

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
of the
CACHUMA OPERATION & MAINTENANCE BOARD
held at the
Cachuma Operation & Maintenance Board Office
3301 Laurel Canyon Road, Santa Barbara, CA
Monday, February 26, 2007**

1. Call to Order, Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 4:02 p.m. by President Chuck Evans, who chaired the meeting. Those in attendance were:

Directors present:

Chuck Evans	Goleta Water District
Matt Loudon	SYR Water Conservation Dist., ID#1
Das Williams	City of Santa Barbara
Jan Abel	Montecito Water District
Robert Lieberknecht	Carpinteria Valley Water District

Others present:

Kate Rees	Chris Dahlstrom
Chip Wullbrandt	Steve Mack
Bill Hair`	Gary Kvistad
David McDermott	Kevin Walsh
Janet Gingras	Bob Roebuck
Brett Gray	Greg Wilkinson (via phone)
Michelle Ouellette (via phone)	
Rob Almy (via phone)	

2. [Closed Session]: Conference with Legal Counsel to Discuss Pending Litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (a). One Case: Crawford-Hall V COMB, Superior Court of California, County of Santa Barbara, Case No. 1171135.

The Board went into closed session at 4:03 p.m. Closed session ended at 4:34 p.m. There was nothing to report out of closed session.

3. Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

4. Consent Agenda

- a. Minutes:**
January 22, 2007 Regular Board Meeting
- b. Investment Funds**
Financial Report
Investment Report
- c. Payment of Claims**

Director Abel moved to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Director Williams. Motion carried, 7/1/0, Director Loudon abstained.

5. Reports from the Manager

- a. Water Storage**
The monthly report was included in the Board packet
- b. Water Production & Use, SWP Accounting**
The two monthly reports were included in the Board packet
- c. Operations Report**
The January 2007 report on operations from Brett Gray was included in the Board packet.
- d. Cachuma Reservoir Current Conditions**

Date 02/26/2007

Lake elevation	742.86
Storage	167,376 acre feet
Rain (for the month to date)	2.14 inches
Rain YTD (for the season to date)	3.41 inches
Fish Release-Hilton Creek	11.8 acre feet per day
Month to Date Fish Release	304.7 acre feet
Month to Date Spill	0.00 acre feet

e. 2006 Surcharge Account

Ms. Rees included in the board packet a table of the surcharge account from last years spill ending May 31, 2006. There has not been substantial rainfall this year to generate enough flow in the river to trigger a supplemental passage flow release; the water released this year has been target flows for passage and rearing. Of the 9,200 acre feet of surcharge, 4,963 acre feet remain in the surcharge account which will be carried over to the next year.

f. Conference Reports from December 2006-February 2007

Ms. Rees reported on several conferences she had attended during the last several months. At the fall ACWA Conference in December she was able to meet with

Kirk Rodgers and Michael Jackson to follow up with the Lauro SOD Repayment contract and the Renewal Master Contract interest rate. In January, Ms. Rees attended Reclamation's Water Users Conference. While at the conference she met with John Davis, Deputy Regional Director, to follow up and finalize discussion on the Lauro SOD Repayment Agreement and the Renewal Master Contract interest rate. Ms. Rees was also able to meet with Michael Jackson on a number of operation and maintenance items. In February, Ms. Rees attended the Reclamation Water Management Conference in Denver. This is an annual training conference for management, operation and maintenance staff. Ms. Rees attended various technical sessions plus several management sessions. She appreciated the chance to attend and gain additional knowledge that can be applied to COMB operations.

6. Capital Improvement Projects Update

a. Lauro Debris Basin Project

Brett Gray reported that the design work on the Lauro Debris Basin Project is in progress, and that the second filter test has been completed to determine what kind of filters are appropriate for the bottom of the debris basin. The environmental and permitting process is also being determined at this time. An environmental impact analysis for the debris basin was included in the Lauro Dam SOD Project NEPA compliance document, and many of the requirements were met at that time. A few additional requirements may need to be met such as a red-legged frog survey.

b. 2nd Pipeline Project

Mr. Gray reported that the Notice of Indent (NOI) for the 2nd Pipeline Project is currently being reviewed by Reclamation and should be submitted by the end of March. In house activities include the preparation of the Notice of Determination (NOD). In January, COMB staff, engineers, geologists, construction and environmental personnel walked the field to determine the most appropriate pipeline construction alignments. These alignments are currently being staked so that the environmental studies and survey's can be completed. Cushman Contracting submitted a preliminary quote just for the piping materials for the project; the estimated cost would be just over \$3 million.

Director Abel requested an agenda for the CIP Board Committee meeting, which is scheduled for Wednesday, February 28th.

7. Lauro Dam Safety of Dams Repayment Agreement

a. Proposed COMB Resolution No. 453 to Approve Allocation Agreement with SYR Water Conservation District, ID No. 1

At the January Board meeting, there was substantial discussion on the approval process for the Lauro Dam SOD Repayment Agreement. Ms. Rees noted that

because the repayment amount will likely be over \$1 million, there is a term in the COMB Joint Powers Agreement that any obligation over a million dollars should be ratified by the individual Member Units. Another discussion was how to assure ID No. 1 that they would not be responsible for any of the repayment costs for the project. The managers and attorneys have met and agreed that it would be appropriate for the Member Unit boards to approve the Allocation Agreement proposed by ID No. 1, which provides this assurance. Resolution No. 453 was presented to the COMB Board for adoption to authorize COMB to approve the Allocation Agreement.

Director Loudon moved to adopt Resolution No. 453, seconded by Director Williams. A roll call vote was taken, passed 7/0/0.

b. Status of Member Units' Ratification of Lauro Dam SOD Repayment Agreement and Approval of Allocation Agreement

It was reported that ID No. 1 had approved ratification of the Lauro Dam SOD Repayment Agreement and the Allocation Agreement. The other Member Units will place this item on their Board agendas in March. .

8. Update on Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) and SWRCB Decision on Proposition 50 Round 2 Funding

Ms. Rees reported that the IRWMP partners have received a copy of two internal administrative drafts of the IRWMP. Staff provided comments to the consultants on both internal drafts; County staff will include the updated information in the public draft Plan.

The agendas and minutes of previous meetings were included in the board packet. A topic to be discussed at the IRWMP meeting on February 27th will be how to address the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) recent decision to award additional Proposition 50 funding to those agencies who were not funded from Round 1, but whose IRWMP's scored very high. Rob Almy, Manager, Santa Barbara County Water Agency joined the COMB meeting via phone to provide background information and to report on recent developments. In November 2004, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) and SWRCB issued Proposition 50 guidelines establishing two funding cycles, each with open competition for the IRWMP Implementation Grants funds. The recent evaluation of DWR and SWRCB of funding additional Round 1 proposals using funds designated for Round 2 of the Proposition 50 Implementation Grants process is of significant concern. SWRCB has postponed its decision on this proposal to its March 20, 2007 Board meeting. Letters from COMB, CCRB and ID #1 were included in the board packet, urging DWR and SWRCB to maintain the Proposition 50 Round 2 funding process.

9. Meeting Schedule

March 26, 2007, is the next regular COMB Board meeting following the 2:15 P.M. CCRB Board meeting, at the COMB office.

10. COMB Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kate Rees, Secretary of the Board

APPROVED:

Chuck Evans, President