

October 23, 2013
Regular Meeting
6:00 p.m.

The Board of Directors of the San Benito County Water District convened in regular session on Wednesday, October 23, 2013 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, and Directors Frank Bettencourt, Sonny Flores and Joe Torquato. Vice President Joe Tonascia arrived late. Also present were District Manager/Engineer Jeff Cattaneo, District Counsel David E. Pipal, Assistant Manager Sara Singleton, Deputy District Engineer Dale Rosskamp and 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. Approval of Agenda**
With a motion by Director Flores and a second by Director Torquato, the Agenda was unanimously approved.
- c. 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: September 25, 2013 Regular Meeting**
- 2. Allowance of Claims**
- 3. Acknowledgement of Paid Claims prior to the September Board Meeting**
- 4. Acceptance of Quarterly Investment Report, Ending September 30, 2013**

Director Bettencourt was absent from the last board meeting and asked to abstain from the approval of the minutes.

With a motion by Director Torquato and a second by Director Flores, the Consent Agenda was approved by President Tobias, Director Flores and Director Torquato; Director Bettencourt abstained and Director Tonascia was absent.

REGULAR AGENDA:

- 5. Presentation to Board by Todd Engineers on the current status of the Salt and Nutrient Management Plan**

Mr. Cattaneo stated Sally McCraven from Todd Engineers will make a presentation to the board. Mr. Cattaneo added this plan began about 16 months ago and it is a necessary component for the District's Recycled Water Project.

Ms. McCraven, utilizing a Power Point presentation, gave the board the current status of the Plan.

Ms. McCraven stated a Salt and Nutrient Management Plan (SNMP) is required for the District's Recycled Water Project. This should allow the District to streamline the

permitting process. Director Torquato asked if outside companies can dovetail on this plan; Ms. McCraven stated yes, it should be possible.

Part of the SNMP is that it allows for regional monitoring rather than site by site. President Tobias asked if all of the agencies need to do this type of plan. Ms. McCraven stated yes. President Tobias also stated this seems to be a long process; can't the District use data from other areas. Ms. McCraven stated no, we need our own data.

Ms. McCraven reviewed the components of the SNMP which include the stakeholder process, the goals and objectives, the hydrogeologic model, the existing water quality, TDS and Nitrate levels, the salt and nutrient balance and the loading sources for TDS and nitrates. President Tobias asked where the loading numbers are taken from. Ms. McCraven stated they used the groundwater and CVP water numbers to form an assumption. Ms. McCraven explained how the assumption and estimating process is done. Mr. Cattaneo added the District evaluated several growers information and found it be close to Ms. McCraven's data.

(Director Tonascia arrived at 6:26 p.m.)

Regarding monitoring, Ms. McCraven stated they are recommending the District continue what is currently being monitored and adding 13 additional wells to make the program more robust.

Implementation measures will include programs and projects to manage the salt and nutrient levels, such as the Lessalt Water Treatment Plant upgrade, the new West Hills Water Treatment Plant and the North County Groundwater Optimization Study. Implementation will also include improving source water quality from CVP, groundwater, waste water, storm water and irrigation return flow. Discussion ensued about groundwater quality, storm water management and Ag water management to reduce the salt and nutrient loading. Director Tonascia added regarding Ag, there is a 3 tier process through the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB).

Director Torquato asked what the timeframe of the SNMP is. Ms. McCraven stated it is complete and has been submitted to the RWQCB and is waiting for a response. Mr. Cattaneo added the RWQCB attended the stakeholder meetings and the District is hopeful that helped.

6. Consider Amending the Amount Authorized to Retire Debt Related to Delta Habitat Conservation and Conveyance Program Activity Agreement for Participation in the San Luis & Delta – Mendota Water Authority Delta Habitat Conservation and Conveyance Plan Program (\$94,430.50)

Mr. Cattaneo reported the original pay-off approved previously by the Board was \$1.125 million. Now, to close out the debt and pay-off the interest, there is an additional amount due of \$94,000. President Tobias stated he thought this had already been paid. Mr. Cattaneo replied, no, payment is due the first week of December. With no further questions from the board, a motion was made by Director Tonascia and seconded by Director Torquato; the Board of Directors unanimously agreed to Amend the Amount Authorized to Retire Debt Related to Delta Habitat Conservation and Conveyance

Program Activity Agreement for Participation in the San Luis & Delta – Mendota Water Authority Delta Habitat Conservation and Conveyance Plan Program (\$94,430.50).

7. Staff Report on the Hollister Urban Area Water and Wastewater Master Plan Update and Lessalt Water Treatment Plant Update

Mr. Cattaneo gave an update on the Lessalt WTP. The contract for the project was approved at the last board meeting and he distributed a breakdown for the project. President Tobias asked about the timing. Mr. Cattaneo replied it is up to the contractor but they have 365 days from the date of the notice to proceed, which will be November 4, 2013. Director Tonascia was surprised Specialty Construction had not provided a timeline for the project. Mr. Cattaneo stated there is a \$2000/day penalty if they go beyond the end date. President Tobias added it might be wise to add wording requiring a timeline into future contracts. Mrs. Singleton added District staff will be developing a report to give to the Board on a monthly basis for the project status. President Tobias requested staff ask for a timeline from the contractor.

Regarding the West Hills Water Treatment Plant, the District is moving forward on the design work and an extended survey for the possible presence of the California tiger salamander which should start tomorrow.

Also, Mr. Cattaneo will be issuing a notice to proceed to Specialty Construction, with a date of November 4, 2013 for Lessalt WTP upgrades.

8. Committee/Agency Representative Reports:

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

President Tobias stated this will be covered under the Manager's report.

b) Investment Committee (Flores/Tobias)

As per President Tobias, the Quarterly Investment Report was discussed.

c) Rural Water Systems Committee (Flores/Tonascia)

Mr. Cattaneo reported that three committee meetings have been held, with another scheduled for November 14, 2013. At the last meeting, staff presented 2 options to the committee and homeowners who attended the meeting. Option 1, would be to have the District continue operating the system and make the necessary improvements if successful Prop 218's were approved for a one-time Assessment and a rate increase. Option 2, would be to break the system into 2 parts, having the homeowners operate the system on their own. In order to pay for the second well, the District proposed paying for it and being reimbursed by an assessment paid for over 5 years and would be approximately \$750 annually per connection. Mr. Cattaneo stated he was surprised the homeowners hesitated to choose Option 2. Also, the last water test done for the Fairview Road Water System was in violation of the disinfection by-products and instead of an annual test, the Department of Public Health (DPH) will now require quarterly testing.

Director Tonascia asked if the District can force the issue. Mr. Cattaneo replied the homeowners/tenants can either choose one of the options offered or the District will have no choice but to proceed with the Prop 218 process.

9. District Manager/Engineer's Report:

a) Reach 1 Operations

Mr. Cattaneo reported he is waiting to hearing from Santa Clara Valley Water District about the shutdown. Instead of a complete shutdown, as previously stated, Santa Clara may elect to do a partial de-water which will de-water the tunnel for an inspection.

b) Zone 3 Operations

Mr. Cattaneo reported District staff, with assistance from San Benito Supply, has completed the grout wall, approximately 135 feet, on a portion of the Paicines canal using about 90 yards of cement. (Mr. Cattaneo showed photos of the work). The approximate cost is \$14,000, (roughly \$100/linear feet) not including District employee Greig Bryan's time. If this is found to be effective, the District will consider using this same method at other trouble spots on the canal.

c) Zone 6 Operations

Mr. Cattaneo reported the District is operating off of San Justo Reservoir now. Mr. Cattaneo has instructed Michael Craig to test the water at the reservoir, to see if it is still anoxide water. The District will have 5500 AF of stored water left in San Luis Reservoir. SLDMWA is only operating 2 pumps, due to a lack of water.

d) San Luis Delta Mendota Authority Activities

Mr. Cattaneo reported the current and future water supply was discussed. Also, following our last board meeting where the board authorized participation in the public relations program, SLDMWA's board approved participation.

10. Consider Authorizing District Manager and Director Attendance at the 2013 ACWA Fall Conference, December 3rd through 6th, 2013 in Los Angeles, California

If anyone is interested in attending, they were directed to contact Barbara Mauro.

11. Consider Authorizing Director Attendance at the 2013 JPIA's Board of Directors' Meeting on December 2nd, 2013 in Los Angeles, California

Director Bettencourt expressed interest in attending; Mrs. Mauro will make the necessary arrangements.

12. Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Minutes were approved at the November 20, 2013 Board Meeting and signed by the presiding board member.

John Tobias
John Tobias, President

Barbara L. Mauro
Barbara L. Mauro, Recording Secretary