

August 30, 2017
Regular Meeting
6:00 p.m.

The Board of Directors of the San Benito County Water District convened in regular session on Wednesday, August 30, 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 and Sonny Flores; Director Bob Huenemann was absent. 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 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**
Noting the date correction of the minutes from the last board meeting, a motion was made 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: July 31, 2017 Regular Meeting**
2. **Allowance of Claims**
3. **Acknowledgement of Paid Claims prior to the August Board Meeting**
With a motion by Director Bettencourt and a second by Vice President Tonascia, the Consent Agenda was unanimously approved.

REGULAR AGENDA:

4. **Discuss and Consider Authorizing the District Manager to Execute a Contract for the Purchase of Mitigation Credits Relating to the Construction of West Hills Treatment Plant from South Bay Conservation Resources, LLC (\$440,000)**
Mr. Cattaneo stated part of the construction of the West Hills Water Treatment Plant (WHWTP) was to provide mitigation. Several options were reviewed, including on-site mitigation. On-site mitigation would have included annual surveys, and would have cost significantly more. The South Bay Conservation Resources, LLC is the same mitigation used by Santana Ranch and during negotiations with California Fish and Wildlife

(CDFW), was the preferred site. This mitigation is for 11 acres, for the cost of \$440,000. Once agreed to and paid for, the mitigation is no longer the District's responsibility and any future issues will be handled directly with the mitigation bank. Also, we have a letter of credit with CDFW for about \$850,000 which can be removed once this process is complete.

With no questions from the Board, a motion was made by Vice President Tonascia and seconded by Director Flores, the Board of Directors unanimously Authorized the District Manager to Execute a Contract for the Purchase of Mitigation Credits Relating to the Construction of West Hills Water Treatment Plant from South Bay Conservation Resources, LLC (\$440,000).

5. Consider Approval of Resolution to make an Application to the State Department of Water Resources to obtain a Grant under the 2017 Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant Program pursuant to the Water Quality, Supply and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014

Mr. Cattaneo stated the Board's previous action was to apply to be the Groundwater Management Agency for our basin. The State has a grant program, up to \$1 million, to develop the plan. The Board's action would be to approve the resolution and it will be forwarded to the Department of Water Resources with the grant application.

Richard Bettencourt, a member of the audience, asked if staff would be including wastewater. Mr. Cattaneo stated no, this is only for groundwater management, however; wastewater is a source of water in the county.

With no further questions, a motion was made by Director Flores and seconded by Vice President Tonascia, Resolution #2017-15, *a Resolution of the Board of Directors of the San Benito County Water District to make an Application to the State Department of Water Resources to obtain a Grant under the 2017 Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant Program pursuant to the Water Quality, Supply and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014* was unanimously approved.

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

Mr. Cattaneo reported the WHWTP is complete and the connections are finished. Tomorrow or Friday, it is anticipated that water will be put into the City system. He added, the plant was completed within budget.

President Tobias asked if we plan to have a media event. Mr. Cattaneo stated yes, an Open House. Mrs. Singleton added, it is likely to be held in October. Mr. Cattaneo further added, the plan is to have an early morning tour for the elected officials and then later the same day, open it to the public.

7. Committee/Agency Representative Reports:

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

As per Director Tonascia, he did not attend.

b) Water Resources Association (Flores/Bettencourt)

As per Director Flores, general business was discussed.

- c) **Personnel Committee (Tobias/Tonascia)**
As per Mr. Cattaneo, District staffing and 2 closed session items were discussed.

8. District Manager/Engineer's Report:

- a) **Reach 1 Operations**

Mr. Cattaneo reported the District is moving forward with the planned shutdown on October 6th. Staff is working on a dewater plan. Also, Mr. Cattaneo reported that while the water is off, the District is planning on replacing 12 underground valves and 12 air relief valves.

President Tobias asked if the new valves are a new design. Mr. Cattaneo stated no, just replacing with new valves, same design. The valves' cost are about \$3000 each. President Tobias further asked if the District will have time to find a contractor on short notice. Mr. Cattaneo stated that is the plan or the District can do the work in-house.

- b) **Zone 3 Operations**

Mr. Cattaneo reported Hernandez Reservoir should be down to about 1000 AF of water by the Friday and at that point, the District will cease making any further releases. Also, there is about 800 AF of water in Paicines Reservoir and the District will continue releases until the reservoir is empty. The District is also working on the spillway evaluation at Hernandez Reservoir.

- c) **Zone 6 Operations**

Mr. Cattaneo reported there is about 14,000 AF of contracted AG water and the District has use for almost all of the M & I allocation. The District continues to increase storage in San Justo Reservoir and is now at 479' elevation. Mr. Cattaneo stated that leaves only 6' left to the target elevation of 485. Mr. Cattaneo reported the District continues to percolate at the Granite Rock property on Union Road and the San Benito River. His goal is to percolate approximately 4000 AF. San Luis Reservoir is anticipated to fill sometime in early December.

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

- **Special Workshop, August 16, 2017 on the California Waterfix Project**

- Using a PowerPoint that was given at the workshop, Mr. Cattaneo reviewed the financing of the proposed project. Sometime in September, Mr. Cattaneo would like to hold a workshop on the California Waterfix Project so he can discuss it in more detail.

- e) **Recycled Water**

Mr. Cattaneo reported all is going well with the Recycled Water. The District has plenty of water and the storage pond is operational.

- f) **Pacheco Reservoir**

Mr. Cattaneo reported the grant application has been submitted. Santa Clara Valley Water District (SCVWD) has allocated about \$2 million to the project, over the next 2 years. Also, SCVWD has authorized spending \$500,000 while

waiting for an answer on the grant. Mr. Cattaneo stated our commitment so far is 5%.

g) Next Board Meeting, September 20, 2017

Mr. Cattaneo reminded the Board that next month's board meeting is a week early, as approved last year when reviewing the 2017 calendar, as it conflicted with the San Benito County Fair.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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 and 54957.6
Agency Negotiator: District Manager
Title: Assistant Manager Contract**

(The Board convened in Closed Session at 6:33 p.m.)

11. Reconvene in Open Session

(Government Code Section 54957.1)

(The Board reconvened in Open Session at 6:42 p.m.)

President Tobias reported no action was taken in closed session.

a. Approve Resolution Adopting "Personnel Rules and Regulations" and Repealing any prior District Rules and Regulations in conflict therewith
With a motion by Vice President Tonascia and a second by Director Flores, Resolution #2017-16, *A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the San Benito County Water District Adopting "Personnel Rules and Regulations" and Repealing any prior District Rules and Regulations in conflict therewith* was unanimously approved.

b. Take action, if any, on item #10

With a motion by Director Flores and a second by Director Bettencourt, the Board of Directors unanimously approved a 2nd Amendment for the Assistant Manager, for a 3 year term with annual salaries of \$147,872, \$152,308 and \$156,877.

12. Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:44 p.m.

Minutes were approved at the September 20, 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