

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the
Cachuma Operation & Maintenance Board
held at
3301 Laurel Canyon Road
Santa Barbara, California
March 27, 2006**

1. Call to Order, Roll Call

Vice President Evans called the meeting to order at 3:26 p.m.

Directors present:

Chuck Evans	Goleta Water District
Jan Abel	Montecito Water District
Robert Lieberknecht	Carpinteria Valley Water District
Das Williams	City of Santa Barbara
Lee Bettencourt	Santa Ynez River Water Conservation Dist ID#1 (Alternate)

Others present:

Kate Rees	Janet Gingras
Brett Gray	Robert Dunlap
Bob Roebuck	Chip Wullbrandt
Charles Hamilton	William Hair
Russell Ruiz	Kevin Walsh
Steve Mack	Chris Dahlstrom
B.R. Bertrando	Jack Ruskey
Tom Schultz	

(the Board next considered item 3)

3. Public Comment

B.R. Bertrando commented on his concerns regarding improper application of irrigation water per the Cachuma Project Renewal Master Contract by the Goleta Water District.

Jack Ruskey a farmer in the Goleta Valley, echoed Mr. Bertrando's concerns, and gave his opinion on the Cachuma Master Contract provision to deliver agriculture water from Lake Cachuma to the Member Units.

Director Williams requested that an explanation of the Cachuma water rates structure be included on the agenda for the April 24th Regular Board Meeting.

4. Consent Agenda

- a. Minutes of February 27, 2006 Regular Board Meeting and Minutes of February 22, 2006 Joint Special Board Meeting.
- b. Reports from the Manager
 - Water Storage
 - Productions & Use, SWP Accounting Water
 - Operations Report
 - Financial Report
 - Investment Report
- c. Payment of Claims

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

5. Committee Appointments for Vacated Seats FY 2005-2006

- a. Finance Committee – one appointment
- b. Legal Affairs – one appointment
- c. Capital Improvements, Alternate – one appointment

This item was continued to the April 24, 2006 Board meeting when COMB President Matt Loudon would be present.

6. Cachuma Reservoir Current Conditions

Reservoir Current Conditions:

Date 03/27/2006

Lake elevation	750.23 feet
Storage	188,734 acre feet
Rain (for the month to date)	2.85 inches
Rain YTD (for the season to date)	16.61 inches
Fish Release-Hilton Creek	11.8 acre feet per day
Month to Date Fish Release	1777 acre feet

The remaining surcharge is approximately 559 AF.

7. Report on Washington D.C. ACWA Meetings and Meetings with Legislators and Government Officials

Jan Abel and Chip Wullbrandt reported on their attendance at the ACWA meetings in Washington D.C. Director Abel reviewed the schedule of events, and the legislators and government officials they met with. Director Abel also highlighted the key messages on Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Program, reduced levels of funding and ACWA's position on the funding. Out of \$90 million, California's share will be about \$6.5 million compared to \$9 million last year.

Mr. Wullbrandt summarized the California Restoration Funding Program, and discussions they had exploring funding for the South Coast Conduit Pipeline (2nd Barrel) project and other improvements to the Cachuma Project. Their discussion with Lynn

Scarlett, Deputy Secretary Department of the Interior, focused on how she might facilitate getting new money into Reclamation's budget for the Cachuma Project and included the Reclamation's response to the National Academy of Science Report.

(the Board next considered item 2)

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 4:08 p.m. Closed session ended at 4:10 p.m. There was nothing to report out of closed session.

(the Board next considered item 8)

8. Resolution No. 440 to Approve Repayment Agreement for Lauro Dam Safety of Dams Modifications Project

Ms Rees highlighted the information included in the Board packet concerning the background of the negotiations between Reclamation and COMB to develop the repayment contract language.

The recommendation was that the Board of Directors approve Resolution No. 440 for the Contract between the United States of America and the Cachuma Operation and Maintenance Board for the repayment of funds expended for federally performed Safety of Dams Act Modification Program at Lauro Dam and Reservoir.

Director Williams moved to approve Resolution No 440, seconded by Director Abel. A roll call vote was taken, passed 7/0/0.

9. Revised Scope of Work for Preliminary Design and Environmental Services for 2nd Barrel Project on South Coast Conduit.

Ms Rees outlined the revised engineering design, the proposal from Boyle Engineering and highlighted the major reasons regarding the need for the project. She mentioned that the proposal from URS Corporation for the environmental document had been delayed and would be presented to the Board at the April 24, 2006 meeting.

Brett Gray, COMB Operations Supervisor and Robert Dunlap, COMB Operations Foreman gave a comprehensive presentation to the Board about the need of a second pipeline from the South Portal of the Tecolote Tunnel (SPTT) to Corona Del Mar Water Treatment Plant (CDMWTP), and why it was important to begin the project as soon as possible. In summary, the second pipeline will solve the current issues of reliability, and peak demand along with many additional future issues. They concluded that if it is not constructed, there will not be sufficient Cachuma water to meet demand in dry years.

Director Abel moved to approve the recommendation of Boyle Engineering Phase 2A Proposal for the 2nd Pipeline Project, seconded by Director Lieberknecht, passed 4/0/3. Director Williams was absent, Director Bettencourt abstained.

10. Analysis of Governor Schwarzenegger's 2006 & 2010 Water Management Bonds and Consideration of Support Letter

The COMB Board was in agreement with the CCRB Board to reconsider supporting these bond measures if they gain approval for the November 2006 Ballot.

11. Schedule Tour for Board of Directors to Review the Cachuma Project South Coast Facilities. Suggested Dates: April 13, 20 & 27.

The tour will take place on either April 20 or 27 depending on the scheduling of the next Joint Special COMB/CCRB Board Meeting

12. Schedule Further Joint Special COMB/CCRB Board Meetings

As discussed during the CCRB Board meeting the two possible dates for the next Joint Special COMB/CCRB Board meeting are April 20th or 27th, depending on the availability of the facilitator, John Jostes of Interactive Planning and Management.

13. Requests from Directors for items to be included on next agenda

The next regular COMB Board meeting will be April 24, 2006 immediately following the CCRB Board meeting; the explanation of Cachuma water rates structure will be added to the agenda. Next Joint Special COMB/CCRB Board Meeting will be April 20 or 27, 2006. The Cachuma Project South Coast Facilities Tour will be April 20 or 27, 2006.

14. COMB Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary of the Board

APPROVED:

Chair

Approved _____ ✓

Unapproved _____