

Minutes of the Regular Meeting, Board of Directors, Soquel Creek Water District, Office of the District, 5180 Soquel Drive, Soquel, California – February 19, 2002 – 7:00 p.m.

1. ROLL CALL: The regular Board Meeting of the Soquel Creek Water District was called to order in the Board Room by President Kriege.

Board Members Present: Kriege, Beebe, Hazelton, Daniels, Wells

Board Members Absent: None

Staff Members Present: District Counsel Robert Bosso (DC)  
General Manager Laura Brown (GM)  
Assistant General Manager Robert Stevens (AGM)  
Engineering Manager Jeffery Gailey (EM)  
Operations & Maintenance Manager John Nowak (O&M)  
Communications & Conservation Coordinator  
Christopher Regan (CCC)

Others Present: John Rayner of Kennedy/Jenks Consultants.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

It was moved by Director Beebe, seconded by Director Hazelton, to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 22, 2002, with the following correction: Page 1, Item 1., Paragraph 5, Line 1: at the end of the line, add: "Bud Carney;" MOTION CARRIED. Ayes - 4; Noes - 0; Abstain -1. Voice vote.

It was moved by Director Daniels, seconded by Director Hazelton, to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 5, 2001. MOTION CARRIED. All ayes. Voice vote.

3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS: President Kriege asked for comments from members of the audience or Board on items not on the Agenda.

President Kriege thanked Staff for their effort in putting together the information given out at the Aptos/Capitola Chambers of Commerce Business Showcase held at the Capitola Mall on February 7. The other Board Members concurred.

4. PUBLIC HEARING - NONE.

- 5.A. 1) APPROVALS/ACCEPTANCES – ACCEPT WATER TREATMENT ALTERNATIVE STUDIES, PHASE III, PILOT TESTING PROGRAM REPORT BY KENNEDY/JENKS CONSULTANT: Considered the Water Treatment Alternative Studies, Phase III, Pilot Testing Program Report by Kennedy/Jenks

Consultants. O&M reported that Staff reviewed the report and concurred with its findings.

O&M introduced John Rayner of Kennedy/Jenks Consultants who summarized the findings during the Pilot Testing Program and the water quality treatment recommendations that the report makes. Mr. Rayner also explained how the design/build process will speed up the project in order for the District to be online with the new treatment method during the peak season. The Board Members then asked questions about the height of the new equipment and softening the noise coming from the site. O&M reported that once the new filters are installed, a structure could be built over them in order to help muffle the noise. Director Daniels asked about the other water quality processes reviewed in the report, and the chlorination process that was found to be uneven in the previous report. Mr. Rayner explained why the other processes were not considered and what could be done about the uneven chlorination at this site. Director Daniels asked about the taste since the recommended process did not score as high for taste as other options. Mr. Rayner explained that the processes that received high taste marks did not remove the iron and manganese as well. President Kriege noted that the taste was most affected by the recycled backwash water and suggested that reduced settling time and prolonged blending as well as a larger GAC unit be evaluated. Mr. Rayner stated that further analysis for improving the quality of the recycled backwash water along the lines suggested can be done. President Kriege asked if there were any problems with by-products from the breakdown of Pyrolucite. Mr. Rayner reported that he didn't know but that his colleague, Bob Ryder who also worked on the report with him, would know and that he would find out. Director Daniels asked if the District needed to take any action with having Kennedy/Jenks soliciting bids for the District. DC reported that since this is the best method for the District, no other action would be required.

It was moved by Director Daniels, seconded by Director Hazelton, to accept Phase III of the Water Treatment Alternatives Study as complete and direct Staff to proceed with the installation of the Pyrolucite iron and manganese filters and a GAC adsorption contactor for recycled water at the Garnet Street Facility. MOTION CARRIED. All ayes. Voice vote.

It was moved by Director Hazelton, seconded by Director Wells, to direct Staff to solicit a proposal from Kennedy/Jenks to do a design/build project for the Garnet Street Well Treatment Facility upgrade. MOTION CARRIED. All ayes. Voice vote.

It was moved by Director Daniels, seconded by Director Hazelton, to authorize Kennedy/Jenks to proceed with Phase IV of the Water Treatment Alternatives Study. MOTION CARRIED. All ayes. Voice vote

- 5.A. 2) APPROVALS/ACCEPTANCES – APPROVE LETTER TO THE COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES RE: WATER SERVICE TO CABRILLO COLLEGE: Considered draft letter to the Cabrillo College Board of Trustees regarding water service to the College. Director Daniels recommended one change. Director Wells asked if Staff knew if the College was leaning towards connecting to the District or drilling a new well. GM responded that the Staff is confirming the usage estimates before completing their cost/benefit analysis, and that this letter will be presented to the Board of Trustees at their next Board Meeting. GM reported that the College has ordered the combination fire/domestic water meter and it should be installed shortly. GM stated that she had hoped to have at least a reading for one full day from the new meter on the College's water usage before the Trustees' Meeting but there might not be enough time.

It was moved by Director Hazelton, seconded by Director Beebe, to authorize the Board President to sign the letter to the Cabrillo College Board of Trustees, as corrected, regarding water supply to the college campus in Aptos. MOTION CARRIED. All ayes. Voice vote.

- 5.A. 3) APPROVALS/ACCEPTANCES – APPROVE REVISED BUDGET FOR ESA FOR THE PREPARATION OF RESPONSES TO COMMENTS FOR CEQA COMPLIANCE FOR THE O'NEILL RANCH WELL & TREATMENT PLANT PROJECT: Considered the additional services provided by Environmental Science Associates for the O'Neill Ranch Well and Treatment Plant Project in order to prepare the responses to comments for the Mitigated Negative Declaration.

It was moved by Director Beebe, seconded by Director Hazelton, to authorize Staff to pay ESA for consultant services associated with the preparation of the Responses to Comments document and the required environmental compliance documents for the O'Neill Ranch Well and Treatment Plant Project for the amount of \$28,760.63, CWO 01-124. MOTION CARRIED. All ayes. Voice vote.

- 5.A. 4) APPROVALS/ACCEPTANCES – APPROVE BID AWARD FOR FAIRWAY DR. & CORNWELL RD. TANKS CATHODIC PROTECTION INSTALLATION: Considered the Bid Results for the Fairway Drive and Cornwell Road Tanks Cathodic Protection Installation, a copy of which is attached herewith as Exhibit "A." EM reported that there was only one bid received and that no one else was interested in bidding against the low bidder.

It was moved by Director Daniels, seconded by Director Wells, to adopt Resolution No. 02-8, a Resolution of Award of Contract for the Fairway Drive and Cornwell Road Tanks Cathodic Protection Installation to American Construction and Supply, Inc., of Mill Valley in the amount of \$33,892. MOTION CARRIED. All ayes. Voice vote.

- 5.A. 5) APPROVALS/ACCEPTANCES – APPROVE CONTINUATION OF CONSULTING SERVICES WITH KOMEX H<sub>2</sub>O SCIENCE, INC., FOR QUIK STOP MARKET NO. 78 MTBE CONTAMINATION: Considered the proposal from KOMEX H<sub>2</sub>O Science, Inc., to continue providing consulting services related to the MTBE Investigation and Cleanup Plans for the Quik Stop Market No. 78 in Soquel at a cost not to exceed of \$12,000. President Kriege noted that the Quik Stop Market has been very cooperative. Director Daniels stated that he would like KOMEX to look at other contaminated sites besides monitoring the Quik Stop Market for a portion of this proposal. O&M reported that he could have KOMEX provide a proposal to look at the other sites. Director Hazelton concurred stating he would rather have the costs separated. Director Daniels listed the other contaminated sites, and Director Hazelton noted that some were not in the District. After a discussion by the Board on this matter, it was decided to have KOMEX provide a proposal to look at contaminated sites that could contaminate a District well even if it is not within the District's boundaries.

It was moved by Director Hazelton, seconded by Director Beebe, to approve the scope of services from KOMEX H<sub>2</sub>O Science, Inc., to continue to monitor the Investigation and Remediation of the MTBE Contamination at the Quik Stop Market No. 78 at a cost not to exceed \$12,000, CWO 01-133. MOTION CARRIED. All ayes. Voice vote.

It was moved by Director Hazelton, seconded by Director Beebe, to solicit a proposal from KOMEX H<sub>2</sub>O Science, Inc., to review other contaminated sites in and around the District. MOTION CARRIED. All ayes. Voice vote.

- 5.A. 6) APPROVALS/ACCEPTANCES – APPROVE EXPENDITURE IN EXCESS OF \$5,000 FOR ESTATES DR. WELL REHABILITATION: Considered approving expenditure of \$10,000 to rehabilitate the Estates Drive Well since it is out of service due to a motor failure of the submersible pump. O&M reported that Maggiora Bros. Drilling of Watsonville will be doing the work. The Board briefly discussed the problems Maggiora had in drilling a new well.

It was moved by Director Daniels, seconded by Director Wells, to authorize an expenditure, not to exceed \$10,000, for the rehabilitation of the Estates Drive Well. MOTION CARRIED. All ayes. Voice vote.

- 5.A. 7) APPROVALS/ACCEPTANCES – APPROVE PURCHASE IN EXCESS OF \$5,000 FOR METER TEST BENCH: Considered the purchase of a new meter test bench at a cost of \$10,500. AGM reported that the current meter test bench was purchased before 1968 and is no longer functioning. President Kriege asked what a meter test bench does. AGM explained that the District randomly tests water meters for accuracy as they are being replaced and that this allows the District to test several meters at one time. AGM stated that the old test bench

did six 5/8-inch meters at one time and that the new test bench will do eight 5/8-inch meters or up to three 1 or 2-inch meters at one time.

It was moved by Director Beebe, seconded by Director Hazelton, to approve the purchase of the MARS meter test bench for \$10,500, less trade-in of \$500, plus applicable tax and shipping and appropriate Operating Contingency Reserves of approximately \$2,000 for the amount of the purchase price which exceeds the \$8,000 budget. MOTION CARRIED. All ayes. Voice vote.

- 5.A. 8) APPROVALS/ACCEPTANCES – APPROVE INTERIOR/EXTERIOR WATER USE EFFICIENCY SURVEY PROGRAM: Considered an Interior Water Use Efficiency Survey Program entitled "The Water Tight Home Improvement Kit" and an Exterior Water Use Efficiency Survey Program entitled "The Water Right Landscape Improvement Survey." CCC explained what each program will consist of. President Kriege asked if the terminology was simple enough to understand and whether there was an explanation of where to look for some of the items to be replaced or installed. CCC explained that a booklet will be included with each kit that will explain how to look for and install or change each item. President Kriege also asked if the kit was free. CCC stated that everything is free. Director Wells asked who will be notified first about the kits. CCC stated that the homes targeted first are homes built before 1992. The Board discussed whether it was worth the time to look up these specific homes or to notify one area at a time to cover the District. The Board discussed what the expected response would be to this program and what the District would do if the customer asked to have a plumber do the work.

The Board then discussed the exterior program. Director Wells asked what other programs can be implemented and what funds are available to do any other programs. CCC explained what additional services and retrofit devices could be added to this program to gain additional water savings. President Kriege stated that rebates could be added to have more of an incentive to use more water efficient plants. Director Hazelton stated that the District should look into how many people are taking advantage of the sewer rebate that the County offers in order to get an idea of approximately how many people would participate in this program. President Kriege then suggested that the Board have a workshop just on water conservation in order to discuss further expanding this effort. The other Board Members concurred. GM then suggested that Staff put together a packet of information on what was recommended in 1996 by the Montgomery Watson Report on water conservation programs in order to evaluate what has been done, what additional programs would produce the largest water saving, and cost estimates for implementing those programs. President Kriege suggested that the public be notified of the workshop and that the first part be a public hearing in order to have some customer input first. The Board Members concurred.

It was moved by Director Wells, seconded by Director Daniels, to approve Interior/Exterior Home Water Use Efficiency Survey Programs. MOTION CARRIED. All ayes. Voice vote.

- 5.A. 9) APPROVALS/ACCEPTANCES – APPROVE EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT/BOARD CLERK JOB TITLE & DESCRIPTION: Considered a new job title and job description for the Administrative/District Secretary since the current District Secretary will be retiring.

It was moved by Director Beebe, seconded by Director Hazelton, to approve the revised job title and description for Executive Assistant/Board Clerk. MOTION CARRIED. All ayes. Voice vote.

- 5.B. RIO DEL MAR CLIFFS AREA MAIN REPLACEMENTS, PHASE II – ADOPT PLANS & SPECIFICATIONS AND CALL FOR BIDS AND DETERMINING GENERAL PREVAILING RATE OF PER DIEM WAGES: Considered approving plans and specifications for the Rio Del Mar Cliffs Area Main Replacements, Phase II, CWO 01-117. President Kriege asked if the new trench backfill requirements will affect this project. EM stated that it is estimated that it could add an additional \$40,000 to this project. DC asked if the District has received an exemption from the Coastal Permit. EM stated that the permits are being applied for now.

It was moved by Director Beebe, seconded by Director Hazelton, to adopt Resolution No. 02-9, a Resolution Approving Plans and Specifications for the Rio Del Mar Cliffs Area Main Replacements, Phase II. MOTION CARRIED. All ayes. Voice vote.

It was moved by Director Hazelton, seconded by Director Daniels, to adopt Resolution No. 02-10, a Resolution Calling for Bids and Determining General Prevailing Rate of Per Diem Wages for the Rio Del Mar Cliffs Area Main Replacements, Phase II. MOTION CARRIED. All ayes. Voice vote.

- 5.C. MARCH/APRIL WHATS ON TAP NEWSLETTER – REVIEW: Considered the draft copy of the March/April *What's On Tap* Newsletter. The Board accepted the newsletter with one minor change.

- 5.D. SANTA CRUZ COUNTY'S REVISED OPEN TRENCH BACKFILL REQUIREMENT – DIRECTION TO STAFF: Considered the County's Revised Open Trench Backfill Requirements that were adopted by the County's Board of Supervisors on January 15, 2002, and are in effect now. GM stated that the County also plans to consider adopting a Trench Cut Fee that would further add to the costs of any District underground project. GM reported that information on the revised open trench requirements was presented and discussed at the Manager's Committee Meeting last Friday and it was mentioned that the utilities under the PUC believe

they are exempt from these requirements but it would affect local special districts and private companies such as mutual water companies. GM stated that it was suggested that the water agencies inform the mutual water companies within their boundaries about the revised requirements and form a coalition of affected parties before going to the County Board of Supervisors about this issue. President Kriege asked DC if it was legal for the County to charge only half the agencies that cut into the roads and whether the District could win a lawsuit filed against the County on this matter. DC stated that the County has the right to do this and feels the District would lose this lawsuit. Director Daniels suggested that there may be more cost effective design alternatives to address the County's concern about the impact and that these suggestions be presented rather than just complaining to the County about the unfairness of these revised requirements. The Board concurred.

- 6.A. ENGINEERING STATUS REPORT: EM submitted the Engineering Status Report for February 19, 2002, a copy of which is attached herewith as Exhibit "B." EM stated that he had nothing further to add to his report.
- 6.B. OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE STATUS REPORT: O&M submitted the Operations and Maintenance Status Report for February 14, 2002, a copy of which is attached herewith as Exhibit "C." O&M stated that he had nothing further to add to his report.
- 6.C. FINANCIAL & BUSINESS SERVICES REPORT: AGM submitted the Financial and Business Services Report for February 19, 2002, a copy of which is attached herewith as Exhibit "D." AGM reported that attached to the report is a breakdown of the VISA charges discussed at the last Board Meeting. Director Daniels noted the comment on the report on the problems Staff had after the Accounting Software upgrade was installed. Director Daniels suggested installing it on a specific section of the District's computer and trying it out before upgrading the entire program. AGM reported that the District's Network Administrator just suggested this today.
- 6.D. DISTRICT LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT: DC reported that the decision on the Topsail Court Suit made the newsletter of one of the top law firms in San Francisco that specializes in land use and water supply law. DC reported on another lawsuit affecting private utilities whereby the Appellate Court decided on the ability to sue over contaminated water systems even if they meet the minimum standards for potable water. DC also reported that the San Marcos Case decision was reaffirmed by another lawsuit that was just decided.
- 6.E. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT: GM reported receiving the final draft of the Joint Feasibility Study for a Regional Supply Project with the City of Santa Cruz from the consultants and that it is being reviewed by Staff now. GM stated that Santa Cruz City Water Department Director Bill Kocher will be asked to attend the March 19 Board Meeting to explain to them where the City is at this time in their water supply

planning. President Kriege asked what the study includes. GM reported that the study looks at reclamation projects and a desalination plant.

GM reported that the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency (PVWMA) Board has chosen their Basin Management Plan and it is the pipeline project. GM stated that if their ballot measure passes, the consultants and Staff will be actively exploring possible joint projects.

GM passed out cards containing pertinent information on how to contact members of the Board and Staff. Director Wells asked how the Source Water Assessment Study is coming. GM reported that the draft copy was just delivered today.

7. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE: GM reported receiving an announcement from ACWA on their Legislative Symposium on March 19-20, 2002, in Sacramento.
- 8.A. CLOSED SESSION - CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS RE: IMPACTS OF VARIOUS AMENDMENTS TO THE RETIREMENT PLAN FOR SEIU LOCAL 415 FIELD & OFFICE EMPLOYEES AND MID-MANAGEMENT BARGAINING UNITS, ROBERT STEVENS, DISTRICT NEGOTIATOR: This item was not discussed.
- 8.B. REPORT FROM LEGAL COUNSEL ON APPELLATE COURT DECISION RE: TOPSAIL HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION & DIRECTION ON FUTURE ACTION: President Kriege adjourned the meeting to a Closed Session for a report from DC on Appellate Court decision regarding the Topsail Court Homeowners Association vs. the County of Santa Cruz and SCWD. After an update was given by DC, President Kriege reconvened to regular session.
- 8.C. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL ON MATTERS RE: THREATENED LITIGATION BY SAVE THE HABITAT CONCERNING THE O'NEILL RANCH WELL APPROVAL: President Kriege adjourned the meeting to a Closed Session for a report from DC on matters regarding threatened litigation by Save the Habitat concerning O'Neill Ranch Well approval. After an update was given by DC, President Kriege reconvened to regular session.
9. ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

President

Secretary

Attachments:

Exhibit "A" - Bid Results for the Fairway Dr. & Cornwell Rd. Tanks Cathodic Protection Installation, February 12, 2002

Exhibit "B" - Engineering Status Report for February 19, 2002

Exhibit "C" - Operations & Maintenance Status Report for February 14, 2002

Exhibit "D" - Financial & Business Services Report for February 19, 2002

**APPROVED AT THE MARCH 5,2002 BOARD MEETING**