

Minutes of the Casitas Municipal Water District
Board Meeting Held
March 23, 2016

A meeting of the Board of Directors was held March 23, 2016 at the District office 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 no staff members and three 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).

Mr. William Ulrich residing at 487 Gridley Rd, Ojai commented that the hour that the board holds their meetings and the lack of a video record renders it difficult for the public to access your record. He then questioned the September 2015 PowerPoint presentation by Raftellis and expressed concern that Raftellis was also a consultant to the City of Ventura, one of Casitas' largest users. He asked if this was vetted by counsel for conflict of interest. He went on to state that he understands that Casitas is using their work product and that water agencies in California cannot charge above the cost of service. My understanding is Casitas delivers to upper Ojai which is in excess of 1,200 feet. It stands to reason the cost to deliver that water is more than the cost to deliver to Casitas Springs. Why is there no difference in water rates in the upper Ojai relative to Casitas Springs? He then questioned treatment cost and the water that is provided to ranchers and farmers is discounted under the rationale that they don't need treated water. The consequence is an unsubstantiated water rate bordering on a gift. Is this accurate and if so, why? Based on a review of the financials a \$2 million dollar loan was made to the recreation department and the recreation department has not retired the loan. From an accounting perspective has this been addressed and audited? Finally is Ms. Bergen the same as individual as the 4th largest purchaser of water? Director Bergen responded yes. Mr. Ulrich asked if that has that been vetted by general counsel.

Director Word commented that it would be best if all of those issues could be presented in writing. Mr. Ulrich responded that if it were on video you could all review them. He then stated he can generate it in a format that is much more legible than his notes.

2. General Manager comments.

Mr. Wickstrum informed the board of the advisory group meeting on April 7th regarding the General Plan for the County of Ventura.

Mr. Wickstrum then informed that board that Greg Romey, our Safety Manager started a week ago. He then informed the board that on March 28th the Department of Fish and Wildlife will be conducting a tour of Matilija Dam down the estuary and of Robles.

3. Board of Director comments.

Director Hicks commented that he arrived back from his trip to Hawaii and mentioned that they seem to waste so much water there.

4. Board of Director Verbal Reports on Meetings Attended.

Director Word reported on his attendance at the AWA meeting. Directors Baggerly and Hicks were also in attendance.

5. Consent Agenda ADOPTED

a. Minutes of March 9, 2016 Board Meeting.

On the motion of Director Word, seconded by Director Bergen, the Consent Agenda was adopted by the following roll call vote:

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

6. Bills APPROVED

Director Hicks questioned payment to Tyler Technologies. Mr. Wickstrum explained this is for programming changes for our accounting system to be able to implement the allocation program.

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

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

7. Resolution to schedule a public hearing on April 13, 2016 to consider a resolution of necessity for the acquisition of Golden State Water Company's Ojai water system. ADOPTED

The Clerk of the Board expressed that the resolution has been changed to note the location of the meeting being held at the Oak View Park and Resource Center.

The Resolution was offered by Director Baggerly, seconded by Director Bergen and passed by the following roll call vote:

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

Resolution is numbered 16-05

8. Recommend approval of a purchase order to Ford of Ventura for the purchase of a 2016 Ford 3/4 Ton Super Duty 4x4 truck. APPROVED

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

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

9. Verbal Update from the Matilija Dam Design Oversight Group meeting.

Director Baggerly reported there were some interesting comments about what has been studied and from the people who went to DC. Paul Jenkins and Matt Stecker checked on funding sources for federal money for a non-federal project. There were graphs of the different possibilities for non-federal project removal of Matilija Dam. Everyone was given dots to put their choices on the papers and the one that had the option of the two twelve foot holes were covered with dots. We finally determined that this is what we would like to see. Director Word asked where the funding would come from. Mr. Wickstrum added that the true issue is there is not a lot of money from the Federal government. They are tight on appropriations and opposed to the project. The Army Corps of Engineers cannot contribute. There is the potential for private sources for funding. Mary Larson was on the phone and she let it be known that no one has applied for Fish & Wildlife funding for this project and it could be a source of funding. There was discussion of formation of a funding subcommittee to look at these different ideas for funding. Director Word added that the sediment is what concerns us the most.

10. Information Items:

- a. Finance Committee Minutes.
- b. Personnel Committee Minutes.
- c. Executive Committee Minutes.
- d. Investment Report.

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

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

A member of the public residing at the corner of Apricot and Mahoney complained about a rut that she keeps cleaning out that she says is caused by our water flushing. Mr. Wickstrum obtained her information and will look into the situation.

President Kaiser moved the meeting to closed session at 3:26 p.m.

11. Closed Session

a. (Govt. Code Sec. 54957.6)

Conference with Labor Negotiators:

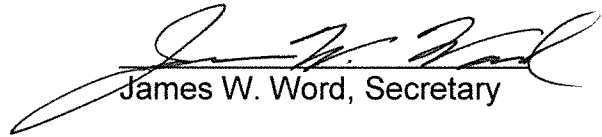
Agency Designated Representatives: Rebekah Vieira, Draza Mrvichin

Employee Organization: Supervisory & Professional, General Unit and Recreation Unit.

President Kaiser moved the meeting back to open session at 3:56 p.m. with Mr. Mathews stating that the board met in closed session and there was no actionable item to report.

12. Adjournment

President Kaiser adjourned the meeting at 3:56 p.m.


James W. Word, Secretary