

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
of the
CACHUMA OPERATION & MAINTENANCE BOARD
held at
3301 Laurel Canyon Road, Santa Barbara, CA
Monday, March 26, 2012**

1. Call to Order, Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by President Lauren Hanson who chaired the meeting. Those in attendance were:

Directors present:

Lauren Hanson	Goleta Water District
Bob Lieberknecht	Carpinteria Valley Water District
Doug Morgan	Montecito Water District
Dennis Beebe	SYR Water Conservation District, ID No. 1
Dale Francisco	City of Santa Barbara

Others present:

Bruce Mowry	Tony Trembley
Charles Hamilton	Theresa Lancy
Ruth Snodgrass	Kate Rees
Phil Walker	Karen Carroll
Tim Robinson	

2. Public Comment

Phil Walker commented on siltation at Lake Cachuma.

3. Consent Agenda

a. Minutes:

February 27, 2012 Regular Board Meeting

b. Investment Funds

Financial Report
Investment Report

c. Payment of Claims

Director Francisco moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, seconded by Director Lieberknecht, after discussion Director Morgan requested striking “things falling through the crack in relation to” from the 2/27/2012 minutes, item #3. Director Francisco and Director Lieberknecht agreed with the change, motion passed as changed 7/0/0.

4. Cachuma Project Trust Fund/Renewal Meeting and County’s Public Meeting on Cachuma Project \$100,000 Betterment Fund, March, 23, 2012

a. Recommended Uses of Trust Fund/Renewal Fund for FY 2012-2013

b. Recommended Uses of County Water Agency's Cachuma Project \$100,000 Betterment Fund for FY 2012-2013

General Manager Bruce Mowry reported that the committees recommending uses for the Funds, met on March 23, 2012. Reclamation voted that COMB utilize all of the Trust Fund monies and during the Board's budgeting process identify expenditures that follow the terms and conditions of the Warren Act MOU. Reclamation will review the expenditures for compliance with the terms and conditions of the MOU prior to being distributed.

The County voted that COMB receive \$90,000 of the \$100,000 Betterment Fund and utilize \$75,000 for the annual contract for the USGS Gauging Program and \$15,000 for the Fisheries Program. The County would retain the balance of \$10,000 to be used on their gauging program on the Santa Ynez River.

The County conditioned their Renewal Fund vote on the condition that COMB approves their recommendation for the use of the Betterment Fund. If COMB agreed, all of the Renewal Fund would then be utilized by COMB in a manner that was in compliance with the requirements of the Renewal Fund. The expenditures would be identified during the budgeting process.

Director Beebe moved that the COMB Board, representing the Member Units of the Cachuma Project, vote on the Trust Fund, Renewal Fund and Betterment Fund the same as the representatives approved each of these Funds on Friday, March 23, 2012. These Funds shall be distributed to COMB as follows: Trust Fund would be \$43,559, Renewal Fund \$219,770 and the Betterment Fund, with \$75,000 applied to the annual agreement for the USGS gauging program on the Santa Ynez River and \$15,000 applied to the Fisheries Program. The balance of the Betterment Fund of \$10,000 would be retained by the County Water Agency to be utilized for their gauging program on the Santa Ynez River, seconded by Director Francisco.

The motion passed by a roll call vote:

Ayes: Francisco, Lieberknecht, Hanson, Morgan, Beebe

Nays: None

Abstain/Absent: None

5. Authorize COMB General Manager to Sign California Wildlife Conservation Board Grant Contract for Quiota Creek Crossing 7

General Manager Bruce Mowry reported that the California Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) is in their final consideration regarding funding our grant proposal for the second half of the funding needed for the Quiota Creek Crossing 7 Fish Passage Project. WCB will be sending a Grant Agreement to COMB, once it is signed and the agreement has been returned, WCB will put our agreement on their Board agenda for final approval. This is a time sensitive matter since they meet quarterly so in order to stay on the planned construction schedule the agreement would need to be on WCB's May agenda.

Director Morgan moved that the COMB Board grant the COMB General Manager authority to sign the WCB Grant Agreement after COMB legal counsel reviews and approves the document, seconded by Director Francisco, passed 6/1/0, Director Beebe voted no.

6. Report on Modified SCC Upper Reach Reliability Project

General Manager Bruce Mowry reported that the project is progressing on schedule, the pipe will begin to be delivered to the site this week and then trenching and installation will be started. Mr. Mowry also announced that the MP-620 permit has been received from Reclamation and the federal construction permit will be issued during the next several days. Mr. Mowry reminded the Board that anyone could contact him for a site visit and that we will also be suggesting some dates for a Special Board Meeting at the project site.

Phil Walker made comments on this item.

7. Report From General Counsel

- a. **Review of Quiota Creek MOU's with the County of Santa Barbara**
Tony Trembley, legal counsel reported that he had received comments from the County regarding the MOU. He will review those comments and bring the MOU to the COMB Board for approval when the MOU has been finalized.

8. Operations Division Activities

- a. **Operations Report**
The monthly report on operations was included in the board packet. Mr. Mowry also reported that on March 17th five staff members had taken the test to upgrade their Distribution License. It was suggested that staff add to the maintenance log for cleaning fish screens, a notation regarding observations on possible Quagga mussels on the screens.

Phil Walker made comments on this item.

9. Fisheries Division Activities

- a. **Lower Santa Ynez Fisheries Report**
The monthly report on the fisheries activities was included in the board packet.

10. Reports From the Manager

- a. **Cachuma Water Reports**
The monthly water reports were included in the board packet.
- b. **Cachuma Reservoir Current Conditions**
The daily operations report for Lake Cachuma through March 20, 2012 was included in the board packet.
- c. **Lake Cachuma Quagga Survey**

The County's summary of Aquatic Invasive Species Inspection Program for February 2012 was included in the board packet.

d. Update on FY 2012-2013 Budget

General Manager Bruce Mowry reported that staff has been working on the FY 2012-2013 Budget. The Administrative Committee will review the budget in early April and a draft budget presented to the Board at the April regular meeting.

e. Update on Strategic Plan

The Plan is moving ahead on schedule along with the budget process.

f. Update on Emergency Repair Contracts

General Manager Bruce Mowry is working with legal counsel and continues to develop the contract.

11. Directors' Request for Agenda Items for Next Meeting

Director Beebe requested that Liz Caspar, County Parks Department be contacted regarding a possible presentation on Quagga mussels. Director Hanson stated that she would contact Ms. Caspar to see if there is any updated information since her previous presentation to the Board.

12. [Closed Session]: Conference with Legal Counsel-Anticipated Litigation

a. Significant Exposure to Litigation Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (b): Two cases

At 3:41 p.m. Tony Trembley announced that the Board would adjourn into closed session conference with legal counsel, Significant Exposure to Litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (b): two cases. Case one, March 2012 steelhead trapping activities in lower Santa Ynez River. Case two, removal of excess fill over the South Coast Conduit at 1215 Franklin Ranch Road, Goleta, CA, landowners Jessica and Andrew Brown, County LUP Appeals Case #, 07 LUP-00000-00830.

The Board came out of closed session at 4:40 p.m. There was no action to report out of closed session.

13. Meeting Schedule

- The next regular Board meeting will be held April 23, 2012 at 2:00 P.M.
- The Agendas and Board Packets are available on the COMB website, www.cachuma-board.org

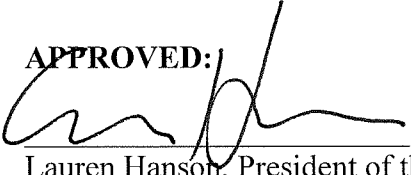
14. COMB Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Bruce Mowry, Secretary of the Board

APPROVED:


Lauren Hanson, President of the Board