

**SOQUEL CREEK WATER DISTRICT
MEETING MINUTES
September 19, 2006**

1. ROLL CALL & TELECONFERENCING

President Daniels called the Regular Session to order at 7:00 p.m.

Board Members Present:

Bruce Daniels, President

Thomas LaHue, Vice President

Dan Kriege

Jack Beebe

Bruce Jaffe – teleconferencing from Holiday Inn, 204 West Marine Drive,
Astoria, OR 97103, (503) 325-6222

Staff Members Present:

Laura Brown, General Manager

Robert Stevens, Assistant General Manager

Jeff Gailey, Engineering Manager

Gary Lamprecht, Operations & Maintenance Manager

Ron Duncan, Conservation/Customer Service Field Manager

Bob Bosso, District Counsel

Denise Alexander, Executive Assistant/Board Clerk

Others Present:

1 member of the public

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The September 5, 2006 draft minutes were presented for approval and the following change was made:

On page 7 – omit “social” in the first paragraph under Written Communications and Correspondence.

MOTION: Director Kriege; Second: Director Beebe: To approve the minutes of September 5, 2006 as modified. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.
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3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Director Beebe apprised the Board he would be out of the country and would not be attending the next two Board meetings. Director Kriege stated he would not be able to attend the next meeting as well.

President Daniels noted he saw an article in the September 14th Sentinel regarding Toto toilets becoming “the thing” and a copy of the article is available if interested. He also commented on a magazine he receives that is totally devoted to water efficiency/water conservation issues.

4. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

5. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

- 5.1 Conditional Will Serve Letter Renewal for Hattis, Burke & Lindke Construction, Dawn Lane, Soquel, APN 102-221-53

Engineering Manager Jeff Gailey stated that the project to build a 7-lot subdivision by removing three existing homes and sub-dividing the parcel into seven new single-family dwellings is unchanged since the original Will Serve letter was granted on January 20, 2004.

President Daniels stated that the original Will Serve letter had lapsed and technically the application should be for a new will serve letter, not a renewal.

<p>MOTION: Director Kriege; Second: Director LaHue: To authorize the District’s standard Conditional Will Serve letter indicating that the District will serve the 7-Lot Subdivision to be located on Dawn Lane in Soquel if all conditions are met, APN 102-221-53. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.</p>

- 5.2 Conceptual Approval of : (1) Job Description and Salary Range for the New Position of Customer Service Field – Crew Leader, and (2) Revised Job Description and Salary Range for Existing Position of Water Conservation Specialist

Conservation/Customer Service Field Manager Ron Duncan provided an overview of the staff report and responded to questions from the Board regarding education qualifications and the requirement that Landscape

Irrigation Auditor certification for the Water Conservation Specialist be obtained within one year.

MOTION: Director Jaffe; Second: Director Kriege: To eliminate the position of Customer Service Field Supervisor and establish the new position of Customer Service Field – Crew Leader; to conceptually approve the proposed job description and salary range for Customer Service Field – Crew Leader; to conceptually approve the revised job description for Water Conservation Specialist and associated revised salary range and to direct staff to meet and confer with SEIU Local 415 regarding items within the scope of bargaining relevant to the positions of Customer Service Field – Crew Leader and Water Conservation Specialist. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.

President Daniels noted a grammatical error in the Water Conservation Specialist Job Description under Distinguishing Characteristics and corrected “vary” to “variations.”

5.3 Conceptual Approval of Job Description and Salary Range for the New Position of Human Resources Technician

Assistant General Manager Bob Stevens explained the necessity for creating a new Human Resources Technician position. He responded to questions from the Board regarding the availability of office space to accommodate the new position and how the salary range was determined. In response to an inquiry whether safety administration was part of the job description, Operations & Maintenance Manager Gary Lamprecht stated he is currently fulfilling the duties of safety administrator at the District.

Mr. Stevens stated that a preference would be to recruit from within the District first, and it is anticipated that the appointee will be trained by staff members who are currently performing certain duties pertaining to the new position, and by attending programs offered by public sector personnel and benefits professionals.

A brief discussion ensued.

MOTION: Director LaHue; Second: Director Kriege: To conceptually approve the proposed position of Human Resources Technician and the related job description and salary range and direct Staff to meet and confer with the Mid-management bargaining group. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.

5.4 Well Master Plan Environmental Impact Report (EIR) – Review Statements of Qualifications from Consultants Providing Hydrological Impacts Technical Analysis and Authorize Retaining Ellison, Schneider & Harris LLP as Special Legal Counsel

L. Brown stated that HydroMetrics LLC is providing Environmental Science Associates (ESA), with technical assistance on the Well Master Plan EIR, and project team members Derrik Williams, R.G., C.Hg., Cameron Tana, P.E., and Eugene B. (Gus) Yates, R.G., C.Hg. provided statements of qualifications with resumes of relevant experience and education for the Board to review as an information item. A statement of qualifications from Peter Hudson, P.G., C.E.G., Senior Geologist with ESA was also provided.

Ms. Brown provided an update on the process for developing the Well Master Plan EIR with respect to the groundwater impact analysis, noting the following meetings that have taken place: 1) Technical Advisory Committee for the Groundwater Management Plan discussed how the Well Mater Plan would implement the groundwater management objective of re-distributing pumping to achieve more uniform drawdown and reduce pumping at the coast. As a result, a meeting will be scheduled with SAGMA to provide a better understanding of the proposed Well Master Plan and alternatives that were considered and to seek members' input. 2) Linette Almond with the City of Santa Cruz Water Department and their hydrologist Curtis Hopkins, to discuss the City's concerns and the District's objectives and the potential for a cooperative effort towards improved groundwater management in the Purisima Formation as a whole. She recommended moving forward with the process underway and to defer a decision about whether peer review is needed until it is known whether there will likely be disagreements on specific technical evaluations.

Ms. Brown stated that, based on the comments received on the Notice of Preparation, water rights and impacts is as critical a legal issue as CEQA compliance. Therefore, retaining a firm that could provide solid advise on both issues is recommended. Ellison, Schneider & Harris LLP has represented the District for many years on other water rights matters and their specialty is groundwater. She stated that, if retained for this project, they would review the administrative draft Well Master Plan EIR for legal compliance and provide advice on associated water rights issues as they arise. A brief discussion ensued.

Director Jaffe stated he was impressed by the level of experience Eugene (Gus) Yates, R.G., C.Hg. has, and he urged staff to involve him as much as possible. Ms. Brown concurred.

MOTION: Director Beebe; Second: Director Kriege: To accept the Statement of Qualifications from HydroMetrics LLC and Peter Hudson of ESA; and to authorize staff to retain the services of Ellison, Schneider & Harris L.L.P. as needed for consultation and review of the Well Master Plan EIR. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.

- 5.5 Approve Attendance at Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) and Joint Powers Insurance Authority (JPIA) Fall Conference, December 4-8, 2006, in Anaheim

MOTION: Director Kriege; Second: Director LaHue: To authorize attendance by Staff and Board Members at the ACWA and JPIA Fall Conference in Anaheim, December 4-8, 2006. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.

- 5.6 Authorize Attendance at Informational Workshop about Desalination on the Central Coast Sponsored by the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG), September 27, 2006 in Monterey

MOTION: Director Kriege; Second: Director LaHue: To authorize attendance by Staff and Board Members at the AMBAG Workshop about Desalination on the Central Coast in Monterey on September 27, 2006. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.

- 5.7 Schedule State Required Ethics Training

Director Beebe commented he will no longer be serving as a Director on the Board when his term of office ends in November.

MOTION: Director Kriege; Second: President Daniels: To schedule a two-hour ethics training course conducted by District Legal Counsel to be held at the District Office on **December 19, 2006 at 5:00 p.m.** The motion passed by a unanimous 4-0-1 roll call vote with Director Beebe abstaining.

6. INFORMATION ITEMS

None

7. STATUS REPORTS

- 7.1 Engineering – In response to an inquiry made by Director Beebe at the preceding Board meeting, J. Gailey stated that the applicant for the new water service to be installed at 218 Spreckles Drive in Aptos had retrofitted 13 toilets for \$5,972. He apprised the Board that the Aptos Jr. High Well project is nearing completion and will soon be back on line. He stated that information regarding extra work had been communicated by the contractor intermittingly via email and therefore, a meeting to discuss any extra additions or deductions will be scheduled. The La Selva Beach, Phase II project is off to a slow start due to setbacks installing the pipe materials.
- 7.2 Operation & Maintenance – Gary Lamprecht stated that a number of emergency well repairs needed to be done over the summer months and an evaluation of the other wells was also performed. It was found that Estates, Country Club, Bonita and Monterey wells are needing maintenance and/or rehabilitation. Estates and Bonita wells are a priority and should be rehabilitated during the winter months. Country Club and Monterey Wells can wait until the following winter. Hydrologists Derrik Williams and Martin Feeney will be contacted to discuss prioritizing and developing a work plan. He further stated that the Bacteriological Summary Report was received and the sampling results for the month of July were “clean.”
- J. Gailey stated that Lee Odell with CH2MHill will be present to facilitate the start up of the T. Hopkins Arsenic Removal Plant on October 3. An amended operating permit was received from the Department of Health Services this week.
- 7.3 District Counsel – B. Bosso stated he has been working with B. Stevens on personnel matters and that the draft Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) for the regional desalination plant has gone back to the City attorney. The draft JPA will be agendized for Board review on October 19. He briefly commented on a recent opinion by the Attorney General whereby salary increases for local elected officials cannot be compounded retroactively. He will provide the Board with an update on the status of the Bighorn decision imposing Prop 218 requirements for rate increases following the ACWA Legal Education conference he will be attending in Lake Tahoe on September 21-22. President Daniels stated that a seminar on the impacts resulting from that decision will be held at the County building on September 25. Ms. Brown stated that she, B. Stevens and Michelle Boisen will be attending.

7.4 General Manager – Ms. Brown apprised the Board on the following:

She accepted an invitation to participate on ACWA's Desalination Committee that will have its kick off meeting in Los Angeles on September 27. She, J. Gailey and Eric Zigas with Environmental Science Associates, attended a meeting with County Planning and Redevelopment Agency staff to discuss their comments on the proposed O'Neill Ranch Well. The meeting was very productive. An orthophotographic map of the site was supplied to the District in order for the District to overlay the facilities plan which will be submitted back to the County for comments. The Groundwater Management Plan is moving along, and the packet for the September 26 meeting was sent out to the committee members today. A subsequent meeting will be scheduled for final review before a public hearing is scheduled. Director Jaffe stated he didn't think he would be able to attend the meeting. The City of Glendale obtained a federal grant to study the treatment of Chromium 6 and they are hosting a one day workshop on October 6 to share the results of their study with other agencies where Chromium 6 was detected. She noted that the Board had received a copy of the packet of material that was sent to the Board of Directors of the Seascape Greens Homeowners Association. Director LaHue, who is a resident of that area, stated that a meeting of the Seascape Greens Homeowners Association has been scheduled for the first part of October and mailings regarding the preservation of the "greens" in that area were sent to the residents. A brief discussion ensued.

8. **WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE**

Ms. Brown briefly spoke on the following that were distributed with the Board packet:

Letter from District customer Howard Robinson commending the District's Conservation Specialist Roy Sikes; email received from District customer Dick English commending the District's Meter Reader, Chris Kramer; letter to Governor Schwarzenegger expressing the District's support for AB 2952 relating to capital facilities fees; the materials from the Affordable Desalination Collaboration's "SWRO Energy Workshop" held on August 3, 2006.

9. **REPORT OF PAYMENT OF THE BILLS**

August Warrants

MOTION: President Daniels; Second: Director Kriege: To accept the August Warrants as paid. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.

President Daniels questioned a payment that was made to Metro Mobile Communications for data modem cable in the amount of 12,438.36. G. Lamprecht will confirm the number of cables and any other items included in this amount.

10. **ADJOURNMENT** - There being no further business, President Daniels adjourned the meeting at 8:05 p.m. to the next scheduled meeting on October 3, 2006.

SUBMITTED BY:

APPROVED BY:

Denise Alexander, Board Clerk

Bruce Daniels, President