

November 20, 2013  
Regular Meeting  
6:00 p.m.

The Board of Directors of the San Benito County Water District convened in regular session on Wednesday, November 20, 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, Supervising Accountant Natalie Sullivan, Consultant Harry Blohm 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 Bettencourt, 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**   **October 23, 2013     Regular Meeting**
- 2. Allowance of Claims**
- 3. Acknowledgement of Paid Claims prior to the November Board Meeting**

With no questions from the board, a motion was made by Director Torquato and seconded by Director Bettencourt; the consent agenda was unanimously approved.

### **REGULAR AGENDA:**

- 4. Discuss and Consider Resolution for Adoption of Reach 1 Condition Level**  
Mr. Cattaneo stated at an Ad Hoc Meeting with two of our board members and members of Santa Clara Valley Water District in February, the methodology for maintenance of the Reach 1 facilities was discussed. The committees agreed to adopt the condition level agreed upon, one of them being unplanned outages to be no longer than two weeks. Brown and Caldwell were hired to perform an assessment of the facilities. The report was extensive and they found the majority of the facilities maintenance to be satisfactory. Both Districts agree a level for continued maintenance needs to be established. Mr. Cattaneo stated the Board action would be to approve the resolution adopting the Reach 1 Condition Level.

With a motion by Director Bettencourt and a second by Director Flores, Resolution #2013-18, *A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the San Benito County Water*

*District Approving a Condition Level for the Maintenance of San Felipe Division Reach 1 Facilities* was unanimously approved.

**5. Discuss and Consider Approval of Resolution In Support of the Association of California Water Agencies' Statewide Water Action Plan**

Mr. Cattaneo stated a draft resolution was sent by ACWA to its member agencies. Governor Brown is preparing a statewide water action plan and this would be ACWA's version that they intend to give the Governor prior to his plan being released. Mr. Cattaneo stated he spoke with Dan Nelson, of San Luis and Delta-Mendota Water Authority. Mr. Nelson stated the authority gave input to this plan. Mr. Cattaneo stated our focus is water through the Delta, but ACWA has members throughout the state, so the resolution encompasses many issues. Mr. Cattaneo raised some concerns but Mr. Nelson stated all items were valid. It is the option of the Board to approve this resolution but the positive side would be to show our name on the list going to the Governor.

Director Torquato asked is there is a financial commitment; Mr. Cattaneo stated there is no commitment.

President Tobias added ACWA is attempting to get the Governor's attention for future discussions.

With no further questions, a motion was made by Director Flores and seconded by Director Torquato, Resolution #2013-19, *A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the San Benito County Water District in Support of the Association of California Water Agencies' Statewide Water Action Plan* was unanimously approved.

**6. Discuss and Consider Approval of Intercept Well Number 4 Well Rehabilitation at San Justo Reservoir Low Bid with a Recommendation for Approval and Direct District Manager/Engineer to Authorize and Sign Accordingly**

Dale Rosskamp gave the background on the intercept well. There are four intercept wells at San Justo Reservoir but this is the work horse of the four and is in need of rehabilitation. The District solicited bids, mailing out five and received only two. The bid's scope was to clean the bottom of the well as well as the screens. The low bid was Maggiora Brothers, \$10,190.00.

President Tobias asked what the time table is. Mr. Rosskamp stated with a good weather and the reservoir level low, it should be able to done quickly.

Discussion ensued about how long this repair work will last and that this is the first work done on this well in 20 years.

*(Vice President Tonascia arrived at 6:18 p.m.)*

With no further questions, a motion was made by Director Flores and seconded by Director Torquato; the Board of Directors unanimously gave approval of Intercept Well #4 Rehabilitation at San Justo Reservoir Low Bid and Directed District Manager/Engineer to Authorize and Sign Accordingly.

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

Mr. Blohm reported significant work has been done at the West Hills Water Treatment Plant (WHWTP). HDR is currently working on the final design work for the plant. Staff from the District and Sunnyslope County Water District (SSCWD), HDR and Kennedy-Jenks is on a water quality group which has done successful bench testing on water from the bottom of the reservoir as one of their tasks. The process of water treatment was reviewed and will be revisited after more testing has been completed.

Mr. Blohm then reported on the endangered species issues at the site. ESA, our environmental consultant, will be preparing a biological assessment which will include the kit fox, the red-legged frog and the California tiger salamander. Contracting with Denise Duffy & Associates for a second opinion, the options for the endangered species issues are:

1. On-site mitigation
2. Mitigation in San Benito County
3. Buy into a mitigation bank
4. Hybrid—a combo of several of these options

Mr. Blohm stated option 3 would be the most economical and cause the least amount of problems. Yesterday a meeting was held with the USBR and it went well. Mr. Blohm discussed the possibility of Ohlone Regional Park for mitigation. President Tobias asked what the cost would be. Mr. Blohm stated \$35,000/acre and we would need 11.1 acres. Discussion ensued about how mitigation works including monitoring plans, reserved areas and endowments. Mr. Cattaneo stated this could cause a delay and increase the construction costs. Mr. Blohm added there are both timing and costs issues involved and the best solution would be using a mitigation bank.

Regarding Lessalt WTP, Specialty Construction has provided a schedule which has been reviewed by District staff, Kennedy-Jenks and John Dahl, the construction manager, per Mr. Blohm. Mr. Cattaneo added he asked Mr. Blohm to have Kennedy-Jenks review the schedule as they are most familiar with the plant (Kennedy-Jenks designed the plant). Mr. Cattaneo stated the schedule seems reasonable.

Mrs. Singleton distributed a recap of Tranche #1, which will cover the Lessalt construction and the pre-construction costs of the WHWTP. The City of Hollister (COH) and SSCWD will be reimbursed for the design and engineering costs for Lessalt and all three agencies (COH, SSCWD & SBCWD) will be reimbursed for project costs since 9/1/2011.

Mr. Cattaneo added a Notice to Proceed was given to Specialty Construction on November 4, 2013. Specialty has moved equipment on-site and will begin construction the first week of December.

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

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

As per Vice President Tonascia, the only item discussed was the lack of water.

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

As per Director Flores, general business was discussed.

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

As per Mr. Cattaneo, there was not a meeting.

**d) Finance Committee (Bettencourt/Torquato)**

As per Mr. Cattaneo, the Audit Services RFP and the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Financial Reporting were discussed. The Audit RFP is due back on December 13, 2013 with interviews being conducted in January 2014. President Tobias asked what the term will be. Mrs. Singleton stated one year with an option for a second and third year.

Additionally, the committee discussed groundwater rates and the possibility of approving multiple year rates and reaffirm the rate annually. Mr. Cattaneo stated if the Board approved a 2 year rate, it would then coincide with the San Felipe Rates. Mrs. Singleton added staff needs to confirm the numbers before a Prop 218 notice can be mailed.

**e) Rural Water Systems Committee (Flores/Tonascia)**

As per Mr. Cattaneo, the committee met with the homeowners of the Fairview Road Water System last week. They reviewed the options that had been given previously. The decision seems to be the majority of the homeowners want to take the system back. Mr. Cattaneo spoke to Jan Sweigert of the Department of Public Health and she is concerned the homeowners can operate the system satisfactorily if the District turns it over to them.

President Tobias asked why not move forward with a Prop 218. Mr. Cattaneo stated staff needs advice from District Counsel on the best way to proceed.

**f) Zone 6 Water Supply Committee (Tobias/Flores)**

As per Mr. Cattaneo, the committee reviewed the draft resolution supporting ACWA's Statewide Water Plan.

**g) San Felipe Divisions Activities Ad Hoc Committee (Tobias/Tonascia)**

As per Mr. Cattaneo, the committee reviewed the draft resolution on the Reach 1 Condition Level.

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

**a) Reach 1 Operations**

Mr. Cattaneo reported the scheduled shutdown will only be for approximately 3 weeks as they are only doing the tunnel inspection. Santa Clara Valley Water District (SCVWD) is concerned about getting zebra mussels in their system at bifurcation. SCVWD wants a different valve installed at bifurcation, at SBCWD's expense. It is a 54" valve and could cost approximately \$1 million. Mrs. Singleton added a lot of progress has been made over the last five years and SBCWD is receiving more high level attention. The goal will be to develop a 7-10 year plan for replacement and maintenance with regular inspections.

**b) Zone 3 Operations**

Mr. Cattaneo reported district staff completed the Hernandez outlet work and it appears to be in good condition.

**c) Zone 6 Operations**

Mr. Cattaneo reported the District will continue to hold the level in San Justo Reservoir at its current level. It is speculated that San Luis Reservoir will not fill so the District will wait until the last minute to refill the San Justo Reservoir.

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

Mr. Cattaneo stated this has already been covered.

**10. Adjournment**

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

---

Minutes were approved at the December 18, 2013 Board Meeting and signed by the presiding board member.

/s/John Tobias  
John Tobias, President

/s/Barbara L. Mauro  
Barbara L. Mauro, Recording Secretary