

August 26, 2015  
Regular Meeting  
6:01 p.m.

The Board of Directors of the San Benito County Water District convened in regular session on Wednesday, August 26, 2015 at 6:01 p.m. at the San Benito County Water District office at 30 Mansfield Road, Hollister, California. Members present were: President Joe Tonascia, Vice President Sonny Flores and Directors John Tobias, Frank Bettencourt and Bob Huenemann. Also present were District Manager/Engineer Jeff Cattaneo, District Counsel David E. Pipal, Assistant Manager Sara Singleton, Deputy District Engineer Dale Roskamp, Supervising Accountant Natalie Sullivan, Water Conservation Program Manager Shawn Novack, Consultant Harry Blohm, and Office Specialist III Barbara Mauro.

### **CALL TO ORDER**

President Tonascia called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

**a. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**

President Tonascia 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**

Prior to the approval of the Agenda, Director Huenemann asked that agenda item #6, which he felt was still in a rough state, be postponed until the next Board Meeting. Vice President Flores asked if there is a time frame or deadline to be met if we delay until next month; Mr. Cattaneo stated no. With Director Huenemann's motion to postpone agenda item #6 to the September meeting and seconded by Director Tobias; the Board unanimously approved of its removal from tonight's board agenda.

With a motion by Vice President Flores, noting the removal of agenda item #6, and a second by Director Tobias, 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: July 29, 2015 Regular Meeting**

**2. Allowance of Claims**

**3. Acknowledgement of Paid Claims prior to the August Board Meeting**

With no questions from the Board or the public, a motion was made by Director Bettencourt and seconded by Director Huenemann; the Consent Agenda was unanimously approved.

### **REGULAR AGENDA:**

**4. West Hills Water Treatment Plant Project**

Mr. Cattaneo stated the agencies have been working on this project for several years now; the Incidental Take Permit took about 3 years to obtain. At the meeting tonight, Mr.

Cattaneo introduced Dean Bailey, President of Auburn Constructors; Bob Ellis, of HDR, who is the design engineer, John Dahl, of Dahl Consulting, who is the construction manager, Harry Blohm who is the Project Manager and Dale Rosskamp, a member of the District engineering staff. For the Project, 5 bids were received and Auburn Constructors was the low bid. The bid is about 5% over the engineer's estimate, but is within the parameters. Staff is recommending Board approval. Included in the total of \$24,923,115, is an allowance to cover change orders. Mr. Cattaneo stated he has met with the managers of the City of Hollister (COH) and Sunnyslope County Water District (SSCWD) (our partners in this project) and they have acknowledged the additional expense. On September 14, 2015, if approved tonight, Mr. Cattaneo will give the notice to proceed to begin construction.

**a. Consider Awarding a Contract to Auburn Constructors, Inc. for the West Hills Water Treatment Plant Project and Authorizing District Manager to Execute all Documents Necessary (\$ 24,923,115)**

With a motion by Director Tobias and a second by Vice President Flores, the Board of Directors approved Awarding a Contract to Auburn Constructors, Inc. for the West Hills Water Treatment Plant Project and Authorize the District Manager to Execute all Documents Necessary (\$24,923,115) by 4 affirmative votes (Tonascia, Flores, Tobias and Bettencourt) and 1 abstention (Huenemann).

**b. Consider Approval of Contractor Payment Process**

Just as we did with the Lessalt Water Treatment Plant Upgrade Project, Mr. Cattaneo stated staff is asking the Board to approve payment of the contractor for West Hills Water Treatment Plant to be outside of our regular claims process, which is monthly at the board meetings. Construction payments are on a different time schedule. The bills would be submitted first to the construction manager and reviewed and then submitted to the District Manager for his review and then approval for payment.

With a motion by Vice President Flores and a second by Director Bettencourt, the Board of Directors approved of the contractor payment process by 4 affirmative votes (Tonascia, Flores, Tobias and Bettencourt) and 1 abstention (Huenemann).

**5. Discuss and Consider Approval of Resolution Establishing an Interim Policy for Rescheduling Unused/Conserved 2015-2016 Water by Municipal & Industrial Contract Water Users**

Mr. Cattaneo stated this is similar to the past few years except our Ag customers had a -0- water allocation, so the Ag contract and small parcel customers have -0- to reschedule. The only customers that have an allocation to reschedule would be the M & I contract customers. Discussion ensued about the blending of the cost of water if the District does get the North of Delta transfer water.

With a motion by Director Bettencourt and a second by Director Huenemann, Resolution #2015-18, *A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the San Benito County Water District Establishing an Interim Policy for Rescheduling Unused/Conserved 2015-2016 Water by Municipal & Industrial Contract Users* was unanimously approved.

**6. Discuss and Consider Resolution Adopting the San Benito County Water District, United States Bureau of Reclamation Water Management Plan**  
*(Postponed to the September Board Meeting)*

**7. Discuss and Consider Ethics Training for Board of Directors and Staff**

Mrs. Singleton gave 3 options available to the Board to obtain the necessary training; hiring Liebert, Cassidy & Whitmore to give in-house training, rent a webinar (also through Liebert, Cassidy & Whitmore) for the Board to view collectively or individually, to take the free training offered through the California Fair Political Practices Commission either at home or at the District. All members of the Board felt the on-line training through the FPPC would work for them.

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

Mr. Blohm began by briefing the Board on the Recycled Water Project, which is part of the Master Plan, accepted by all of the agencies in 2008 & 2010. Today, a pre-bid meeting was held for this project. Mr. Cattaneo reported 9 contractors attended today's meeting. For this project, there will be 30 service connections and 2 crossings will need to be made under the PG&E gas lines. The bids are due on September 10<sup>th</sup> and the Board may need to hold a Special Meeting to award the contract.

In regards to the Master Plan Update, Mr. Blohm stated we will need to update the demand forecast, which the COH and SSCWD provide the necessary data. In the Master Plan and in the Coordinated Plan, there are tables that contain the forecasts. For the Master Plan Update, Mr. Blohm stated staff hopes for completion by the middle of 2016, which is on schedule.

Regarding the Hexavalent Chromium VI (Chrom. VI), all of the COH wells are out of compliance. For the water supply update, it will rely heavily on reducing the content of the Chrom. VI in the drinking water. An update will be given to the COH Council on September 8<sup>th</sup> per Mr. Blohm. Also, both houses of the California legislature approved an extension on this issue, so it will go before the Governor next.

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

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

As per Mr. Cattaneo, he will cover this under his Manager's Report.

**b) Water Resources Association (Flores/Bettencourt)**

As per Director Flores, he did not attend this meeting.

**c) Administration Committee (Tobias/Flores)**

As per Mr. Cattaneo, the committee discussed having District owned property appraised at Ridgemark, and also the Ag Water Management Plan.

**d) Zone 3 Water Supply & Operations Committee (Tonascia/Huenemann)**

As per Mr. Cattaneo, the committee discussed the removal of sediment from the Paicines Reservoir. A landowner has offered to remove it (8000 yards) at no cost to the District. If not removed, the sediment could interfere with the operation of

the slide gate. Director Bettencourt asked if permits are needed; Mr. Cattaneo stated no, as it is maintenance work.

- e) **Zone 6 Water Supply Committee (Tobias/Flores)**  
As per Director Tobias, the committee discussed the rescheduled water policy and having a growers meeting in September.
- f) **Pacheco Reservoir Exploratory Ad Hoc Committee (Tobias/Flores)**  
As per Mr. Cattaneo, the committee discussed options for Governance for the Pacheco Pass Water District and also scheduling a joint Ad Hoc Meeting with our District and Santa Clara Valley Water District (SCVWD).

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

- a) **Reach 1 Operations**  
Mr. Cattaneo reported that the Pacheco Pass Pumping Station is still out of operation due to a SCVWD pipeline break. Mr. Cattaneo explained the difference between SCVWD's pipeline and the Hollister Conduit.
- b) **Zone 3 Operations**  
Mr. Cattaneo reported this was covered under the committee reports.
- c) **Zone 6 Operations**  
Mr. Cattaneo reported the District is currently operating solely on San Justo Reservoir. He added by the end of the year, staff hopes to draw it down to about 1800 acre feet and expose more of the zebra mussels. There was an article in the Free Lance about the zebra mussels. The County implied that we are nearing the re-opening of San Justo Reservoir. Mr. Cattaneo reported the steps to re-open the reservoir are: 1. Finish the NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act); and 2. Obtain funding to eradicate the mussels (\$3 million). The District is currently operating effectively with the zebra mussels at this point. Director Tobias asked if the public has all of this information. Mr. Cattaneo added he is taking a tour of San Justo with the Board of Supervisors next Monday and will give them all of this information, once again.
- d) **San Luis Delta Mendota Authority Activities**  
Mr. Cattaneo reported the current water supply was discussed. There are 40,000 acre feet of Federal water in San Luis but there is a commitment of 121,000 acre feet of grower carry over water because the Bureau has been borrowing from the carry over water. He also discussed the possibility of a temporary restraining order to prevent the release of water from Trinity Reservoir into the Klamath River.
- e) **Pacheco Pass Water District**  
Mr. Cattaneo reported this was covered under the committee reports.

Director Bettencourt asked to make a comment. With the approval of the contract to Auburn Constructors for the West Hills Water Treatment Plant, the District and its partner agencies reached quite a milestone tonight; it took several years to get to this point. He wished to acknowledge this.

**11. Adjournment**

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

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The minutes were approved at the September 30, 2015 Board Meeting and signed by the presiding board member.

/s/ Joseph A. Tonascia  
Joseph A. Tonascia, President

/s/ Sara Singleton  
Sara Singleton, Acting Recording Secretary