

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
of the  
CACHUMA OPERATION & MAINTENANCE BOARD**

**held at  
3301 Laurel Canyon Road, Santa Barbara, CA  
Monday, February 23, 2015**

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**1. Call to Order, Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order at 2:02 p.m. by President Lauren Hanson who chaired the meeting. Those in attendance were:

**Directors present:**

Lauren Hanson	Goleta Water District
Doug Morgan	Montecito Water District
Kevin Walsh	SYR Water Conservation District, ID No. 1
Dale Francisco	City of Santa Barbara ( <i>arrived at 2:10pm</i> )
Polly Holcombe	Carpinteria Valley Water District

**Others present:**

Randall Ward	Tom Fayram
Janet Gingras	Joshua Haggmark
Dave Stewart	Matt Naftaly
Tim Robinson	Dennis Gibbs
Adelle Capponi	Charles Hamilton
Jane Usher	Mitchell White
Sam Schaefer	Phil Walker
Duane Stroup	Chris Dahlstrom

**2. Public Comment**

Phil Walker commented on the increase in solar irradiance and its relation to evaporation. Conservation of evaporation is worth investigating in comparison to purchasing costs of wielding water.

Sam Schaefer, Agricultural Engineer from GEI Consultants, Inc. spoke to the Poso Creek Integrated Regional Water Management Plan that he has been involved with over the past 9 years. Mr. Schaefer circulated a handout to the Board which described the funding secured for projects, as well as the Drought Response Program, which is a new program put out by the US Bureau of Reclamation.

**3. Consent Agenda**

- a. **Minutes**  
January 26, 2015 Regular Board Meeting;  
February 5, 2015 Special Board Meeting
- b. **Investment Funds**  
Financial Reports  
Investment Reports
- c. **Payment of Claims**

- d. Progress Report on Lake Cachuma Oak Tree Program**
- e. Fisheries Division Report**
- f. Operations Division Report**
- g. Monthly Cachuma Project Reports**
- h. Amendment to CCC Contract-Oak Tree Program**

President Hanson noted the new inclusions to the Consent Agenda. This new format was suggested by Director Francisco and was discussed at the Administrative Committee. The goal is to assist in streamlining the board meetings. Consent Agenda items will be included in the board packet. The General Manager remains available to answer any questions from the Directors prior to a board meeting. Lastly, any item may be removed from the Consent Agenda for separate consideration and discussion.

Director Morgan asked that Item c, e, f & h be removed to obtain further clarification. Director Walsh inquired if agenda's for Committee meetings are posted and when they typically meet. Mr. Ward responded that it has been COMB's practice to post the agenda as required, and to distribute agendas and materials to the respective Committee Members. President Hanson, in response to Director Walsh's inquiry, noted that Directors will be included when Committee meeting agendas are sent out for their information.

Following discussion, Director Francisco moved approval of the consent agenda, seconded by Director Morgan; passed by roll call vote 7/0/0:

**Ayes:** Morgan, Walsh, Holcombe, Francisco, Hanson

**Nays:** None

**Abstain/Absent:** None

**4. "The Santa Barbara County Cloud Seeding Program, An Overview", By Dennis Gibbs, Senior Hydrologist, Santa Barbara County Water Agency**

Mr. Gibbs, through a PowerPoint presentation, gave a comprehensive and informative description of the County's cloud seeding program; highlighting such information as time of year or weather conditions that trigger seeding, equipment used, equipment site security, and the science behind cloud seeding. Mr. Gibbs noted the cost analysis on cloud seeding revealed it is in the favor of the beneficiaries.

**5. Consider Approval of HDR Professional Services Agreement Contract Amendment**

Randall Ward, General Manager, noted that this contract was presented at last month's meeting for approval, however Directors' Morgan and Holcombe asked that it be brought back to the Board so the Scope of Work (SOW) detail could be reviewed. Two tasks are specific to this amendment: Task 8 Engineering Services-Facility Operation; and, Task 9 Engineering Services-Owners Rep. Each were detailed in Amendment 1 provided by HDR and included in the board packet. Mr. Ward noted that this is an "on-request", not-to-exceed contract. Director Morgan asked for clarification on certain descriptions in the amendment, specifically: power requirements, moving the barge, foreseeable risks, permit stipulations, water supply forecasting, SCADA system, and recommendations regarding maintenance and repair of COMB's water supply

infrastructure. Kevin Walsh requested that information be provided regarding what lake elevation would require relocation of the barge.

Following discussion, Director Francisco moved to approve the contract amendment as recommended, seconded by Director Holcombe; passed by roll call vote 7/0/0:

**Ayes:** Morgan, Walsh, Holcombe, Francisco, Hanson

**Nayes:** None

**Abstain/Absent:** None

## 6. Verbal Reports From Board Committees

President Hanson reported on the Administrative Committee meeting held February 19, 2015. Consideration included: change to the Consent Agenda; HDR Contract Amendment; CCC Contract; Title Transfer, which discussion will be continued by the Administrative Committee, then brought to Board at a future meeting; Water Allocation Dispute Resolution; and, two Closed Session items with no reportable action.

## 7. General Manager's Report

Randall Ward, General Manager, highlighted his report as included in the board packet.

- *USBR Site Inspection:* One Member Unit's survey and report remains pending, however it's expected to be completed by the end of the month. Four Air Vacuum Release Valve (AVAR's) modifications have been completed by COMB Operations staff. The project planning and completion schedule will be presented at the next Operations Committee, currently being arranged.
- *NP Elevator:* Cal/OSHA issued a use permit, replacing the temporary permit.
- *Encroachment:* This activity continues to advance with the help of an Intern who has been working diligently with the County Clerk Recorders Office matching deed information with what was provided by the USBR.
- *Drought Contingency Pumping:* Pipe alternative storage options are currently under review with assistance by HDR. Grant funding documents have been finalized; SWRCB invoice information has been provided to the Member Units; and, DWR invoice information is under development.
- *COMB Office Buildings:* The roof repair to the Administration building was completed, patching a significant moisture intrusion issue. Dave Stewart, Operations Manager noted that the roof is substantially damaged, not being safe to walk on. Staff is continuing the replacement options review analysis. Once completed, this will be brought to the Administrative Committee, then to the full Board for discussion and recommended approval.
- *Division Manager Comments:* Tim Robinson, Fisheries Division Manager informed the Board that two of the three grants applied for were approved by California Department of Fish & Wildlife. Quiota Creek Crossing 3 and Crossing 0a & b will be addressed using these funds. Chris Dahlstrom, General Manager of the Santa Ynez RWCD, ID#1, commented that he has been working with the USBR on the Biological Assessment (BA). A key question is whether any of the tributary projects will be used as offsets. He noted a tributary trade-off analysis was prepared, but the USBR currently has no federal nexus for tributary projects below Bradbury Dam. This may be cited in the current BA, but only 6 of the 9 crossings were to be completed if necessary. Mr. Dahlstrom suggested the Board and Member Units

reconsider seeking grant money and expending time and effort to continue with these fish projects without the USBR nexus or recognition that these projects are going to be used to offset additional flows that may come out of the new BA. Regarding Operations, Mr. Ward noted that the Infrastructure Improvement Plan (IIP) is currently being updated and will be presented to the Operations Committee at a future meeting. Additionally, the IIP will be provided to the district General Manager's for review and budget planning.

#### **8. Member Agency Water Allocations – Adoption of Dispute Resolution Procedure and Remedies**

President Hanson noted and as referenced in the memo and attachment included in the Board packet, this was previously brought forth by the representative at the time, Alonzo Orozco from the Carpinteria Valley Water District. Jane Usher, General Counsel, highlighted some of the features of the document. The Administrative Committee reviewed and approved the document be brought before the Board for consideration and approval.

Following a lengthy discussion, it was recommended the document go before the Member Unit Manager's for review prior to Board adoption. Tom Fayram, County of Santa Barbara Water Resources Deputy Director, stated that the County meets monthly with the General Managers of each agency, noting a meeting is scheduled for next Wednesday, whereby this could be included in the discussion.

This went before the Board for approval; however no vote or action was taken other than the recommendation to have the General Managers review the document. Randall Ward will ensure the document is provided to the General Managers and it was suggested that he also attend the meeting and report back to the Administrative Committee. This item will be included on the next regular meeting agenda.

**Ayes:** N/A

**Nays:** N/A

**Abstain/Absent:** N/A

#### **9. Directors' Requests for Agenda Items for Next Meeting**

There were no requests.

#### **10. [Closed Session]: Conference with Legal Counsel: Existing and Potential Litigation**

- a. [Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)]  
Name of case: Andrew Brown and Jessica Brown vs. Cachuma Operation & Maintenance Board, Santa Barbara Superior Court Case No. 1438821
- b. [Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(4)]  
Name of case: California Trout, Inc. v. United States Bureau of Reclamation et al., United States District Court, CDCA, Case No. 2:14-CV-7744

The Board went into closed session at 4:18 p.m.

**11. Reconvene Into Open Session**

[Government Code Section 54957.7]

Disclosure of actions taken in closed session, as applicable

[Government Code Section 54957.1]

The Board came out of closed session at 5:00 p.m.

There was no report out of closed session.

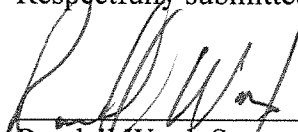
**12. Meeting Schedule**

- The next regular Board meeting will be held March 23, 2015 at 2:00 p.m.
- The Agendas and Board Packets are available on the COMB website at [www.cachuma-board.org](http://www.cachuma-board.org)

**13. COMB Adjournment**

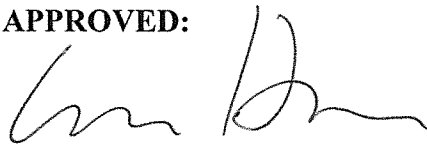
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



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Randall Ward, Secretary of the Board

**APPROVED:**



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Lauren Hanson, President of the Board