

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
CACHUMA OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE BOARD**

**Monday, October 24, 2022
1:00 PM**

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order by President Holcombe at 1:01 PM.

All attendees participated electronically pursuant to California Government Code sections 54953(b)(1), (b)(2), (e)(1) and (e)(3) (AB 361).

Directors Present:

Polly Holcombe, Carpinteria Valley Water District

Kristen Sneddon, City of Santa Barbara*

Lauren Hanson, Goleta Water District

Cori Hayman, Montecito Water District

*Director Sneddon joined the meeting later

General Counsel Present:

William Carter - Musick, Peeler, Garrett, LLP

Staff Present:

Janet Gingras, General Manager

Elijah Papen, Program Analyst III

Edward Lyons, Administrative Manager/CFO

Timothy Robinson, Fisheries Division Manager

Joel Degner, Engineer/Operations Division Manager

Dorothy Turner, Administrative Assistant

Others Present:

Matthew Scrudato, COSB Water Agency

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Minutes of September 26, 2022 Regular Board Meeting
- b. Investment of Funds
 - Financial Reports
 - Investment Reports
- c. Review of Paid Claims

Ms. Gingras drew the Board's attention to the Consent Agenda items and requested Mr. Lyons' comments on the financial reports. Mr. Lyons reviewed revenues, highlighting the pass-through Safety of Dams (SOD) collections and the receipt of \$743k from Reclamation in partial payment of the Secured Pipeline grant. He provided explanation for various Paid Claims of note, including disbursements to

Cushman Contracting and Flowers & Associates for work on the Secured Pipeline, the SOD remittances and the quarterly payment to the USGS for the stream gauge program.

Director Hanson motioned to approve the Consent Agenda. Director Hayman seconded the motion which passed with a vote of four in favor and two absent.

Ayes: Hayman, Hanson, Holcombe

Nays:

Absent: Sneddon

Abstain

4. RESOLUTION NO. 767 – CONFIRMATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY - RATIFICATION OF GOVERNOR NEWSOM’S DECLARED STATE OF EMERGENCY (HEALTH AND SAFETY)

President Holcombe presented the Resolution to the Board, commenting that potential updates to the Brown Act may allow some remote meeting participation under certain circumstances. She acknowledged member perspectives and called for a motion. Director Hanson motioned to approve the resolution, followed by a second from Director Sneddon. The motion carried with a vote of five in favor and one opposed.

Ayes: Sneddon, Hanson, Holcombe

Nays: Hayman

Absent:

Abstain

5. VERBAL REPORTS FROM BOARD COMMITTEES

- Operations Committee Meeting - October 18, 2022

President Holcombe provided a brief summary of the items contained in the committee agenda and noted that the Board would see those items today for Board information or approval.

6. FINANCIAL REVIEW – 1st QUARTER FISCAL YEAR 2022-23

Mr. Lyons shared his presentation of the first quarter financial review with the Board. He reviewed revenues received during the quarter as well as expenditures by division. He provided explanation for any variances in comparison to the budget. Mr. Lyons reviewed the status of the Administrative Division’s deliverables.

7. WATER YEAR 2021-22 MODELING RESULTS

Mr. Papen shared his presentation illustrating the water year 2021-22 modeling results, comparing the forecasts to the actual results. He commented that the forecasted metrics are increasingly accurate in comparison to the actual results. As well, Mr. Papen noted that Reclamation has incorporated elements of COMB’s model into their own, due to that accuracy. He fielded comments and questions from the Board, which expressed its appreciation for the informative presentation.

9. RESOLUTION NO. 768 - OPERATIONS DIVISION SPECIAL PROJECTS – WATER QUALITY AND SEDIMENT MANAGEMENT STUDY – PHASE II

Mr. Papen presented Phase II of the Water Quality & Sediment Management Study to the Board for approval. He reviewed the objectives of the project and summarized the Request for Proposals process and the award recommendation. Mr. Papen noted that the project would span two fiscal years and was within budget for this fiscal year. He fielded comments and questions from the Board.

Director Hayman provided the motion to approve Phase II of the project with recommended consultant. Director Sneddon seconded the motion which carried with a unanimous vote of six in favor.

Ayes: Sneddon, Hayman, Hanson, Holcombe

Nays:

Absent:

Abstain

10. GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

- Administration
- Virtual Meetings

Ms. Gingras presented the General Manager report. She reviewed contracts executed during the past fiscal quarter and provided information regarding the current update to the Santa Barbara County Hazard Mitigation Plan and its annexes. Additionally, Ms. Gingras acknowledged staff milestones and the receipt of the water rate schedules for Water Year 2023, as well as the recent Reclamation inspection and site visit. Finally, Ms. Gingras reported staff participation in the OEM meeting which included presentations on the 2022 Great ShakeOut Earthquake drill and a report from the National Weather Service on anticipated climate conditions.

11. ENGINEER’S REPORT

- Climate Conditions
- Lake Elevation Projections
- Infrastructure Improvement Projects

Mr. Degner presented the Engineer’s report, leading with an update on the Secured Pipeline project and the upcoming next steps. He reviewed lake elevation subsequent to the downstream release and advised that the possible re-deployment of the pumping barge would likely come before the Board in February or March 2023. Mr. Degner reported that the cooperative agreement with the Carpinteria Valley Water District is making good progress. Staff has initiated a design contract with Flowers & Associates and commenced with the planning and design of the proposed Lillingston Canyon isolation line valve. Mr. Degner reviewed the status of Reclamation recommendations and their impact on funding. Finally Mr. Degner reported that staff was addressing an emergency repair of a leaking blow-off riser which will incur a three to four day shutdown but will not impact water users.

12. OPERATIONS DIVISION REPORT

- Lake Cachuma Operations
- Operation and Maintenance Activities

Mr. Degner presented the Operations Division report, advising that meters had been calibrated and structure maintenance was ongoing. He reported that Reclamation had performed its annual inspection and had visited a second time to inspect the work on the Secured Pipeline project.

13. FISHERIES DIVISION REPORT

- LSYR Steelhead Monitoring Elements
- Tributary Project Updates
- Surcharge Water Accounting
- Reporting/Outreach/Training

Mr. Robinson presented the Fisheries Division report. He noted that target flows to Hilton Creek and the Highway 154 bridge are being met. He provided final release numbers for the recent water rights release and reported that Reclamation had repaired and successfully tested both Hilton Creek pumping systems. Mr. Robinson shared a slide show presentation of the Stream Gauge Program. He reviewed the location and function of each monitoring site and highlighted the improvements to the program resulting from the newly installed and online monitoring site slightly north of the Highway 154 bridge. Mr. Robinson fielded questions from the Board.

14. PROGRESS REPORT ON LAKE CACHUMA OAK TREE PROGRAM

- Maintenance and Monitoring

Mr. Robinson presented the Oak Tree report, noting that irrigation and weeding are ongoing. He reported that staff had participated in a beneficial workshop on formative pruning with COMB's arborist consultant. He noted that pruning takes place only in winter and is intended to encourage the trees to grow tall.

15. MONTHLY CACHUMA PROJECT REPORTS

- a. Cachuma Water Reports
- b. Cachuma Reservoir Current Conditions
- c. Lake Cachuma Quagga Survey

Ms. Gingras presented the Cachuma Project reports for review and noted two points of interest. The Water Production report now includes a section for the accumulated drought water credit. The reservoir storage at October 1st has been reduced on the Lake Cachuma Daily Operations report to be consistent with the results of the recent bathymetric survey.

16. DIRECTORS' REQUESTS FOR AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETING

There were no requests from Directors.

17. [CLOSED SESSION]: CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL: POTENTIAL LITIGATION

- a. [Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)]
Name of matter: *Kimball-Griffith L.P. v. Brenda Wren Burman, et al.*, Case No. 2:20-cv-10647
– Request for Declaratory and Injunctive Relief
- b. Potential Litigation: Conference with Legal Counsel
- c. Potential Litigation: Conference with Legal Counsel

The Board adjourned into Closed Session at 3:05 PM.

18. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION

[Government Code Section 54957.7]
Disclosure of actions taken in closed session, as applicable
[Government Code Section 54957.1]

16a. Name of matter: *Kimball-Griffith L.P. v. Brenda Wren Burman, et al.*, Case No. 2:20-cv-10647
– Request for Declaratory and Injunctive Relief

16b. Potential Litigation: Conference with Legal Counsel

16c. Potential Litigation: Conference with Legal Counsel

The Board reconvened into Open Session at 4:10 PM. There was no reportable action for any of items 16a., 16b., or 16c.

19. MEETING SCHEDULE

- **November 14, 2022 at 1:00 PM**
- **Board Packages available on COMB website www.cachuma-board.org**

20. COMB ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:11 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Janet Gingras, Secretary of the Board

√	<i>Approved</i>
	<i>Unapproved</i>

APPROVED:



Polly Holcombe, President of the Board