

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

By Teleconference Only

**Monday, June 28, 2021
1:00 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by President Holcombe at 1:03 PM

All attendees participated electronically pursuant to California Governor Gavin Newsom's Executive Order N-08-21.

Directors Present:

Polly Holcombe, Carpinteria Valley Water District
Kristen Sneddon, City of Santa Barbara
Lauren Hanson, Goleta Water District
Cori Hayman, Montecito Water District

General Counsel Present:

William Carter, Musick, Peeler, Garrett, LLP

Staff Present:

Janet Gingras, General Manager	Elijah Papen, Program Analyst
Edward Lyons, Administrative Manager/CFO	Perri Wolfe, Administrative Analyst
Joel Degner, Engineer/Operations Division Manager	Dorothy Turner, Administrative Assistant II
Timothy Robinson, Fisheries Division Manager	

Others Present:

Matt Young, County of Santa Barbara	Dakota Corey, City of Santa Barbara
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2. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Minutes of May 13, 2021 Special Board Meeting
- b. Minutes of May 24, 2021 Regular Board Meeting
- c. Investment of Funds
 - Financial Reports
 - Investment Reports
- d. Review of Paid Claims

Ms. Gingras presented the Consent Agenda items, noting that item 3.a. would be presented separately for approval while the remaining items could be addressed together at the Board's pleasure. She asked

Mr. Lyons to present the financial reports. Mr. Lyons briefly reviewed revenues and drew the Board's attention to various paid claims, providing further explanation for each expenditure of note.

Director Hanson motioned to approve Consent Agenda item 3.a. Director Sneddon seconded and the motion carried with a vote of five in favor and one abstention.

Ayes: Sneddon, Hanson, Holcombe

Nays:

Absent:

Abstain: Hayman

Director Sneddon motioned to approve the remaining Consent Agenda items. Director Hanson seconded the motion which carried unanimously with a vote of six in favor.

Ayes: Sneddon, Hayman, Hanson, Holcombe

Nays:

Absent:

Abstain:

4. VERBAL REPORTS FROM BOARD COMMITTEES

- ***Fisheries Committee Meeting – June 9, 2021*** – Director Hanson reported out on behalf of the Fisheries Committee. She advised that the action items were being brought before the Board for approval at this meeting. She also noted that the committee had received updates on various Fisheries activities.
- ***Operations Committee Meeting – June 10, 2021*** – Director Sneddon reported out on behalf of the Operations Committee. The committee had received reports on a number of topics, including a report concerning post-wildfire watershed recovery using drones. She noted that the Board would view a presentation modelling changing lake water quality at this meeting.

5. FISCAL YEAR 2021-22 ELECTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS OF CACHUMA OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE BOARD

- a. Election of President
- b. Election of Vice-President
- c. Appointment of ACWA/JPIA Representative and Alternate
- d. Appointment of General Counsel
- e. Appointment of Secretary of the Board
- f. Appointment of Treasurer /Auditor-Controller

Ms. Gingras presented the agenda item followed by a motion from Director Hanson to nominate President Holcombe to the office of President and Director Sneddon to the office of Vice President. Director Hanson expressed appreciation for the leadership of both nominees. Director Hayman seconded the motion which carried unanimously with a vote of six in favor.

Ayes: Sneddon, Hayman, Hanson, Holcombe

Nays:

Absent:

Abstain:

Immediately following the election, Director Hayman motioned to approve the slate of appointments as presented. As appointees were willing to continue in their roles, Director Hanson seconded the motion which carried unanimously with a vote of six in favor.

Ayes: Sneddon, Hayman, Hanson, Holcombe

Nays:

Absent:

Abstain:

6. SCOPES OF WORK (SOW) AND SAMPLE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021-22 FOR FISHERIES DIVISION CONSULTANTS

Mr. Robinson presented the fiscal year 2021-22 scopes of work for two consultants. He noted that the sole source justifications were warranted due to long-standing, excellent service from both consultants. Director Hanson put forth a motion to approve the scopes of work, followed by a second from Director Sneddon. The motion carried with a unanimous vote of six in favor.

Ayes: Sneddon, Hayman, Hanson, Holcombe

Nays:

Absent:

Abstain:

7. CACHUMA PROJECT WARREN ACT TRUST FUND / RENEWAL FUND 2021-22 ANNUAL AND LONG TERM PLAN; SANTA BARBARA COUNTY BETTERMENT FUND USE OF FUNDS

Mr. Lyons provided the Board with an overview of the activities of the recent Warren Act Trust Fund / Renewal Fund (Funds) and Betterment Fund committee meetings. He discussed the history of the Funds, the method of calculation of available dollars and reviewed the tables detailing expenditures for the current and upcoming fiscal years, noting that the proposed expenditures were approved by the Funds committee.

Mr. Robinson presented the annual and five year plan (Plans) document and reviewed many of the achievements and activities of the Fisheries Division contained within it. He provided further detail for how the Funds' dollars are used to support activities pertaining to environmental restoration, regulatory requirements and Cachuma Project betterment. Mr. Robinson also advised that the Betterment Fund dollars from the County of Santa Barbara will be used for the COMB USGS Santa Ynez River stream gauge monitoring. He fielded questions and compliments from the Board.

Director Sneddon motioned to approve the Funds expenditures and Plans. Director Hayman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with a vote of six in favor.

Ayes: Sneddon, Hayman, Hanson, Holcombe

Nays:

Absent:

Abstain:

8. ESRI CONFERENCE WATER QUALITY PRESENTATION

Ms. Gingras introduced Mr. Papen who presented his slide show. He illustrated how collected data could be digitized and used to inform decisions of COMB stakeholders with respect to algal blooms,

lake levels, development of the thermocline, North Portal gate draw choices and treatment options. He fielded questions from the Board.

9. GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

- Administration
- Virtual Meetings
- Staff Professional Development

Ms. Gingras presented the General Manager report, noting that COMB's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, for the fourth straight year, has received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association. She complimented Mr. Lyons and team on their efforts. She reported staff participation in various meetings, noting an opportunity through Integrated Regional Water Management for regional water resource coordination. Lastly, Ms. Gingras was pleased to report that two Operations Division staff members had achieved their D2 certifications.

10. ENGINEER'S REPORT

- Climate Conditions
- Vegetation Recovery Following Wildfires
- Lake Elevation Projections
- CalTrans Highway 192 Paving
- Infrastructure Improvement Projects

Mr. Degner presented the Engineer's Report, advising that climate conditions continue to be very dry. He provided a report on drone seeding technology for reforestation after a wildfire. However, further research is needed regarding effectiveness in chaparral watersheds and native trees, potential site preparation & drone battery life. He concluded that this technology is not currently feasible for COMB but will be followed for potential future use. Lake elevation has been stable over the past month. He advised that the Emergency Pumping Facility should be needed the summer of 2022, the timing of which would impact the potential install of the secured pipeline. Additionally, Mr. Degner reported the status of various projects, including the CalTrans repaving project and the remaining three SCADA PLCs in need of updates. Finally, he noted that the COMB trailers to be replaced are due for demolition in late July and staff relocations are in progress. He fielded questions from the Board.

11. OPERATIONS DIVISION REPORT

- Lake Cachuma Operations
- Operation and Maintenance Activities

Mr. Degner presented the Operations Division report, noting that it had been a busy month with the installation of crack monitors at Lauro, replacement of PLCs and emergency replacement of failed radio modems, in addition to the routine tasks. Staff quickly addressed a structure leak in Montecito, has been clearing defensible space at structures and reservoirs, as well as cooperating in the repair of a vandalized fence. He fielded questions from the Board.

12. FISHERIES DIVISION REPORT

- LSYR Steelhead Monitoring Elements
- Tributary Project Updates

- Surcharge Water Accounting
- Reporting/Outreach/Training

Mr. Robinson presented the Fisheries Division report, advising that target flows at Hilton Creek and the Hwy 154 bridge had been met. He noted that Hilton Creek is receiving flow from both the watering system and the backup system. Fish rescues were undertaken at various habitats in conjunction with California Department of Fish & Wildlife who utilized a now standard technology to tag and monitor movement. The technology is expected to be part of the new Biological Opinion. In addition, Mr. Robinson reported that staff was busy with the normal ongoing monitoring tasks. He fielded questions, comments, requests and compliments from the Board.

13. PROGRESS REPORT ON LAKE CACHUMA OAK TREE PROGRAM

- Maintenance and Monitoring

Mr. Robinson presented the Oak Tree program report. He advised that Fisheries was creating a watering plan for the summer months and that the annual Oak Tree Committee meeting would soon be scheduled.

14. MONTHLY CACHUMA PROJECT REPORTS

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

Ms. Gingras noted nothing unusual in the water reports other than heavier summer demands.

15. DIRECTORS' REQUESTS FOR AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETING

Directors asked that they be informed of flow monitoring results for the Hwy 154 bridge and be provided with updates on releases and the status of the secured pipeline project.

16. [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

The Board entered into Closed Session at 3:38 PM.

17. 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

The Board reconvened into Open Session at 4:00 PM. There was no reportable action.

18. MEETING SCHEDULE

- **July 26, 2021 at 1:00 PM**

- **Board Packages available on COMB website www.cachuma-board.org**

19. COMB ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:01 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Gingras
Janet Gingras (Jul 31, 2021 11:06 PDT)

Janet Gingras, Secretary of the Board

√	<i>Approved</i>
	<i>Unapproved</i>

APPROVED:

Polly Holcombe
Polly Holcombe (Jul 31, 2021 12:11 PDT)

Polly Holcombe, President of the Board