

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

**Monday, August 22, 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 1:02 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 Hayman arrived after roll call was taken*

General Counsel Present:

William Carter - Musick, Peeler, Garrett, LLP

Staff Present:

Janet Gingras, General Manager

Edward Lyons, Administrative Manager/CFO

Joel Degner, Engineer/Operations Division Manager

Elijah Papan, Program Analyst III

Timothy Robinson, Fisheries Division Manager

Dorothy Turner, Administrative Assistant

Others Present:

Joshua Haggmark, City of Santa Barbara

Matt Young, COSB Water Agency

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Minutes of July 25, 2022 Regular Board Meeting
- b. Investment of Funds
 - Financial Reports
 - Investment Reports
- c. Review of Paid Claims

Ms. Gingras presented Consent Agenda item 3.a. as a single item for approval. President Holcombe asked for a motion which was provided by Director Sneddon and seconded by Director Hanson. The motion carried with a vote of five in favor and one abstention.

Ayes: Sneddon, Hanson, Holcombe
Nays:
Absent:
Abstain: Hayman

Mr. Lyons provided information regarding the financial reports and highlighted the receipt of 2.4 million in first quarter O&M revenues. He drew Board attention to various paid claims of note, including disbursements to R.A. Atmore for clearing of vegetation, Aspect Engineering with respect to the SCADA system, Flowers & Associates for construction management, as well as the quarterly remittance to the United States Geological Survey for the stream gauge program.

As there were no questions from the Board, Director Hanson motioned to approve the remainder of the Consent Agenda, followed by a second from Director Sneddon. The motion passed unanimously with a vote of six in favor.

Ayes: Sneddon, Hayman, Hanson, Holcombe
Nays:
Absent:
Abstain:

4. RESOLUTION NO. 765 – CONFIRMATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY - ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF GOVERNOR NEWSOM’S DECLARED STATE OF EMERGENCY (HEALTH AND SAFETY)

President Holcombe introduced Resolution No. 765 and provided comment. Director Hayman also provided comment. Director Hanson motioned to approve the resolution which was seconded by Director Sneddon and carried with five aye votes and one nay vote.

Ayes: Sneddon, Hanson, Holcombe
Nays: Hayman
Absent:
Abstain:

5. FINANCIAL REVIEW – 4th QUARTER FISCAL YEAR 2021-22

Mr. Lyons shared his presentation of the fourth quarter financial review with the Board. He reviewed revenues collected during the quarter, consisting primarily of the O&M budget assessments, as well as a line-by-line examination of expenditures by division. Mr. Lyons provided explanation for any variances in comparison to the budget. He noted that Year-to-Date figures are actual, pending any adjustments generated from the annual audit, currently underway. Finally, Mr. Lyons reviewed the status of the various Administrative Division’s deliverables. He fielded questions from the Board.

6. GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

- Administration

Ms. Gingras presented the General Manager report, highlighting the receipt of the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Report for COMB’s Annual Comprehensive Financial Report, as well as the receipt of the GFOA Distinguished Budget Award for COMB’s Fiscal Year 2022-23 Operating Budget. She reported that COMB had renewed the Cyber Security Liability insurance. She provided a summary of calendar year 2023 Health Insurance premiums, noting a reduction in rates for most plans. In addition, Ms. Gingras advised the Board that COMB will realize a major reduction in

the Other Post-Employment Benefits liability due to the migration of medicare-eligible retiree health coverage to United Healthcare. She provided information on various internal operating safety procedures which have been updated. Finally Ms. Gingras reported that staff has been scanning paper documents to electronic storage for document preservation. She fielded questions from the board.

7. ENGINEER'S REPORT

- Climate Conditions and Water Quality
- Lake Elevation Projection
- Watershed Management
- Infrastructure Improvement Projects

Mr. Degner presented the Engineer's report, providing an update on current and forecasted climate conditions. He reported the status of the downstream water rights release. With continued dry conditions, he advised that there is a 50% chance of the Board being approached for approval of the pumping barge installation by February 2023. Mr. Degner also reported that the Forest Service is developing an Ecological Restoration Project focused on attaining watershed resilience to wildfires. COMB plans to send a letter of support with an offer of technical assistance to the Forest Service in respect of this project as it pertains to water quality. Despite the drought, the Board expressed concern about extreme flooding posing infrastructure risks, as a result of a potential mega-storm. Following a short discussion, Mr. Degner fielded questions from the Board.

8. OPERATIONS DIVISION REPORT

- Lake Cachuma Operations
- Operation and Maintenance Activities

Mr. King presented the Operations Division report and provided updates on various projects, including the collaboration with Carpinteria Water District to replace lateral in the lower reach. He reported that the annual load tests on the backup generators had been completed as well as meter calibrations and ongoing structure maintenance. Finally, Mr. King advised the Board that two game cameras and warning signs had been installed at Lauro reservoir to deter trespassers. He fielded questions from the Board.

9. FISHERIES DIVISION REPORT

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

Mr. Robinson presented the Fisheries Division report and noted that staff had been very busy. COMB participated with Reclamation in testing of flow to the Hilton Creek Watering System (HCWS) and Emergency Backup System. He reported that staff responded to an emergency unplanned power failure to the HCWS and assisted CDFW in additional post-emergency activities. Further, Mr. Robinson reported on the status of the downstream water rights release and required RPM6 monitoring of same. Finally, he provided an update on the stream gauge project underway at the Highway 154 Bridge. Mr. Robinson fielded questions from the Board.

11. PROGRESS REPORT ON LAKE CACHUMA OAK TREE PROGRAM

- Maintenance and Monitoring

Mr. Robinson presented the Oak Tree Report noting ongoing irrigation of the trees. He reported that parasitic mistletoe is being eradicated to preserve the health of the young trees and also noted that some of the trees have reached adequate maturity to produce acorns.

12. MONTHLY CACHUMA PROJECT REPORTS

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

Ms. Gingras presented the water reports, commenting that unaccounted-for water loss has been kept very low due to new meters and member agency conservation.

13. DIRECTORS' REQUESTS FOR AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETING

There were no requests from Directors for future agenda items.

14. [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. [Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)] Potential Litigation: Conference with Legal Counsel
- c. [Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)] Potential Litigation: Conference with Legal Counsel

The Board adjourned into Closed Session at 2:41 PM

15. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION

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

- 13a. 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
- 13b. Potential Litigation: Conference with Legal Counsel
- 13c. Potential Litigation: Conference with Legal Counsel

The Board reconvened into Open Session at 4:43 PM. There was no reportable action on Items 13a., 13b., or 13c.

16. MEETING SCHEDULE

- **September 26, 2022 at 1:00 PM**
- **Board Packages available on COMB website www.cachuma-board.org**

17. COMB ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:44 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Gingras
Janet Gingras (Oct 2, 2022 15:04 PDT)
Janet Gingras, Secretary of the Board

√	<i>Approved</i>
	<i>Unapproved</i>

APPROVED:

Polly Holcombe
Polly Holcombe (Oct 2, 2022 16:05 PDT)
Polly Holcombe, President of the Board