

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
of the
CACHUMA OPERATION & MAINTENANCE BOARD**

held at
3301 Laurel Canyon Road, Santa Barbara, CA
Monday, October 19, 2015

1. Call to Order, Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 2:01 p.m. by President Doug Morgan who chaired the meeting. Those in attendance were:

Directors present:

Doug Morgan	Montecito Water District
Harwood "Bendy" White	City of Santa Barbara
Kevin Walsh	SYR Water Conservation District, ID No. 1
Polly Holcombe	Carpinteria Valley Water District
Lauren Hanson	Goleta Water District

Others present:

Janet Gingras	Shane King
Adelle Capponi	Charles Hamilton
Amy Smith	Fray Crease
Tim Robinson	William Carter
Dave Stewart	Chris Dahlstrom
Phil Walker	

2. Public Comment

Phil Walker spoke to the increasing probability of an El Niño year and storm preparedness for the coming winter.

3. Consent Agenda

a. Minutes

September 17, 2015 Special Board Meeting
September 28, 2015 Regular Board Meeting

b. Investment Funds

Financial Reports
Investment Reports

c. Review of Paid Claims

d. Review of Pending Claims for Payment

Director Walsh requested to remove Items #3b and #3c for further consideration. Director White moved approval of the remainder of the Consent Agenda: Items #3a and #3d. Seconded by Director Holcombe, the motion passed by unanimous roll call vote:

Ayes: White, Walsh, Holcombe, Hanson, Morgan

Nays: None

Absent/Abstain: None

Considering Item #3b, Director Walsh requested that the Administrative Committee examine whether or not it would be appropriate to showcase constructive return amounts, or assessed but unexpended funds, on the COMB Balance Sheet. President Morgan agreed with his suggestion, leaving it up to the Committee whether it would further discuss and analyze that possibility. Examining Item #3c, Director Walsh requested that the Administrative Committee also investigate a possible further, more in-depth, “coding” of legal invoices so that each item of legal work may be applied to the specific COMB account for which it was performed. Director Walsh moved approval of Items #3b and #3c, seconded by Director Holcombe. Janet Gingras addressed Director Walsh’s comment on in-depth coding by stating that COMB currently breaks out legal costs between the Operations and Fisheries Divisions; additionally, detailed costs are spreadsheet-tracked outside of the accounting system. Following further discussion of long-standing COMB accounting practices, the motion passed by unanimous roll call vote:

Ayes: White, Walsh, Holcombe, Hanson, Morgan

Nays: None

Absent/Abstain: None

4. Operations Division Staff Presentation – Overview of South Coast Conduit Conveyance System

Mr. Shane King, Water Service Worker III/Lead, reviewed with the Board a PowerPoint presentation he authored to showcase the South Coast Conduit and its operational and maintenance requirements. He then fielded questions from the Board. The Board expressed their thanks to Shane for his efforts in developing this presentation.

5. Verbal Reports from Board Committees

- *Special Operations Committee Meeting – October 8, 2015:* Director Walsh notified the Board that the full report on the Special Operations Committee meeting was considered at the October 13, 2015 Special Board Meeting. Ms. Janet Gingras, Interim General Manager, informed the Board that construction preparation for the Emergency Stabilization Project at Mission Creek had commenced that day.
- *Lake Cachuma Oak Tree Committee Meeting – October 14, 2015:* Director White summarized his positive educational experience at the Lake Cachuma Oak Tree Committee meeting and Ms. Gingras added that a Lake Cachuma Oak Tree Committee “field trip” would be scheduled soon.
- *Special Administrative Committee Meeting – October 15, 2015:* President Morgan outlined the agenda, noting that a Board policy for Document Release is in development and that any request for documentation or data would be considered by the Fisheries Committee, on a case-by-case basis, in the interim.

6. Interim General Manager’s Report

- *Board Administration*
- *Personnel*
- *Financial*
- *Operations Division*
- *Santa Barbara County Drought Task Force*

Ms. Gingras highlighted topics within her report as incorporated in the board packet and offered to field any questions from the Board. Director Hanson told Ms. Gingras that she

would like the Board to be made aware of how the new water bill is calculated before COMB issues payment on it. Ms. Gingras also explained her calculation of the constructive returns reflected in the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 1st Quarter Assessments that were submitted to the Member Agencies.

7. Operations Division Report

- *Lake Cachuma Operations*
- *Operation and Maintenance Activities*

Operations Division Manager, Mr. Dave Stewart, referred to his report as included in the board packet, and offered to field questions from the Board. President Morgan addressed Mr. Stewart about storm preparedness and ensuring COMB facilities were equipped for potential high-flow events during the coming winter.

8. Fisheries Division Report

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

Dr. Tim Robinson, Fisheries Division Manager, noted some highlights as presented in his report in the board packet. Following lengthy discussion on monitoring efforts and the potential Fish Passage Improvement Project at Quiota Creek Crossing No. 8, Director Holcombe requested that the referenced Fish Passage Improvement Project be made an item for discussion on the next Fisheries Committee meeting agenda.

9. Update on Fish Passage Improvement Project – Quiota Creek Crossing 3

Dr. Robinson gave a brief update on the status of the project, notifying the Board that survey work had just been completed and that the team was about 13 working days into the project. He also informed the Board that he expects some outstanding landowner requirements to fall into place by the beginning of the following month.

10. Progress Report on Lake Cachuma Oak Tree Program

- *Maintenance and Monitoring*
- *2014 Draft Annual Monitoring Report*

Dr. Robinson expressed his excitement for the upcoming Lake Cachuma Oak Tree Committee field trip. Regarding the 2014 Draft Annual Monitoring Report, Dr. Robinson stated that he would gladly incorporate any comments or suggestions for revisions from the Board into the document, and then allow the Lake Cachuma Oak Tree Committee to review the report once more before it is finalized.

11. Directors' Requests for Agenda Items for Future Meeting

- Director Walsh requested that the Administrative Committee review the backup detailing how the constructive return reflected in the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 1st Quarter Assessment was calculated and consider whether or not constructive return amounts should be listed on the COMB Balance Sheet.
- Director Walsh requested that the Administrative Committee consider a more comprehensive invoice coding method, specifically for legal invoices.

- Director Holcombe requested that the Fisheries Committee review the potential Fish Passage Improvement Project at Quiota Creek Crossing No. 8.

12. [Closed Session]: Conference with Legal Counsel: Existing and Potential Litigation; and, Public Employment/Public Employee Appointment

The Board went into closed session at 4:06 p.m.

- a. [Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(4)]
Name of case: California Trout, Inc. v. United States Bureau of Reclamation et al.,
United States District Court, CDCA, Case No. 2:14-CV-7744
- b. [Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(4)]
Name of matter: Protest of Member Unit re: Payment of Assessment for Certain
Fisheries Related Activities

13. Reconvene Into Open Session

[Government Code Section 54957.7]

Disclosure of actions taken in closed session, as applicable

[Government Code Section 54957.1]

The Board came out of closed session at 6:00 p.m.

- a. California Trout, Inc. v. United States Bureau of Reclamation et al
There was no reportable action.
- b. Protest of Member Unit re: Payment of Assessment for Certain Fisheries Related
Activities
There was no reportable action.

14. Meeting Schedule

- The next regular Board meeting will be held November 16, 2015 at 2:00 p.m. *Note: this is the 3rd Monday of the month.*
- The Agendas and Board Packets are available on the COMB website at www.cachuma-board.org

15. COMB Adjournment

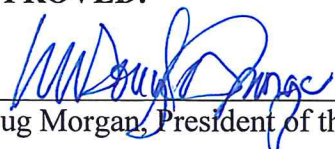
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Janet Gingras, Secretary of the Board

APPROVED:



Doug Morgan, President of the Board