

July 31, 2017
Regular Meeting
6:00 p.m.

The Board of Directors of the San Benito County Water District convened in regular session on Monday, July 31, 2017 at 6:00 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 Sullivan, Water Conservation Program Manager Shawn Novack and Board Clerk/Office Specialist III Barbara Mauro.

CALL TO ORDER

President Tobias called the meeting to order at 6:00 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 Vice President Tonascia and seconded by Director Flores; 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: June 28, 2017 Regular Meeting
July 12, 2017 Special Meeting**
2. **Allowance of Claims**
3. **Acceptance of Quarterly Investment Report, Ending June 30, 2017**
4. **Consider Resolution Recognizing Diane Wilks for 10 Years of Service**
With a motion by Director Huenemann and a second by Director Bettencourt, the Consent Agenda, including Resolution #2017-13, *A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the San Benito County Water District, Recognizing Diane Wilks for 10 Years of Service*, was unanimously approved.

REGULAR AGENDA:

5. **Discuss and Consider Acceptance of the Hollister Urban Area Water and Wastewater Master Plan Update**
Utilizing a PowerPoint, Mr. Cattaneo reviewed the Master Plan Update and the changes since the original Master Plan was accepted in 2008. The community has contributed about \$200 million to the projects, with the District contributing about \$45 million. Next,

Mr. Cattaneo reviewed the water demand, up to 2025, when the next update might be needed. The agencies have also discussed reviewing the water demand around 2020.

Vice President Tonascia asked if staff could show the projected demand versus the actual, as that might be helpful; Mr. Cattaneo stated, yes, that can be done. He continued with reviewing the water quality before the West Hills WTP and how it should improve with the new plant. A possible next step, per Mr. Cattaneo, would be groundwater treatment versus expansion of the WHWTP, which would require additional surface water. Another option might be a new well and treatment facility near the airport.

Director Huenemann asked what kind of treatment. Mr. Cattaneo reported some kind of softening (perhaps a pellet process). He added the North Area Groundwater Banking Project is also an option for the future.

Vice President Tonascia asked why the model still shows hardness levels. Mr. Cattaneo stated the model may need some revision.

The next steps in this process, would be for the Board to accept the Master Plan Update. Mr. Cattaneo reported Sunnyslope County Water District's board has already accepted it and the City of Hollister will consider it at their August 7, 2017 council meeting.

President Tobias asked about dates for next steps. Director Flores asked if the demand triggers next steps, which Mr. Cattaneo confirmed.

A member of the audience, Richard Bettencourt stated some parts of the master plan are outside of the sphere of influence and the City of Hollister has a problem with that. Mr. Cattaneo stated, actually LAFCO is the agency that has a problem with the Master Plan's map versus the sphere of influence.

With no further questions, a motion was made by Vice President Tonascia and seconded by Director Huenemann, the Board of Directors unanimously accepted the Hollister Urban Area Water and Wastewater Master Plan Update.

6. Discuss and Consider Resolution for Support of Proposition 1 Water Storage Investment Program Application for the Expansion of Pacheco Reservoir

Mr. Cattaneo stated the Board has already approved the Principles of Agreement with Santa Clara Valley Water District (SCVWD). This resolution, showing the District's support of the project, will go to the State with the Grant packet. Other agencies, such as the City of Hollister, San Benito County Board of Supervisors, Pajaro River Watershed Flood Prevention Authority, are also giving their support to the project. Mr. Cattaneo stated this is simply another step to show the District's commitment to the project.

With no questions from the Board, a motion was made by Vice President Tonascia and seconded by Director Flores, Resolution #2017-14, *A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the San Benito County Water District for Support of Proposition 1 Water Storage Investment Program Application for the Expansion of Pacheco Reservoir*, was passed by 4 affirmative votes (Tobias, Tonascia, Bettencourt and Flores) and 1 no vote (Huenemann).

Following the vote, an exchange was had between Vice President Tonascia and Director Huenemann. Vice President Tonascia asked Director Huenemann why he was on the Board. He added that Director Huenemann represents the people of San Benito County but yet he votes no on anything that would blatantly help them. He further added that Director Huenemann was out for his own good. Director Huenemann said he felt this statement was an exaggeration. Vice President Tonascia replied he didn't think so and feels he (Huenemann) should act more like a public servant. Director Huenemann stated that doesn't mean he has to kowtow to Vice President Tonascia. Vice President Tonascia replied Director Huenemann does not have to kowtow to anyone. President Tobias called the meeting to order. Director Huenemann further stated the resolution passed so he didn't understand what Vice President Tonascia's problem was.

(At a later point in the meeting, Director Huenemann asked that the exchange between he and Director Tonascia be reflected in the minutes.)

7. Staff Report on Government Finance Officers Association Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting

Mrs. Singleton reviewed this item for the Board. She stated this is the highest award the District could receive from the GFOA. The GFOA reviews audited financial statements and receiving this award means the District's report is understandable and transparent. Mrs. Singleton stated Mrs. Sullivan takes the lead on this but is supported by the District's accounting staff. President Tobias and Director Bettencourt thanked staff for their efforts in obtaining this prestigious award.

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

Mr. Cattaneo showed a short video which showed the nearly completed West Hills WTP, taken by a drone.

9. Committee/Agency Representative Reports:

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

As per Director Tonascia, the upcoming workshops on the California WaterFix were discussed as well as the Pacheco Reservoir Project and how the agencies can create more water storage.

b) Pajaro River Watershed Flood Prevention Authority (Bettencourt/Flores)

As per Director Bettencourt, the members discussed the Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project and the High Speed Rail Project. Mr. Cattaneo added, the members' focus was on the Pacheco Reservoir Project was on the flood benefit.

c) Water Resources Association (Flores/Bettencourt)

As per Director Flores, it was mainly general business. Mr. Novack added they discussed public outreach regarding WHWTP and water conservation staying steady at 15-18%.

10. District Manager/Engineer's Report:

a) Reach 1 Operations

Mr. Cattaneo reported the Pacheco Pumping Plant was down for about a week and a half. The apparent problem was PG&E lost power and the pump room was flooded. Because the pumping plant was down, it affected water pressure District wide. The Lessalt WTP was shut down for about a day and it also affected subsystems 9L and 9H. Mr. Cattaneo explained how the air valves work and what could have caused the issue at the plant.

Director Huenemann asked if they test the air valves at the plant. Mr. Cattaneo said yes, but there should have been a back-up in place. He plans to ask that the District not be responsible for any costs associated with the issues that occurred at the plant due to this problem.

b) Zone 3 Operations

Mr. Cattaneo reported District staff is continuing to release water from Hernandez and Paicines Reservoirs. He stated his target date is mid-September to reduce Hernandez Reservoir to 1500 AF.

c) Zone 6 Operations

Mr. Cattaneo reported District staff continues to fill San Justo Reservoir and the District is meeting the high demands for water. Currently, we are operating at 120 cubic feet per second (cfs). The demand has been especially high in Sub 10, so the water office has been asking all users to schedule their water usage. Mr. Cattaneo added, the elevation at San Justo is going up approximately 1 foot per day and the District continues its percolation releases.

d) San Luis Delta Mendota Authority Activities

San Luis Reservoir is at approximately 95% capacity. Mr. Cattaneo reported it is expected to fill sometime in December.

- **Special Workshops, July 19, 2017 and July 26, 2017 on the California Waterfix Project**

Mr. Cattaneo reported there has been 2 workshops so far. The first, on July 19th, described the project and gave a general overview. The second, July 26th, was more on operational issues. Mr. Cattaneo then reviewed the PowerPoints shown at the workshops.

Director Huenemann stated it appears the key is the intake structure; why not build it near the current structures? Mr. Cattaneo replied technically yes, but that would mean rebuilding the pumping plants. Director Huenemann asked about an intermediate forebay. Mr. Cattaneo stated not all preliminary designs have been discussed at this point. Also, there are concerns about seismic events causing issues with the current system.

e) Recycled Water

Mr. Cattaneo reported all is going well with the recycled water program.

f) **Pacheco Reservoir**

Mr. Cattaneo reported the Grant Application is due to the State on August 14th. Also, this Friday, Mr. Haertel will conduct a tour at Pacheco Pass Water District for Santa Clara Valley Water District board members and a member of the California Water Commission.

11. Adjournment

With nothing further to report. The meeting was adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

Minutes were approved at the August 30, 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