

**SOQUEL CREEK WATER DISTRICT  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
October 6, 2009**

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**1. Roll Call**

President LaHue called the Regular Session to order at 7:01 p.m.

**Board Members Present:**

Dr. Thomas LaHue, President  
Bruce Daniels, Vice President  
Dr. Don Hoernschemeyer

**Board Members Absent**

Dan Kriege  
Dr. Bruce Jaffe

**Staff Members Present:**

Laura Brown, General Manager  
Bob Bosso, District Counsel  
Jeff Gailey, Engineering Manager/Chief Engineer  
Ron Duncan, Conservation & Customer Service Field (CCSF) Manager  
Michelle Boisen, Financial/Business Services Manager  
Taj Dufour, Operations & Maintenance Manager  
Denise Alexander, Executive Assistant/Board Clerk

**Others Present:**

None

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

September 15, 2009

Page 2, 1st paragraph – change ~~Planet~~ to ***Climate***

Page 4, 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph – correct ~~effect~~ to ***affect***

Page 6, 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph – correct ~~existing~~ to ***existing***

Page 7, Item 6.7 Motion – correct ~~then~~ to ***ten***

MOTION: Director Daniels; Second: President LaHue: To approve the September 15, 2009 minutes as modified. The motion passed by a unanimous vote. Directors Kriege, Jaffe absent.
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**3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

Director Daniels commented on the interesting highlights of the Climate Change and Groundwater conference he attended from October 2-5. He was the lead presenter for the session.

**4. PUBLIC HEARING**

None

**5. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS**

- 5.1 Will Serve Water Service Application for Daniel Gibbs, 207 Miranda Drive, Aptos, APN 043-045-04

<p>MOTION: Director Daniels; Second: Director Hoernschemeyer: To authorize the District's Conditional Will Serve Letter indicating that the District will conditionally serve the proposed single family dwelling to be located at 207 Miranda Drive in Aptos, APN 043-045-04. The motion passed by a unanimous vote. Directors Kriege, Jaffe absent.</p>
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- 5.2 Conceptual District Operating Scenarios of Proposed Desalination Facility for Purposes of Evaluating Potential Greenhouse Gas Emissions

General Manager Laura Brown stated that the proposed operating scenarios will be used by CH2M HILL to calculate the potential energy demand and greenhouse gas emissions generated from the District's use of the proposed desalination facility. HydroMetrics LLC identified five conceptual scenarios that would provide sufficient supplemental supply from desalination to achieve recovery of the groundwater basin. CH2M HILL will provide an overview of the study and the preliminary energy requirements at the October 20, 2009 Board meeting. The actual greenhouse gas emissions associated with the District's operation of the proposed desalination facility would be reviewed annually and offset adjustments would be made according to the level of operation.

Director Daniels stated that the monthly operating scenarios may need to be adjusted once the District has enough information to establish a sustainable yield pumping target for the Aromas area. Ramping up the District's conservation program and resurrecting turf rebates might be a good idea. He would like the carbon offset study to be flexible.

Ms. Brown stated that the first step is to establish a baseline to determine the District's estimated greenhouse gas offset that can be amended if usage of the plant is increased.

President LaHue stated that he would like the goal to be that the District's operation of the plant would be carbon neutral. Director Daniels concurred and requested knowing what the District's requirements are under AB 32 from the consultants.

Director Daniels proposed assuming District production of 2.5 mgd in December on Tables 2, 4 & 6 (the Non-Drought operating scenarios) on page 5 & 6 and correspondingly reducing March production. He believes that this would be a better strategy because December is too early to forecast a subsequent drought within that water year.

MOTION: Director Hoernschemeyer; Second: Director Daniels: To accept the potential operating scenarios for the proposed desalination facility developed by HydroMetrics LLC as modified. The motion passed by a unanimous vote. Directors Kriege, Jaffe absent.

Director Hoernschemeyer felt that HydroMetrics' Technical Memorandum made some good points and was very instructive.

5.3 Authorize Pro-Rated Dental and Vision Benefits for Regular Part-Time Employees

MOTION: Director Daniels; Second: Director Hoernschemeyer: To approve, in concept, the extension of pro-rated dental and vision benefits to District employees working a regularly scheduled week of at least 20 hours, and direct staff to notify the bargaining group representatives of the proposed benefit modifications. The motion passed by a unanimous vote. Directors Kriege, Jaffe absent.

5.4 Proposed Modifications to Delinquent and Returned Check Charges and Meter Testing Deposit

MOTION: Director Hoernschemeyer; Second: Director Daniels: To include increases to the delinquent charge, returned check charge and meter test deposit as recommended on the agenda for the public hearing on rates and charges to be held November 17, 2009, and direct staff to publish a legal notice of the proposed increases to said charges and deposits at least ten days prior to the public hearing. The motion passed by a unanimous vote. Directors Kriege, Jaffe absent.

5.5 Adopt Estates Well Mechanical Rehabilitation Specifications and Call for Bids

MOTION: President LaHue; Second: Director Daniels: To approve **Resolution No. 09-38** for specifications and **Resolution No. 09-39** setting prevailing wages and calling for bids for the Estates Well Mechanical Rehabilitation Project, CWO 10-027. The motion passed by a unanimous vote. Directors Kriege, Jaffe absent.

5.6 Letter in Support of Maintaining the Programs and Services Provided by the Arboretum at the University of California Santa Cruz

MOTION: Director Daniels; Second: Director Hoernschemeyer: To authorize the Board President to sign a letter of support for the Arboretum at UC Santa Cruz's effort to restore staff and programs that promote water conservation and watershed preservation and restoration. The motion passed by a unanimous vote. Directors Kriege, Jaffe absent.

5.7 Desalination Task Force and Energy Issues

Director Daniels briefly commented on the lawsuit filed against Marin Municipal Water District. We can't assume that desal is a given and serious consideration should be given to getting some of the suspended conservation programs back on line.

Ms. Brown reported on the following: three EIR consultants were selected to be interviewed on November 2. The three selected are good solid firms with extensive desal experience; an overview of the meeting between staff and CDM to wrap up the pilot study, e.g. various treatment alternatives, what methods worked, effectiveness, meeting regulatory criteria, cost and energy impacts. Land requirements is a significant component. A matrix of all the treatment components and options will be compiled and presented by the consultant to the scwd<sup>2</sup> Task Force. She also reported on the public information meeting held at New Brighton Middle School Performing Arts Center on September 24. All questions and answers will be put on the scwd<sup>2</sup> website.

6. **INFORMATION ITEMS**

6.1 *What's On Tap* Newsletter for November/December

Recommended changes to the newsletter were given.

6.2 Status on Action Plan to Promote Curtailing Water Use

Conservation/Customer Service Field Manager Ron Duncan provided an overview of the staff report. A brief discussion ensued regarding water-wasting and enforcement actions. Staff informed the Board that they will be pilot testing installing flow restrictors at domestic services that are chronic wasters in lieu of turning off the water. No action taken.

7. **STATUS REPORTS**

- 7.1 Conservation Customer Service Field (CCSF) – Mr. Duncan provided an overview of the status report. A banner thanking District customers for their conservation efforts was hung over Capitola Avenue near Capitola City Hall. The Water Conservation Coalition of Santa Cruz including the District hosted a booth at the County Fair. Pictures taken at the fair were shown. The focus was on groundwater overdraft. A low-flow shower head demonstration exhibit was great, especially for the kids. The Water Demand Offset Toilet Installation project will reach the \$200,000 limit soon; direction whether to continue to move forward with the installations will be agendized before that time so the contractor can be given ample notice. The Directors requested information about the joint meeting of the County Commissions on Water and Environment and the speaking engagement with the Soquel Neighbors Alliance.
- 7.2 Income & Investment Report for August – Financial and Business Services Manager Michelle Boisen noted water consumption had decreased.
- 7.3 District Counsel – Bob Bosso stated that other than working on the Stop Notices filed against the contractor for the Seacliff Area Main Replacements Project, he responded to various questions from staff.
- 7.4 General Manager – Ms. Brown stated that she and Mary Bannister with Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency will be on a panel with Gary Patton, a local environmental attorney, on Community TV Community Express Show. She spoke to a reporter from the Mid-County Post regarding the basis for the proposed rate increases. The next issue will be out next week. Updates to the frequently asked questions about the proposed rate increase and the District's responses have been posted to the District's website. The first Board meeting in December would be held on the 1<sup>st</sup> but she and Bob Bosso will be traveling to San Diego for the ACWA conference that night. She proposed cancelling that meeting and having only one meeting that

month. The Employee Recognition Dinner will be held on December 10<sup>th</sup>.

7.5 Work Plan & Special Assignments – Mr. Duncan responded to an inquiry on the status of the Retrofit at Resale HET's. Ms. Brown mentioned she had met with representatives from San Andreas Mutual to possibly be included in the District's sphere of influence. A discussion ensued regarding subsequent conversations she had with Mary Bannister, John Ricker and Central Water District Manager Ralph Bracamonte who have expressed support for approaching LAFCO with a proposal to clean up the boundary issues located in the lower part of the District.

8. **WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE**

None

9. **ADJOURNMENT** - There being no further business, President LaHue adjourned the meeting at 8:21 p.m. to the next regularly scheduled meeting on October 20, 2009.

SUBMITTED BY:

APPROVED BY:

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Denise Alexander, Board Clerk

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Thomas LaHue, President