

December 21, 2016  
Regular Meeting  
6:02 p.m.

The Board of Directors of the San Benito County Water District convened in regular session on Wednesday, December 21, 2016 at 6:02 p.m. at the San Benito County Water District office at 30 Mansfield Road, Hollister, California. Members present were: President Sonny Flores, Vice President John Tobias and Directors Frank Bettencourt, Joe Tonascia and Bob Huenemann. Also present were, Assistant Manager Sara Singleton, District Counsel David E. Pipal, Deputy District Engineer Garrett Haertel, Supervising Accountant Natalie Sullivan and Board Clerk/Office Specialist III Barbara Mauro. District Manager/Engineer Jeff Cattaneo was absent.

### **CALL TO ORDER**

President Flores called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

- a. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**  
President Flores 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 Director Bettencourt and a second by Director Huenemann, 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: November 30, 2016 Regular Meeting**
- 2. Allowance of Claims**
- 3. Acknowledgement of Paid Claims prior to the December Board Meeting**  
Prior to the consideration of the Consent Agenda, Mrs. Mauro noted an error in the November 30, 2016 minutes, which has been corrected; a corrected copy was placed on each board member's desk. Noting the correction to the minutes, Director Huenemann made a motion and Director Tonascia seconded the motion; the Consent Agenda was unanimously approved.

### **REGULAR AGENDA:**

- 4. Discuss and Consider Authorizing the District Manager to sign an Agreement between the San Benito County Water District and the California High-Speed Rail Authority for investigation of the District's existing facilities for conflicts with the project's proposed alignment (NTE \$45,200)**  
Mr. Haertel stated this agenda item needs Board approval for Mr. Cattaneo to sign the agreement with the State. The agreement has been reviewed by both Mr. Haertel and District Counsel. The proposed high-speed rail project is projected to go over Pacheco

Pass and go near District assets. This agreement, per Mr. Haertel, is for reimbursement of District staff time to review the proposed alignment of this project.

Director Tonascia asked if the State is paying the District for this. Mr. Haertel stated yes.

Vice President Tobias asked if this is in conjunction with Santa Clara Valley Water District. Mr. Haertel stated no, each agency will have their own agreement with the State.

With no other questions from the Board, a motion was made by Director Tonascia and seconded by Director Bettencourt; the Board of Directors unanimously Authorized the District Manager to sign an Agreement between the San Benito County Water District and the California High-Speed Rail Authority for investigation of the District's existing facilities for conflicts with the project's proposed alignment (NTE \$45,200).

**5. Mid Pacific Water Users Conference, January 18 through 20, 2017 in Reno, Nevada**

**a. Consider District Manager or Designee and Director Attendance**

Mrs. Singleton stated the District budgets for Mr. Cattaneo or herself and up to two directors to attend the annual conference. Director Tonascia expressed interest and Director Bettencourt stated he would be an alternate. Directors should contact Mrs. Mauro if they wish to attend, so she can make the necessary arrangements for their attendance.

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

Mrs. Singleton reported the most significant item to report is the Mitigation Bank at the Sparling Ranch has been approved by the State. The District is currently negotiating to purchase mitigation credits which will be needed for the West Hills Water Treatment Plant, for the tiger salamander.

Mrs. Singleton also reviewed the tranche report. To date, the total expenses for the Hollister Urban Area Projects is \$33.5 million and there is \$7.9 million left on contract. As part of tranche #3, Mrs. Singleton reported the City of Hollister and Sunnyslope County Water District were to make a combined contribution of \$3.4 million which has been received.

Regarding the Master Plan Update, Mrs. Singleton reported the expectation for completion is the end of March 2017.

The West Hills Water Treatment Plant is still on schedule to be completed in July 2017.

Richard Bettencourt, a member of the audience, asked if San Benito County Water District had any authority on the boundaries for the sewer system. Mrs. Singleton stated no.

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

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

As per Director Tonascia, the Federal government signed a bill that is aimed to help the California Drought. Mrs. Singleton added she is expecting a return call from Ara Azhderian (Water Policy Administrator at SLDMWA) for a further explanation of this bill. Also, Mrs. Singleton stated discussion at the Authority was the best allocation the agencies may expect will be 10% for Ag and 60% of historical use for M & I.

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

As per Director Flores, general business was discussed.

**c) Pacheco Reservoir Exploratory Committee (Tobias/Flores)**

As per Director Tobias, Pacheco Pass Water District has seated a new board. A joint meeting with our District and Santa Clara Valley Water District was held and the members will wait and see what happens with the new board.

**d) San Felipe Divisions Activities Committee (Tobias/Tonascia)**

As per Directors Tobias and Flores (Director Tonascia was unable to attend), a joint meeting was held with Santa Clara Valley Water District. Mrs. Singleton reported, as discussed at our last Board meeting, the Conduit Inspection has been delayed. Also discussed was a draft Asset Management Plan for Reach 1.

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

**a) Reach 1 Operations**

**b) Zone 3 Operations**

**c) Zone 6 Operations**

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

**e) Recycled Water**

As per Mrs. Singleton, all pertinent information on the above items has already been covered.

**9. BOARD ORGANIZATION**

**a. Election of Officers**

Mrs. Mauro stated the Board could choose to make individual nominations for President and Vice President or they could offer a slate containing a nomination for both President and Vice President.

Director Bettencourt nominated John Tobias for President. His motion was seconded by Director Tonascia.

The Board unanimously elected John Tobias as President of the Board for 2017.

Director Bettencourt nominated Joe Tonascia for Vice President. His motion was seconded by Director Tobias.

The Board unanimously elected Joe Tonascia as Vice President for 2017.

**10. Adjournment**

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:16 p.m.

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The minutes were approved at the January 25, 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