. Cattaneo stated the Board directed staff to write a letter to the Union, to meet and confer, which the union declined as unnecessary. Mr. Cattaneo met with the Management employees. Both groups agreed to the furlough days and the 1% increase.

Mrs. Singleton added the Union acknowledged the relief to their members, regarding the increase.

Mr. Pipal stated the District is reporting-out from the action taken by the Board in the Closed Session from the June meeting.

With no questions from the Board, a motion was made by Director Tonascia and seconded by Director Bettencourt, the Board of Directors unanimously approved of a 1% salary increase for the Management/Confidential/Professional Employees (effective August 1, 2016).

**9. Consider Approval of a 1% wage increase for the Field/Office Employees (effective August 1, 2016)**

With a motion by Vice President Tobias and a second by Director Bettencourt, the Board of Directors unanimously approved of a 1% wage increase for the Field/Office Employees (effective August 1, 2016).

**10. Consider Approval of the Furlough Schedule for FY 2016-2017 for District employees**

With a motion by Director Tonascia and a second by Director Bettencourt, the Board of Directors unanimously approved of the Furlough Schedule for FY 2016-17 for District employees.

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

Mr. Cattaneo reported the update to the Master Plan is moving forward and the Chromium VI evaluation is complete.

Regarding the West Hills Water Treatment Plant, the contractor is about 6 months ahead of schedule and testing may begin as early as June 2016. Mr. Cattaneo reported he has notified the City of Hollister and Sunnyslope County Water District, as this will

accelerate the \$3.4 million call for Tranche 3, probably around the first of the year. He will officially notice them in September or October. Also, Mr. Cattaneo stated Sunnyslope will be adding 3-4 employees for the new treatment plant.

**12. Committee/Agency Representative Reports:**

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

As per Director Tonascia, there will not be any additional water.

**b) Investment Committee (Flores/Tobias)**

As per Director Flores, the committee reviewed the quarterly report.

**13. District Manager/Engineer's Report:**

**a) Reach 1 Operations**

Mr. Cattaneo reported the Pacheco Pumping Plant shutdown is moving forward and the estimated start date is January 13, 2017. He reported the Hollister Conduit, from Bifurcation to Lone Tree Road will have be de-watered. The Engineering staff has surveyed the area near Los Viboras and determined the frog pond would be the perfect location for the water. The estimate for the work needed for the inspection of the Pacheco Pumping Plant is approximately \$6.9 million.

**b) Zone 3 Operations**

Mr. Cattaneo reported there isn't much to report at this time. The District is still mowing and doing weed abatement. District staff is discussing the repair of the valve at Hernandez and he anticipates the actual work to begin sometime in September. Additionally, Mr. Cattaneo reported the District is looking to automate operations at Hernandez similar to the telemetry, so staff could remotely operate from the District office. This would be especially important during storms when access is difficult or impossible for staff.

**c) Zone 6 Operations**

Mr. Cattaneo reported he began filling San Justo Reservoir over the last 2-3 weeks.

**d) San Luis Delta Mendota Authority Activities**

Mr. Cattaneo stated last week the Bureau and San Luis Delta Mendota Water Authority ceased water delivery to San Luis Reservoir. This was an illegal action by the Bureau as there is a Warren Act Contract for water exchanges such as the one from Yuba. SLDMWA is drafting a letter to the Bureau regarding this matter. By the end of this week, Mr. Cattaneo anticipates the District will have about 4000 acre feet of water in San Justo Reservoir. The District should be okay in August and by September; the Jones Pumping Plant should be pumping at full capacity. The issue, per Mr. Cattaneo, is the 120,000 acre feet of water owed to the State. Other factors are temperature management plan which required more water and due to higher tides, more salt water is getting into the Delta. Because Mr. Cattaneo anticipated this happening, he directed staff to begin filling San Justo Reservoir about 3 weeks ago.

e) **Recycled Water**

Mr. Cattaneo reported the District has received a proposal from Auburn Constructors for the change order for the storage ponds, needed for the Recycled Water Project. The proposal is for \$810,000, plus \$30,000 for soil testing. We have scheduled a Special Meeting for next Tuesday to consider this and if approved, work could begin on August 22<sup>nd</sup> with functional testing beginning in October.

Director Huenemann asked what the photo on his desk refers to. Mr. Cattaneo stated it is related to the Hagins' sinkhole and Pacheco Creek.

**14. Adjournment**

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

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The minutes were approved at the August 31, 2016 and signed by the presiding board member.

/s/John Tobias

John Tobias, Vice President

/s/Barbara L. Mauro

Barbara L. Mauro, Board Clerk