

Minutes of the Casitas Municipal Water District  
Board Meeting Held  
January 25, 2017

A meeting of the Board of Directors was held January 25, 2017 at the Casitas Municipal Water District located at 1055 Ventura Ave. in Oak View, California. The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. Directors Kaiser, Baggerly, Word, Hicks and Bergen were present. Also present were Steve Wickstrum, General Manager, Rebekah Vieira, Clerk of the Board, and Attorney, John Mathews. There were seven staff members and four members of the public in attendance. President Kaiser led the group in the flag salute.

1. Public Comments (items not on the agenda – three minute limit).

None

2. General Manager comments.

Mr. Wickstrum informed the board that on Monday night the City of Ventura approved the Inter-tie study and there were good discussions and comments provided. With the recent storms, we began diversions on Sunday. We worked through the challenges of diversions through Monday. The storm was very flashy. The requirements for releases at Robles are higher than what is flowing into Robles. Scott and I have had discussions and Scott and Neil and BO committee for Robles began in October and on Monday held a teleconference on sharing of the situation with the drought. I will press further to get some answers to move forward to the management committee. When we see these storms there should be a better way than releasing 100 cfs downstream and nothing in the canal. Over the last seven days Matilija received 8.68, Casitas Dam 5.79 inches. The Sunday storm brought in 3-4 inches. Robles is estimated to have diverted 475 acre feet. There were times we did achieve 500 cfs for a moment or two. The first flush is very difficult. Other issues are requirements and guiding documents beyond the BO such as our water rights license. Water customers downstream with prior water rights and how to get those folks in a healthy situation and we have a water quality problem with the rapid peak. Good news is ballpark of 4,000 acre feet gain in Lake Casitas over the weekend. I am anxious to see more and perhaps if we have storms next week we will see more. We have another 60-80 days of potential rainfall weather.

Director Baggerly questioned if we decided not to divert on Friday because of debris in the water. Mr. Cole explained that the trial operating criteria requires us to adjust downstream flows up and down until the groundwater basin is normal. Per the 1959 criteria we have to look downstream and the flow needs to be greater than 20 cfs at Santa Ana Blvd. Mr. Wickstrum explained there are a lot of factors to be looked at.

Mr. Wickstrum then informed the board of a letter that had been received from Forest Watch commenting on the hobo project. We need to do our due diligence to make sure whatever we do does not harm the environment. President Kaiser added that the Hobo's are horizontal boring into an aquifer.

Mr. Wickstrum then informed that board that the selection was made for the Assistant General Manager position and we hope to introduce him at the end of February.

3. Board of Director comments.

Director Bergen reported on the Upper Ventura River Groundwater Management Agency would be meeting on February 1 at Ojai City Council chambers at 3:00 and they will elect the environmental and Ag representatives.

Director Baggerly asked that we adjourn the meeting in memory of Jock Van Dyke, a good friend.

President Kaiser asked the staff at LCRA to look at the stairways that drop off and is there something that can be done for this safety issue.

4. Board of Director Verbal Reports on Meetings Attended.

Director Hicks reported on the AWA meeting on Thursday and the predictions on precipitation. Ventura and Santa Barbara County are the driest parts of the state. We have missed most of the storms. The prediction for February and March are fairly dry.

Director Word added he attended that and came away with it not being an exact science. Weather does not cooperate and may change course. Director Word then mentioned the quagga mussel quagmire that was discussed at the AWA Water Issues meeting. The ability to eradicate them went out the window when they are now upstream and coming in through pyramid. United is spending about \$500,000 a year to control and once they have them it is not over. Department of Fish and Wildlife says to drain the lake and NOAA says you can't drain the lake. They can't get the agencies to agree. We have to continue what we are doing to keep them out. Director Word also attended the annual meeting for the Ventura Chamber and brought back a 25 year member plaque. There is a very common interest in what is happening at the lake. Progress is being made.

Director Baggerly reported he attended the water issues meeting for AWA and would add that Susan Mulligan reported on Calleguas and they are taking a step back at looking at desal. It is complicated and expensive and the comments by the gentleman by the state board probably put a damper on the possibility of desal with an ocean outflow. They would have to have a well every three miles along the coastline. There are hurdles out there we might not be able to get over. Director Kaiser added there are additional cost that Santa Barbara is having to incur. Director Bergen added they have a permit for open water intake and any new plant has to be sib surface intake.

5. Election of Board Officers.

APPROVED

PRESIDENT  
VICE PRESIDENT

Russ Baggerly  
Jim Word

SECRETARY	Bill Hicks
ASST. SECRETARY	Mary Bergen
At Large	Pete Kaiser

On the motion of Director Word, seconded by Director Kaiser the slate of officers was approved by the following roll call vote:

AYES:	Directors:	Bergen, Hicks, Word, Baggerly, Kaiser
NOES:	Directors:	None
ABSENT:	Directors:	None

6. Selection of Board Committees and Ad Hoc Committees. APPROVED

- a. Board Member Assignments.
- b. Schedule of Committee Meetings.
- c. Review of Committee Purposes.

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:

	<u>Members</u>	<u>Alternate</u>
Executive	Baggerly/Word	Hicks
Finance	Word/Kaiser	Bergen
Personnel	Hicks/Bergen	Baggerly
Recreation	Hicks/Kaiser	Word
Water Resources	Baggerly/Bergen	Kaiser

COMMITTEE DATES AND TIME:

	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>
Executive	2 <sup>nd</sup> Friday	10:00 a.m.
Finance	3 <sup>rd</sup> Friday	10:00 a.m.
Personnel	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday	4:30 p.m.
Recreation	1 <sup>st</sup> Monday	10:00 a.m.
Water Resources	4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday	10:00 a.m.

On the motion of Director Kaiser, seconded by Director Bergen the above assignments and schedule were approved by the following roll call vote:

AYES:	Directors:	Kaiser, Bergen, Hicks, Word, Baggerly
NOES:	Directors:	None
ABSENT:	Directors:	None

7. Assignments to Outside Associations and Approval of Authorized Meetings for the Board. APPROVED

On the motion of Director Kaiser, seconded by Director Hicks the assignments were approved by the following roll call vote:

AYES:	Directors:	Kaiser, Bergen, Hicks, Word, Baggerly
NOES:	Directors:	None
ABSENT:	Directors:	None

8. Review of District Accounts Payable Report for the Period of 1/09/17 – 1/20/17. APPROVED

A question was asked about camp fee refunds and Park Services Manager Belser responded that about two months ago we eliminated a process where we could refund reservations more than 120 days in advance. You will be seeing a lot more of this. Instead of refunding to their credit card we have to issue a check if it has been more than 120 days they made the reservation. The credit card processor does not allow us to go back more than 120 days.

Director Kaiser asked about the payment to Crowd Control Direct and Aaron Wall reported it was for delineators for the front of the Water Adventure to organize guests as we process them into the waterpark. Director Kaiser then questioned the payment to Fred Pryor with Mr. Wickstrum explaining that this is for staff training.

On the motion of Director Kaiser, seconded by Director Word the bills were approved by the following roll call vote:

AYES:	Directors:	Kaiser, Bergen, Hicks, Word, Baggerly
NOES:	Directors:	None
ABSENT:	Directors:	None

9. Presentation of the 2016 Casitas Water Adventure End of Season Report.

Aaron Wall presented the 2016 Water Adventure End of Season Report explaining that they had another successful season with more patrons than the previous season. There was a net income of \$125,000 after paying overhead. The price increase worked out well. He then mentioned that he went out on paternity leave in the middle of the season and his staff picked up the ball. There is a great group of coordinators, pool technicians and lifeguards. A concern going forward is there are fewer kids in the Ojai Valley and minimum wage increases are challenging. The board thanked Aaron for the report.

10. Recommend approval of \$10,000 contribution to the Upper Ventura River Groundwater Agency. APPROVED

On the motion of Director Hicks, seconded by Director Bergen the above recommendation was approved by the following roll call vote:

AYES:	Directors:	Kaiser, Bergen, Hicks, Word, Baggerly
NOES:	Directors:	None
ABSENT:	Directors:	None

11. Information Items:

- a. Finance Committee Minutes.

- b. Letter from the City of Ojai regarding the tie-in with the State Water Project.
- c. Water Consumption Report.
- d. CFD No. 2013-1 (Ojai) Monthly Cost Analysis.
- e. Investment Report.

On the motion of Director Word, seconded by Director Hicks, the information items were approved for filing by the following roll call vote:

AYES:	Directors:	Kaiser, Bergen, Hicks, Word, Baggerly
NOES:	Directors:	None
ABSENT:	Directors:	None

12. Adjournment

President Baggerly adjourned the meeting at 3:50 p.m.

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Bill Hicks, Secretary